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Improving germination of *Prunus avium* L. seeds by gibberellic acid, potassium nitrate and thiourea

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ABSTRACT: To break dormancy and increase the germination of *Prunus avium* L. (mazzard cherry) seeds, various methods were tested including the removal of the seed coat after cold moist stratification and treatment with GA₃, KNO₃, or thiourea. Treatments with 7,500 ppm KNO₃ after 120 days of stratification were more effective, yielding 64.54% germination of seeds with coat. In seeds without coat, 500 ppm GA₃ treatment after 120 days of stratification gave 79.74% germination; a value increased about 29% compared to control.

Keywords: dormancy; germination; gibberellic acid, potassium nitrate; *Prunus avium* L.; seed; thiourea