

Effect of Nitrogen, Organic Manures along with Biofertilizers on Yield Parameters of Okra (*Abelmoschus esculentus* L.)

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ABSTRACT: The various challenges of study was that due to continuous use of inorganic fertilizer the natural fertility of the soil has been deteriorated and rapidly leads to contamination of soil, water and food and reduced crop yield, soil acidity and nutrient imbalance. Thus there is an increasing awareness throughout the world about the integrated supply of the nutrient.

Thus, the present experiment carried out, to understand the use of nitrogen, organic manures along with biofertilizers on growth and yield of okra crop. The investigation comprised of fourteen treatments with three replications and was laid out in a randomized block design in plot size of 3.0 × 1.8 m². The treatments comprised of 100 % RDN (Inorganic) + Azotobacter + PSB including control. Result revealed that 100 % RDN (Inorganic) + Azotobacter + PSB resulted number of picking (20.33), fruit length (6.67 cm), fruit diameter (0.49 cm), weight of fruit (6.22 g), early fruit yield (7.62 kg/plot), total fruit yield (113.02 q/ha), fruiting node (3.53), number of fruits per plant (16.60) and harvest index (46.99) was recorded for maximum.

Keywords: Okra, Organic manures, Biofertilizer, Growth, Yield and Treatments.

INTRODUCTION

Okra [*Abelmoschus esculentus* (L.) Moench] is native of Tropical Africa, belonged to Malvaceae family and grows all through the tropics and subtropics. It is a short duration crop and growth, yield parameters are influenced by appropriate nutrient management practices (Singh *et al.*, 2007; Suchitra and Manivannan, 2012; Iqbal *et al.*, 2014). The soil of Rajasthan are sandy and having high pH and low N content, so applications of nitrogen is necessary for proper growth and development of plants (Middha *et al.*, 2015). Use of different kind of organic manures, such as vermicompost and farm yard manure improves the soil physical properties, maintain the soil fertility and maintain soil micro-flora. As Vermi-composting is a safe and non-polluting method for recycling and disposal of organic waste by changing into organic fertilizers. It is a good form of natural manure, which is cost-effective, easy to make and effective in promoting waste-management. Its application could be one of the most attractive and economical methods of solving the problems like disposal of waste and the requirement to enhance the organic matter content of soil (Narkhede *et al.*, 2011).

In India, mixed farming system is an integral part of crop production of farmers therefore, there is requirement of large quantity of organic matter for supplementing the nutrients. Farm yard manure (FYM) is good source of nutrient using cow dung, waste straw, cow urine and

other dairy wastes. The organic manure FYM provides nutrients to the plant and by binding effect of soil aggregates, it also improves the soil texture. Organic manure increases water holding capacity, cation exchange capacity and phosphate availability of soil and also improves the fertilizer use efficiency (FUE) and increase microbial population of soil. It reduces the nitrogen lose due to slow release effect of nutrients (Tadesse *et al.*, 2013). Test results revealed that the vermicompost was found to be the most advanced of all treatments in terms of growth and production parameter and it was followed by treatment with FYM.

Biofertilizers release growth promoting substance and vitamins which help to maintain soil fertility. They act as antagonist and suppresses the incidence of soil borne plant pathogens and in this way, they help in control of diseases. Nitrogen fixing, cellulolytic and phosphate mobilizing micro-organisms in biofertilizer increase the availability of plant nutrient in soil and thus, promote the agricultural production and farming system. Application of bio-fertilizer results in mineral and water uptake, root development, nitrogen fixation and vegetative growth. Some biofertilizer (e.g. *Azotobacter* sp., *Rhizobium*, BGA) stimulates the production of growth promoting substances like vitamin-B complex, Indole acetic acid (IAA) and Gibberellic acids (GA₃) etc. (Siddiqui *et al.*, 2014). The presence of *Azotobacter* spp. in the soil has beneficial effect on plants and the abundance of these bacteria was related to many factors

like soil physical and chemical (e.g. organic matter, pH, soil moisture, temperature) and microbiological properties. Its quantity varies as per the depth of the soil profile. *Azotobacter* is abundant in the rhizosphere of plant than in the surrounding of soil and this abundance depend upon the crop species (Jnawali *et al.*, 2015). Vegetables and the vegetable system show that vegetable crops respond well to the supply of nutrients through organic fertilizers and chemical fertilizers (Kumar *et al.*, 2022).

