

Abstract:

Seeds of three origins of *Brassica pekinensis* and *Foeniculum vulgare* var. *azoricum* were stored at +10/30, +5 and -20°C for 20 years, seeds of *Solanum melongena* for 16 years air-tight in $2 \times 100 \mu$ PE bags. Seed moisture content ranged from 5,1 to 8,3 %. Germination tests took place at temperatures from 10 to 307°C (steps of 5°C). High germination results were found after 20 years for all *B. pekinensis* seeds at 10 to 30°C in variant -20°C and for one origin in variant $+5^{\circ}\text{C}$. *F. var. azoricum* seeds of two origins germinated after 20 years at 10 to 25°C in variant +5 and -20°C also to a high percentage. *S. melongena* seeds of one origin showed at the beginning a relative dormancy (after ripening). For seeds of all origins a temporary dormancy was found after seven years depending on the storage variant. Experiments after 16 years indicated a complete breakdown of this dormancy. Seeds of all origins germinated to a high percentage in variant -20°C after 20 years, too.