



REVIEW ARTICLE

IMPACT OF MANURES AND FERTILIZERS ON GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF SHOOT AND ROOT OF ASHWAGANDHA

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ABSTRACT

Background Glaucoma is diagnosed by presence of “classical triad”- characteristic feature of visual field defects, morphological changes in optic disc (cupping) and raised intraocular pressure (IOP). Several studies related to blood pressure and ocular perfusion pressure (OPP) implicated vascular risk factors in the pathogenesis of glaucoma yet abnormal autoregulation in glaucoma is not fully clear. The most common method of evaluating autoregulatory function is through provocation like isometric head up tilt testing, which put the vascular system under stress and evoke an autoregulatory response maintaining normal ocular perfusion, a failure to this is indicative of disturbed auto regulation. Materials and methods The study subjects of age between 45-65 years of either sex comprised of 20 patients with Primary open angle glaucoma (IOP >21mmhg) (group II) and 20 age and sex matched healthy controls (group I). Blood Pressure and Mean OPP was recorded at rest and immediately after release, then after 5minutes. MOPP was calculated as $MOPP=2/3MAP - IOP$. Results Mean basal MAP in group II was significantly higher (104.73 ± 1.45) ($p=0.001$) as compared to group I. The findings showed highly significant low values of basal MOPP ($p<0.000$) in group II (POAG) compared to control group. During handgrip test the value of MAP was significantly higher and MOPP was significantly low ($P<0.000$) in group II. The significant high value of MAP ($p<0.000$) and low MOPP in group II during recovery period indicated delayed recovery due to sympatho-vagal imbalance. Conclusion Basal values of MAP and MOPP and changes observed during isometric exercise (stress test) and during recovery period indicated ocular vascular alterations and abnormal autoregulatory mechanism in POAG patients as compared to healthy controls.

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INTRODUCTION

Ashwagandha is a hardy and drought tolerant plant. It grows well in dry and sub-tropical regions. Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh are the main producing states of this crop in the country. In Madhya Pradesh alone it is cultivated in more than 5000 ha. The estimated production of its roots in India is more than 1500 ton, while the annual requirement is about 7000 ton

necessitating increase in its cultivation for higher production. Steroidal alkaloids and lactones in a class of constituents called withanolides are the major active principles of *W. somnifera* roots. It cultivated over an area of 10,780 ha with a production of 8,429 tonnes in India. While the annual demand increase from 7,028 tonnes (2001-02) to 9,127 tonnes (2004-05) necessitating increase in its cultivation for higher production.

Research methodology

The study was conducted in Chandra Shekhar Azad university of agriculture and technology Kanpur Uttar Pradesh during the year 2013-2014 the present investigation was conducted to study

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the “Impact of manures and fertilizers on growth and development of shoot and root of Ashwagandha” to promote the use of organic inputs for better yield and quality produce in response poor area. The data was taken by different measures like Randomized block design and Factorial.

RESULTS

A field experiment carried out from August 2013 to April 2014 with sandy loam soil at field No. A-4 of Research Farm, Department of Soil Conservation & Water Management /Forestry, Chandra Sekhar Azad University of Agriculture & Technology, Kanpur to study the “Impact of manures and fertilizers on growth and development of shoot and root of Ashwagandha”

Leaf fresh weight (g plant⁻¹)

The leaf fresh weight (g plant⁻¹) in Ashwagandha was significantly influenced by fertility levels and moisture conservation practices levels at different stages of crop growth. The leaf fresh weight registered a progressive increase from 60 to 90 DAS and maximum increase in leaf fresh weight was recorded between 90 to 120 DAS however from 120 DAS to harvest it decrease under all the fertility levels. The application of FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹ + vermicompost @ 2.5 t ha⁻¹ + PSB @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ + azotobactor @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ under treatment F₄ recorded highest leaf fresh weight (47.93 g) at harvest stage followed by treatment F₅ FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹ + vermicompost @ 2.5 t ha⁻¹ (45.73 g). The minimum leaf fresh weight was recorded in treatment F₁ of control (37.03 g) under fertility levels. Among moisture conservation practices the highest leaf fresh weight was recorded under treatment M₃ of organic mulch (46.16 g) followed by M₂ of hoeing and weeding (42.52 g) while lowest leaf fresh weight was recorded with M₁ of control (39.29 g) at harvest stage. Leaf dry weight (g plant⁻¹) At all the successive stage, leaf dry weight of Ashwagandha was significantly influenced by fertility levels and moisture conservation practices at different stages of crop growth. The leaf dry weight registered a progressive increase from 60 to 120 DAS after which there was a steep decrease in dry weight of leaves up to harvest under all fertility levels.

