

Original Research Article

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Effect of Green Shade Net on Yield and Quality of Tomato

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ABSTRACT

Keywords

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The performance of green shade net on yield and quality of tomato was evaluated at farmers field in Shahdol district. Under shade net house condition green colour shade net having 50% shade factor was used in the study. Similar crop along with similar cultural practices in the open field and shade net cultivation was selected for performance evaluation. The study revealed that under shade net condition performance of tomato the crop yield, number of fruit per plant, fruit weight, plant height, harvest duration and number of harvest increased by 75.32 per cent, 61 per cent, 76.3 per cent, 40.03 per cent, 60 per cent and 50 per cent respectively over open field cultivation.

Introduction

India is second largest vegetable producer in the world next to China; however it's per capita per day availability is well below 92 g whereas the recommended consumption is 284 g. Protected cultivation technologies are being utilized all over the world but the level and extent of their use may be different among different countries. Agronomical practices play an important role for obtaining higher yields especially under protected structures. To make its cultivation successful, polyhouses and plastic-mulching are most suitable solutions (Chandra *et al.*, 2000; Singh *et al.*, 2004 and 2010). The production of off-season vegetable crops under net house conditions was evaluated for total yield, earliness and other character and incidence of insect pests (Cheema *et al.*, 2004). The cultivation of

vegetables in net house can play a better role in improving quality, advancing maturity as well as increasing fruiting span and productivity. Singh and Sirohi (2008) reported that protected cultivation of vegetables offers distinct advantages of quality, productivity and favourable market price to the growers.

Dixit (2007) studied the performance of leafy vegetables under protected environment and open field condition. Protected structure offers an opportunity for extended period of cultivation under frost free and comparatively higher night temperature conditions. Singh and Asrey (2005) also recommended that cultivation of tomato in a greenhouse would help obtain high productivity and better return. Tomato (*Solanum lycopersicon* L.) is available throughout the year in India. Therefore, an effort has been made to study the performance

of tomato crop under shade net house as well as open field condition.

Materials and Methods

The field study was taken up to evaluate the performance of tomato crop (*Solanum lycopersicon* L.) in open field and under shade net house with 50% shade factor. The study was laid out during October 2017 to March 2018 under shade net house. The study was conducted in farmers field in Majgawa village, district Shahdol (MP). The tomato crop selected for study was 30 day after transplanted in shadenet and open field condition with a spacing of 60 cm plant to plant (P-P) and 30 cm row to row (R-R).

Results and Discussion

The result are presented under the heads i) Plant characteristics ii) Yield parameter.

Plant growth characteristics

Plant growth characteristics such as plant height, number of branches, total number of

harvesting, harvesting duration were measured for tomato crop under shade net house and open field was shown in Table 1.

The plant height, number of branches per plant, number of harvesting and harvest duration were higher for the tomato crop cultivation in shade net over open field. Total harvest duration in shade net house was 72 day and 45 in open field.

Yield parameter

Yield parameter such as fruit weight, ten fruit weight, number of fruit per plant, yield per plant and yield per ha. was measured and shown in Table 2. In shade net house fruit size was big and fruit weight was 62.45 g and in open field fruit quality was small and fruit weight was 35.42 g. Total numbers of fruit per plant was recorded higher (95) in shade net as compare to open field (59) with an impact shown on yield i.e. per plant yield was more in shade net house tomato cultivation is 8.2 kg and open field condition is 5.2 kg. Tomato yield was 385 q/ha in open field and 675 q/ha in shade net house.

Table.1 Performance of tomato crop

	Plant height, cm	Number of branches	Number of harvesting	Harvest duration, days
Open field	78.20	32	4	45
Shade net	109.5	43	6	72

Table.2 Performance of tomato yield parameters

	Fruit weight, g	Ten fruit weight, g	Number of fruit per plant	Yield per plant, kg	Yield per ha, q
Open field	35.42	455.3	59	5.2	385
Shade net	62.45	620.7	95	8.2	675

Table.3 Percentage improvement in tomato performance

Yield per ha	Number of fruit per plant	Fruit weight	Plant height	Harvest duration	Number of harvest
75.32	61	76.3	40.03	60.00	50.00

Performance improvement

Table 3 reveals that yield per ha, number of fruit per plant, fruit weight, plant height, harvest duration and number of harvest were 75.32, 61, 76.3, 40.03, 60, 50 % more respectively, under shade net house condition compared to the open field condition. These findings demonstrate the suitability as well as economic feasibility of shade net house as compare to open field condition in adverse and off season condition in Shahdol district. Therefore, it may be concluded that shade net house could be a feasible option growing farmers for tomato to obtained higher yield as compare to open field condition. It the present study experimental trials were taken up to study the performance of tomato crop under shade net having 50% shade factor in comparison to open field cultivation. The findings of the study revealed that under shade net the crop yield was increase by 75.32 per cent over open field cultivation.

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