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Abstract

Breccias, like broccoli, cauliflower and cabbage, are important crops in Mexico because of their nutritional quality, anticancer properties and because their production generates income from their export. Broccoli, cauliflower and cabbage seeds were treated in order to determine the optimum osmotic conditioning and its effect on physiological quality. Broccoli, cauliflower and cabbage seeds, as well as an untreated control, were placed in Polietilenglicol 6000 solutions of an osmotic potential of 0, -5, -10, -15 and -20 was used for 8, 16 and 24 h, after which the standard germination test was made. The treatments were made under a random experimental design with four repetitions; the experimental unit was a Petri dish with one hundred seeds. The treatment with bidistilled water showed better results than with the osmotic solutions and the absolute control, without a statistical difference between these treatments: germination increased 4 % with the broccoli seeds conditioned for 24; in the two cabbage cultivars there was an increase of between 15 and 30 %, while the cabbage increased 93 % when conditioned for 8-16 h, and the plantlets and the radicles, were longer

Keywords

physiological quality, viability, germination, emergence, poliethylenglicol

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