

Original Research Article

<https://doi.org/10.20546/ijcmas.2021.1003.042>

## Assessment of Different Seed Priming Treatments on Quality Parameters of Lentil (*Lens culinaris* Medik.) (Variety Mallika)

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### ABSTRACT

#### Keywords

Lentil, Osmo priming, Electric priming, Magnetic priming, Halo priming

#### Article Info

##### Accepted:

04 February 2021

##### Available Online:

10 March 2021

Lentil is one of the major and important legume grown in India. Application of commercial antioxidants and nutrients for seed enhancement is economic and easily accessible to the farmers. The hereby study was conducted in a completely randomized design with four replications in controlled conditions at Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, SHUATS, Prayagraj (U.P) during 2018-2020, to assess the potential of different seed priming treatments for germination, seedling vigour and germination index in lentil. Priming is done by adopting different methods i.e., T<sub>0</sub>- Unprimed seed as control, T<sub>1</sub>- Hydro-priming with distilled water, T<sub>2</sub> & T<sub>3</sub>-Hormonal priming with IAA (50ppm, 100ppm), T<sub>4</sub> -Osmo priming with PEG 6000 (10%), T<sub>5</sub> & T<sub>6</sub>-Electrical priming at (100mA, 200mA), T<sub>7</sub> & T<sub>8</sub>- Magnetic priming at (100mT, 200mT) and T<sub>9</sub>, T<sub>10</sub>, T<sub>11</sub>, T<sub>12</sub> - Halo priming with KNO<sub>3</sub> and KCl (1%, 3%). It was found that all the priming methods showed significant difference with the control and highest germination percentage (%), germination index, seedling length (cm), seedling fresh weight (g), seedling dry weight (g), and vigour indices were observed in KNO<sub>3</sub> (T<sub>10</sub>) priming for 15 hours. Priming with PEG 6000(10%), Distilled water, KNO<sub>3</sub> (1%) were the most effective in boosting germination percent and germination index. This study showed that Halo-priming can be effective in enhancing seed quality parameters in lentil, and are cost effective and are, easily available.

### Introduction

Lentil (*Lens culinaris* Medik. L.) is a diploid and self pollinated crop which is considered to be one of the oldest cultivated crops. It is a leguminous plant of the subfamily papilionoidaceae and belongs to general class of dicotyledons. Lentil consists of

chromosome number 2n=14. It is native of Near East and rapidly spread to Egypt, central and southern Europe.

The plant is slightly pubescent and has a definite tap root system varying from 6 to 24 cm depth enabled this crop to well under severe droughts where other cereals even fail

to stand. The nodules are comparatively smaller and develop on the entire root system. It is a bushy annual plant of legume family, known for its lens shaped seeds. It is about 40cm tall, and the seeds grow in pods, usually with two seeds in each. It bears compound leaves (4 -7 pairs of leaflets) with a tendril at each tip. Plant normally range from 30-50cm in height. Flowers can be white, lilac, or pale blue in color and are self pollinated.

The important lentil growing countries of world are India, turkey, Syria, Pakistan, Spain, and Bangladesh. Saskatchewan is the most productive growing region in Canada, production of 95% of the national total. In India Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh are largest producers with more than 70% of the total. Other major producers include West Bengal and Bihar.

In India, lentil was cultivated on 1.47 million hectares area in 2014-2015 with a production of 1.04 metric ton (Anon., 2016). It is generally grown as rainfed crop during rabi season after rice, maize, pearl millet or kharif follow. In north-eastern parts of the country, lentil is also cultivated as sequential crop after rice, where seeds of lentil are broadcast in the standing crop of rice just before its harvest.

Lentil contains the essential amino acids *viz.*, isoleucine and lysine. Lentils are an inexpensive source of essential proteins in many parts of the world, especially in west asia and the Indian Subcontinent, which have large vegetarian populations. Lentils are deficient in two essential amino acids, methionine and cysteine.

