VIABILITY, RESPIRATION RATE AND MOISTURE CONTENTS OF STORED PAPAYA SEED (*Carica papaya*, L)

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OPTIMUM TEMPERATURE AND MOISTURE CONTENTS OF STORAGE FOR PAPAYA SEED (*Carica papaya*. L)

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ABSTRACT

This experiment examined the suitable temperature and moisture content for storage of papaya seed (*Carica papaya* L.) cultivar of "sekaki". The seeds were purchased from Department of Agriculture Kota Bharu, Kelantan. The seeds were dried using silica gel to different moisture contents of 6, 8 and 10 % and stored at different temperatures of 0, 4 and 28 °C for three months. Seeds containing 6% moisture content and stored at 0 °C is higher germination percentage, lower dormancy percentage, lower seed death compared to other storage conditions suggesting optimal conditions for seed storage of papaya seeds. However, seeds containing 10% moisture content and stored at 28 °C is not recommended for storage because the seed deterioration rate is higher within three months of storage.