

Original Research Article

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Effect of Polymer Coat and Seed Treatment Chemicals on Field Performance of Chickpea

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ABSTRACT

The experiment was laid on Randomised Complete Block Design with factorial concept in three replications to know the effect of polymer coat and seed treatment chemicals on field performance of chickpea varieties. Desi and kabuli type of chickpea varieties were used for seed treatment. The treatment combinations as follows T₁: control (Untreated), T₂: deltamethrin 2.8EC @ 0.4ml /kg seeds. T₃: vitavax power @ 2g/kg seed, T₄: polymer coat@10ml/kg of seeds, T₅: deltamethrin 2.8EC @ 0.4ml /kg seeds + vitavax power @ 2g/kg seed, T₆: deltamethrin 2.8EC @ 0.4ml /kg seeds + polymer coat @10ml/kg of seeds, T₇: Vitavax power @ 2g/kg seed+ polymer coat @10 ml/kg of seed, T₈: Deltamethrin 2.8EC @ 0.4ml /kg seeds + vitavax power @ 2g/kg seed+ polymer coat @ 10ml/kg of seeds. The results revealed that superior plant height, number of branches, number of pods per plant, number of seeds per plant, seed weight per plant, seed weight per plot, seed yield per hectare was recorded at harvest stage. Observations on seed quality parameter like seed germination(%), shoot length (cm), root length (cm), seedling vigour, seedling dry weight(mg), hundred seed weight (g) was recorded in the treatment combination of Deltamethrin 2.8EC @ 0.4ml /kg seeds + vitavax power @ 2g/kg seed+ polymer coat @ 10ml/kg (T₈).

Keywords

Chickpea, Seed treatment, Polymer coat, Field performance

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Introduction

Chickpea is one of the earliest food legumes cultivated by man and plays an important role in human diet and agricultural systems. Chickpea belongs to the genus *Cicer* and family Fabaceae. Chickpea is the second most widely grown legume crop of the world after soybean. During 2011-2012, the global chickpea area was about 13.20 million ha, with production of 11.62 million metric tons

and average yield of 804 kg ha⁻¹. India is the largest chickpea producing country with a share of about 68% in the global chickpea production. In India estimated area, production and productivity during 2013-14 was 10.74 mha, 9.88 m tonnes and 9199 kg ha⁻¹ respectively (FAOSTAT, 2014). Among the cultivated species, *Desi* and *Kabuli* types are of practical importance, which covers 85 and 15 per cent of total cultivated area, respectively. *Desi* types are small seeded, varied coloured with thick seed coat and

reticulated surface. The flower colour is purple or pink with anthocyanin pigment in aerial parts and the protein content is around 18 to 19 per cent. Whereas in Kabuli type seeds are large, whitish with thin testa and smooth surface. Flowers are white, without anthocyanin pigment in aerial parts and the protein content is around 20 to 23 per cent.

High seed emergence and seedling establishment contribute directly to the crop yield (Vinodkumar, *et al.*, 2012). Therefore Seed viability is a major factor in crop stand establishment and subsequent productivity in many parts of the world. Losses in seed quality occur during field weathering, harvesting and storage due to which seeds get damaged. If seeds are exposed to high temperature and high humidity, the incidence of micro flora is mainly responsible for the degradation of protein and other food reserves resulting in reduction in viability, vigour and germination. Seed is an efficient media for survival and dissemination of pathogens and pests to reduce the losses and preserve the viability for longer time, it is advisable to coat the seeds with polymer, fungicide and insecticide. Seed coating provides an opportunity to package effective quantities of seed treatment chemicals keeping this in the view an experiment was conducted to know the effect of polymer coat and seed treatment chemicals on field performance of Chickpea.

