

## Original Research Article

Effects of phosphorus and boron on growth, yield and economics of green gram  
(*Vignaradiata* L.)

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### ABSTRACT

A field experiment was conducted during *Kharif*, 2022 at Crop Research Farm, Department of Agronomy, Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences, Prayagraj (U.P) to determine the “Effect of Phosphorus and Boron on growth, yield and economics of summer green gram (*Vignaradiata* L.)”. The result showed that treatment 9 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) + Boron (1.0kg/ha)] recorded significantly higher plant height (42.57 cm), higher number of branches/plant (6.73), higher number of nodules/plant (24.13), higher dry weight (16.88g). Significant and maximum numbers of pods/plant (32.47), maximum number of seeds/pod (8.40), higher test weight (37.0 g), higher seed yield (12.43q/ha), higher stover yield (22.83 q/ha) and higher harvest index (35.28%) ~~was~~ recorded in treatment ~~in treatment~~ 9 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) + Boron (1.0kg/ha)]. Maximum gross return (1,16,278 INR/ha), net return (82,434 INR/ha) and highest benefit cost ratio (2.43) ~~was~~ recorded in treatment 9 [phosphorus (50 kg/ha) + Boron (1.0kg/ha)] as compared to other treatments.

**Keywords:** ~~Green gram~~ Green gram, phosphorus, boron, growth, yield and economics.

### **Introduction:**

Green gram is one of the important kharif pulse crops of India which can be grown as a catch crop between rabi and kharif seasons. India is its primary origin and is mainly cultivated in East Asia, Southeast Asia and the Indian subcontinent. India is the largest pulses producer globally, accounting for 24% of the world total production. It is an important pulse crop having high nutritive-nutritional value. It is also considered as a cheap source of protein and other minerals. Due to its short duration nature, it is an excellent crop to fit in an intercropping system with different major crops. It is an important conventional pulse crop of India. The calorific value of green gram is 334 calories per 100 g. It is well known for its high nutritional content, viz. crude protein (24.0%), fat (1.3%), carbohydrate (56.6%), minerals 3.5%, lysine (0.43%), methionine (0.10%) and tryptophan (0.04%). The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has recommended a minimum consumption of 40 gram/day. Green gram is popularly known as mungbean/mung bean. It was extensively cultivated under varying agro-climatic conditions. India is the world's major producer of green gram, which is grown in almost all the states. In India during 2020-21, green gram is grown in about 30.37 lakh/ ha with the total production of 2.64 million tonnes with a productivity of 888 kg/ha and contributing 10% to the total pulse production. Some of the states like Rajasthan (19.23 lakh/ ha), Karnataka (4.23 lakh/ ha), Maharashtra (4.03 lakh/ ha) Madhya Pradesh (2.10 lakh/ ha), Odisha (1.69 lakh/ ha), Telangana (0.73 lakh/ ha) and Uttar Pradesh (0.30 lakh/ ha) are the major producers of green gram in India (GOI, 2021).

Phosphorus is most critical nutrient in pulse crop. It stimulates the symbiotic nitrogen fixation of bacterial cell to root hair for nodulation. Indian soils are poor to medium in available phosphorus. Only about 30 % of the applied phosphorus is available for crops and remaining part converted into insoluble phosphorus. As the concentration of available phosphorus in the soil solution is normally insufficient to support the plant growth, continual replacement of soluble phosphorus from inorganic and organic sources is necessary to meet the phosphorus requirements of crops. Phosphorus is added extra dose in recommended dose of phosphorus which increases nitrogen fixation and finally ultimately improves the productivity of green gram. It plays an important role in virtually all main metabolic processes in plants including photosynthesis, energy transfer, signal transduction, macromolecular biosynthesis and respiration (Singhet al., 2021).

Phosphorus is needed in large quantities during the early stages of cell division, the initial

overall symptom is slow, weak, and stunted growth. Phosphorus is relatively mobile in plants and can be transferred to sites of new growth, causing symptoms of dark to blue-green coloration to appear on [the](#) older leaves of some plants. Under severe deficiency, purplish ~~ing~~ of leaves and stems may appear. Phosphorus deficiency causes [s](#) delayed maturity and poor seed and fruit development, which lead to yield reduction by limiting the plants [s](#) growth (Choudhary *et al.*, 2017).

