

**THE SEEDS OF THE LOCAL VARIETY OF PEPPER**  
**(*Capsicum annuum* L.) CALLED “ TORQUEMADA**  
**PEPPER”**: **STUDIES ON IMPROVING THE**  
**GERMINATIVE PROCESSES**

**ABSTRACT**

The "Torquemada Pepper" represents an important source of income for local farmers whose variety comes from a native seed selected for many years by horticulturists of the municipality (it's a local ecotype).

For this study we counted with 10 lots of seeds. The seeds were placed in Petri dishes with agar and observed three times per week for 30 days. Different pretreatments were performed: pre-soaking in distilled water for 24 hours; osmopriming with 0.5 M NaCl for 24 hours and on the other hand, for 8 days in the absence of light; hormone treatment for 24 hours with different concentrations: 100, 200 and 400 mg / L of gibberellic acid and a period of cold stratification at -18 ° C. All of them in 3 different cycles of light and temperature.

The results show that improvements were achieved relative to the control in case of gibberellic acid (400 mg / L) and NaCl osmopriming for 24 hours, which also helped to improve the uniformity. Surface application of sodium hypochlorite at 2% provides excellent control of fungi without affecting germination.

Of the three temperature cycles used, the range of 20-25 °C, has a positive impact on germination. With temperatures similar to those in the town the month of sowing, germination is excellent but continues for more days. At temperatures lower than this month, the germination rate is very low and there was improved by applying treatments.

The overall survival rate was very high, around 85%, highlighting the seeds that had experienced a period of cold stratification with a value of 92.95%.