**Seed Germination of Fodder Crop Treated with Silkworm Fertilizer using Different Sowing Mediums**

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**Abstract**

Several mediums of seed sowing could also affect the germination rate of seeds in fodder crops. Different mediums of seed sowing play an important role in terms of seed germination, seed emergence, plant growth, quality of seed, number of seeds and yield of the fodder crops. For this purpose we investigated the effect of different seed sowing mediums on germination and emergence of the seeds of fodder crop namely, *Pennisetum benthium* (Mott grass = Sibro) with the application of silkworm fertilizer. Three different seed germinating mediums were established for germinating the seeds of *P*. *benthium*. Equal number of seeds (3 *P*. *benthium* seeds per replication), same percentage of relative humidity (75±5 R.H), same degree of temperature (25±3 ˚C) and equal number of irrigation (once per week) were applied to all three seed sowing mediums. First seed sowing medium was consisted with petri dishes, second with flowerpots while the third medium with dish sponges. All of the experiments were conducted in the plant growing unit of the department of field crops, faculty of agriculture, Canakkale Onsekiz Mart University in 2019. Experiments were established by using 4 replications in petri dish and dish sponge mediums while 5 replications in case of flowerpot medium of seed sowing. A control treatment (without silkworm fertilizer application) was also included in each medium of seed sowing. According to the overall results of our experiments, the highest seed germination rate (60%) has been recorded in flowerpot medium of sowing followed by dish sponge medium (30%) while the lowest rate of seed germination (10%) has been observed in petri dishes medium with 40 ml, 20 ml and 30 ml doses of silkworm fertilizer treatments, respectively. Consequently, in the light of the obtained results of this study, it is concluded that the flowerpot medium is the suitable way of seed germination for *P*. *benthium* fodder crop by using 40 ml dose of silkworm fertilizer.

**Keywords:** Silkworm fertilizer, Fodder Crop, *Pennisetum benthium*, Sibro, Seed germination