Boron is very important in plant metabolism through acting activity ~~y~~ of certain enzymes, cell division, carbohydrate transport, ~~and~~ calcium and potassium uptake, and protein synthesis, [which](#) ultimately ~~it~~ may enhance ~~in~~ pod and seed formation. It is an essential micronutrient required for crop growth and yield due to its major role in [the](#) formation and maintenance of cell wall and cell membrane integrity (Janaki *et al.*, 2017).

Micronutrients like boron is one of the mineral nutrients required for normal plant growth. The most important functions of boron in plants are thought to be its structural role in cell wall development, cell division, seed development, and stimulation or inhibition of specific metabolic pathways for sugar transport and hormone development (Ahmed *et al.*, 2009). Boron deficiency causes decreases [s](#) in pollen grain count, pollen germination etc. It also influences growth parameters and [the](#) filling up of seeds. It is usually accepted that boron availability is decrease ~~d~~ under dry soil conditions. Thus, boron deficiency is often associated with dry weather and low soil moisture conditions. This behavior ~~is~~ may [be](#) related to [the](#) restricted release of boron from organic complexes, which ultimately impaired ability of plants to extract boron from soil due to [a](#) lack of moisture in the rhizosphere. Even [when](#) ~~of~~ boron levels in soil ~~is~~ ~~are~~ high, then also low soil moisture ~~are also~~ impairs [the](#) transport of boron to absorbing root surfaces (Praveena *et al.*, 2018). Keeping the above aspect in [view](#) [mind](#), the present investigation [is](#) entitled “Effect of phosphorus and boron application on growth, yield and economics of green gram (*Vignaradiata* L.)”.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS:

The field experiment was conducted during *kharij* 2022 at Crop Research Farm, [the](#) Department of Agronomy, Naini Agricultural Institute, [the](#) Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology And Sciences, Prayagraj, and Uttar Pradesh. The soil of the experimental field was sandy loam in texture, nearly neutral in soil reaction (pH 8), low level organic carbon (0.62%), medium available N (225 ~~K~~kg/ha), high in available P (38.2

kg/ha) and low available K (240.7 kg/ha). The treatment consists of 3 levels of Phosphorus viz. Phosphorus (30 kg/ha), Phosphorus (40 kg/ha) and Phosphorus (50 kg/ha) with a combination of different levels of Boron viz. B (0.6 kg/ha), B (0.8 kg/ha) and B (1.0 kg/ha). The experiment was laid out in RBD, with 10 treatments, each replicated three times. The treatment combinations are T<sub>1</sub> Phosphorus (30 kg/ha) + Boron (0.6 kg/ha), T<sub>2</sub> Phosphorus (30 kg/ha) + Boron (0.8 kg/ha), T<sub>3</sub> Phosphorus (30 kg/ha) + Boron (1.0 kg/ha), T<sub>4</sub> Phosphorus (40 kg/ha) + Boron (0.6 kg/ha), T<sub>5</sub> Phosphorus (40 kg/ha) + Boron (0.8 kg/ha), T<sub>6</sub> Phosphorus (40 kg/ha) + Boron (1.0 kg/ha), T<sub>7</sub> Phosphorus (50 kg/ha) + Boron (0.6 kg/ha), T<sub>8</sub> Phosphorus (50 kg/ha) + Boron (0.8 kg/ha), T<sub>9</sub> Phosphorus (50 kg/ha) + Boron (1.0 kg/ha), T<sub>10</sub> (control) N:P:K 25:50:25 kg/ha. Data recorded on different aspects of the crop, viz., growth and yield attributes, were subjected to statistical analysis by the analysis of variance method (Gomez and Gomez, 1976).

