

Plant Archives

Journal homepage: http://www.plantarchives.org DOI Url : https://doi.org/10.51470/PLANTARCHIVES.2025.v25.no.1.354

EFFECT OF PLANTING GEOMETRY AND FERTILIZER LEVELS ON GROWTH AND YIELD OF GREENGRAM (VIGNA RADIATA L.) GENOTYPES DURING SUMMER

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A field experiment was conducted during summer 2019 at Indian Institute of Pulses Research (IIPR), Regional Research Centre (RRC), UAS campus, Dharwad on black clay soil. Treatments consisted of two planting geometry (30 cm × 10 cm and 45 cm × 7.5 cm) as main plots, two genotypes (Shreya and Meha) as sub plots and three fertilizer levels { F_1 : 25:50:0 kg N: P_2O_5 :K₂O ha⁻¹ + 20 kg S ha⁻¹, F_2 : 25:50:20 kg N: P_2O_5 :K₂O ha⁻¹ + 20 kg S ha⁻¹} as sub-sub plots with three replications. Genotype Shreya recorded significantly higher plant height (34.4 cm), number of trifoliate leaves (11.21), number of branches (10.19), leaf area (1.76 dm² plant⁻¹), LAI (0.55) and dry matter production (8.71 g) at harvest which in turn recorded higher seed (691 kg ha⁻¹) and haulm yield (2679 kg ha⁻¹) than Meha. Planting geometry had significant effect on growth parameters of greengram during summer. Among fertilizer levels application of 31.25:62.5:25 kg N: P_2O_5 :K₂O ha⁻¹ + 20 kg S ha⁻¹ recorded significantly higher growth parameters, seed yield (743 kg ha⁻¹) and haulm yield (2,784 kg ha⁻¹) as compared to application of 25:50:20 kg N: P_2O_5 :K₂O ha⁻¹ + 20 kg S ha⁻¹ recorded significantly higher growth parameters, near the production of 25:50:20 kg N: P_2O_5 :K₂O ha⁻¹ + 20 kg S ha⁻¹ recorded significantly higher growth parameters, seed yield (743 kg ha⁻¹) and haulm yield (2,784 kg ha⁻¹) as compared to application of 25:50:20 kg N: P_2O_5 :K₂O ha⁻¹ + 20 kg S ha⁻¹ and RDF. There is no interaction effect among greengram genotypes, planting geometry and fertilizer levels.

Key words: Summer greengram, genotypes, planting geometry, fertilizer levels

Introduction

Greengram (*Vigna radiata* L.) is third most important pulse crop in India after chickpea and pigeonpea, it highly valued as a grain legume. Greengram contain 24 -25 per cent protein highly rich in lysine, an amino acid which is deficit in cereals (Anon., 2018a).

In India greengram being grown in an area of 3.5 m ha with total production of 1.6 m tonnes and productivity of 466 kg ha⁻¹. Whereas during *rabi* and summer it is grown in an area of 0.96 m ha with 0.56 m tonnes production and 582 kg ha⁻¹ productivity (Anon., 2018b). In Karnataka it is being grown in an area of 0.39 m ha with production of 0.128 m tonnes and productivity of 275 kg ha⁻¹. During summer greengram is grown in an area of 1025 ha (Anon., 2018a). The productivity gap analysis revealed that the national average yield of greengram is 466 kg ha⁻¹ as against 275 kg ha⁻¹ in

Karnataka. This indicates the scope for increasing the productivity of summer greengram by proper best agronomic management practices.

Greengram can be grown twice in a year during *kharif* and summer season. In the recent years with development of improved short duration, high yielding, disease resistant, photo and thermo insensitive greengram varieties, it has got great scope for fitting in rice-wheat and other cereal based cropping systems and can be grown under limited irrigation facility after *rabi* crop or rice-rice, rice-wheat cropping system instead of leaving land fallow.

The productivity of greengram is low because it is grown on marginal and submarginal land during summer with inadequate fertilization and poor management practices. Among various management practices selection of varieties, spacing and nutrient management play vital