Lentils also contain dietary fibre, folate, vitamin B1 and minerals. Red (or pink) lentils contain a lower concentration of fibre than green lentils. Health magazine has selected lentils as one of the five healthiest foods. The low levels of Readily Digestible Starch (RDS)

5% and high levels of Slowly Digested Starch(SDS) 30% make lentil of great interest to people with diabetes. The remaining 65% of starch is a resistant starch that is classified RS1, being a high quality resistant starch, which is 32% amylase.

Seed priming is one of the invigouration treatment that involves controlled hydration of seed to a level that permits pre-emergence metabolic activity to proceed, but that prevents actual emergence of radical (Vanangamudi *et al.*, 2010). Priming of seeds has shown to have beneficial effects on the germination and emergence of many species (Bradford,1986).The direct benefits of seed priming in crops include faster emergence, improved germination, uniformity, vigorous plants and higher yields. The indirect benefits are earlier sowing and harvest and decreased risk of crop failure (Harris *et al.*,2001).

## **Materials and Methods**

The Research work was carried out in controlled laboratory conditions during Rabi season 2019-2020. Department of Genetics and plant breeding, Naini Agriculture Institute, Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences, Prayagraj (U.P). The statistical designs were applied carried out with Completely Randomized Design (RBD) With 13 treatments and 4 replications. Seed material consists of Lentil (Mallika). The treatments were represented as T<sub>0</sub> – Control, T<sub>1</sub> – Distilled water @ 15 hrs, T<sub>2</sub> – IAA @ 50ppm for 15 hrs, T<sub>3</sub> – IAA @100ppm for 15 hrs, T<sub>4</sub> – PEG 6000 @ 10% for 4 hrs, T<sub>5</sub> – Electric Treatment @100 mA for 1 minute, T<sub>6</sub> – Electric Treatment @ 200 mA for 1 minute, T<sub>7</sub> –Magnetic treatment @ 100 mT for 5 minutes, T<sub>8</sub> – Magnetic Treatment @ 200 mT for 5 minutes, T<sub>9</sub> – KNO<sub>3</sub> @ 1% for 15 hrs, T<sub>10</sub> – KNO<sub>3</sub> @ 3% for 15 hrs, T<sub>11</sub> – KCl @ 1% for 15 hrs, T<sub>12</sub> – KCl @ 3% for 15 hrs.

### **Method for electric treatment**

Seeds of lentil were treated with electric field in the laboratory of Department of Physics, SHUATS, Prayagraj. To expose the seeds to electric field, an electric field generator was fabricated by using metallic conductor. A battery of 24V DC was used as power source for electric field. Battery is connected with ammeter to measure electric current and ammeter is connected with rheostat to adjust current supply. The seeds are placed on a metallic conductor and electric current of 24V DC was passed at required intensity.

### **Method for magnetic treatment**

The magnetic treatment of seeds was done in the laboratory of Department of Physics, SHUATS, Prayagraj. To treat the seeds electromagnetic field generator “OMEGA EMU-10” with variable horizontal magnetic strength with a gap of 5cm between pole pieces was used. Magnetic field flows through the cylinders when we input the power supply. A DC power supply 230AC (0-4 Amp) (10% AC 50HZ) with continuously variable output current was used for the electromagnet. The seeds were treated at required intensity using a digital gauss meter OMEGA DGM-20 (230AC + 10% AC 50HZ). The metallic probe made of indium arsenide crystal and encapsulated to a non-magnetic sheet is used. This could measure in steps of the magnetic field treatment.

### **Seeds soaking in solutions**

After preparation of solution of IAA, PEG 6000, KNO<sub>3</sub> and KCl lentil seeds were soaked in required solution for different durations at 25<sup>0</sup>C temperature. Untreated seed is called as control. After soaking the solution were drained out from the beaker and pre-soaked were air dried to original weight. After seed treatments seed were grown in controlled

laboratory conditions by between paper method for further recordings.

### **Results and Discussion**

The laboratory experiment “Assessment of Different Seed Priming Treatments on Quality Parameters of Lentil (*Lens culinaris* Medik.)” was conducted with a view to study the influence of different seed priming agents on seed germination and other seed quality parameters in Lentil. Seeds treated with different priming agents recorded good germinability and vigour than those of untreated seeds of Lentil (*Lens culinaris* Medik.). Seeds treated with Salts have recorded significantly better performance.