Materials and Methods

The experiment was laid on RCBD factorial concept in three replications the first factor consists of varieties and second factor is treatments. The treatment combinations as follows T₁: control (Untreated), T₂: deltamethrin 2.8EC @ 0.4ml /kg seeds. T₃: vitavax power @ 2g/kg seed, T₄: polymer coat@10ml/kg of seeds, T₅: deltamethrin 2.8EC @ 0.4ml /kg seeds + vitavax power @

2g/kg seed, T₆: deltamethrin 2.8EC @ 0.4ml /kg seeds + polymer coat @10ml/kg of seeds, T₇: Vitavax power @ 2g/kg seed+ polymer coat @10 ml/kg of seed, T₈: Deltamethrin 2.8EC @ 0.4ml /kg seeds + vitavax power @ 2g/kg seed+ polymer coat @ 10ml/kg of seeds. Two varieties of chickpea viz., BGD103 (desi type) and BG1105 (Kabuli type) was obtained from seed unit and MULLARP scheme respectively, University of agricultural sciences, Dharwad. The observations on plant height, number of branches, number of pods per plant, number of seeds per plant, seed weight per plant, seed weight per plot, seed yield per hectare was recorded at harvest stage. Observations on seed quality parameter like seed germination (%), shoot length (cm), root length (cm), seedling vigour, seedling dry weight (mg), hundred seed weight (g) was recorded. The data was statistically analysed and results are presented in table 1, 2 and 3.

Results and Discussion

In the present investigation, varietal differences with respect to field performance have been noticed in chickpea varieties. Significant variation in the growth parameter at the harvest was observed in chickpea varieties irrespective of treatments. Significantly BGD 103 recorded lesser plant height (41.39cm), less number of days to 50 per cent flowering and days to maturity (46.29 and 92.91). This may be mainly due to efficient accumulation of photosynthates in the vegetative plant parts. Besides the plant height is also a genetic character of varieties. The varietal difference in growth parameter in chickpea was also observed by Gnyandev (2009). BGD 103 recorded higher number of branches (19.25), number of pods per plant (28.90), number of seed per plant (35.46), seed weight per plant (4.33 g), seed weight per plot (1.30 kg), and seed yield per hectare (14.42 q) as compared to BG1105 (48.77 and

103.16, 25.85, 32.71 3.46 g, 1.04 kg and 11.58q respectively). The differences on seed yield and yield components were observed between varieties in the present study may be attributed to their varietal differences in their growth habit and genetic yielding ability.

Similar varietal difference in chickpea with respect to plant growth, seed yield and yield attributes by Merwade (2000) in chickpea and in cowpea by Reddy (2005), Gnyandev (2009) and Tripathi *et al.*, (2012). It is an established fact that seed yield and quality attributes are reported to vary between the varieties of several crop species owing to genetic and environmental factors. In the present investigation, all the seed quality parameters

were found to differ between chickpea varieties.

The hundred seed weight (34.12 g), germination (95.46 %), shoot length (12.48 cm), root length (20.87 cm), dry weight (207.18 mg), vigour index (3185) were more and low electrical conductivity (0.343 dSm⁻¹) in BGD103 (V₁) as compared to BG1105 (V₂) (Table 3 and 4). The differences in seed quality attributes were noticed between chickpea varieties it may be ascertained due to the varietal differences in seed development and accumulation of reserved food material. The similar results were reported by Gnyandev (2009) in chickpea.

Table.1 Effect of polymer coat and seed treatment chemicals on plant height (cm), number of branches per plant and number of pods per plant in chickpea

Treatments	Plant height(cm)			Number of branches/plant			Number of pods per plant		
	V ₁	V ₂	Mean	V ₁	V ₂	Mean	V ₁	V ₂	Mean
T ₁	39.48	43.82	41.65	16.80	13.18	14.99	24.51	21.80	23.15
T ₂	39.91	44.04	41.97	17.19	14.74	15.97	25.87	23.63	24.75
T ₃	42.03	45.98	44.00	19.40	17.19	18.29	28.93	25.87	27.40
T ₄	40.26	44.32	42.29	18.07	15.18	16.62	27.03	24.65	25.84
T ₅	42.31	46.04	44.17	20.00	17.73	18.87	30.76	26.27	28.51
T ₆	40.88	44.98	42.93	18.67	16.03	17.35	28.32	24.85	26.59
T ₇	43.13	46.21	44.67	21.55	19.03	20.29	32.72	28.93	30.82
T ₈	43.17	46.26	44.71	22.33	20.27	21.30	33.05	30.76	31.91
Mean	41.39	45.21	43.30	19.25	16.67	17.96	28.90	25.85	27.37
	S Em±		CD(P=0.05)	S Em±		CD(P=0.05)	S Em±		CD(P=0.05)
V	0.82		2.36	0.50		1.44	0.64		1.84
T	1.63		NS	0.99		2.87	1.27		3.68
VXT	2.31		NS	1.41		NS	1.80		NS
V ₁ -BGD 103 (<i>Desi</i>)			V ₂ – BG 1105 (<i>Kabuli</i>)						
NS - Non significant			* Figures in the parenthesis are arcsine transformed values						
T ₁ - Control				T ₅ -Deltamethrin @ 2.8 EC 0.4ml per kg of seeds + vitavax power @2 g/kg of seeds.					
T ₂ - Deltamethrin 2.8EC @ 0.4 ml/kg of seeds.				T ₆ - Deltamethrin @2.8EC 0.4ml /kg of seeds + polymer coat @10 ml/kg of seeds.					
T ₃ - Vitavax power@2g/kg of seeds				T ₇ - Vitavax power @ 2 g/kg of seeds+ polymer coat @ 10 ml/kg of seeds					
T ₄ - Polymer coat @10 ml/kg of seeds.				T ₈ - Deltamethrin @2.8EC per kg of seeds + vitavax power@2g/kg of seeds + polymer coat @10 ml/kg of seeds.					