Treatment			25	DAS			50 D.	AS			At ha	arvest	
Ireatment		F ₁	F ₂	F ₃	Mean	F ₁	F ₂	F ₃	Mean	F ₁	F ₂	F ₃	Mean
	V ₁ : Shreya	8.4	8.6	8.8	8.6	25.8	26.7	29.4	27.3	33.1	34.1	37.7	35.0
$S_1: 30 \text{ cm} \times 10 \text{ cm}$	V ₂ : Meha	7.1	7.3	7.6	7.3	23.0	23.6	26.8	24.5	31.6	32.2	35.3	33.0
	Mean	7.7	8.0	8.2	8.0	24.4	25.2	28.1	25.9	32.3	33.2	36.5	34.0
	V ₁ : Shreya	7.7	8.3	8.5	8.2	24.2	25.0	27.8	25.7	32.5	33.0	36.1	33.9
	V ₂ : Meha	7.0	7.1	7.4	7.1	21.8	22.1	25.3	23.1	30.5	31.1	33.5	31.7
$S_{2}: 45 \text{ cm} \times 7.5 \text{ cm}$	Mean	7.3	7.7	7.9	7.7	23.0	23.5	26.6	24.4	31.5	32.1	34.8	32.8
_	V ₁ : Shreya	8.1	8.4	8.7	8.4	25.0	25.8	28.6	26.5	32.8	33.6	36.9	34.4
	V ₂ : Meha	7.0	7.2	7.5	7.2	22.4	22.9	26.1	23.8	31.0	31.6	34.4	32.4
Mean		7.5	7.8	8.1		23.7	24.3	27.3		31.9	32.6	35.7	
For comparison of	f Means	S.E	m±	CD	at 5%	S.F	Em±	CD	at 5%	S.	Em±	CD	at 5%
S		0.	15		NS	0.	.34	1	NS	0).22	-	NS
V	0.	31		NS	0.	.21	0	.81	C).29	1	1.12	
F		0.	18		NS	0.	.30	0.89		0.26		().79
S×V		0.35			NS	0.	.40	1	NS	C).36	NS	
S×F		0.	30		NS	0.	.59	1	NS	0).44		NS
V×F		0.4	49		NS	0.	.45	1	NS	0).51		NS
$S \times V \times F$		0.	39		NS	0.	.56	1	NS	C	0.50		NS

Table 1: Plant height (cm) of summer greengram genotypes as influenced by different planting geometry and fertilizer level.

role in increasing greengram production during summer. Performance of genotypes differs from different regions and season because it is governed by different edaphic and climatic factors. Performance of genotypes is also influenced by crop management practices. Selection of high yielding, disease resistance and multi location suitable varieties is very important. Spacing is low cost monetary input. Providing optimum space to individual plant is important to obtain maximum yield of any crop. Yield potential of genotype is obtained when provided with optimum resources like light, water and nutrient which can be achieved by providing optimum space for individual plants.

Nutrient management plays an important role in maximum production of greengram. Even though greengram can fix atmospheric nitrogen, application of nitrogen fertilizer as starter dose at the time of sowing helps to improve the growth and development of greengram. Phosphorous as major nutrient which is essential for cell formation, root development, grain formation and maturity of the grains. Potassium imparts drought tolerance, hence during summer potassium nutrient plays important role. Sulphur is an essential element in forming proteins, enzymes, vitamins, chlorophyll and photosynthesis in plants.

In Karnataka cultivation of greengram during summer season is not popular it may be due to lack of information on availability of suitable varieties, planting geometry and nutrient management of greengram during summer season. Keeping this in view, a field experiment was conducted to study the effect of planting geometry and fertilizer levels on growth and quality of greengram genotypes.

Materials and Methods

A field experiment was conducted during summer 2019 at IIPR, Regional Research Centre, UAS campus, Dharwad. The geographical co-ordinates of experimental site is 15° 49' North latitude, 74° 98' East longitude and at an altitude of 678 m above mean sea level (MSL). Textural class of experimental site was black clay soil having neutral pH (7.34), medium in EC (0.24 dS m⁻¹), low in organic matter content (5.81 g kg⁻¹) and available nitrogen (260 kg ha⁻¹), medium in phosphorus (30 kg ha⁻¹), available potassium (290 kg ha⁻¹) and available sulphur (19 kg ha⁻¹). During cropping period (February to April) 54.5 mm of rainfall was received. Maximum rainfall received during crop period was 29.2 mm in the first week of April which was at the pod development stage of the crop thus ensured adequate soil moisture for pod development.

The experiment was laid out in split-split plot design with two planting geometry (S₁: 30 cm × 10 cm and S₂: 45 cm × 7.5 cm) in main plot, two genotypes V₁: Shreya (IPM 02-14) and V₂: Meha (IPM 99-125)) in sub plot and three fertilizer levels in sub-sub plot {F₁: RDF (25:50:0 kg N: P₂O₅:K₂O ha⁻¹ + 20 kg S) ha⁻¹, F₂: 25:50:20 kg N: P₂O₅:K₂O ha⁻¹ + 20 kg S ha⁻¹ and F₃: 31.25:62.5:25 kg N:P₂O₅:K₂O ha⁻¹ + 20 kg S ha⁻¹}.