The treatment T<sub>10</sub>(KNO<sub>3</sub> @3%) showed better performance among all treatments in terms of germination percent, germination energy, speed of germination, root length, shoot length, seedling length, fresh weight, dry weight, seed vigor index-I, seed vigor index-II (Table 1).

The treatment T<sub>0</sub> control has recorded lowest values among all treatments in terms of germination percent, germination energy, speed of germination, root length, shoot length, seedling length, fresh weight, dry weight, seed vigor index-I, seed vigor index-II.

Maximum germination was recorded in treatment T<sub>10</sub>(KNO<sub>3</sub> @3%) - 93.75%, followed by treatment T<sub>4</sub> (PEG 6000 @10%)- 91.25% when compared with control T<sub>0</sub> Control -77.25% which is lowest.

Maximum germination energy was recorded in treatment T<sub>10</sub>(KNO<sub>3</sub> @3%) - 46.25%, followed by treatment T<sub>4</sub> (PEG 6000 @10%)- 44.75% when compared with control T<sub>0</sub> Control - 31% which is lowest.

**Table.1** Mean performance of lentil for 10 seedling characters

S.no	Treatments	Germination percentage (%)	Germination Energy (%)	Speed of germination	Root length(cm)	Shoot length(cm)	Seedling length(cm)	Seedling fresh weight(g)	Seedling Dry Weight(g)	Seedling vigour Index-I	Seedling vigour Index-II
1	T <sub>0</sub>	77.25	31.00	63.06	7.850	12.125	19.975	2.275	0.175	1543.7	13.505
2	T <sub>1</sub>	90.00	43.75	76.445	12.150	18.875	31.025	2.825	0.245	2793.2	22.07
3	T <sub>2</sub>	85.50	38.50	74.475	10.80	17.60	28.4	2.55	0.22	2430.05	18.772
4	T <sub>3</sub>	86.50	41.00	72.247	11.50	18.075	29.575	2.725	0.222	2557.65	19.245
5	T <sub>4</sub>	91.25	44.75	81.595	12.75	20.1	32.85	3	0.28	2997.9	25.555
6	T <sub>5</sub>	79.75	33.75	75.927	8.775	15.575	24.35	2.575	0.2	1942.92	15.967
7	T <sub>6</sub>	81.50	35.50	64.867	8.825	15.225	24.05	2.45	0.185	1959.92	15.072
8	T <sub>7</sub>	86.25	37.00	66.232	8.85	14.3	23.15	2.625	0.215	1996.57	18.527
9	T <sub>8</sub>	86.50	40.25	73.932	8.05	17.225	25.275	2.475	0.227	2187.25	19.687
10	T <sub>9</sub>	89.75	41.75	71.567	12.4	18.9	31.3	2.35	0.202	2809.55	18.182
11	T <sub>10</sub>	<b>93.75</b>	<b>46.25</b>	<b>86.84</b>	<b>13.45</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>34.05</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>0.302</b>	<b>3192.35</b>	<b>28.325</b>
12	T <sub>11</sub>	83.50	35.75	71.837	9.35	18.425	27.775	2.55	0.205	2318.3	17.135
13	T <sub>12</sub>	83.75	37.25	72.647	10.025	17.825	27.85	2.725	0.21	2332.87	17.587
<b>Grand mean</b>		<b>85.788</b>	<b>38.961</b>	<b>73.205</b>	<b>10.367</b>	<b>17.296</b>	<b>27.663</b>	<b>2.640</b>	<b>0.222</b>	<b>2389.404</b>	<b>19.202</b>
<b>C.D.</b>		2.644	2.641	5.289	0.788	1.677	1.958	0.325	0.034	197.407	2.973
<b>SE(m)</b>		0.921	0.920	1.842	0.274	0.584	0.682	0.113	0.012	68.752	1.035
<b>SE(d)</b>		1.302	1.301	2.605	0.388	0.826	0.964	0.160	0.017	97.229	1.464
<b>C.V.</b>		2.147	4.722	5.032	5.295	6.754	4.931	8.561	10.780	5.755	10.783

Maximum speed of germination was recorded in treatment T<sub>10</sub>(KNO<sub>3</sub> @3%)- 86.84, followed by treatment T<sub>4</sub> (PEG 6000 @10%)- 81.595 when compared with control T<sub>0</sub> Control- 63.06 which is lowest.

