

Summary

The effect of applying different heat and hot water treatments on the seed dormancy of six *Centrosema brasilianum* accessions was studied at the East Amazonian Agroforestry Research Center, of the Empresa Brasileira de Pesquisa Agropecuária (EMBRAPA-CPATU). The percentage of hard seeds was initially measured after submerging them in water for 24 h; seeds were then either treated with hot water for 1, 2, and 3 min at 80 °C or with alternate temperatures of 20 and 35 °C for 16 and 8 h, respectively. The percentage of germination was then measured. Variations were found among accessions. *Centrosema pubescens* BRA 014524, 014630, 014672, and 014893, when treated with alternate temperatures, presented the highest germination percentages (> 80%), while *C. pubescens* BRA 015024 presented less than 40% germination. Heat treatment of seeds was more efficient ($P < 0.05$) than hot water treatment in breaking seed dormancy.