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Effect of different levels of nitrogen and phosphorus on growth and seed yield of coriander (*Coriandrum Sativum* L.) cv. Ajmer coriander-1

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Abstract

The present investigation was carried out during Rabi season of 2015-2016 and 2016-17 at Horticultural Research Station, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Nadia, West Bengal, to determine the requirement of nitrogen and phosphorus for coriander variety Ajmer Coriander-1 for achieving maximum seed yield and quality parameter. Two different levels of nitrogen (40, and 60 kg/ha) and four different levels of phosphorus (30, 40, 50 and 60 kg P₂O₅/ ha) in different combination were distributed in the plots. The experiment was laid out in Factorial Randomized Block Design with 3 replications. The results indicated that yield parameters were declined with very high rate of nitrogen and phosphorus combination. Therefore, significantly maximum number of umbels per plant (66.30), umbellate per umbel (7.67), seeds per umbel (26.50), and seed yield per hectare (795.85 kg/ha), was recorded with treatment N₂P₂ (60 kg Nitrogen/ha + 40 kg P₂O₅/ha). Therefore, The treatment combination of (N₆₀ + P₄₀ kg/ha) was observed to be the best and most profitable dose for coriander cultivation on new alluvial zone of West Bengal.

Keywords: Coriander, growth, nitrogen, phosphorus, quality, yield

Introduction

Coriander (*Coriandrum sativum* L.) is an annual herb and it is one of the first seed spice to be used by mankind. Coriander (which belongs to the family Umbelliferae) is mainly cultivated from its seeds throughout the year (Mhemdi *et al.* 2011)^[5]. It is also known as the Chinese parsley, Cilantro, Dizzycorn and Japanese Parsley. It is considered both as herb and spice as its leaves and seeds are used as a seasoning condiment. Its leaves as well as fruits are commonly used raw or dried for culinary purposes. Seeds are mainly round to oval in shape, golden brown to brown in color with vertical ridges and have a distinct flavour. The seeds are important ingredient of curry powder (Ramadan *et al.* 2002)^[8]. Dried coriander seeds are one of the common spice ingredients used worldwide. In India ground powder of coriander seeds is a common household spice powder that is used in pickling, chutney, stews curries, marinades as well as in sausages. 100g fresh of coriander leaves contain: Moisture 87.9%, protein 3.5%, fat 0.6%, carbohydrates 6.5%, mineral matter 1.7%, Ca 0.14%, P 0.06%, Fe 10 mg and vitamin A 10,460 to 12,600 I.U.

Coriander is an important seed spice crop, it is regularly consumed as a leaf spice by Indians but its use as seed spice is still need to be enhanced. Production of coriander seed is very low because of less attention was given in last few decades for its cultivation aspects, and nutrient management. Plant nutrition plays an important role in overall production of plant and determination of nutritional needs of any crop species. For improvement of seed yield the management practices of cultivation aspects needs to be standardized so that wastage of resources can be minimized and per unit area production can be increased. As the coriander seeds are gaining importance due to its commercial, medicinal and industrial value, it is very necessary to cope up increasing demand with increase production of coriander seeds and this can be achieved by using proper levels of nutrients. In West Bengal, coriander is generally grown during Rabi season on residual soil fertility as irrigated crop for seed purpose. Hence, chemical fertilizers are seldom used. It is reported that nitrogen and phosphorus had some influence on the yield of seed. However no systematic work has been carried out regarding the nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizer management in recently released Coriander cv. Ajmer Coriander-1.

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Therefore, the study was conducted to test the effects of two major nutrient Nitrogen and Phosphorus on seed yield of coriander.

Materials and Methods

The experiment was carried out during Rabi season of 2015-2016 and 2016-17 at Horticultural Research Station, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Nadia, West Bengal, The gross plot size was 1.8×1.8 m² and the net plot size was 2.0 X 1.5 m². The experiment was set up in FRBD. There were 2 levels of nitrogen (40 and 60 kg/ha) and four levels of phosphorus (30, 40, 50 and 60 kg/ha). The experiment was laid out with 12 treatment combinations and replicated 3 times. Nitrogen and phosphorus was applied in each plot together in different combinations viz. N₁P₁ : (40 kg Nitrogen/ha + 30 kg P₂O₅/ha), N₁P₂ : (40 kg Nitrogen/ha + 40 kg P₂O₅/ha), N₁P₃ : (40 kg Nitrogen/ha + 50 kg P₂O₅/ha), N₁P₄ : (40 kg Nitrogen/ha + 60 kg P₂O₅/ha), N₂P₁ : (60 kg Nitrogen/ha + 30 kg P₂O₅/ha), N₂P₂ : (60 kg Nitrogen/ha + 40 kg P₂O₅/ha), N₂P₃ : (60 kg Nitrogen/ha + 50 kg P₂O₅/ha), N₂P₄ : (60 kg Nitrogen/ha + 60 kg P₂O₅/ha). Seeds of coriander variety Ajmer Coriander-1 (ACr-1) is a new variety developed by ICAR-NRCSS, Ajmer. This variety is a dual purpose, which can be grown both for leaves and seeds as spices. It is a medium maturity group variety which is suitable for cultivation in all coriander growing areas in the country. This variety is suitable for loamy and clay loam soils having good drainage facility. Dry cool and frost free environment particularly in January is most suitable for exploitation of full genetic potential. This variety is stem gall resistant and it gave near immune response (No disease) even when grown in hot spot area under most favorable condition of disease spread where no other commercial variety can give good production. Urea (40% N) and single super phosphate (16%) were the main fertilizers used as source of nitrogen and phosphorus respectively. Top dressing of fertilizers in each plot was done at the time of sowing. Light irrigation was given immediately after sowing and subsequent irrigation was given to the plots at an interval of 3-4 days during the period of experiment. The status of soil nutrients before sowing was determined by alkaline permagnate method (Subbaiah and Asija, 1956) [12] and Olsen's method of nitrogen and phosphorus respectively. Different yield parameters viz., number of umbels /plant, umbellate/umbel, seeds/ umbel, seed yield /plant, seed yield/ha were recorded on six randomly selected plants. Observational plants were tagged from each plot. Border rows plants were avoided for recording observations. The average of different recorded observations was subjected to statistical analysis by Panse and Sukhatme, (1985).

