

Effect of Organic Manures and Inorganic Fertilizers on Plant Growth, Yield and Flower Bud Quality of Broccoli (*Brassica oleracea* var. *Italica*) cv- Green Magic

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ABSTRACT

An investigation was carried out to study the effect of different organic manures and inorganic fertilizers on plant growth, yield and flower bud quality of Broccoli cv. Green magic under open conditions on Experimental field, department of Horticulture, Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology & Science, Allahabad, during Rabi season of 2015. The treatment consisted of different combinations of organic manures and inorganic fertilizers which were tested in RBD with three replications and 10 treatments with following combination of which was different organic manures like FYM, Poultry manure and vermicompost T₀ Control, T₁ (RDF), T₂ (25% RDF + 75% FYM), T₃ (50% RDF + 50% FYM), T₄ (25% RDF + 75% VC), T₅ (50% RDF + 50% PM), T₆ (25% RDF + 75% PM), T₇ (50% RDF + 50% PM), T₈ (25% RDF + 75% SM), T₉ (50% RDF + 50% SM), T₁₀ (25% RDF + 25% FYM + 25% VC + 25% PM) were used in the investigation. The treatment T₅ (50% RDF + 50% VC) recorded maximum plant height (51.11 cm), maximum number of leaves per plant (27.87), diameter of curd (19.91 cm), maximum weight of trimmed curd (465.33g), maximum curd yield per plot (3.72 kg), curd yield per hectare (20.68 t/hac) and maximum T.S.S (^oBrix). The treatment T₆ (25% RDF + 75% PM) recorded maximum plant spread (57.77 cm), maximum weight of plant without root (1630.42g) found in T₃ (50% RDF + 50% FYM) and the maximum vitamin C mg/100gm (103.97) found in T₄ (25% RDF + 75% VC).

Key words: Broccoli, FYM, VC, PM, Yield, Plant growth, Flower bud quality.

INTRODUCTION

Broccoli (*Brassica oleracea* L. var. *Italica*) is a cool season vegetable of family cruciferous. Broccoli commonly known as harigobi or broccoli in hindi is gaining popularity in India also. It is either consumed raw as salad or cooked to prepare curries, soup and pickles. In

the world market about 40 percent is marketed as fresh and remaining 60 percent as frozen.

Broccoli is of two types, heading and sprouting, sprouting broccoli is more popular in India. It was a rare cole crop in India but now it is gaining popularity in metropolitan's cities, reputed hotels and restaurants⁷.

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Broccoli has anticarcinogenic properties and reduce the risk of prostate cancer by up to 45 percent. Broccoli is a rich source of vitamins, minerals, proteins etc. It has about 130 times more Vitamin A contents than cauliflower and 22 times more than cabbage¹³.

To increase the yield, plenty of chemical fertilizers along with a small quantity of organic once are being used by different workers which ultimately affects the health of soil as well as human⁸. Due to excess use of chemical fertilizers a decline pattern is observed in soil fertility, therefore integrated nutrient management is an important demand of present era².

Organic manure play a direct role in plant growth as a source of all necessary macro and micronutrient in available forms during mineralization and improving physical and chemical properties of soils⁴. Therefore, utilization of locally produced manures by vegetable production operations may increase crop yield with less use of chemical fertilizer. In recent times, consumers are demanding higher quality and safe food vegetables.

Considering the above factors, the present experiment was undertaken to determine the best inorganic and organic fertilizer combination for plant growth and bud yield in broccoli.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

The present experiment was carried out during winter season of 2014-15 at the Vegetable Research Field, Department of Horticulture, Naini Agricultural Institute, Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences, Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh. The experiment was laid out in randomized block design with ten treatments and three replications. Broccoli cultivar Green Magic was taken as test crop. The treatments included T₀ : Control T₁ : Recommended dose of NPK (150:100:100 kg /ha), T₂ (25% RDF + 75% FYM), T₃ (50% RDF + 50% FYM), T₄ (25% RDF + 75% VC), T₅ (50% RDF + 50% PM), T₆ (25% RDF + 75% PM), T₇ (50% RDF + 50% PM), T₈ (25% RDF + 75% SM), T₉ (50% RDF + 50% SM), T₁₀