At harvest, the leaf dry weight was significantly affected by fertility levels and moisture conservation practices. The application of FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹ + vermicompost @ 2.5 t ha⁻¹ + PSB @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ + azotobactor @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ in treatment F₅ recorded the highest leaf dry weight (7.72 g) at harvest stage followed by F₄ of FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹ + vermicompost @ 2.5 t ha⁻¹ (7.43 g). The minimum leaf dry weight was recorded under F₁ of control (5.82 g) under fertility levels. Among the moisture conservation practices the highest leaf dry weight was recorded with treatment M₃ of organic mulch (7.32 g) followed by M₂ of hoeing and weeding (6.83 g) while lowest leaf dry weight was recorded under M₁ of control (6.18 g) at harvest stage.

Shoot fresh weight (g plant⁻¹)

The shoot fresh weight of Ashwagandha was remarkably varied with fertility levels and moisture conservation practices at different stages of crop growth

The shoot fresh weight significantly influenced by fertility levels and moisture conservation practices at the stages. While the shoot fresh weight registered a progressive increase from 60 to 120 DAS afterward there was a steep decrease in shoot fresh weight at harvest under different fertility levels.

Finally, the shoot fresh weight was significantly affected by fertility levels and moisture conservation practices. In F₅ when we apply FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹ + vermicompost @ 2.5 t ha⁻¹ + PSB @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ + azotobactor @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ recorded the highest shoot fresh weight (30.05g) at harvest stage followed by F₄ of FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹ + vermicompost @ 2.5 t ha⁻¹ (24.13 g) while minimum shoot fresh weight was recorded in F₁ of control (20.02 g). In context to moisture conservation practices the highest shoot fresh weight was recorded in M₃ with organic mulch (24.38 g) followed by M₂ of hoeing and weeding (23.70g). The lowest shoot fresh weight was recorded in M₁ of control (22.04 g) at harvest stage.

Shoot dry weight (g plant⁻¹)

The shoot dry weight of Ashwagandha was significantly influenced by different fertility levels and moisture conservation practices at different stages of crop growth. The shoot dry weight registered a progressive increase from 60 to 120 DAS thereafter drastically decrease in shoot dry weight at harvest under different fertility levels. In F₅ treatment the application of FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹ + vermicompost @ 2.5 t ha⁻¹ + PSB @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ + azotobactor @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ recorded the highest shoot dry weight (13.05 g) at harvest stage followed treatment F₄ in FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹ + vermicompost @ 2.5 t ha⁻¹ (9.50 g) while minimum shoot dry weight was recorded in F₁ with control (8.26 g) among all fertility levels. Among the moisture conservation practices the highest shoot dry weight was recorded in M₃ treatment of organic mulch (10.18 g) followed by M₂ of hoeing and weeding (9.84 g). The lowest shoot dry weight was recorded with treatment M₁ of control (9.27 g) at harvest stage.

Root length per plant (cm)

The root length plant⁻¹ of Ashwagandha was significantly differed by fertility levels and moisture conservation practices at different stages of crop growth. All the stages of crop growth, the root length plant⁻¹ significantly influenced by fertility levels and moisture conservation practices. The application of FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹ + vermicompost @ 2.5 t ha⁻¹ + PSB @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ + azotobactor @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ recorded in treatment F₄ of the highest root length plant⁻¹ (18.13 cm) at harvest stage followed by treatment F₃ of FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹ + vermicompost @ 2.5 t ha⁻¹ (17.63 cm). The minimum root length plant⁻¹ was recorded with control treatment F₁ of (11.08 cm) under fertility levels. Among the moisture conservation practices the highest root length plant⁻¹ was recorded under treatment M₃ of organic mulch (15.76 cm) followed by M₂ hoeing and weeding (15.10 cm). The lowest root length plant⁻¹ was recorded in treatment M₁ of control (14.00 cm) at harvest stage.