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION:

### Growth parameters

#### Plant height (cm)

The data (Table 1) revealed that significant and higher plant height (42.57 cm) was recorded in treatment 9 [Phosphorus (50 kg/ha) + Boron (1.0 kg/ha)]. However, treatment 8 [Phosphorus (50 kg/ha) + Boron (0.8 kg/ha)] and treatment 7 [Phosphorus (50 kg/ha) + Boron (0.6 kg/ha)] were found to be statistically at par with treatment 9 [Phosphorus (50 kg/ha) + Boron (1.0 kg/ha)]. The significant and higher plant height was observed with the application of phosphorus (50 kg/ha) might be due to the adequate availability of plant nutrients through appropriate nutrient supply and sunlight to each plant. An appropriate phosphorus supply indirectly helps in providing nitrogen supply, and its availability helped the plants to attain more vigor in terms of plant height (Khan *et al.*, 2017). Further, the application of boron (1 kg/ha) encourages growth promoting hormones and protein synthesis, leading to higher means more chlorophyll content and leading to higher photosynthesis. These results were in conformity with those of Yadav *et al.* (2020).

### Number of Branches/plants

The data (Table 1) revealed that a significant and maximum number of branches/plant (6.13) was recorded in treatment 9 [Phosphorus (50 kg/ha) + Boron (1.0 kg/ha)]. However, the treatments 8 [Phosphorus (50 kg/ha) + Boron (0.8 kg/ha)], treatment 7 [Phosphorus (50 kg/ha) + Boron (0.6 kg/ha)], treatment 6 [Phosphorus (40 kg/ha) + Boron (1.0 kg/ha)] and

treatment 5 [phosphorus (40kg/ha) + Boron (0.8 kg/ha)] were found to be statistically at par with treatment 9 [Phosphorus (50 kg/ha) + (Boron (1.0kg/ha)]. The significant and maximum number of branches/plant was observed with the application of boron (1.0kg/ha) might be due to quick availability of boron, which play to show crucial role in tissue differentiation, carbohydrate metabolism, and necessary for sugar translocation in plants, and the development of new cells in meristematic tissue. Similar results were reported was by Janaki *et al.* (2018).

