

Growing Mahogany from Seed

Growing Mahogany from seeds is relatively easy. The seed is very light (this is normal), it will look as if it has an end broken off, this again is normal as the seed has a wing which in serves no purpose other than dispersal and most collectors break it off to save space and weight.

Pre-treatment

To hasten germination the seed may be soaked in tepid water for 24 – 72 hours. The seed is very light and it will float, so it needs to be soaked in a container with a lid that is full of water so as to immerse the seeds completely to allow them to take up the water.

Sowing

Sow singly in small pots of moist (not wet) compost (laying the seed flat or at a 45 deg angle). Barely cover with the potting mixture and seal the pot in a polythene bag. Place somewhere warm and bright (25 Deg C and up) where germination will occur in 28 – 60 days (depends on success of pre-treatment).

Growing On

Once two to four true leaves have formed the seedling may be potted on as required. If grown outside (frost free areas only) it will need to be shaded for the first few years so that it can establish. Growth is quite fast at first, only slowing down as the tree matures. It will make a good houseplant for a bright location for several years, after which point it may outgrow its location. Ultimate size can be restricted by keeping it in a smaller pot and not feeding it as often.