Loss of viability correlates with membrane damage in aged turnip (Brassica rapa) seeds
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Turnip (Brassica rapa L.) seeds were subjected to accelerated ageing (100% relative humidity, 45 C) for three, five and seven days and seed quality tests of the seed material completed (mean germination percentage, radicle length, germination speed, T50 and leachate conductivity) before and after ageing treatments. The seed showed a gradual and sequential reduction in mean germination percentage and seedling vigour as accelerated ageing duration increased. Time to 50% germination (T50) and seed leachate conductivity also increased with ageing duration. The results suggested that membrane deterioration and a subsequent reduction in germinability, vigour and speed of germination, play a considerable role in turnip seed quality loss.