ASPECTS CONCERNING THE CULTURE OF PAULOWNIA TOMENTOSA (THUNB.) STEUD.

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SUMMARY

Paulownia tomentosa (Thunb.) Steud. It is exotic specie that came from China. The specie was introduced in our country especially for their big leaves and the flowers abundance. It is sensitive to frost which produce frost injury but it has a great capacity to send out suckers and sprout.

The specie is fast growing. This is the reason why seedlings were planted in forest territory starting with 1973. Most of these forests cultures do not exist any more.

In order to studies the Paulownia tomentosa (Thunb.) Steud. comportment, there has been established a plantation stand on the land of Agricultural University. The plantation stand was made in the spring of 2007 with pot seedlings. The soil has been prepared by plough. The seedlings have been planted in pits by 30/30/30cm. The planted distances were 4.5 x 2.0m. There have been used two clones, 892 seedlings by USA clone and 131 seedlings by B clone.

At the beginning of August 2007 there has been made the first inventory. The result shows that 395 seedlings from USA clone and 78 seedlings by B clone were found. That means 44% for USA clone and 60% for B clone. The second inventory was made at the end of September. 287 seedlings from USA clone (32%) and 73 seedlings from B clone (56%) were registered. These is the reason why a cutting-back action was made.

The inventory made on September 2007 showed that the maximum height for seedlings was 57 cm for B clone and 54 cm for USA clone. The values of height are smaller that the ones know from the literature. The delay which the plantation was made and the short vegetation season can explain this fact. More then date, the summer 2007 was very hot, with extremely high temperature.

The attempt to cultivate the specie in Timisoara land an about 1 hectare area showed the sensitive of this species to the high temperature in summer. The survival percent of seedlings get down from 46% in August to 35% in September. The heights of seedlings were small so a cutting-back auction were made in the spring of 2008. The next auctions will consist in shoot cutting. The most vigorous shoot will be keep for each paulownia sample.

REFERENCES