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A STUDY ON THE INFLUENCE OF PLANT HORMONES ON THE REPRODUCTIVE PHASE OF CARDAMOM PLANTS

An experiment was conducted to observe the effect of hormones on the initiation of psuedostems and panicles and production of pods in cardamom.

Randomised block design was adopted in the experiment and two hormones, indole acetic acid and indole butyric acid were tried. The plants selected for the experiments were three years old without panicles and pods. Four different concentrations of the hormones viz. 25, 50, 75, and 100 ppm. were applied. Treatment with water alone served as control. There were three plants in each replication and five replications for each treatment. The hormones were applied to the soil around the base of the plants.

The number of psuedostems, panicles and pods in the panicle were counted at monthly intervals for four months.

Though there was slight increase in number of psuedostems, panicles and green pods in some treatments the differences were not statistically significant.

Table I. Effect of indole acetic acid and indole butyric acid applied on cardamom Plants

Treatments	No. of Psuedostems		No. of panicles		No. of green pods.	
	1	2	1	2	1	2
0 ppm	13.16	11.77	6.82	11.88	23.46	69.96
25 ppm	16.92	12.24	6.43	9.18	36.96	39.78
50 ppm	13.38	10.58	6.72	10.56	26.74	83.62
75 ppm	13.11	12.63	3.00	9.76	19.96	35.32
100 ppm	13.52	11.39	7.97	9.32	31.85	65.32

1. indole acetic acid 2. indole butyric acid

Treatments not significant.

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