

PERFORMANCE OF BLACK GRAM VARIETIES IN RICE FALLOWS

Blackgram has an important role in the human dietary of Kerala. One of the possibilities to increase the area under blackgram is to introduce the crop in the summer rice fallows as a catch crop. The blackgram varieties perform better in Kerala during the summer season (Anon., 1977, 1978).

With the objective of identifying varieties most suited to sandy-loam rice fallows, studies were carried out at the Rice Research Station, Kayamkulam for two summer seasons (January-April) of 1978 and 1979. The layout was Randomised block design with four replications. The varieties used were Co-2, T9, S1 and KM 1 along with the local check variety. The seeds were dibbled in plough furrows at the rate of 20 kg/ha. NPK@ 20:30:10 kg/ha were given as basal dressing at the time of dibbling of the seeds. All the varieties were given two hoeings, firstly on the 15th day of dibbling and secondly on the 30th day of dibbling and each hoeing was followed by weeding.

In both the years the varieties come to harvest within 74 to 78 days. The data on the grain yield and the number of pods per plant for each variety is given in Table-1.

Table - 1

Grain yield and number of pods in black gram varieties

Sl. No.	Varieties	Grain yield in kg/ha			Mean no. of pods/plant		
		1978	1979	Mean	1978	1979	Mean
1.	Co-2	1025	2267	1646	22.9	36.13	29.0
2.	T-9	541	1339	940	12.1	23.4	17.8
3.	S-1	804	1811	1308	14.0	25.1	19.5
4.	KM-1	680	1911	1296	15.5	26.9	21.2
5.	Local	819	1911	1360	15.7	26.78	21.4
	CD (.01; (.05)	220 —	— 533	— —	3.55 —	8.67 —	— —

Results of the present study indicate significant difference in grain yield and mean number of pods per plant. In both the years, the variety Co-2 recorded maximum grain yield. In the first year of the trial, Co-2 was significantly superior to all the other varieties except local check. But in the second year of the trial, Co-2 was superior to T-9 only.

The mean number of pods per plant was maximum for Co-2, being significantly higher than in rest of the varieties. From the overall data, it is seen that total grain yield per hectare and the mean number of pods per plant for all the varieties are comparatively higher during 1979 season than in the previous year and the differences might be attributed to intermittent showers available in the summer season of 1979. Hence it can be concluded that even in the absence of summer showers, the variety Co-2 thrives better, giving a moderately higher yield.

സംഗ്രഹം

നെൽവയലുകളിൽ, വേനൽക്കാല വിളയായി കൃഷിചെയ്യുന്നതിനു യോജിച്ച ഉഷ്ണനീനങ്ങളെ സംബന്ധിച്ച്, കായംകുളം നെൽഗവേഷണകേന്ദ്രത്തിൽ 1978-79 ൽ നടത്തിയ പരീക്ഷണങ്ങളിൽ, Co-2 എന്നയിനം താരതമ്യേന കൂടുതൽ വിളവു നൽകിയതായി കണ്ടു.

References

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Rice Research Station,
 Kayamkulam, Kerala.

S. SANTHAKUMARI
 N. K. SASIDHARAN
 A. E. S. KURUP

(MS Received: 30-7-1979)