Table.2 Effect of polymer coat and seed treatment chemicals on number of seeds per plant, seed weight/plant, seed weight/pot and seed yield in chickpea

Treatments	Number of Seeds / plant			Seed weight/ plant (g)			Seed weight/ plot (Kg)			Seed yield(q/ha)		
	V ₁	V ₂	Mean	V ₁	V ₂	Mean	V ₁	V ₂	Mean	V ₁	V ₂	Mean
T ₁	30.10	26.89	28.50	3.89	2.98	3.44	1.17	0.89	1.03	12.97	9.93	11.45
T ₂	32.39	28.93	30.66	4.13	3.20	3.67	1.24	0.96	1.10	13.77	10.67	12.22
T ₃	35.85	33.82	34.84	4.22	3.47	3.85	1.27	1.04	1.16	14.07	11.57	12.82
T ₄	33.90	31.37	32.64	4.19	3.34	3.76	1.26	1.00	1.13	13.97	11.13	12.55
T ₅	37.08	35.04	36.06	4.48	3.58	4.03	1.34	1.10	1.22	14.93	12.23	13.58
T ₆	34.84	31.27	33.05	4.24	3.41	3.83	1.27	1.02	1.15	14.13	11.37	12.75
T ₇	38.62	36.47	37.54	4.62	3.82	4.22	1.39	1.15	1.27	15.40	12.73	14.06
T ₈	40.88	37.89	39.39	4.84	3.91	4.38	1.45	1.17	1.31	16.13	13.03	14.58
Mean	35.46	32.71	34.08	4.33	3.46	3.90	1.30	1.04	1.17	14.42	11.58	13.00
	S Em±		CD(P=0.05)	S Em±		CD(P=0.05)	S Em±		CD(P=0.05)	S Em±		CD(P=0.05)
V	0.70		2.01	0.05		0.14	0.01		0.03	0.25		0.72
T	1.39		4.02	0.09		0.27	0.02		0.06	0.50		1.44
VxT	1.97		NS	0.13		NS	0.03		NS	0.71		NS
V ₁ -BGD 103 (<i>Desi</i>)			V ₂ – BG 1105 (<i>Kabuli</i>)									
NS - Non significant			* Figures in the parenthesis are arcsine transformed values									
T ₁ - Control				T ₅ -Deltamethrin @ 2.8 EC 0.4ml per kg of seeds + vitavax power @2 g/kg of seeds.								
T ₂ - Deltamethrin 2. 8EC @ 0.4 ml/kg of seeds.				T ₆ - Deltamethrin @2.8EC 0.4ml /kg of seeds + polymer coat @10 ml/kg of seeds.								
T ₃ - Vitavax power@2g/kg of seeds				T ₇ - Vitavax power @ 2 g/kg of seeds+ polymer coat @ 10 ml/kg of seeds								
T ₄ - Polymer coat @10 ml/kg of seeds.				T ₈ - Deltamethrin @2.8EC per kg of seeds + vitavax power@2g/kg of seeds + polymer coat @10 ml/kg of seeds.								

