**Effectiveness of Different Wrapping Materials for Grafting of Ber (Masan) (*Ziziphus jujuba* Mill.)**

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# **ABSTRACT**

In Sri Lanka, Ber (*Ziziphus jujuba* Mill.) is an underutilized fruit crop that is rich in beta-carotene, vitamins B, and C. The main barrier to the cultivation of Ber is the lack of superior varieties and high-quality planting materials. Typically reproduces by seeds. Ber cross–pollinated fruit crop therefore vegetative propagation is highly recommended. Grafting is the most common method of vegetative propagation of Ber. This study was carried out at the Fruit Crop Research and Development Station, Gannoruwa, Peradeniya to find out the best and most effective wrapping material for the grafting of Ber (*Ziziphus jujuba* Mill.) by comparing the successfulness of the grafting. Four types of wrapping materials were tested in Complete Randomize Design(CRD) with four replicates. Scion of *Ziziphus jujuba* Mill. was grafted on six-month-old *Ziziphus mauritiana* Lam. rootstock. Following wrapping tapes were used to wrap the grafted plants: polythene tapes, budding tapes, para film grafting tapes, and poly sac tapes. Parameters that measured the experiment included: bud emergence with time, percentage of bud emergence, total number of leaves, total number of shoots, shoot height, and average shoot growth. The results showed that the type of wrapping tape significantly affected the percentage of bud emergence, the total number of leaves, the total number of shoots, and bud emergence with time. Average shoot height showed no significant difference among different wrapping materials. The highest percentage of bud was recorded when the wrapping was done using polythene tape (68.75%). Wrapping using poly sac showed the second highest value (58.75%) and para film tape gave the lower success rate (42.5%). According to this study, polythene tape and poly sac tapes can be used to wrap wedge-grafted Ber plants successfully.

**Keywords**: *Success Rate ,Vegetative Propagation, Wedge Grafting, Ziziphus mauritiana*