The crop was sown on February 7th, 2019 and entire dose of nitrogen, phosphorus (P_2O_5), potassium (K_2O) and sulphur was applied as basal at the time of sowing in

Table 2:	Numt levels	ber of the at 25,	rifolia 50 DA	tte lear AS and	ves pla at har	unt ⁻¹ ar rvest.	unu pu	iber of	brancl	ies pla	nt ⁻¹ of s	summe	r green	ıgram	genoty	pes as	influe	nced b	y diffe	ent pl	anting	geomet	try and	fertilizer
					Num	ber of	<u>trifolia</u>	te leave	s per]	<u>olant</u>							Num	<u>ber of l</u>	<u>oranch</u>	es per l	<u>olant</u>			
Treatn	nent		251	DAS			50 D	AS			At har	vest			25 D/	S			50 DA	S	_	At	harves	t
		\mathbf{F}_{1}	\mathbf{F}_2	\mathbf{F}_3	M.	\mathbf{F}_{1}	\mathbf{F}_2	\mathbf{F}_3	М.	\mathbf{F}_{1}	\mathbf{F}_2	\mathbf{F}_3	М.	F ₁	\mathbf{F}_2	\mathbf{F}_3	М.	\mathbf{F}_1	\mathbf{F}_2	F3 .	М.	F ₁ I	72 F	3 M.
	^ ^	3.6	3.7	4.0	3.8	11.2	11.4	12.8	11.8	10.50	10.93	12.50	11.31	3.6	3.7	4.0	3.8 (5.63	7.13	3.50 7	.42	9.87 10	.03 11.	47 10.46
Š	۲,	3.2	3.6	3.8	3.5	10.2	10.5	11.6	10.8	10.17	10.50	11.63	10.77	3.2	3.6	3.8	3.5 (5.30 6	6.40	7.60 6	.77	9.17 9.	27 10.	33 9.59
•	M.	3.4	3.7	3.9	3.6	10.7	11.0	12.2	11.3	10.33	10.72	12.07	11.04	3.4	3.7	3.9	3.6 (6.47 0	6.77	8.05 7	60.	9.52 9.	65 10.	90 10.02
	^'	3.4	3.6	3.8	3.6	10.4	10.8	12.0	11.1	10.50	10.87	11.93	11.10	3.4	3.6	3.8	3.6 (5.40 6	67 7	7.87 6	86.	9.53 9.	77 10.	50 9.93
:	, v	3.3	3.5	3.7	3.5	9.7	9.9	11.0	10.2	10.03	10.13	11.00	10.39	3.3	3.5	3.7	3.5 6	5.17 6	5.20 6	5.93 6	.43	8.70 9.	00 9.9	9.21
Š	M.	3.4	3.5	3.8	3.6	10.0	10.4	11.5	10.6	10.27	10.50	11.47	10.74	3.4	3.5	3.8	3.6 (6.28 (.43	7.40 6	.71	9.12 9.	38 10.	22 9.57
1	>	3.5	3.7	3.9	3.7	10.8	11.1	12.4	11.4	10.50	10.90	12.22	11.21	3.5	3.7	3.9	3.7 6	5.52 (§.90	8.18 7	.20	9.70 9.	90 10.	98 10.19
:	\mathbf{V}_2	3.3	3.5	3.7	3.5	9.6	10.2	11.3	10.5	10.10	10.32	11.32	10.58	3.3	3.5	3.7	3.5 6	5.23 6	5.30	7.27 6	.60	8.93 9.	13 10.	13 9.40
M.		3.4	3.6	3.8		10.4	10.7	11.9		10.30	10.61	11.77		3.4	3.6	3.8		5.38 (5.38	7.73		9.32 9.	52 10.	26
Foi																								
compa	rison	S.En	ŧ	CD a	t 5%	S.F	m±	CD a	it 5%	S.E	m±	CD at	5%	S.Em	ť	CD at ?	%	S.Em	+	CD at ?	%	S.Em±	ບ 	D at 5%
of Me	ans																							
S		0.1(0	Z	S	0	12	N	S	0.0)5	NS		0.10	_	SN		0.08		SN		0.08		SN
Λ		0.0(9	N	S	0	06	0	24	0.0	70	0.2	7	0.06		NS		0.07		0.28		0.04		0.14
F		0.1	1	Z	S	0	10	0	29	0.	[]	0.33	3	0.11		NS		0.11		0.33		0.06		0.19
$\mathbf{S} \times$	^ _	0.1	1	Z	S	0.	13	N	IS	0.0	8(NS		0.11		NS		0.10		NS		0.09		NS
$\mathbf{S} imes$	F	0.19	6	Z	S	0	20	N	S	0.	4	NS		0.19		NS		0.17		NS		0.13		NS
$^{\times}$ V	Н	0.1;	5	Z	S	0.	14	N	IS	0.	9	NS		0.15		NS		0.16		NS		0.09		NS
$\mathbf{S}\times\mathbf{V}$	$\times \mathrm{F}$	0.2(0	N	S	0.	18	N	IS	0.	6	NS		0.20	_	NS		0.19		NS		0.12		NS
	M.	: Mean	I; S ₁ : 3	$0 \text{ cm} \times$:10 cm	; S ₂ : 45	cm ×	7.5cm;	V ₁ : Sh	reya (IP	M 2-14); V ₂ : 1	Meha (I	PM 99-	-125); F	RDF	(25:50	:0 kg l	$\mathbf{N}: \mathbf{P}_2\mathbf{O}_5$:K ₂ O h	$a^{-1} + 20$	0 kg S ha	a ⁻¹);	
					Ľ	25:50:2	20 kg D	С. Р. С.	:KO TO	$1a^{-1} + 20$	kg S h	a' F.	31.25:62	2.5:25	Kg N: F	Ő Ķ	O ha' '	+ 20 kg	Sha^{-1}					