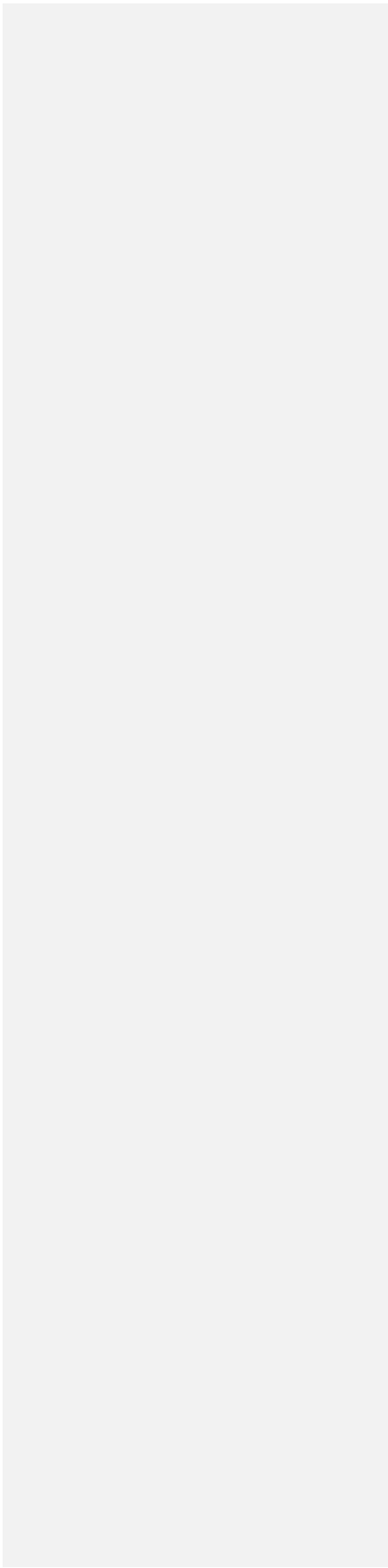
#### Number of Nodules/plants

The data (Table 1) revealed that a significant and higher number of nodules/plant (24.13) was recorded in treatment 9 [Phosphorus (50 kg/ha) + (Boron 1.0kg/ha)] which was significantly superior over the rest of the treatments. However, the treatments 8 [Phosphorus (50 kg/ha) + Boron (0.8 kg/ha)], treatment 7 [Phosphorus (50 kg/ha) + (Boron 0.6 kg/ha)] and treatment 6 [Phosphorus (40kg/ha+ Boron (1.0kg/ha)] were found to be statistically at par with treatment 9 [Phosphorus (50 kg/ha) + (Boron (1.0kg/ha)]. The significant and higher number of nodule/plant was observed with the application of pPhosphorus (50kg/ha) might be due to better proliferation of roots and increased nodulation due to higher phosphorus availability, which leads to higher plant growth (Patelet *et al.*, 2020). Further, the application of boron (1kg/ha) promoted the nodule due to direct involvement of boron in nodulation, symbiotic nitrogen fixation, and its help in retaining the cell wall and membrane integrity of nodules. These results were in conformity with those of Sharmila *et al.* (2020).

#### Plant dry wWeight (g/plant)

The result (Table 1) revealed that plant dry weight was recorded significantly higher (16.88g) in treatment 9 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) +(Boron 1kg/ha)]. However, treatment 8 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) +(Boron 0.8kg/ha)], treatment 7 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) +(Boron 0.6kg/ha)], treatment 6 [Phosphorus (40kg/ha) +(Boron 1kg/ha)] and treatment 5 [Phosphorus (40kg/ha) +(Boron 0.8kg/ha)] were as found statistically at par with treatment 9 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) +(Boron 1kg/ha)]. Higher pPlant dry weight (g) was significantly influenced by the application of pPhosphorus (50kg/ha), might be due to adequate supply and availability of pPhosphorus increased the dry weight of the plant and improved better photosynthetic activity due to greater exposure to light and increased the availability of nutrients to the plants, which resulted in higher plant dry weight. A sSimilar result was reported by Swami *et al.* (2020).

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## Yield parameters:

### Number of pods/plants

The data (Table 2) revealed that a significant and higher number of pods/plant (32.47) was recorded in Treatment 9 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) + (Boron 1kg/ha)] which was significantly superior over the rest of the treatments. However, treatment 8 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) + (Boron 0.8kg/ha)] and treatment 7 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) + (Boron 0.6kg/ha)] were statistically at par with the treatment 9 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) + (Boron 1kg/ha)]. A significant and maximum number of pods/plant with the application of Phosphorus (50kg/ha) might be due to better photosynthetic activities with sufficient availability of light and supply of nutrients in balance quantity at the growing stage. (Khan et al., 2017). Further, the increase in number of pods/plant with the application of Boron (1kg/ha) might be due to its important role in tissue differentiation, carbohydrate metabolism and sugar translocation (Satya et al., 2020).

### Number of Seeds/pods

The data (Table 2) revealed that a significant and higher number of seeds/pod was recorded in Treatment 9 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) + (Boron 1kg/ha)], which was significantly superior over rest of the treatment. However, treatment 8 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) + (Boron 0.8 kg/ha)] and treatment 7 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) + (Boron 0.6 kg/ha)] were statistically at par with the treatment 9 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) + (Boron 1kg/ha)]. A significant and maximum number of seeds/pods with the application of Phosphorus (50kg/ha) might be due to the increase in vegetative development and reproductive attributes under proper availability of phosphorus and better physical condition of the soil, resulted in a higher number of seeds per pods. A similar result was reported by Mashiet al., (2020). Further, the increase in seeds/pods with the application of Boron (1kg/ha) might be due to the translocation of photosynthates, pollen viability, and pollen tube growth. These results are similar to findings with those of Ram et al. (2017).

### Test weight (g)

The data (Table 2) recorded that the highest test weight (37.70g) was observed in treatment 8 [Phosphorus 50kg/ha) + Boron (0.8kg/ha)], and though there was no significant difference among other treatments.