METHODOLOGY

The present investigation was conducted at research farm of the Department of Vegetable Science, CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar, during spring - summer season of the year 2019-20, with an objective to understand the use of organic manures along with biofertilizers on growth and yield of okra crop with variety Hisar Naveen. The experiment was laid out under randomized block design with threereplications. The experiment consisted of 14 treatments *viz.*, T₁: 100 % RDN (Inorganic) + *Azotobacter* + PSB, T₂: 75 % RDN (Inorganic) + *Azotobacter* + PSB, T₃: 100 % RDN through FYM + *Azotobacter* + PSB, T₄: 75 % RDN through FYM + *Azotobacter* + PSB, T₅: 100 % RDN through Vermicompost + *Azotobacter* + PSB, T₆: 75 % RDN through Vermicompost + *Azotobacter* +

PSB, T₇: 100 % RDN (Inorganic), T₈: 75 % RDN (Inorganic), T₉: 100 % RDN through FYM, T₁₀: 75 % RDN through FYM, T₁₁: 100 % RDN through Vermicompost, T₁₂: 75 % RDN through Vermicompost, T₁₃: *Azotobacter* + PSB, T₁₄: Control. Obtained findings were analyzed statistically for interpretation of results.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Effect of organic manures and biofertilizers on yield parameters of plant. The results presented in Table 1 clearly shows that the maximum no. of picking (20.67), fruit length (7.03 cm) and fruit diameter (0.52 cm) was recorded under T₁ followed by T₂(20.33), (6.80 cm) and (0.49 cm) respectively. Whereas, T₁₄ reported for minimum no. of picking (16.13), fruit length (5.23 cm) and fruit diameter (0.39 cm). It is suitable to mention here that sufficient supply of nitrogen to plants not only promotes the synthesis of food but also in successive partitioning in sink. The applications of nitrogen promote the metabolic and auxin activities in plant and ultimately results in increased fruit size and diameter of the plant. These findings are indistinguishable of those reported by Garhwal *et al.* (2007); Firoz (2009); Jana *et al.* (2010); Sajid *et al.* (2012); Sahu *et al.* (2014); Choudhary *et al.* (2015) in okra crop and Baba *et al.* (2018) in tomato.

Table 1: Effect of organic manures and biofertilizers on yield parameters of plant.

Treatment	No. of pickings	Fruit length (cm)	Fruit diameter (cm)
T ₁	20.67	7.03	0.52
T ₂	20.33	6.80	0.49
T ₃	20.33	6.67	0.49
T ₄	20.00	6.50	0.48
T ₅	20.00	6.63	0.49
T ₆	19.33	6.47	0.48
T ₇	20.33	7.00	0.51
T ₈	20.00	6.67	0.49
T ₉	19.33	6.57	0.49
T ₁₀	19.00	6.43	0.47
T ₁₁	19.33	6.43	0.47
T ₁₂	19.00	6.25	0.46
T ₁₃	18.00	6.10	0.45
T ₁₄	16.13	5.23	0.39
CD 5%	1.76	0.58	0.03
S.E. (d)	0.60	0.19	0.01

The results presented in Table 2 clearly shows that the maximum weight of fruit (6.58 g), early fruit yield (8.63 kg/plot) and total fruit yield (119.36 q/ha) was recorded under T₁ followed by T₂(6.34 g), (8.24 kg/plot) and (117.46 q/ha) respectively. Whereas, T₁₄ reported for minimum weight of fruit (3.94 g), early fruit yield (4.80 kg/plot) and total fruit yield (65.25 q/ha). Further, organic manures increase the efficiency of added chemical fertilizers in soil and increased rate of humification. Humic acid in vermicompost enhances the availability of both native and micro nutrients in soil and thus plant growth, yield attributes and yield increased (Singh *et al.*, 2010).

