Summary

An experiment was carried out on a Reddish Yellow Latosol of an experiment station belonging to the Zootechnology Department of the Universidade Federal de Viçosa, MG, Brazil. The objective was to evaluate the effect of the application of N and the harvest season on the quality and yield of pure germinable seed of Brachiaria decumbens. Doses of N of 0, 35, 70, 150, and 300 kg/ha were included as treatments, in a design of random blocks with four replicates. Harvest seasons for the seeds were March and April of 1984. Results showed that the application of N increased the yield of pure germinable seed. Highest yields occurred in the March harvest (21.9 kg/ha) with the application of 35 kg/ha of N and in the April harvest (21.1 kg/ha) with the application of 150 kg/ha of N. On the average, the highest cultural value (20.1%) and germination percentage (56.5%) were obtained in the April harvest, with these values being greatest when 150 and 300 kg/ha of N were applied.