Root girth per plant (cm)

The root girth plant⁻¹ of Ashwagandha was significantly enhanced with fertility levels and moisture conservation

practices at different stages of crop growth. At all the stage, the root girth plant⁻¹ significantly influenced by fertility levels and moisture conservation practices. The application of FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹ + vermicompost @ 2.5 t ha⁻¹ + PSB @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ + azotobactor @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ under treatment F₄ recorded the highest root girth plant⁻¹ (2.87 cm) at harvest stage followed by treatment F₃ of FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹ + vermicompost @ 2.5 t ha⁻¹ (2.84 cm). The minimum root girth plant⁻¹ was recorded with F₁ of traditional practices control (2.69 cm) under fertility levels. Among the moisture conservation practices the highest root girth plant⁻¹ was recorded treatment M₃ of organic mulch (3.31 cm) followed by M₂ of hoeing and weeding (3.13 cm) while lowest root girth plant⁻¹ was recorded under M₁ of control (2.92 cm) at harvest stage.

Root yield (q ha⁻¹)

Fresh root yield (q ha⁻¹)

The fresh root yield of Ashwagandha was significantly influenced by fertility levels and moisture conservation practices levels at different stages of crop growth . The application of FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹ + vermicompost @ 2.5 t ha⁻¹ + PSB @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ + azotobactor @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ recorded F₅ the highest fresh root yield (29.53 q ha⁻¹) at harvest stage followed by F₄ application of FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹ + vermicompost @ 2.5 t ha⁻¹ (22.28 q ha⁻¹) while minimum fresh root yield was recorded with F₁ of control (9.66 q ha⁻¹) under fertility levels. Among the moisture conservation practices the highest fresh root yield was recorded in M₃ treatment of organic mulch (20.63 q ha⁻¹) followed by M₂ of hoeing and weeding (19.14 q ha⁻¹). The lowest fresh root yield was recorded M₁ of control (17.55 q ha⁻¹) at harvest stage.

Interaction effect of fertility levels and moisture conservation practices on fresh weight of roots (q ha⁻¹)

| Fertility levels | Moisture conservation practices | | | Mean |
|------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-------|
| | M ₁ | M ₂ | M ₃ | |
| F ₁ | 7.80 | 9.42 | 11.75 | 9.65 |
| F ₂ | 15.40 | 18.60 | 22.05 | 18.68 |
| F ₃ | 18.00 | 21.25 | 24.65 | 21.30 |
| F ₄ | 18.40 | 23.50 | 26.15 | 22.68 |
| F ₅ | 22.15 | 30.60 | 35.70 | 29.48 |
| F ₆ | 11.00 | 13.80 | 17.90 | 14.23 |
| Mean | 15.45 | 19.52 | 23.03 | |
| S.E± (D) | 0.30 | | | |
| C.D(P= 0.05) | 0.61 | | | |

The mean fresh root yield was significantly differed under fertility levels and moisture conservation practices. The maximum and significantly higher fresh root yield were obtained in association of application of FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹ + vermicompost @ 2.5 t ha⁻¹ + PSB @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ + azotobactor @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ along with organic mulch (F₅ M₃) (35.28 q ha⁻¹) followed by application of FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹ + vermicompost @ 2.5 t ha⁻¹ + PSB @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ + azotobactor @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ along with hoeing and weeding (F₅ M₂) (30.35q ha⁻¹) while minimum fresh root yield was recorded under over all control (F₁ M₁) (7.84 q ha⁻¹).

Dry root yield (q ha⁻¹)

The dry root yield of Ashwagandha was significantly differed by fertility levels and moisture conservation practices at different stages of crop growth (Table The application of FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹ + vermicompost @ 2.5 t ha⁻¹ + PSB @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ + azotobactor @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ recorded treatment of F₅ the highest dry root yield (9.45 q ha⁻¹) at harvest stage followed by treatment F₄ application of FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹ + vermicompost @ 2.5 t ha⁻¹ (7.24 q ha⁻¹) while minimum dry root yield was recorded with F₁ treatment control (3.10 q ha⁻¹) under fertility levels.

Conclusion

The experimental results revealed that application of FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹ + vermicompost @ 2.5 t ha⁻¹ + PSB @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ + azotobactor @ 2 kg ha⁻¹ of treatment F₅ recorded highest root yield and gave more Total Income, Net Returns and B: C Ratio while lowest Total Income, Net Returns and B: C Ratio were recorded with treatment of F₁ control under fertility level

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