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THE EFFECT OF SOIL MOISTURE REGIME ON SOME GROWN CHARACTERS IN TWO INDIGENOUS POTENTIAL SPECIES FOR DESERTIFICATION CONTROL

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Abstract
Seedlings of Combretum micranthum G. Don and Mimosa pigra L. were subjected to three moisture levels of 0 MPa, 2 MPa and 8 MFa. Net assimilation rate-decreased with in- creased moisture stress in both species, but were higher in Mimosa pigra seedlings than in seedlings of Combretum micranthum. Relative growth rates varied with moisture stress but was highest for Combretum micranthum seedlings on moisture stressed soils. In both species, absolute growth rates decreased with increased soil moisture stress, but were higher in Mimosa pigra seedlings than in seedlings of Combretum micranthum.

Keyword