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the form of urea, DAP, MOP and gypsum, respectively as per the treatments. Seed rate used was 12 kg ha⁻¹ for both planting geometry and seeds were treated with Rhizobium and PSB at the rate of 500 g per 12 kg seeds. The crop was grown under protective irrigation with sprinkler system of irrigation and irrigations was given by considering critical crop growth period and climatic conditions that was at establishment stage (10 DAS) at CPE of 58.8, vegetative phase (25 DAS) at CPE of 78.3, flower initiation (40 DAS) at CPE of 99.7 and pod filling stage (57 DAS) at CPE of 41.2 on an average to the depth of 30 cm. Overall five irrigations were provided for successful growth and development of crop. The crop was harvested by picking the pods on 13-04-2019 and 20-04-2019.

Results and Discussions

Performance of greengram genotypes

Greengram genotype Shreya (IPM 02-14) recorded significantly higher plant height (26.5 and 34.4 cm, respectively), number of trifoliate leaves (11.4 and 11.21, respectively) and number of branches (7.2 and 10.19, respectively) at 50 DAS and at harvest than Meha (Table 1 and 2). At 25 DAS plant height, number of trifoliate leaves and number of branches did not varied to the level of significance. This might be attributed to their genetic variance, varietal difference and climatic adaptability. These results are in line with those of Miah et al., (2009). Genotype Shreya produced higher dry matter at all growth stages (Table 4). During the initial days (25 DAS) Shreya produced higher dry matter than Meha but not to the level of significance whereas at 50 DAS and at harvest, Shreya produced significantly higher dry matter per plant (3.53 and 8.71 g, respectively) as compared to Meha (2.9 and 7.91 g, respectively). This might be due to increase in morphological character which are responsible for photosynthetic capacity of plant namely plant height, number of trifoliate leaves, number of branches per plant, leaf area and SPAD value there by increasing the biological yield.. The similar results have been reported by Gorade et al., 2013 and Dash and Rautaray (2017).

Significantly higher SPAD value (47.3 at 50 DAS), leaf area (2.19 and 1.75 $dm^2 plant^{-1}$) and LAI (0.69 and 0.55) at 50 DAS and at harvest,

Table 3: leaf area (dm² plant⁻¹) and leaf area index of summer greengram genotypes as influenced by different planting geometry and fertilizer levels at 25, 50 DAS and at

respectively (Table 3 and 4) were recorded in Shreya as compared to Meha. This might be due to genetic make up of cultivar. The similar differences with respect to LAI and leaf area in greengram varieties were reported by Mondal et al. 2012 and Tukaram (2011).

At 50 DAS, number of root nodules (17.06) and nodule dry weight (45.56 mg) were also significantly higher in Shreya than Meha (Table 5) which improve plant growth ultimately dry matter accumulation by increasing nitrogen availability through atmospheric nitrogen fixation. At 25 DAS, number of root nodules and nodule dry weight found non significant. These differences might be due to genetic variability and climatic conditions of the varieties under cultivation. Similar results were reported by Rasul et al., (2012) and Mondal and Sengupta (2019).