Table.3 Effect of polymer coat and seed treatment chemical on germination (%), shoot length (cm) and root length (cm) in chickpea

Treatments	Germination (%)			Shoot length (cm)			Root length (cm)		
	V ₁	V ₂	Mean	V ₁	V ₂	Mean	V ₁	V ₂	Mean
T ₁	90.88 (72.47)*	89.23 (70.87)	90.05 (71.67)	12.03	11.13	11.58	20.28	18.98	19.63
T ₂	92.00 (73.64)	90.38 (71.97)	91.19 (72.81)	12.11	11.21	11.66	20.49	19.13	19.81
T ₃	96.82 (80.53)	95.14 (77.51)	95.98 (79.02)	12.58	11.63	12.11	21.02	19.42	20.22
T ₄	93.31 (75.12)	91.21 (72.81)	92.26 (73.97)	12.19	11.32	11.76	20.71	19.26	19.99
T ₅	97.30 (80.78)	96.10 (79.03)	96.70 (79.90)	12.71	11.79	12.25	21.10	19.58	20.34
T ₆	95.72 (78.39)	94.15 (76.16)	94.93 (77.27)	12.33	11.49	11.91	20.86	19.25	20.06
T ₇	98.62 (83.73)	97.49 (81.10)	98.06 (82.41)	12.86	11.86	12.36	21.12	19.89	20.51
T ₈	99.06 (84.53)	97.96 (82.06)	98.51 (83.29)	12.98	11.93	12.46	21.34	19.98	20.66
Mean	95.46 (77.67)	93.96 (75.74)	94.71 (76.67)	12.48	11.55	12.01	20.87	19.44	20.15
	S Em±		CD (P=0.01)	S Em±		CD (P=0.01)	S Em±		CD(P=0.01)
V	0.49		1.86	0.05		0.18	0.08		0.30
T	0.98		3.71	0.09		0.35	0.16		0.59
VxT	1.38		NS	0.13		NS	0.22		NS

V₁-BGD 103 (*Desi*)

V₂ – BG 1105 (*Kabuli*)

NS - Non significant

* Figures in the parenthesis are arcsine transformed values

T ₁ - Control	T ₅ -Deltamethrin @ 2.8 EC 0.4ml per kg of seeds + vitavax power @2 g/kg of seeds.
T ₂ - Deltamethrin 2. 8EC @ 0.4 ml/kg of seeds.	T ₆ - Deltamethrin @2.8EC 0.4ml /kg of seeds + polymer coat @10 ml/kg of seeds.
T ₃ - Vitavax power@2g/kg of seeds	T ₇ - Vitavax power @ 2 g/kg of seeds+ polymer coat @ 10 ml/kg of seeds
T ₄ - Polymer coat @10 ml/kg of seeds.	T ₈ - Deltamethrin @2.8EC per kg of seeds + vitavax power@2g/kg of seeds + polymer coat @10 ml/kg of seeds.

Table.4 Effect of polymer coat and seed treatment chemical on vigour index, dry weight (mg), test weight (g) and electrical conductivity (dSm^l) in chickpea

Treatments	Vigour Index			Dry weight(G)			Test weight(g)			Electrical conductivity		
	V ₁	V ₂	Mean	V ₁	V ₂	Mean	V ₁	V ₂	Mean	V ₁	V ₂	Mean
T ₁	2937	2687	2812	189.60	175.47	182.53	33.61	29.13	31.37	0.369	0.379	0.374
T ₂	3000	2743	2871	192.32	182.23	187.27	33.79	29.28	31.54	0.365	0.371	0.368
T ₃	3254	2955	3104	205.88	201.63	203.76	34.21	29.83	32.02	0.338	0.345	0.342
T ₄	3071	2790	2930	195.40	189.48	192.44	33.87	29.42	31.65	0.354	0.362	0.358
T ₅	3290	3015	3153	216.82	210.15	213.49	34.38	30.09	32.24	0.331	0.338	0.335
T ₆	3178	2895	3036	198.73	194.81	196.77	33.98	29.69	31.84	0.343	0.352	0.348
T ₇	3352	3096	3224	228.47	218.54	223.51	34.51	30.42	32.47	0.325	0.332	0.329
T ₈	3401	3127	3264	230.17	222.43	226.30	34.59	30.51	32.55	0.319	0.328	0.324
Mean	3185	2913	3049	207.18	199.34	203.26	34.12	29.80	31.96	0.343	0.351	0.347
	S Em±		CD(P=0.01)	S Em±		CD(P=0.01)	S Em±		CD(P=0.01)	S Em±		CD(P=0.01)
V	12		45	0.79		2.99	0.12		0.47	0.001		0.004
T	24		90	1.58		5.99	0.25		0.94	0.003		0.010
VxT	33		NS	2.23		NS	0.35		NS	0.004		NS