### Seed yield (q/ ha)

The data (Table 2) revealed that a significant and higher seed yield (12.43 q/ha) was

observed in ~~t~~Treatment 9 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) + (Boron 1.0kg/ha), which was significantly superior over ~~the~~ rest of the treatments. However, treatment 8 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) + (Boron 0.8kg/ha)] were statistically at par with the treatment 9 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) + (Boron 1kg/ha)].The higher and ~~more~~ significant seed yield obtained with application of ~~p~~Phosphorus (50 kg/ha) might be due to well-developed root system, greater translocation of photosynthates from source to sink (**Balalet al., 2017**). Further, increase in seed yield with the application of ~~b~~Boron (1kg/ha) might be due to enhancement of ~~the~~ cell wall, tissue difference, sugar transport, maintenance of conducting tissue with regulatory effect on another elements and metabolism of nucleic acids, carbohydrate, auxins and phenols. Similar results were reported by **Praveenaet al. (2018)**.

#### **Stover yield (q/ha)**

The data (Table 2) revealed that ~~a~~ significant and higher stover yield (22.83 q/ha) was observed in ~~t~~Treatment 9 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) + (1.0 kg/ha)] which was significantly superior over ~~the~~ rest of treatments. However, treatment 8 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) + (Boron 0.8 kg/ha)].~~Were was~~ statistically at par with~~the~~ treatment 9 [Phosphorus (50kg/ha) + (1.0 kg/ha)].~~The~~ maximum stover yield~~was~~ obtained with the application of phosphorus (50kg/ha) might be due to ~~an~~ increase in ~~the~~ photosynthetic activities of ~~the~~ plant and ~~a~~ root system ~~that~~ enabled the plant to extract more water and nutrients from ~~the~~ soil~~depth~~ (**Rekhaet al., 2018**). Further, increased in Stover yield with the application of ~~b~~Boron (0.8 kg/ha) might be due to vegetative development creating ~~e~~ too many sites for photosynthetic; translocation. ~~A~~ Similar result was reported by **Karthiket al.(2021)**.

#### **Harvest index (%)**

The data (Table 2) recorded that ~~the~~ ~~h~~ Highest harvest index (35.38%) was observed in treatment 9 [phosphorus 50kg/ha) + Boron (1kg/ha)] and ~~though~~ there was no significant difference among other treatments.

#### **Economics:**

The result showed (Table 3) that ~~the~~ maximum gross return (1,16,278 INR/ha), net return (82,434 INR/ha) and~~b~~Benefit cost ratio (2.43) was recorded in treatment 9 [ Phosphorus (50kg/ha) + (Boron 1kg/ha) as compared to other treatments. Higher gross return, ~~n~~Net return and ~~b~~Benefit cost ratio ~~were was~~ recorded with ~~the~~ application of ~~p~~Phosphorus (50kh/ha) might be due to higher growth and yield attributes resulting in ~~more~~ ~~higher~~ seed

and stover yields. These results are in conformity with those observed by Singh *et al.* (2020).

#### CONCLUSION:

Based on the above findings, it can be concluded that in green gram highest seed yield and benefit cost ratio were observed with the application of Phosphorus 50 kg/ha along with the application of Boron 1.0 kg/ha. (Treatment 9) was observed highest seed yield and benefit cost ratio.

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**Table 1. effect of phosphorus and boron on growth parameter of green gram.**

