

## Effect of leaf litter mulch on germination and initial seedling growth of some traditional field crops in Garhwal Himalaya, India

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Received : 27.12.2017; Revised : 03.03.2018; Accepted : 15.03.2018

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■ **ABSTRACT** : The present investigation was carried out to investigate the effect of litter mulch on germination and growth of some field crops of Garhwal Himalaya region, India. Leaf litter was collected from the under story of trees crops i.e. *Grewia oppositifolia*, *Ficus roxburghii*, *Celtis australis* and *Boehmeria rugulosa* and dry in sun for further experiments. The experiments were conducted in pot culture. The results of present study reveal that leaf litter mulch of *G. oppositifolia* significantly inhibited the germination and of *E. coracana* and *P. mungo* summer crops and *F. roxburghii* was significantly inhibited the germination of *H. vulgare* winter crops. Leaves litter of *G. oppositifolia* *C. australis* reduced the radicle and plumule growth of *G. max*, respectively. Similarly, biomass of summer field crops of *G. max* and *E. coracana* significantly inhibited by the *G. oppositifolia* leaves litter. While, winter field crop *H. vulgare* was significantly inhibited by leaves litter of *G. oppositifolia*.

■ **KEY WORDS** : Agriculture crops, Germination, Leaf litter mulch, Seedling growth, Tree crops

■ **HOW TO CITE THIS PAPER** : Singh, Bhupendra, Dhanai, C.S. and Singh, Padam (2018). Effect of leaf litter mulch on germination and initial seedling growth of some traditional field crops in Garhwal Himalaya, India . *Internat. J. Agric. Engg.*, **11**(1) : 199-204, DOI: 10.15740/HAS/IJAE/11.1/199-204.