Significantly higher seed yield (691 kg ha⁻¹) and haulm yield (2679 kg ha-1) was recorded with genotype Shreya which was 14.6 and 10.1 per cent higher than Meha, respectively (Table 5). This might be attribute to its better growth and yield attributing parameters primarily dry matter production and number of branches per plant. These results are in accordance with findings of Dash and Rautaray (2017) and Singh et al., (2017).

Effect of planting geometry

Greengram sown at $30 \text{ cm} \times 10 \text{ cm}$ planting geometry recorded higher growth parameters at 25, 50 and at harvest namely plant height (8, 25.9 and 34 cm, respectively), number of trifoliate leaves (3.6, 11.3 and 11.04, respectively), number of branches (3.6, 7.09 and 10.02, respectively), leaf area (0.35, 2.14 and 1.71 dm² plant⁻¹, respectively), LAI (0.12, 0.71 and 0.57, respectively) and SPAD value (31.1 and 46.1 at 25 and 50 DAS, respectively) (Table 1, 2, 3 and 4) which contributes higher dry matter accumulation (0.35, 3.39 and 8.44 g respectively) (Table 4) which in turn recorded higher seed (684 kg ha⁻¹) and haulm yield (2,594 kg ha⁻¹) than 45 cm \times 7.5 cm (Table 5) but did not differed to the level of significance. This might be due to plant population remains same in both 30 cm \times 10 cm and 45 cm \times 7.5 cm. Same results were observed by Bhagwanrao (2011) who reported that 30 cm \times 10 cm and

Table 4:	Dryma and at]	ttter proc harvest	luction	(g plant	⁻¹) and S	PAD va]	lue of su	mmer g	reengrai	n genot	ypes as i	influenc	ed by d	ifferent	planting	g geome	etry and	fertilize	er levels	at 25, 5	0 DAS
						Dry m	atter pro	oduction	(g plant	t ⁻¹)							SPAI) value			
Trea	tment		25 1	DAS			50 D	AS			At har	vest			25 DA	VS			50 D/	S	
		\mathbf{F}_{1}	\mathbf{F}_2	\mathbf{F}_3	Mean	\mathbf{F}_{1}	\mathbf{F}_2	\mathbf{F}_3	Mean	\mathbf{F}_{1}	\mathbf{F}_2	F ₃	Mean	\mathbf{F}_{1}	\mathbf{F}_2	F ₃	Mean	\mathbf{F}_{1}	\mathbf{F}_2	F ₃]	Mean
	V_1	0.35	0.36	0.41	0.38	3.38	3.52	4.39	3.76	8.09	8.35	10.17	8.87	31	31.3	33.8	32	44.7	45.5	56.7	48.9
S	\mathbf{V}_2	0.3	0.33	0.36	0.33	2.51	2.79	3.77	3.02	7.59	7.73	8.7	8.01	28.6	30.2	31.7	30.1	40.4	42.4	47.2	43.3
	Mean	0.32	0.35	0.39	0.35	2.94	3.16	4.08	3.39	7.84	8.04	9.44	8.44	29.8	30.7	32.7	31.1	42.5	44	51.9	46.1
	V_1	0.33	0.34	0.37	0.35	2.94	3.15	3.79	3.29	7.89	8.15	9.6	8.55	28.6	29.4	30.3	29.4	42.4	44.2	50.2	
	\mathbf{V}_2	0.29	0.31	0.35	0.32	2.44	2.66	3.24	2.78	7.48	7.53	8.44	7.81	28.1	28.3	30.1	28.8	39.7	40.4	45.2	41.7
Š	Mean	0.31	0.33	0.36	0.33	2.69	2.91	3.51	3.04	7.68	7.84	9.02	8.18	28.4	28.9	30.2	29.1	41	42.3	47.7	43.7
1	V_1	0.34	0.35	0.39	0.36	3.16	3.34	4.09	3.53	7.99	8.25	9.88	8.71	29.8	30.3	32	30.7	43.5	44.9	53.4	47.3
	\mathbf{V}_2	0.29	0.32	0.36	0.32	2.48	2.73	3.5	2.9	7.53	7.63	8.57	7.91	28.4	29.2	30.9	29.5	40	41.4	46.2	42.5
Μ	ean	0.32	0.34	0.38		2.82	3.03	3.8		7.76	7.94	9.23			29.1	29.8	31.4		41.8	43.1	49.8
	Or																				
comp	arison	S.E	±m±	CD a	it 5%	S.E	m±	CD at	5%	S.Em	+!	CD at	5%	S.En	Ħ	CD at	5%	S.E	±	CD at	5%
of N	Aeans																				
	S	0.0	122	N	SI	0.0	67	N		0.07		SN		0.76		SN		0.4	7	SN	
	V	0.0	111	N	SI	0.0	70	0.2	7	0.08		0.30	_	0.64		SN		0.6	57	2.6	~
	Н	0.0	117	N	SI	0.0	78	0.2	3	0.12		0.36		0.64		SN		0.6	53	1.89	•
S	×V	0.0	124	Z	IS	0.0	97	Ż		0.10		NS		1.0(SN		0.8	2	SN	
S	×F	0.0	136	Z	IS	0.1	31	Ż		0.17		NS		1.3		NS		0.9	60	SN	
N	×F	0.0	125	Z	IS	0.1	34	Ż		0.18		NS		1.1		SN		1.1	6	SN	
$\mathbf{S} \times$	$\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{F}$	0.0	133	N	SI	0.1	45	N		0.21		NS		1.20		NS		1.1	8	NS	
		S ₁ : 30 c	m ×10 c	3m; S.; 4.	$5 \text{ cm} \times 7$	7.5cm; V	: Shrey	a (IPM 2	-14); V ₂ :	Meha ()	-99 MAI	125); F ₁	: RDF (2	5:50:0	kg N: P,	0, :K,O	$ha^{-1} + 2$	0 kg S h	.a ⁻¹);		
		-		, Ľ	25:50:20	ke N: F	0 .	D ha ⁻¹ + 2	20 kg S h	a ⁻¹ : F : 3	1.25:62.5	5:25 kg	N: P.O	:KOha	$^{-1} + 20 \text{ k}$	₂ S ha⁻¹)			