(25% RDF + 25% FYM + 25 %VC + 25% PM) were used in the investigation. The crop was raised with a spacing of 60 cm × 45 cm and plot size of 2 m × 1 m. Standard cultural practices recommended for Broccoli was followed uniformly for all the experimental plots. According to treatment details, organic manures (FYM, Vermicompost, Poultry Manure and sheep Manure) were applied in plots one month before the transplanting of seedlings. Nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium were applied in the form of Urea, Diammonium Phosphate and Muriate of Potas. Before transplanting, half of nitrogen and full doses of phosphorous and potassium were applied in the plots and the crop was top dressed with remaining half dose of nitrogen in two splits after 4th and 6th week of transplanting. The like diameter of curd (cm), weight of curd (g), curd yield per plot (kg) and curd yield (tonnes/ha) were recorded. Economics of the experiment was worked out on the basis of prevailing market prices of inputs and outputs. The data of the trial obtained were subjected to statistical analysis and the results were documented, analyzed and presented in tabular form.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The presented data in table 1 is concerning with the yield attributes of broccoli as affected by different organic and inorganic fertilizers either alone or in combinations. Plant height (cm) 60 DAT, The treatment T₅ (50% RDF + 50% PM) was recorded maximum height (51.11cm) followed by T₉ (50% RDF + 50% SM) with 49.01 and the minimum (33.10cm) was recorded with the T₀ (Control). This variations might be due to the availability of nutrients could be due to the organic manure enhances soil aggregation, aeration, water holding capacity and inorganic fertilizers give more available form of nutrients. So, the combinations of organic and inorganic fertilizers give better response. Devi *et al.*⁵, also noted the similar findings growth in broccoli.

Diameter of curd Treatment T₅ (50% RDF + 50% PM) recorded maximum diameter of curd (19.91cm) followed by 18.21cm with T₁₀ (25% RDF + 25% FYM + 25 % VC + 25% PM) and the minimum value (9.79) was recorded with T₀ (Control). The result reveal, as expected and as mentioned by Chaterjee *et al.*⁴, and Wani *et al.*¹⁴.

Weight of trimmed curd (g) Treatment T₅ (50% RDF + 50% PM) was recorded maximum weight of trimmed curd (465.00gm) followed by 401.00gm with T₇ (50% RDF + 50% PM) and the minimum (115.67 gm) was recorded with T₀ (control). These results are in finding closely Stewart *et al.* (2005). The increase in curd weight might be due to the more photosynthesis from a larger area of the leaves and the translocation of photosynthetic to the sink which is ultimately the curd. The increase in the curd weight at this level might also be due to the increase in the length and width of the leaves, plant spread, curd diameter and curd depth. Shree *et al.*⁹, in cauliflower reported that maximum curd weight was observed in various combinations of organic and inorganic fertilizers.

Curd yield per plot (kg) Treatment T₅ (50% RDF + 50% PM) was recorded maximum curd yield per plot (3.72kg) followed by 3.12kg with T₇ (50% RDF + 50% PM) and the minimum (0.930kg) was recorded with T₀ (control). Positive effect of organic manures and inorganic fertilizers on head diameter may be due to the better availability of soil nutrient that produced healthy plants with large vegetable growth, which reflected head diameter and improved soil chemical and physical properties by using organic manure. These results are closely found by Stewart *et al.*¹¹, Singh *et al.*¹⁰, and Maurya *et al.*⁷.

Curd yield per hectare (tonnes) Treatment T₅ (50% RDF + 50% PM) was recorded maximum curd yield per hectare (20.68 t) followed by 17.83 t with T₇ (50%

RDF + 50% PM) and the minimum (5.14t.) was recorded with T₀ control. These results are close conformity with of the finding Basel *et al.*³, Wani *et al.*¹⁴, reported that excessive amount of organic and inorganic fertilizer is used to achieve a higher yield and maximum value of growth.

TSS The maximum TSS value found in T₅ (50% RDF + 50% PM) 8.29. and the lowest TSS value was recorded in T₀ Control (6.65). The result are finding by Husain *et al.*, Vitamin 'C' The maximum vitamin C mg/100gm recorded (103.97mg) in value found in T₄ (25% RDF + 75% VC) followed by T₆ (25% RDF + 75% PM) 100.91mg. The lowest vitamin was found in case of T₀ (Control) 78.56mg these results are finding by Chatterjee⁴ and Ali Husain *et al.*¹.

