

ABSTRACT

This study aims to find out the effect of drying treatment, seedling media, and their interaction on the germination of eggplant seeds (*Solanum melongena* L.). The research was conducted at the Seed and Plant Breeding Laboratory, Faculty of Agriculture, Malikussaleh University, using a factorial Completely Randomized Design (CRD) with two factors and three replications. The first factor was the drying treatment, namely no drying (P0), drying for 1 day (P1), 3 days (P2), and 5 days (P3). The second factor was the seedling media, namely napkin tissue (S1), rice husk paper (S2), and blotting paper (S3). The observed parameters included seed moisture content, germination rate, vigor index, maximum growth potential, growth speed, uniformity of growth, radicle length, and plumule length of normal seedlings. The results showed that drying treatment had a significant effect on seed moisture content and plumule length of normal seedlings. The seedling media treatment had a significant effect on germination ability, vigor index, growth rate, uniformity of growth, radicle length, and plumule length of normal sprouts. The interaction between drying treatment and growing media had a significant effect on several germination parameters. The combination of no-drying treatment with rice husk paper media (P0S2) gave the best results for most of the eggplant seed viability and vigor parameters. Therefore, using rice husk paper as a media and applying no-drying treatment can improve the physiological quality of seeds and support better seedling growth.

Keywords: growth synchrony, imbibition, normal sprout, viability.