Botanic Gardens Conservation International The world's largest plant conservation network



# Module 5: Germination and Dormancy





- **GSPC Target 8** '20% of threatened species to be available for recovery and restoration programmes'
  - Linking *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation
  - Using collections for restoration activities









# **Restoration- Botanic Gardens**

#### Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, South Yunnan, China

- Restoring remnants of tropical forest
- Cleared for rubber plantations
- Using historical records to determine what has been lost





BGCI Plants for the Planet

# Germination



• Germination requirements are species-specific

<u>Consider</u>

- -Taxonomy
- -Life cycle of the plant
- -Dormancy

-Habitat -Climate

# Taxonomy



Search the Seed Information Database									
APG Clade		¥							
APG Order									
Family									
Genus	mimosa								
Species									
Storage Behaviour	(All)	]	-						
Only find records with data on:									
Storage Behaviour	Weight	Dispersal	Germination						
Oil Content	Protein Content	Morphology	Salt Tolerance						
Reset Search									

#### http://data.kew.org/sid/

If information is not present for the species of interest find the most closely related species

#### Seed Information Database

Search Results

79 records found. Taxonomy, Storage Behaviour, Mean 1000 Seed Weight, Seed Dispersal, Germination, Oil Content, Protein Content, Morphology, Salt Tolerance

Mimosa acantholoba var. eurycarpa Orthodox 363.2g Germ Mimosa aculeaticarpa var. biuncifera Orthodox Mimosa aculeaticarpa Ortega Orthodox 10.1g Disp Germ 6.1% 36.9% Morph Mimosa acutistipula (M.Martens) Benth. Orthodox 13.2812g Germ Mimosa adenocarpa Benth, Orthodox 2.6228g Germ Mimosa albida Humb. & Bonpl. ex Willd. Orthodox 8.42g Germ Mimosa albida Willd. var. albida Orthodox 7.5564g Germ Mimosa arenosa (Willd.) Poir. 4.6608g Mimosa bahamensis Benth. Orthodox 20.303g Germ Mimosa bimucronata (DC.) Kuntze Orthodox Mimosa biuncifera Benth Mimosa blanchetii Benth. Orthodox 7.1032g Germ Mimosa brevispicata Britton & Rose Orthodox 7.6236g Germ Mimosa busseana Harms 13.5980769g Mimosa camporum Benth. Orthodox 5.78g Germ Mimosa chaetocarpa Brandegee Disp Mimosa debilis Humb. & Bonpl. ex Willd. 3.76g Mimosa delicatula Tind. & Kodela Orthodox 13.6984g Germ Mimosa depauperata Benth, 11.577g Mimosa distachya Cav. Orthodox Mimosa distachya Cav. var. distachya Orthodox 7.4544g Germ Mimosa dysocarpa Benth. Orthodox 12.612g Germ

- 1. 90 % germination; pre-sowing treatments = seed scarified (chipped with scalpel); germination medium = 1% agar; germination conditions = 20°C, 8/16; (RBG Kew, Wakehurst Place.)
- 85 % germination; pre-sowing treatments = seed scarified (chipped with scalpel); germination medium = 1% agar; germination conditions = 25°C, 8/16; (RBG Kew, Wakehurst Place.)
- 3. 92 % germination; pre-sowing treatments = seed scarified (chipped with scalpel); germination medium
  - = 1% agar; germination conditions = 21°C, 12/12; (RBG Kew, Wakehurst Place)
- Top Interpreting the germination data

# Habitat type



#### Aquatic





#### Temperate Forest



#### Tropical forest





# Life Cycle



#### Books



#### **Journal Papers**



# Life Cycle



# • What is the life cycle in the natural habitat?



# Life Cycle



# • What is the life cycle in the natural habitat?



# Climate



#### Seed dispersal



Accession 👻	Family 👻	Species 👻	Collector 👻	Collector N 👻	Collection date 👻	Country 👻	Latitude 👻	Longitude 👻
1	Aristolochiace	Aristolochia albertiana	Danmeri, F.	CBG-102	2002-04-12	Paraguay	25.234	57.667
2	Aristolochiace	Aristolochia burkartii	Milne, R.	JBCT-16	2007-05-02 )	Argentina	34.008	58.386
3	Aristolochiace	Aristolochia schulzii	Bennison, C.	RBGE-3042	2001-05-13	China	35.565	103.787
4	Aspleniaceae	Asplenium lilloanum	Morrissey, B.	KHD-134	2012-07-13	Germany	52.512	13.382











#### eg. Temperate regions summer annuals







• Evolved to delay germination until favourable environmental conditions are present for survival.



# Exogenous (external) dormancy



# Physical dormancy Dormancy breaking in the wild Dormancy breaking in the lab Image: Dermancy breaking in the wild Dormancy breaking in the wild Dormancy breaking in the lab Image: Dermancy breaking in the wild Image: Dermancy breaking in the wild Dormancy breaking in the lab Image: Dermancy breaking in the wild Image: Dermancy breaking in the wild Scarify seeds to allow imbibition of water Image: Dermancy breaking in the wild Image: Dermancy breaking in the wild Scarify seeds to allow imbibition of water Image: Dermancy breaking in the wild Image: Dermancy breaking in the wild Scarify seeds to allow imbibition of water Image: Dermancy breaking in the wild Image: Dermancy breaking in the wild Scarify seeds to allow imbibition of water Image: Dermancy breaking in the wild Image: Dermancy breaking in the seed coat. Scarify seeds to allow imbibition of water Image: Dermancy breaking in the seed coat. Image: Dermancy breaking in the seed coat. Sulphuric acid used to break dormancy Image: Dermancy breaking in the seed coat. Image: Dermancy breaking in the seed coat. Sulphuric acid used to break dormancy

# Endogenous (internal) dormancy





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#### Dormancy breaking in the wild

Embryo underdeveloped. — needs to grow before germination occurs Dormancy breaking in the lab

Cold or warm stratification

Cold or warm stratification- Move along experiment





## Dormancy – Plant orders





Finch-Savage and Leubner-Metzger (2006) - Seed dormancy and the control of germination Tansley review, New Phytologist 171, © Blackwell Science, http://www.newphytologist.org

#### Taxonomy - *Nymphaeae caerulea*. Habitat - Aquatic. Germination occurs in water Climate - Distribution. East Africa rivers, Nile. Warm water Dormancy - Physical dormancy. To break seed coat needs scarification DORMANCY CLASS Austrobaileyales • PD - Nymphaceae - Amborellaceae ⊽ MD -0.10MPD Unplaced taxa (e.g. Rafflesiaceae) PY + PY+PD

# Germination in the wild and the lab

Blants j



# Germination- Ex situ



#### Physical dormancy – Scarification of seed coat



# Allows water in and germination takes place

Germination takes place in water





# End of Module Five (Germination and Dormancy)

## Go to Module Six (Data Management)



#### Connecting People • Sharing Knowledge • Saving Plants

Our Mission is to mobilise botanic gardens and engage partners in securing plant diversity for the well-being of people and the planet

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