

## **SILVI CULTURAL PRACTICES AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF SHRUBBY TREE – PROTEA**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The core objectives of the study was to conduct silvi cultural practices and field based observation of the shrubby tree protea, to attest the effectiveness of growing in green house condition for transplantation and evaluate the economic and environmental aspects. The methods used for the study was collection of seeds from healthy plants, drying, sewing in pots with soils mixed up with sands and ashes and growing in green house, nurturing and caring for seedlings for propagation of protea trees. Additionally, field based observations of thee co-geographical distribution and ecosystems of the natural conditions favoring the growth of protea were made using climatic climax on altitudinal vegetation cover of contours and differences of composition of landscapes.

As a result, the eco-geographical distribution of the shrubby trees Protea was within the altitudinal ranges of 1000 to 3170 meters that rarely extended distribution to more or less altitudes in respect to species varieties. Protea seeds ensured 91.66% of germination ratio to sown seeds and seeds were germinated within the average period of 22 days in a greenhouse conditions. Protea trees could be grown, cultured and propagated even in areas unfavorable for crops, useful ecosystem stability and economically helpful that the flowers are sold on market.

**KEYWORDS:** Florescent, Germination, Seedling, Greenhouse & Silvi Culture