V₁-BGD 103 (*Desi*)

V₂ – BG 1105 (*Kabuli*)

NS - Non significant

* Figures in the parenthesis are arcsine transformed values

T ₁ - Control	T ₅ -Deltamethrin @ 2.8 EC 0.4ml per kg of seeds + vitavax power @2 g/kg of seeds.
T ₂ - Deltamethrin 2. 8EC @ 0.4 ml/kg of seeds.	T ₆ - Deltamethrin @2.8EC 0.4ml /kg of seeds + polymer coat @10 ml/kg of seeds.
T ₃ - Vitavax power@2g/kg of seeds	T ₇ - Vitavax power @ 2 g/kg of seeds+ polymer coat @ 10 ml/kg of seeds
T ₄ - Polymer coat @10 ml/kg of seeds.	T ₈ - Deltamethrin @2.8EC per kg of seeds + vitavax power@2g/kg of seeds + polymer coat @10 ml/kg of seeds.

Among the treatments, T₈ (deltamethrin 2.8EC 0.4ml /kg seeds + vitavax power @ 2 g/kg seed + polymer coat @ 10ml/kg of seeds) recorded significantly higher number of branches (21.30), number of pods per plant (31.91), number of seeds per plant (39.39), seed weight per plant (4.38 g), seed weight per plot (1.31 kg), seed yield per ha (14.58 q) and followed by T₇ (vitavax power @ 2 g/kg seed + polymer coat @ 10ml/kg of seeds) (44.67cm, 20.29, 30.82, 37.54, 4.22g, 1.27kg, 14.06q). An increase in plant height in T₈ and T₇ may be due to Polymer coating acts as a temperature switch and protective coating by regulating the seed coating uptake of water, until the soil has warmed to a predetermined temperature (Vinodkumar *et al.*, 2012). It enables accurate and even doses of chemicals and reduces the chemical wastage; it also makes room for including all the required ingredients like inoculants, protectants, nutrients, herbicides, oxygen suppliers etc. It also provides resistance against mechanical damage in the seed drill. Thus improves the appearance and quality of polymer coated seeds (Vanangamudi *et al.*, 2003). As the seed treatments with fungicide and insecticide help in the protection of seed from the seed rot and seedling diseases. Seed treatments by its protective coating around the seed, acts as a barrier once the seed is been planted to ward off attack of seed borne diseases and soil borne organisms by this way it enhances the better field stand. Chikkanna *et al.*, (2000) in his experiment in groundnut seeds coated with polymer @ 20.00 g per kg of seeds recorded higher dry matter, number of pods, test weight and pod yield per plant and per ha and Vinodkumar *et al.*, (2012) in Pigeonpea.

The results of seed quality parameters due to seed treatments showed significant difference. T₈ (deltamethrin 2.8EC 0.4ml /kg seeds + vitavax power @ 2g/kg seed + polymer coat @10ml/kg of seeds), recorded the higher vigour index (3264) over all other treatments

and the lowest values (2812) was with T₁ (control). These results are in agreement with the findings of Vanangamudi *et al.*, (2003) who have noticed higher germination (98.00 %) compared to control (93.00 %) in maize coated with pink polykote @ 3 g kg⁻¹ of seed + fungicide + insecticide treatment. Similar trend was noticed with 100 seed weight (32.55 g) germination percentage (98.51) root length (20.66 cm), shoot length (12.46 cm) and seedling dry weight of (226.30 mg) as compared to the T₁ (control). These findings were similar with Vinodkumar *et al.*, (2012) in pigeonpea. In conclusion BGD 103 is early maturing variety and superior yield and seed quality than the BG1105. Seeds treated with deltamethrin 2.8EC 0.4ml /kg seeds + vitavax power @ 2 g/kg seed + polymer coat @ 10ml/kg of seeds was good in crop growth, yield and seed quality than untreated seeds of chickpea.

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