GROWTH RESPONSE OF COCOA SEEDLINGS (Theobroma cacao L.) AGAINST VARIOUS PLANTING MEDIA

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ABSTRACT

Cocoa plants (Theobroma cacao L.) are one of the leading plantation commodities that have high economic value. In the cultivation process, the selection of the appropriate planting medium is very important to support optimal seedling growth. This study aims to evaluate the influence of various planting media on the growth of cocoa seedlings (Theobroma cacao L.). The tested planting media included a mixture of topsoil, sand, cow manure, goat manure, and cascing with a certain ratio. The study used a non-factorial Group Random Design (RAK) with 4 levels, namely T0 control with a dose of (1:1) and T1, T2, T3 with a dose of (1:1:1). With 100 cocoa plants. The parameters observed include plant height, number of leaves, stem diameter, and root length. Based on the results of the final project research that has been carried out, it can be concluded that the growth response of cocoa seedlings (Theobroma Cacao L.) to various planting media shows very different results in the parameters of observation of seedling height at observation of 30 HST with an average of 16.00 and stem diameter at observation at 30 HST with an average of 4.61.

Keywords : Planting Media, Cocoa Seeds, Growth