45 cm \times 7.5 cm recorded on par plant height, leaf area and dry matter production per plant and Srivastava and Dawson (2017) observed on par yield at 30 cm \times 10 cm and 45 cm \times 6.5 geometry. Similarly planting geometry had no significant effect on number of root nodules and nodule dry weight.

Effect of fertilizer levels

Fertilizer levels had significant effect on growth parameters of greengram during summer. Application of 31.25:62.5:25 kg $N:P_2O_5:K_2O$ ha⁻¹ + 20 kg S ha⁻¹ recorded significantly higher plant height (27.3 and 35.7 cm at 50 DAS and at harvest, respectively) as compared to application of 25:50:20 kg $N:P_2O_5:K_2O$ ha⁻¹ + 20 kg S ha⁻¹ and RDF (Table 1). Significant increase in plant height might be due to adequate and balanced application of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium at the time of sowing, which has contributed for improved root system thus helped in better nutrient uptake which resulted in accelerating various metabolic processes such as cell division, cell elongation and cell development and thereby enhanced the plant growth. Similarly, same treatment recorded higher number of trifoliate leaves per plant (11.9 and 11.77 at 50 DAS and at harvest, respectively) and branches per plant (7.73 and 10.56 at 50 DAS and at harvest, respectively) (Table 2) due to sufficient supply of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium thus increased the rate of photosynthesis and efficient utilization of nutrients and solar radiation which resulted in attaining better crop canopy. Leaf area is an important area for photosynthesis where radiant energy intercepts for synthesis of photosynthates. Higher leaf area was recorded with application of 31.25:62.5:25 kg $N:P_2O_5:K_2O$ ha⁻¹ + 20 kg S at 25, 50 DAS and at harvest (0.37, 2.42 and 1.82 dm² plant⁻¹, respectively) as compared to application of $25:50:20 \text{ kg N}: P_2O_{\epsilon}:K_2O \text{ ha}^{-1} + 20 \text{ kg S} (0.34)$ 1.85 and 1.63 dm² plant⁻¹, respectively) and RDF $(0.31, 1.73 \text{ and } 1.59 \text{ dm}^2 \text{ plant}^{-1}$, respectively) but at 25 DAS leaf area was found non significant (Table 3). Higher leaf area might be due to expansion of cells. Likewise, significantly higher LAI (0.77 and 0.58 at 50 DAS and at harvest, respectively) was recorded with application of 31.25:62.5:25 kg N:P₂O₅:K₂O ha⁻ 1 + 20 kg S as compared to application of