The economics of different treatments *viz.*, yield (t/ha), cost of cultivation, gross return and benefit cost ratio has been worked out and presented in table. Maximum gross return (496,320 ha) followed by Rs, 427,920 ha with T₇ (50% RDF + 50% PM), maximum net return Rs. 420063 ha followed by Rs. 360,663 ha with T₇ (50% RDF + 50% PM) whereas the cost benefit ratio of treatment T₅ (50% RDF + 50% PM) i.e. (1:6.50) was also found to be the best treatment combinations terms of economics returns.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, study revealed that the integration of organic and inorganic fertilizers had shown a effect in enhancing yields as well as productivity of broccoli with maximum net returns. On the basis of results, it could be concluded that the application of (50% RDF + 50% PM) T₅ was found to be the best treatment combination in terms of plant growth, yield, quality of broccoli and also found to be the cost benefit ratio or economic returns.

Table 1- Mean Performance of Effect of organic manure and inorganic fertilizers on broccoli for different Characters (cont...)

Treatment No	Treatment combination	Plant Height (cm)	Curd Diameter (mm)	Weight of trimmed curd (g)	TSS (^o Brix)	Vitamin C (100mg/100g)	Curd yield per plot (Kg)	Curd yield tones / ha
T ₀	Control	33.10	9.79	115.67	6.65	78.56	0.930	5.14
T ₁	RDF (150:100:100)	46.33	15.16	346.67	7.03	89.87	2.77	15.38
T ₂	25% RDF+ 75% FYM	42.24	14.48	295.33	6.73	84.68	2.36	13.11
T ₃	50% RDF + 50% FYM	47.45	17.20	360.67	7.59	83.93	2.88	16.00
T ₄	25% RDF + 75% Vermicompost	42.13	15.57	305.33	7.21	103.97	2.44	13.55
T ₅	50% RDF + 50% Vermicompost	51.11	19.91	465.33	8.29	91.38	3.72	20.68
T ₆	25% RDF + 75% Poultry Manure	44.07	15.24	309.67	7.31	100.91	2.47	13.74
T ₇	50% RDF + 50% Poultry Manure	49.45	17.07	401.67	7.73	97.55	3.12	17.83
T ₈	25% RDF + 25% FYM + 50% Sheep Manure	43.85	16.75	321.00	7.03	100.40	2.56	14.24
T ₉	50% RDF + 50 % Sheep Manure	49.01	17.71	370.67	8.11	99.74	2.96	16.47
T ₁₀	25% RDF + 25% FYM + 25% Poultry manure + 25% Vermicompost	45.67	18.21	349.67	7.23	94.57	2.79	15.51

Table 1- Mean Performance of Effect of organic manure and inorganic fertilizers on broccoli for different Characters

Treatment No	Treatment combination	Yield t ha	Selling Rate	Gross Return	Cost of Cultivation	Net Return	Benefit Cost ratio
T ₀	Control	5.14	24,000	123,360	47,030	76,330	2.62
T ₁	RDF (150:100:100)	15.38	24,000	369,120	57,485	311,635	6.42
T ₂	25% RDF+ 75% FYM	13.11	24,000	314,640	68,390	246,250	4.60
T ₃	50% RDF + 50% FYM	16.00	24,000	384,000	64,757	319,243	5.92
T ₄	25% RDF + 75% Vermicompost	13.55	24,000	325,200	85,640	239,560	3.79
T ₅	50% RDF + 50% Vermicompost	20.68	24,000	496,320	76,257	420,063	6.50
T ₆	25% RDF + 75% Poultry Manure	13.74	24,000	329,760	72,140	257,620	4.57
T ₇	50% RDF + 50% Poultry Manure	17.83	24,000	427,920	67,257	360,663	6.36
T ₈	25% RDF + 25% FYM + 50% Sheep Manure	14.24	24,000	341,760	72,140	269,620	4.73
T ₉	50% RDF + 50 % Sheep Manure	18.07	24,000	395,280	62,257	333,023	6.34
T ₁₀	25% RDF + 25% FYM + 25% Poultry manure + 25% Vermicompost	15.51	24,000	372,240	87,390	284,850	4.25

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