



EFFECT OF HYBRID AND NON-HYBRID OKRA (*ABELMOSCHUS ESCULENTUS* (L.) MOENCH) TO FERTILIZER LEVELS ON YIELD, ECONOMICS AND SOIL FERTILITY

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ABSTRACT

A field experiment was carried out during rainy season of 2007 at B.A.C., Sabour to observe the response of hybrid and non-hybrid okra to various levels of fertilizers in RBD replicated four times. At lower levels of fertilizers (60:40:20 and 90: 60:40 N, P₂O₅, K₂O kg ha⁻¹), the hybrid (Mahyco-12) and non-hybrid (Parbhani Kranti) were equally good with regard to fruit yield. But at higher fertilizer doses (120:80:60 and 150:100:80 N, P₂O₅, K₂O kg ha⁻¹) the hybrid convincingly out-yielded the non-hybrid. In respect of net returns and B:C ratio the non-hybrid performed better than the hybrid Mahyco-12 at the lower fertilizer doses, but at the higher doses the hybrid Mahyco-12 surpassed Parbhani Kranti the non-hybrid, both in terms of net returns and B:C ratio. The varieties did not differ significantly in their effect on residual fertility status but the plots receiving higher doses exhibited marginally higher nutrient contents in the soil after harvest. The hybrid Mahyco-12 showed better resistance to yellow vein mosaic virus (YVMV) than the non-hybrid and the incidence was observed to increase with increasing doses of fertilizers.

Key words : Hybrid and non-hybrid okra, fertilizer levels, yield, economics, soil fertility and residual effect.

Hybrid vigour prevailing in F₁ and F₂ generations of hybridization has been utilized favourably in most of the crops leading to revolutionary waves in production, but its most profound thrust has been felt in vegetable crops. Today's entire vegetable seed market is flooded with hybrids. A craze is there amongst the vegetable growers to opt for hybrids instead of established varieties. However, it warrants a careful approach in discarding a variety and going in favour of a hybrid. While selecting hybrids their production potential is the primary consideration, but it is equally important to assess economics of production, reaction to important diseases and pest and impact of the fertility status of the soil in terms of major nutrients. Opting for hybrids blindly may put vegetable production in wilderness causing immense harm to vegetable production itself in times ahead.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A field experiment was conducted at Bihar Agricultural College, Sabour, farm during rainy season of 2007. The soil of the experimental plot analysed before experimentation exhibited medium fertility as envisaged through available nitrogen (295 kg ha⁻¹), available P₂O₅ (36 kg ha⁻¹) and available K₂O (215 kg ha⁻¹). The soil was medium textured falling in the class of sandy loam and having soil reaction in the neutral

range (pH 7.3). The experiment was laid down in randomized block design (Factorial) wherein a hybrid (Mahyco-12) and a non-hybrid (Parbhani Kranti) were tested at four levels of fertilizers (F₁- 60:40:20, F₂- 90:60:40, F₃- 120:80:60 and F₄- 150:100:80 N, P₂O₅, K₂O kg ha⁻¹) in four replications sowing of seed was done on 5th July, 2007.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Fruit yield : Under the conditions of the plots supplanted with the lower doses of fertilizers i.e., F₁(60:40:20 N, P₂O₅, K₂O kg ha⁻¹) and F₂ (90:60:40 N, P₂O₅, K₂O kg ha⁻¹) the hybrid Mahyco-12 and the non-hybrid Parbhani Kranti were statistically compared in respect of fruit yield (Table-1). However, when the dose of fertilizer was raised beyond these levels to F₃ (120:80:60 N, P₂O₅, K₂O kg ha⁻¹) and F₄ (150:100:80 N, P₂O₅, K₂O kg ha⁻¹) the hybrid Mahyco-12 significantly out-yielded the non-hybrid Parbhani Kranti with respect to fruit yield. At the same time it was also observed that while the fruit yield of Mahyco-12 went on increasing significantly with successive increments in the dose of fertilizers up to the highest dose under test i.e., F₄ (150:100:80 N, P₂O₅, K₂O kg ha⁻¹), whereas, in the case of non-hybrid Parbhani Kranti the trend of significant increase in fruit yield could be traced only upto F₃ level (120:80:60 N, P₂O₅, K₂O kg ha⁻¹). The

Table-1 : Yield and economics of hybrid non-hybrid okra production at graded levels of fertilizers. Fruit yield (q/ha)

Fertilizers N : P ₂ O ₅ : K ₂ O kg/ha	F ₁ (60:40:20)	F ₂ (90:60:40)	F ₃ (120:80:60)	F ₄ (150:100:80)	Mean
Variety					
Mahyco-12	54.49	86.77	113.25	128.50	95.75
Parbhani Kranti	58.37	83.75	99.54	106.12	86.95
Mean	56.43	85.26	106.46	117.31	
Net Returns (Rs./ha)					
Mahyco-12	2471	19304	32946	40413	23783
Parbhani Kranti	7605	20643	28406	31104	21939
Mean	5038	19973	30676	35759	
B:C Ratio					
Mahyco-12	0.09	0.68	1.12	1.34	0.81
Parbhani Kranti	0.31	0.81	1.08	1.14	0.84
Mean	0.20	0.75	1.10	1.24	

