

Study of the asexual propagation of Sumaúma (*Ceiba pentandra* (L.) Gaertn) and Castanha do Brasil (*Bertholletia excelsa* H. B. K.)

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The Sumaúma (*Ceiba pentandra* (L.) Gaertn) and Castanha do Brasil (*Bertholletia excelsa* H. B. K.) are native tree species of Central Amazonia. Tree reproduction technology is an important instrument for high quality seedling production, and asexual propagation allows high genetic gains. Though *Ceiba pentandra* and *Bertholletia excelsa* have high economic value, there is a lack of studies of these species' reproduction through cuttings. The research objective is to study the asexual propagation of *Ceiba pentandra* and *Bertholletia excelsa* by cutting of adult branches and juvenile material (median and apical). The experiments are carried out at CPAA/EMBRAPA central nursery, located at km 24 of the AM-010 Highway, Manaus. The cuttings were picked up with 20 cm of length, planted in a sandy substrate, under intermittent misting. The basal ends of the cuttings were treated with the phytohormone IBA (Indol Butyric Acid) at several concentrations. Adult branches were treated at concentrations of 0, 1000, 2000, 3000, 4000 ppm for 5 seconds, and juvenile material was treated at 0, 600, 1200, 1800, 2400 ppm for 5 seconds. The experimental design was a completely randomized with three replications and 10 cuttings per plot. Weekly evaluations of survival and shooting percentages were carried out. The following parameters were evaluated, after 4 - 5 months of planting: root cuttings; length of root formation (cm); total fresh weight (g); average fresh weight (g); total dry weight (g); average dry weight (g), percent rooting and percent callus. Preliminary results of *Bertholletia excelsa* rooting from juvenile material show no significant difference for IBA concentrations, but all concentrations produced a high percentage of rooting. Preliminary results of survival and shooting from *Ceiba pentandra* juvenile material indicate no significant difference for IBA concentrations. The cuttings from 4 years old *Ceiba pentandra* died before rooting. The cuttings from juvenile material showed better results than cuttings from adult branches for both *Ceiba pentandra* and *Bertholletia excelsa* species.