SUMMARY

Some accessions of Centrosema spp., a promising legume for improved pastures in tropical America, have high potential for seed production. Flower and seed production of four of these accessions were studied at Tarapoto in Peru (280 m.a.s.l., 6º 31'S and 76º 21'W): C. brasilianum CIAT 5234, C. macrocarpum CIAT 5065, C. pubescens common and C. pubescens CIAT 438, C. brasilianum was the first to flower at 90 days after sowing and produced the greatest number of flowers and the most seeds. Maturation of pods, however, was nonuniform. C. macrocarpum was the last to commence flowering and its flower production was the lowest but percentage germination of seed was the highest. Flowering of the two C. pubescens was intermediate between the other two species. C. pubescens common produced a good quantity of seed with acceptable germination while C. pubescens CIAT 438 produced little seed with poor germination. Seed production of all accessions occurred during the lowest rainfall period.