S.No.	Treatmentcombination	At 60 DAS			
		Plant height	No of branches/	No of nodules/	Plant dry weight
		(cm)	Plant	Plant	(g)
1.	Phosphorus 30 kg/ha + Boron 0.6 kg/ha	33.30	4.33	11.40	12.19
2.	Phosphorus 30 kg/ha + Boron 0.8 kg/ha	34.40	4.73	12.67	13.04
3.	Phosphorus 30 kg/ha + Boron 1.0 kg/ha	35.37	5.00	13.93	14.01
4.	Phosphorus 40 kg/ha + Boron 0.6 kg/ha	36.17	5.40	15.47	14.60
5.	Phosphorus 40 kg/ha + Boron 0.8 kg/ha	37.17	5.60	17.07	15.01
6.	Phosphorus 40 kg/ha + Boron 1.0 kg/ha	38.60	5.87	19.00	15.58
7.	Phosphorus 50 kg/ha + Boron 0.6 kg/ha	40.17	6.27	21.07	16.12
8.	Phosphorus 50 kg/ha + Boron 0.8 kg/ha	41.77	6.53	22.73	16.45
9.	Phosphorus 50 kg/ha + Boron 1.0 kg/ha	42.57	6.73	24.13	16.88
10	Control + RDF (NPK-25:50:25 kg/ha)	32.53	3.87	10.73	11.07
	F-test	S	S	S	S
	SEm(±)	1.42	0.52	0.87	0.86
	CD(p=0.05)	4.22	1.56	2.60	2.56

**Table 2. Effect of phosphorus and boron on yield attribute and yield of green gram.**

S.No.	Treatment combination	Yield attributes and yield					
		No. of pods/plant	No. of seeds/pod	Test weight (g)	Seed yield (q/ha)	Stover yield (q/ha)	Harvest index (%)
1.	Phosphorus 30 kg/ha + Boron 0.6 kg/ha	22.73	5.20	33.76	7.49	14.27	34.45
2.	Phosphorus 30 kg/ha + Boron 0.8 kg/ha	23.73	5.60	33.31	8.77	15.29	36.40
3.	Phosphorus 30 kg/ha + Boron 1.0 kg/ha	24.20	6.00	33.95	8.72	16.56	34.52
4.	Phosphorus 40 kg/ha + Boron 0.6 kg/ha	25.00	6.20	34.75	9.83	18.13	35.15
5.	Phosphorus 40 kg/ha + Boron 0.8 kg/ha	26.93	6.60	34.61	10.54	19.34	35.29
6.	Phosphorus 40 kg/ha + Boron 1.0 kg/ha	27.93	7.00	36.03	10.90	20.27	34.97
7.	Phosphorus 50 kg/ha + Boron 0.6 kg/ha	29.27	7.60	36.11	11.34	20.84	35.23
8.	Phosphorus 50 kg/ha + Boron 0.8 kg/ha	30.80	7.80	37.70	11.83	22.03	34.95
9.	Phosphorus 50 kg/ha + Boron 1.0 kg/ha	32.47	8.40	37.00	12.43	22.83	35.38
10.	Control + RDF (NPK-25:50:25 kg/ha)	21.60	4.60	33.01	6.51	13.58	32.64
	F-test	S	S	NS	S	S	NS
	SEm(±)	1.16	0.37	1.01	0.19	0.58	1.09
	CD(p=0.05)	3.45	1.11	-	0.58	1.74	-

**Table 3. Effect of phosphorus and boron on economics of greengram.**

S. No.	Treatmentcombination	Economics			
		Costofcultivation( INR/ha)	Grossreturn (INR/ha)	Net return(IN R/ha)	B:C ratio
1.	Phosphorus30kg/ha+Boron0.6 kg/ha	31794	70839	39045	1.22
2.	Phosphorus30kg/ha+Boron0.8 kg/ha	32194	80817	48623	1.51
3.	Phosphorus30kg/ha +Boron1.0 kg/ha	32594	82392	49798	1.52
4.	Phosphorus40kg/ha +Boron0.6 kg/ha	32419	92073	59654	1.84
5.	Phosphorus40kg/ha +Boron0.8 kg/ha	32819	98547	65755	2.00
6.	Phosphorus40kg/ha +Boron1.0 kg/ha	33219	102354	68026	2.04
7.	Phosphorus50kg/ha +Boron0.6 kg/ha	33044	106104	73060	2.21
8.	Phosphorus50kg/ha +Boron0.8 kg/ha	33444	111123	77679	2.32
9.	Phosphorus50kg/ha +Boron1.0 kg/ha	33844	116278	82434	2.43
10.	Control(NPK-25:50:25 kg/ha)	28719	63336	34617	1.20