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GROWTH RESPONSE OF A STRANDLINE SPECIES *Canavalia maritima* (D. C. Holl) TO SAND BURIAL AND SALINITY

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ABSTRACT

The germination and seedling growth of *Canavalia maritima* D. C. Holl (Papilionaceae) was studied experimentally in relation to different concentrations of salinity (0mM, 70mM, 140mM, 280mM and 560mM) and at different depth of seed burial (3 cm, 6 cm, 9 cm and 12 cm). Parameters examined were number of leaves, leaf area, fresh weight, dry weight, relative growth rate, and the net assimilation rate. *C. maritima* seeds germinated at the different depths. Seedlings of the plants tolerated all the ranges of salt concentrations used. From this study, *Canavalia maritima* may be considered a euhalophyte because it exhited growth stimulation at low concentration of NaCl.

Keywords: *Canavalia maritima*, strandline, relative growth rate, net assimilation rate.