

Seed germination and propagation of wild Pawpaw *Asimina triloba* (L.) Dunal (Annonaceae).

Coen Chaffin

Introduction

The Pawpaw, Aséminen, mahchikpi, Takolo Fala Upi (*Asimina triloba*) is a member of the Annonaceae family. The species is naturally distributed on the eastern side of the US. Considered one of the largest native American fruits.

Relevance

This species was an important resource for several native American tribes displaced from the eastern united states, including the Chickasaw and Choctaw tribes.

Method

In the present season, we collected 123 wild seeds of *A. triloba*. 90 seeds of *A. triloba* were used to test the performance of the bagging technique as a method of germination.

Results/Conclusion

Out of the 90 seeds, 10 seeds sprouted with a germination rate of 11.1 %. The percentage of germination was lower than anticipated. We attribute this low germination rate to the management of the seeds after the fruit ripens rather than the bagging method. More testing is required to improve the germination rate of wild varieties of *A. triloba*.