	A-ord of Aloin ml	um yieiu (kg na ⁻)	$\mathbf{F}_2 + \mathbf{F}_3 + \mathbf{M}_2$	2606 2979 2707	2409 2675 2481	2507 2827 2594	2574 2877 2650	2318 2604 2388	2446 2741 2519	2590 2928 2679	2364 2640 2434	2409 2477 2784		m± CD at 5%		51 NS	89 105.60	87 116.55	67 NS	27 NS	84 NS	69 NS	:
	H_) <mark>п</mark> аи	M. F ₁	34 2536	35 2359	84 2447	48 2500	72 2241	10 2370	91 2518	03 2300	43		% S.EI		30.5	. 26.8	38.8	40.6	62.2	58.8	69.(0 kg S ha ⁻¹)
		u (kg na ⁻	F ₃	845 7	726 6	785 6	740 6	662 5	701 6	792 6	694 6	608 7		CD at 5		SN	51.64	52.30	NS	NS	NS	NS	${}_{2}^{0}$ ha ⁻¹ + 2
	Cond who	seeu yiei	$\mathbf{F}_1 = \mathbf{F}_2$	70 687	80 599	25 643	92 613	22 532	57 573	31 650	51 565	591		S.Em±		15.09	13.15	17.45	20.01	29.34	27.42	31.81	$N: P_2O_5:K$
			3 M.]	17 47.11 6	17 40.61 5	67 43.86 6	67 44.00 5	17 38.56 5	92 41.28 5	92 45.56 6	67 39.58 5			D at 5%		SN	1.91	2.51	NS	NS	NS	NS	(25:50:0 kg]
	nt (mg)	50 DAS	F ₂ F	3 44.33 55.	0 39.17 46	7 41.75 50.	3 43.00 48	3 37.17 43.	3 40.08 45.	8 43.67 51.	2 38.17 44.	9		Em± C]).67	.49).84).83	1.35	1.19	1.49	(5); F ₁ : RDF
	nodule weigh	_	M. F ₁	23.72 41.83	21.72 36.5(22.72 39.17	22.61 40.33	20.83 35.33	21.72 37.83	23.17 41.08	21.28 35.92	22.00 23.90		t 5% S.		s C	S C	S C	S	S	S	S 1	(IPM 99-12
	Root 1	25 DAS	\mathbf{F}_2 \mathbf{F}_3	3.50 25.67	1.33 23.50	2.42 24.58	2.67 24.17	0.50 22.50	1.58 23.33	3.08 24.92	0.92 23.00	20.71		t CD a		z	z	z	z	z	z	N); V ₂ : Meha
			\mathbf{F}_{1}	0 22.00 2	6 20.33 2	3 21.17 2	2 21.00 2	2 19.50 2	2 20.25 2	6 21.50 2	9 19.92 2	4 17.63		S.Em		0.66	0.85	0.88	1.07	1.38	1.57	1.63	(IPM 2-14
		AS	F ₃ M.	20.27 17.6	16.40 15.2	18.33 16.4	17.60 16.5	16.23 15.1	16.92 15.8	18.93 17.0	16.32 15.1	15.11 15.6		CD at 5%		SN	0.81	0.58	NS	NS	NS	NS	V ₁ : Shreya
	t nodules	50 D.	$\mathbf{r}_1 = \mathbf{F}_2$.93 16.60	.43 14.93	.18 15.77	.80 16.17	.27 14.87	.03 15.52	.87 16.38	.35 14.90	43		S.Em±		0.16	0.21	0.19	0.26	0.32	0.37	0.37	$m \times 7.5 cm;$
	aber of roo		M.	9.27 15	8.71 14	8.99 15	8.96 15	8.12 14	8.54 15	9.11 15	8.42 14	8.68 9.		at 5%		SN	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	:m; S ₂ : 45 c
	Nun	25 DAS	\mathbf{F}_2 \mathbf{F}_3	27 9.93	.53 9.33	.90 9.63	.13 9.43	00.6 77.	.45 9.22	.20 9.68	.15 9.17	8.19		CD +) cm ×10 c
DAS.			\mathbf{F}_{1}	8.60 9	8.27 8.53 9.33 8.43 8.00 0.53	8.43 8	8.30 9	7.60 7	1.95 8	8.45 9	7.93 8			S.Em		0.16	0.18	0.33	0.24	0.44	0.46	0.56	S ₁ : 3(
501		Treatment		V_1	\mathbf{S}_{1}	Mean	V1 V	V_2	S, Mean	^ _ _	V_2	Mean	For	comparison	of Means	S	Λ	ц	$\mathbf{S} imes \mathbf{V}$	$\mathbf{S} imes \mathbf{F}$	$\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{F}$	$\mathbf{S}\times\mathbf{V}\times\mathbf{F}$	