The significant improvement in yield with the addition of organic manures seems to be an account of greater accumulation of dry matter right from the early stage of crop growth and at harvest by virtue of increased photosynthetic efficiency and nutrient accumulation. These results are in accordance with the findings of Anburani *et al.* (2003) in brinjal, Premsekhar and Rajashree (2009) in okra, Chetri *et al.* (2012) in capsicum, Ibrahim and Hamma (2012); Mal *et al.* (2013) in okra also observed the higher efficacy of organic manures.

The results presented in Table 3 indicates that the more no. of 1st fruiting node (3.53), maximum number of fruits per plant (16.60) and harvest index (49.59) was recorded under T₁ followed by T₂ (3.27), (15.56) and (49.47) whereas, T₁₄ reported for less no. of 1st fruiting node (2.50), number of fruits per plant (11.51) and harvest index (37.29). This may be due to increase in

number of fruits/plot at higher nitrogen application which results in higher competition among the plants. Brar *et al.* (1993); Kumar (2017); Vats (2011) in fenugreek reported similar results due to higher dry matter production resulted in larger source for photosynthesis and thereby more translocation of photosynthates to sink.

Table 2: Effect of organic manures and biofertilizers on yield parameters of plant

Treatment	Wt. of fruit (g)	Early fruit yield (kg/plot)	Total fruit yield (q/ha)
T ₁	6.58	8.63	119.36
T ₂	6.34	8.24	117.46
T ₃	6.22	7.62	113.02
T ₄	5.80	7.47	110.86
T ₅	5.64	7.52	110.28
T ₆	5.45	7.34	108.57
T ₇	6.49	8.56	113.77
T ₈	6.32	7.83	112.79
T ₉	5.45	6.70	107.67
T ₁₀	5.20	6.51	104.67
T ₁₁	5.30	6.62	106.56
T ₁₂	5.17	6.19	105.91
T ₁₃	4.98	5.61	80.14
T ₁₄	3.94	4.80	65.25
CD 5%	0.51	0.68	10.87
S.E. (d)	0.17	0.23	3.72

Table 3: Effect of organic manures and biofertilizers on yield parameters of plant.

Treatment	First fruiting node	No. of fruit per plant	Harvest index
T ₁	3.53	16.60	49.59
T ₂	3.27	15.56	49.47
T ₃	3.27	15.13	46.99
T ₄	3.13	14.26	45.31
T ₅	3.20	15.09	46.35
T ₆	3.07	13.93	45.32
T ₇	3.53	15.08	47.02
T ₈	3.20	14.07	45.98
T ₉	3.00	15.05	44.66
T ₁₀	3.00	14.21	44.15
T ₁₁	3.00	13.75	44.52
T ₁₂	3.00	13.65	43.54
T ₁₃	2.93	13.17	42.96
T ₁₄	2.50	11.51	37.29
CD 5%	0.34	1.26	2.32
S.E. (d)	0.11	0.43	0.79

CONCLUSION

From the above findings it is concluded that 100 % RDN (Inorganic) + Azotobacter + PSB resulted maximum number of picking (20.33), fruit length (6.67 cm), fruit diameter (0.49 cm), weight of fruit (6.22 g), early fruit yield (7.62 kg/plot), total fruit yield (113.02 q/ha), fruiting node (3.53), number of fruits per plant (16.60) and harvest index (46.99) so for better yield of okra without deteriorating the soil health application of inorganic along with biofertilizers dose treatment *i.e.* (T₁) should be adopted. The application of inorganic fertilizers with biofertilizers as help in improving the soil health and high yield by improving the soil physical and chemical property and it will also help in reducing the recommended dose of inorganic fertilizer.

FUTURE SCOPE

Judicious use of fertilizer and organic manures were more beneficial in environmentally friendly cultivation of okra and also saves the cost of production and sustaining productivity.

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Conflict of Interest. Author have no conflict of interest.

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