Summary

The effect of cutting date and phosphorus fertilization (applied as P₂O₅) on the synchronization of flowering, yield and yield components, and seed quality of Brachiaria humidicola CIAT 6133 was studied in an Oxisol located 40 km from Pucalipa, Peru, within a seasonal semi-evergreen forest ecosystem. Treatments were as follows: cutting dates (15 September, 1 and 15 October, and 1 and 15 November 1995) and three levels of P₂O₅ (50, 100, and150 kg/ha), distributed in a completely randomized design with two replicates. P was broadcasted after each cutting date. At the beginning of the trial, 50 kg N, 50 kg K, and 20 kg S were uniformly applied per hectare. Treatments were distributed in a completely randomized design with two replicates. The variables evaluated were seed germination and viability, using the tetrazolium test. Cutting dates affected both percentage of germination and seed viability. When 50 kg P/ha were applied, there was a significant response in germination of 2% at

90 days after harvest and 11% at 120 days after

harvest. The natural breakdown of dormancy occurred approximately 90 days after harvest.