

## Physiological Maturity Studies of *Myrica Esculenta* in Kumaun Himalaya Uttarakhand

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### Abstract

*Myrica esculenta*, Buch-Ham. Ex. D. Don is frequent under-canopy species in the Himalayan woods of *Pinus roxburghii* and *Quercus leucotrichophora*. The species is well-known in the Kumaun region for its edible fruit & various by-products, & it has arisen as potential income-generating plant. *M. esculenta* regrowth is poor in natural settings, owing to high anthropogenic pressure. The maturation process aids in determining the best time to harvest when seeds are in better physiological condition for germination. For each collection date in the laboratory, physical characteristics, seed size and weight, and germination were measured in a dual chamber seed germinator. The tree density of *M. esculenta* ranged between 50 and 180 ind ha<sup>-1</sup>. The mean fruit size between first and last collection varied from 63.43 and 98.73 mm<sup>2</sup> while the weight of 100 seeds between first & final collection varied from 8.55 to 15.67 g across the collection. The highest germination was observed 61.3% when the moisture content of seeds was 32.1%.



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
### Keywords

Density;  
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