25:50:20 kg N: P_2O_5 : K_2O ha⁻¹ + 20 kg S and RDF (Table 3). This might be due to nitrogen, as it is a constituent of polynuleotide and also plays important role in auxin synthesis thus helped in cell expansion and cell division which resulted in higher LAI. SPAD value indicates the chlorophyll content in leaves, higher SPAD value (49.8) at 50 DAS whereas during initial days (25 DAS) SPAD value remained unaffected due to nutrient levels. Higher SPAD value might be due to higher photosynthetic rate with increased photosynthates in leaf due to supply of nitrogen in adequate quantity. These results are in line with findings of Patil *et al.*, (2011) and Bairwa *et al.*, (2012).

Number of root nodules per plant and root nodule weight per plant were differed significantly due to application of different fertilizer level. Application of 31.25:62.5:25 kg N:P₂O₅:K₂O ha⁻¹ + 20 kg S ha⁻¹ recorded significantly higher number of root nodules (17.63 plant⁻¹) and root nodule weight (48.29 mg plant⁻¹) at 50 DAS sowing as compared to application of 25:50:20 kg N:P₂O₅:K₂O ha⁻¹ + 20 kg S ha⁻¹ and RDF (Table 5). There was no significant difference was observed at 25 DAS.

Significantly higher seed yield (743 kg ha⁻¹) and haulm yield (2784 kg ha⁻¹) were recorded with application of 31.25:62.5:25 kg N:P₂O₅:K₂O ha⁻¹ + 20 kg S ha⁻¹ as compared to application of 25:50:20 kg N:P₂O₅:K₂O ha⁻¹ + 20 kg S ha⁻¹ and RDF. This might be attributed to adequate and balanced supply of plant nutrients to the crop during the growth period, which increased the availability of nutrients to plants and favourable increase in plant height, accumulation of dry matter, increased photosynthetic activity due to increased leaf area and SPAD value finally seed and haulm yield. These results are in conformity with the findings of Awomi *et al.*, 2012 and Bairwa *et al.*, 2012

Interaction between planting geometry, genotypes and fertilizer levels

Interaction effects among genotypes, planting geometry and fertilizer levels were non significant. However, genotype Shreya sown at 30 cm \times 10 cm planting geometry along with application of 31.25:62.5:25 kg N:P₂O₅:K₂O ha⁻¹ + 20 kg S ha⁻¹ recorded maximum growth attributes namely plant height (8.8, 29.4 and 37.7 cm, respectively), number of trifoliate leaves (4,

11.8 and 12.5, respectively), number of branches (4, 8.5 and 11.47, respectively), leaf area (0.42, 2.89 and 2, respectively), LAI (0.14, 0.96 and 0.67, respectively), dry matter production (0.41, 4.39 and 10.17 g, respectively), SPAD value (33.8 and 56.7 at 25 and 50 DAS, respectively), number of root nodules (9.93 and 20.27 at 25 and 50 DAS, respectively) and root nodule weight (25.67 and 55.17 mg plant⁻¹ at 25 and 50 DAS, respectively) at 25, 50 DAS and at harvest as compared to other treatment combinations. Similarly, same treatment combination recorded maximum seed (845 kg ha⁻¹) and haulm yield (2979 kg ha⁻¹) as compared to other treatment combinations. Increase in seed yield was attributed to increased growth and yield attributes. Increased growth indices were attributed to genetic constituent of genotype, availability of optimum space and nutrients for crop growth and development. The results are in accordance with results reported by Gorakhnath, 2012 and Srivastava and Dawson, 2017. Lower seed yield and haulm yield were recorded with genotype Meha sown at 45 cm \times 7.5 cm spacing with application of RDF. This might be due to less availability of nutrients and less intra row spacing which increases competition for solar radiation that ultimately reduces growth of some intra row plants at vegetative phase and they were unable to reach reproductive phase which resulted in low yield. These results are in accordance with findings of Kalsaria et al., 2017.

Conclusion

It was concluded that genotype Shreya recorded significantly higher growth parameters, seed yield (691 kg ha⁻¹) and haulm yield (2,679 kg ha⁻¹) than Meha. Planting geometry had no significant effect on growth parameters and yield. Application of 31.25:62.5:25 kg N:P₂O₅:K₂O ha⁻¹ + 20 kg S ha⁻¹ recorded significantly higher growth parameters, seed yield (743 kg ha⁻¹) and haulm yield (27,84 kg ha⁻¹) as compared to other fertilizer levels.

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