

Original Research Article

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Studies on various levels of organic sources and major nutrients on growth and yield of sprouting broccoli (*Brassica oleracea* var. *italica* Plenck)

ABSTRACT

A field experiment was carried out at the Vegetable Research Farm, Chandra Shekhar Azad University of Agriculture and Technology, Kanpur (U.P.) during Rabi season 2021-22. The experiment consisted of twenty-four treatment combinations of six sources of organic manure and four levels of major nutrients. The experiment was laid out in Factorial Randomized Block Design with replicated three times. Palam samridhi variety of broccoli was transplanted at spacing of 45x45 cm. Results of the experiment revealed that the growth characters of broccoli like plant height (cm), number of leaves plant⁻¹, plants spread, stem diameter and Yield attributes viz total head yield per plot (kg) and total head yield (q/ha) were significantly higher under M₆ (FYM 20t + Vermicompost 5 t + Poultry manure 5 t ha⁻¹) source of manure which was at par application of M₄ (Vermicompost 5 t ha⁻¹) whereas in case of major nutrients it was significantly higher under application of (140:80:80 kg NPK ha⁻¹) but it was at par with (120:60:60 kg NPK ha⁻¹) and significantly superior to rest sources of organic manure.

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Keywords: Sprouting Broccoli, Nutrients, growth attributes, yield

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Introduction

In India, broccoli farming is a boon for the rural economy. It is a cool season crop and can be grown in spring season. It is rich source of nutrition such as iron, calcium and vitamins. The crop contains 3.3% of protein content and high content of vitamin A and C. (Anonymous, 2022). Broccoli (*Brassica oleracea* var. *italica* L.) is a popular vegetable which belongs to the family Cruciferae. Broccoli is derived from the Latin word *brachium* and the Italian term broccoli, both of which imply "arm" or "branch." It is often divided into three groups: white, purple, and green, with the green form being the most nutritious. Morphologically, it is similar to cauliflower, with the exception of secondary heads that form in the leaf axils. Humans eat the terminal head as well as the sprouts with bud clusters. These heads are green, purple, and white in colour, and their wild form can be found throughout the Mediterranean region. It is eaten raw, half-boiled, in soup with other vegetables' juices, and cooked as a single or mixed vegetable with potato. In India, specific data on sprouting broccoli for area and production are unavailable. It is mostly grown in Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Nilgiri Hills, and the Northern Plains of India. It is becoming increasingly popular in India. Appropriate fertilization may ensure lucrative and high-quality crops, as well as the use of the right amount and combination of fertilizers to boost agricultural output. Despite its relevance, broccoli nutrition management has received little attention in our country. The purpose of this investigation / Research is to design growth and yield regimes for broccoli production utilizing both organic and major nutrients.

Materials and methods

An experiment was conducted at Vegetable Research Farm of Chandra Shekhar Azad University of Agriculture and Technology, Kanpur (U.P.) during *Rabi* season 2021-22. The experiment was laid out in Factorial Randomized Block Design with 3 replications. The soil was sandy loam with organic carbon 0.34%, available N 152.0 kg/ha, phosphorus 14.76 kg/ha and potassium 180.0 kg/ha at initiation of experiment. The broccoli variety Palam samridhi was used in the experiment, which is an early-maturity variety and takes around 70 days from transplanting to first harvesting. Twenty-four treatment combinations of six sources of organic manure and four levels of major nutrients.

Organic

sources

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Add text about experimental treatments
Added new references

i.e. M₁: Farm Yard Manure (20 t/ha), M₂: Vermicompost (5 t/ha), M₃: Poultry Manure (5 t/ha), M₄: Farm Yard Manure + Vermicompost (20 t/ha + 5 t/ha), M₅: Farm Yard Manure + Poultry Manure (20 t/ha + 5 t/ha), M₆: Farm Yard Manure + Vermicompost + Poultry Manure (20 t/ha + 5 t/ha + 5 t/ha) and major nutrients i.e. F₀: Control, F₁: 80 N + 40 P₂O₅ + 40 K₂O, F₂: 120 N + 60 P₂O₅ + 60 K₂O, F₃: 140 N + 80 P₂O₅ + 80 K₂O. The crop was transplanted in plots size of 1.8m X 1.8m with a spacing of 45cm between rows and 45cm between plants. Organic manures were applied at the time of field preparation as per treatment. All remaining other recommended cultural practices were followed to raise healthy crop.