Comparison between means of	Yield		Net Return		B:C Ratio	
	SEd	CD at 5%	SEd	CD at 5%	SEd	CD at 5%
Varieties (V)	2.312	4.808	561.6	1168.2	0.023	NS
Fertilizer levels (F)	3.269	6.800	784.3	1852.1	0.032	0.067
Interaction (VxF)	4.623	9.616	1123.3	2336.4	0.046	0.095

highest fruit yield of 128.50 q ha⁻¹ was realised under treatment combination V₁F₄ (Mahyco-12 with 150:100:80 N, P₂O₅, K₂O kg ha⁻¹). The treatment combination next in order was V₁F₃ (Mahyco-12 with 120:80:60 N, P₂O₅, K₂O kg ha⁻¹). The higher response of hybrid to applied fertilizer level in their higher doses may be attributed to the hybrid vigour present in the hybrid. Availability of greater bulk of building blocks through increased cell division, cell elongation, production of enzymes and co-enzymes, amino acids and Cytokinin due to availability of higher amounts of nutrients at higher levels of fertilizers might explain for yield increments at higher levels of fertilizers. The results of the present investigation are in close conformity with those reported earlier by Natraj *et al.* (1993), Anjum and Anjad (1999) and Singh (2001).

Economics : When the plots received 60 kg N, 40 kg P₂O₅ and 20 kg K₂O ha⁻¹ (F₁), the lowest dose under investigation, the non-hybrid fetched significantly higher net return (Rs. 7605/-) than the hybrid Mahyco-12 (Rs. 2471) (Table-1). When the fertilizer level was raised to F₂ (90:60:40 N, P₂O₅, K₂O kg ha⁻¹) both hybrid and non-hybrid were equally well in respect of net returns. However, at the two higher levels of fertilizers *i.e.*, F₃ and F₄ the hybrid Mahyco-12 fetched significantly higher net return of Rs. 32,946 and Rs.

40,413 per hectare, respectively as compared to Parbhani Kranti having the corresponding net returns of Rs. 28,406 ha⁻¹ and Rs. 31,104 ha⁻¹. It was also observed that irrespective of the varieties, the net return of okra increased significantly with successive increments in the dose of fertilizers up to the highest level under test (F₄).

So far as Benefit: Cost ratio was concerned it was also more or less close on the lines observed in case of net returns. At the two lower levels of fertilizers (F₁ and F₂) the B:C ratio under the non-hybrid Parbhani Kranti was significantly superior to the hybrid Mahyco-12. At F₃ level both the hybrid and non-hybrid fared equally well. But the highest level of fertilizers *i.e.*, F₄ (150N+ 100 P₂O₅+ 80K₂O kg ha⁻¹) the hybrid Mahyco-12 gave significantly higher B:C ratio (1.34) as against only 1.14 noted in favour of Parbhani Kranti the non-hybrid. The findings of the present investigation as regards economic aspects find support in the work of Pandey *et al.* (1989) and Sharma and Bulla (1995).

Fertility status after harvest : The plots getting higher doses of N, P₂O₅ and K₂O had higher levels of these nutrients in the soil after harvest (Table 1). The varieties did not show any significant effect on the fertility status of soil with the exception that P₂O₅ content of soil in

Table-2 : N, P₂O₅ and K₂O status of soil after harvest and incidence of YVMV under the treatments investigated.

Treatments	Available nutrients in Kg/ha			YVMV (%)
	N	P ₂ O ₅	K ₂ O	
Varieties				
V ₁ -Mahyco-12	293.37	35.43	186.12	3.13
V ₂ -Parbhani Kranti	296.02	36.50	187.03	5.39
SEd	2.143	0.241	1.745	0.099
C.D. at 5%	NS	0.501	NS	0.306
Levels of fertilizers (N, P ₂ O ₅ , K ₂ O Kg/ha)				
F ₁ -(60:40:20)	288.32	34.95	181.88	3.35
F ₂ -(90:60:40)	293.75	34.95	185.26	3.85
F ₃ -(120:80:60)	295.27	36.15	187.21	4.50
F ₄ -(150:100:80)	301.45	36.75	191.96	5.33
SEd	03.031	0.341	1.745	0.140
C.D. at 5%	6.303	0.709	5.133	0.292

variety Parbhani Kranti was marginally higher than that noted in plots raised with the hybrid Mahyco-12. This finding gets support in the works of Asif and Grieg, 1972 and Pandey *et.al.* (1996).

Incidence of Yellow vein mosaic virus : Incidence of Yellow vein mosaic virus the most dreaded disease of okra (Table-2) was significantly higher in Parbhani Kranti, the non-hybrid (5.39%), than the hybrid Mahyco-12 (3.13%). With increase in the dose of fertilizer there had been a corresponding significant increase in the incidence of YVMV. However, the incidence of YVMV was restricted below 6 per cent which in itself shows resistance in both the varieties to this disease up to a greater extent.

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