Maximum root length was recorded in treatment T<sub>10</sub>(KNO<sub>3</sub> @3%)- 13.45 cm, followed by treatment T<sub>4</sub> (PEG 6000 @10%)- 12.75 cm when compared with control T<sub>0</sub> Control-7.850 cm which is lowest.

Maximum shoot length was recorded in treatment T<sub>10</sub>(KNO<sub>3</sub> @3%)- 20.6 cm, followed by treatment T<sub>4</sub> (PEG 6000 @10%)- 20.1cm when compared with control T<sub>0</sub> Control- 12.125 cm which is lowest.

Maximum seedling length was recorded in treatment T<sub>10</sub>(KNO<sub>3</sub> @3%)- 34.05 cm, followed by treatment T<sub>4</sub> (PEG 6000 @10%)- 32.85 cm when compared with control T<sub>0</sub> Control- 19.975 cm which is lowest.

Maximum fresh weight was recorded in treatment T<sub>10</sub>(KNO<sub>3</sub> @3%)- 3.2 g, followed by treatment T<sub>4</sub> (PEG 6000 @10%)- 3 g when compared with control T<sub>0</sub> Control- 2.275 g which is lowest.

Maximum dry weight was recorded in treatment T<sub>10</sub>(KNO<sub>3</sub> @3%)- 0.302 g, followed by treatment T<sub>4</sub> (PEG 6000 @10%)- 0.28 g when compared with control T<sub>0</sub> Control- 0.175 g which is lowest.

Maximum seed vigour index-I was recorded in treatment T<sub>10</sub> (KNO<sub>3</sub> @3%) - 3192.35, followed by treatment T<sub>4</sub> (PEG 6000 @10%)- 2997.9 when compared with control T<sub>0</sub> Control- 1543.7 which is lowest. Maximum seed vigour Index-II was recorded in treatment T<sub>10</sub>(KNO<sub>3</sub> @3%)- 28.325, followed by T<sub>4</sub> (PEG 6000 @10%) - 25.555 when compared with control T<sub>0</sub> Control - 13.505 which is lowest.

On the basis of results obtained from the present investigation it is concluded that seed priming treatments played an effective role in improving germination and vigour parameters of lentil seeds. Pre sowing seed treatment with KNO<sub>3</sub>@3% was found to be suitable in all other treatments and showed superior performance on seedling parameters of lentil followed by PEG 6000 @10% and Distilled water.

Pre sowing seed treatment with potassium nitrate (KNO<sub>3</sub>) has long been known as suitable method for germination, seedling growth, and water relation behavior of grain. The positive effect of KNO<sub>3</sub> might be due to the role in influencing the permeability of cell membranes which further activates enzymes involved in protein synthesis and carbohydrate metabolism. The ions from KNO<sub>3</sub> solutions accumulate within the seeds, reducing water potential and increasing water absorption (seeds imbibitions). Pre-sowing treatment with is economical, KNO<sub>3</sub> and easily accessible. These conclusions are based on the result of six months investigation and therefore further investigation is needed to arrive at valid recommendations.

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**How to cite this article:**

Prudvi Raj Naidu Bethapalli, Prashant Kumar Rai and Ajay Kumar Rai. 2021. Assessment of Different Seed Priming Treatments on Quality Parameters of Lentil (*Lens culinaris* Medik.) (Variety Mallika). *Int.J.Curr.Microbiol.App.Sci*. 10(03): 317-323.  
doi: <https://doi.org/10.20546/ijcmas.2021.1003.042>