Results and Discussion:

Growth and yield attributes

Data recorded on growth and yield attributes viz; plant height, plant spread, stem diameter, number of leaves per plant as influenced by different levels of organic sources and major nutrients clearly indicated that it increases significantly by the application of organic sources of FYM 20 t/ha + Vermi-compost 5 t/ha + 5 t/ha Poultry manure and 140:80:80 kg NPK/ha as compared to other doses of application. Maximum number of leaves i.e. 14.15 per plant was noted treatment M₆ (FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + Vermicompost 5 t ha⁻¹ + Poultry manure 5 t ha⁻¹) which was on par with treatment M₄ (FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + Vermicompost 5 t ha⁻¹) and significantly superior to rest organic sources. The among organic sources M₆ (FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + Vermicompost 5 t ha⁻¹ + Poultry manure 5 t ha⁻¹) being at par with M₄ (FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + Vermicompost 5 t ha⁻¹) produced significantly taller plant than rest of organic sources. Minimum height was noted under M₁ (FYM 20 t ha⁻¹) treatment. Maximum stem diameter i.e. 5.13 cm was noted treatment M₆ (FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + Vermicompost 5 t ha⁻¹ + Poultry manure 5 t ha⁻¹) which was on par with treatment M₄ (FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + Vermicompost 5 t ha⁻¹) and significantly superior to rest organic sources. Least diameter of stem was associated with M₁ (FYM @ 20 t ha⁻¹). Lowest diameter of stem was associated with M₁ (FYM 20 t ha⁻¹). The highest plant spread of 61.20 cm was obtained with M₆ (FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + Vermicompost 5 t ha⁻¹ + Poultry manure 5 t ha⁻¹) which was at par with treatment M₄ (FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + Vermicompost 5 t ha⁻¹) and significantly superior to other organic sources. However, the plant spread was recorded with M₁ FYM (20 t ha⁻¹) which was 54.78 cm. The maximum spread was obtained of 60.27 cm with F₃ (140 + 80 + 80 kg NPK ha⁻¹) which was at par with F₂ (120 + 60 + 60 kg NPK ha⁻¹)

Comment [A5]: The results of the soil test should be presented in the table. Agronomic practices should be explained. The method of measuring traits should be stated with reference. The statistical software used should be mentioned.

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and significantly superior to over rest treatments. However, the lowest plant spread of 54.37 cm was recorded with F₀ (0+0+0kgNPK ha⁻¹) nutrient level. The role of appropriate combination of organic sources viz., FYM 210t/ha + Vermi compost 5t/ha + Poultry manure 5t/ha + Poultry manure 5t/ha and 140 kg + 80 kg NPK/ha on increase of plant height, plant spread and stem diameter have been confirmed by Renand *et al.*, 2014, Mehdi *et al.*, 2018, Burhan and Al-Taey 2018 and Hamza and Al-Taey 2020.

Table-1: Effect of organic sources and major nutrients on plant growth parameters

Treatments	Number of leaf Plant ⁻¹	Plant height (cm)	Diameter of stem (cm)	Plant spread
Organic sources				
M ₁ FYM (20t ha ⁻¹)	12.30	48.93	4.43	54.23
M ₂ Vermicompost (5t ha ⁻¹)	13.10	52.38	4.73	57.78
M ₃ Poultry manure (5t ha ⁻¹)	12.50	49.70	4.45	54.78
M ₄ (FYM 20t ha ⁻¹ + Vermicompost 5t ha ⁻¹)	13.90	55.53	5.03	60.43
M ₅ (FYM 20t ha ⁻¹ + Poultry manure 5t ha ⁻¹)	13.40	53.48	4.83	59.23
M ₆ (FYM 20t ha ⁻¹ + Vermicompost 5t ha ⁻¹ + Poultry manure 5t ha ⁻¹)	14.15	56.68	5.13	61.20
SEm(+)	0.26	1.13	0.09	1.18
CD(P=0.05)	0.74	3.23	0.27	3.36
Major nutrients				
F ₀ (0+0+0kgNPK ha ⁻¹) Control	12.32	49.25	4.45	54.37
F ₁ (80+40+40 kgNPK ha ⁻¹)	12.90	51.38	4.63	57.55
F ₂ (120+60+60kgNPK ha ⁻¹)	13.75	54.97	4.93	59.57
F ₃ (140+80+80kgNPK ha ⁻¹)	13.93	55.52	5.03	60.27
SEm(+)	0.21	0.92	0.08	0.96
CD(P=0.05)	0.61	2.63	0.22	2.74

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Marketable head yield:

