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EFFECT OF VARYING MOISTURE SUPPLY ON EARLY MORPHOLOGICAL CHARACTERS IN SEEDLINGS OF Albizia lebbeck

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ABTRACT

This study Investigated the effect of varying quantities and frequencies of water supply on the early growth and development in seedlings of Albizia lebbeck. Three levels of quantity and four levels of frequencies were employed. The three quantities were full pot capacity, half of pot capacity and quarter of pot capacity. The frequencies of watering were: daily, 2 days interval, 4 days interval and 6 days interval. These treatments were applied to the seedlings for 14 weeks. Seedlings subjected to weekly moisture application wilted after 12 weeks of treatment Irrespective of quantity of water supplied. Although there were no significant difference In stem diameter, leafiness and seedling height, reduced moisture supply Inhibited morphological growth in the seedlings. Result indicated that increased frequency of water supply enhanced increased seedling biomass production, total chlorophyll synthesised and relative turgidity in leaves. Satisfactory seedling biomass was produced at 4-day intervals of watering, Irrespective of quantity supplied.

Keyword