The data assembled on total marketable head yield kg plot⁻¹ of broccoli was recorded. The sources was noted on marketable head yield kg plot⁻¹ of broccoli and maximum marketable head yield kg plot⁻¹ of broccoli i.e. 6.46 kg was obtained with M₆ (FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + Vermicompost 5 t ha⁻¹ + Poultry manure 5 t ha⁻¹) which was at par with treatment M₄ (FYM 20t ha⁻¹ + Vermicompost 5t ha⁻¹) which recorded 6.33 kg plant weight and these were significantly superior to other organic sources. However, minimum marketable head yield kg plot⁻¹ was recorded with M₁ FYM (20 t ha⁻¹) which was 5.80 kg. Application of different doses of major nutrient showed significant effect on the marketable head yield kg plot⁻¹ of broccoli. Maximum marketable head yield kg plot⁻¹ of 6.40 kg was obtained with F₃ (140+80+80kgNPK ha⁻¹) which was at par with F₂ (120+60+60 kg NPK ha⁻¹) and significantly superior to over rest treatments. However, the lowest marketable

head yield kg plot⁻¹ of 5.78 kg was recorded with F₀ (0+0+0 kg NPK ha⁻¹) nutrient level. Marked influence of organic sources was noted on marketable head yield of broccoli and maximum marketable head yield of broccoli i.e. 199.36 q ha⁻¹ g was obtained with M₆ (FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + Vermicompost 5 t ha⁻¹ + Poultry manure 5 t ha⁻¹) which was on par with treatment M₄ (FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + Vermicompost 5 t ha⁻¹) which recorded 195.51 q yield and these were significantly superior to other organic sources. However, minimum marketable head yield was recorded with M₁ FYM (20 t ha⁻¹) which was 178.89 q ha⁻¹. Application of different doses of major nutrients showed significant effect on the marketable yield of broccoli. Maximum marketable yield of 197.38 q ha⁻¹ was obtained with F₃ (140+80+80 kg NPK ha⁻¹) which was at par with F₂ (120+60+60 kg NPK ha⁻¹) and significantly superior to over rest treatments. However, the lowest marketable yield of 177.54 q ha⁻¹ was recorded with F₀ (0+0+0 kg NPK ha⁻¹) nutrient level. The production of significantly higher level of marketable head yield has been achieved by the cumulative combination of average head weight size of head and head compactness. This significant effect of higher level of application of FYM 210 t/ha + Vermicompost 5 t/ha + Poultry manure 5 t/ha + Poultry manure 5 t/ha and 140 kg + 80 kg NPK/ha in achieving higher level of marketable head yield (190 q/ha) which might be obtained due to higher yield attributing characters viz., average head weight, head size and head compactness. Similar observations were also recorded by Biswas *et al.*, 2021, Singh *et al.*, 2021 and Tarafder *et al.*, 2022.

Table-2: Effect of organic sources and major nutrients on yield attributes of Broccoli.

Treatments	Marketable head yield (kg plot ⁻¹)	Marketable head yield (q ha ⁻¹)
Organic sources		
M ₁ FYM (20 t ha ⁻¹)	5.80	178.89
M ₂ Vermicompost (5 t ha ⁻¹)	6.21	191.69
M ₃ Poultry manure (5 t ha ⁻¹)	5.91	182.54
M ₄ (FYM 20 t ha ⁻¹ + Vermicompost 5 t ha ⁻¹)	6.33	195.51
M ₅ (FYM 20 t ha ⁻¹ + Poultry manure 5 t ha ⁻¹)	6.03	186.19
M ₆ (FYM 20 t ha ⁻¹ + Vermicompost 5 t ha ⁻¹ + Poultry manure 5 t ha ⁻¹)	6.46	199.36
SEm(+)	0.12	3.71
CD(P=0.05)	0.34	10.57
Major nutrients		
F ₀ (0+0+0 kg NPK ha ⁻¹) Control	5.78	177.54
F ₁ (80+40+40 kg NPK ha ⁻¹)	6.01	185.42
F ₂ (120+60+60 kg NPK ha ⁻¹)	6.21	191.77
F ₃ (140+80+80 kg NPK ha ⁻¹)	6.40	197.38

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SEm(±)	0.10	3.03
CD(P=0.05)	0.28	8.63

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Conclusion

On the basis of results obtained from the present investigation, it can be concluded that among organic sources, M₆ (FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + Vermicompost 5 t ha⁻¹ + Poultry manure 5 t ha⁻¹) and a dose of F₃ (140+80+80 kg NPK ha⁻¹) major nutrients proved to be the most suitable for commercial cultivation under Kanpur conditions.

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The reference is new
Be updated according to the new text