Results and discussion

Effect of nitrogen and phosphorous levels on growth parameters

Plant height, no. of primary branches plant⁻¹ and no. of secondary branches plant⁻¹

The data pertaining to plant height, number of primary branches plant⁻¹ and number of secondary branches plant⁻¹ as significant influenced by different levels of N and P are presented in Table 1. The maximum plant height of coriander (100.56 cm), number of primary branches (5.83 cm) and number of secondary branches (7.80) was recorded in N₂ treatment followed by N₁ (91.78 cm, 4.33 and 7.26) respectively. This might be due to the adequate supply of nitrogen associated with high photosynthetic activity to vigorous vegetative growth and physiologically more stout and healthy plant morphology. The results of the present investigations are close agreement with the findings of Lokhande *et al.*, (2015) [3] and Sahu *et al.*, (2014) [10] in Coriander. In the same table, the application of different levels of phosphorous showed the significance difference on all growth parameters. The highest plant height (100.35 cm), number of primary branches plant⁻¹ (5.58) and number of secondary branches plant⁻¹ (8.07) was recorded in P₂ treatment followed by P₃ (100.11 cm, 5.50 and 8.07) treatment respectively. The lowest plant height (85.37 cm), number of primary branches plant⁻¹ (4.50) and number of secondary branches plant⁻¹ (6.42) was recorded in P₁ treatment. The height of plant was also influenced positively with P application. This might be due to RUBISCO enzyme activity either directly or indirectly due to adequate supply of phosphorus resulting in increased photosynthetic activity of the plant. Similar results were reported by Usuda and Shimogawara (1991) [14].

The interaction effects due to application of different levels of nitrogen and phosphorous was found to be significant on all growth parameters in Table 2. The maximum plant height (114.18 cm), number of primary branches plant⁻¹ (6.83) and number of secondary branches plant⁻¹ (9.42) was recorded in N₂P₂ treatment which was followed by N₂P₃ (101.72cm, 6.17 and 8.27) treatment respectively, and the minimum plant height (84.21 cm), number of primary branches plant⁻¹ (3.67) and number of secondary branches plant⁻¹ (7.67) was recorded in N₁P₁ treatment. This was probably due to availability of adequate nutrients to plant at which plant could develop more height and branches. Similar results were obtained by Ghosh (2009) [2].

Table 1: Effect of different levels of nitrogen and phosphorus on plant height (cm), number of primary branches/ plant and number of Secondary branches/ plant of Coriander cv. Ajmer coriander-1 (mean data of two years).

Treatments	Plant height (cm)	No. of primary branches/ plant	No. of Secondary branches/ plant
Nitrogen levels			
N ₁	91.78	4.33	7.26
N ₂	100.56	5.83	7.80
C.D.	1.09	0.98	0.89
SE(m)	0.36	0.32	0.27
Phosphorous levels			
P ₁	85.37	4.50	6.42
P ₂	100.35	5.58	8.71
P ₃	100.11	5.50	8.07
P ₄	98.86	4.75	6.92
C.D.	1.55	1.12	0.02
SE(m)	0.51	0.45	0.30

Table 2: Interaction effect of different levels of nitrogen and phosphorus on plant height (cm), no. of primary branches/ plant and no. of secondary branches/ plant of Coriander cv. Ajmer coriander-1 (mean data of two years).

Treatments	Plant height (cm)	No. of primary branches/ plant	No. of Secondary branches/ plant
N ₁ P ₁	84.21	3.67	7.67
N ₁ P ₂	86.52	4.17	8.00
N ₁ P ₃	98.51	5.00	7.87
N ₁ P ₄	97.91	4.50	6.83
N ₂ P ₁	86.53	5.33	7.83
N ₂ P ₂	114.18	6.83	9.42
N ₂ P ₃	101.72	6.17	8.27
N ₂ P ₄	99.81	5.00	7.00
C.D.	2.19	1.21	1.01
SE(m)	0.71	0.64	0.55

Effect of nitrogen and phosphorous levels on yield and yield attributes parameters

Days to 50% flowering and Days to seed maturity

The data regarding days to 50% flowering and days to seed maturity as influenced by different levels of nitrogen and phosphorus is presented in the Table 3. The effect of different levels of nitrogen on days to 50% flowering and days to seed maturity was found to be significant. The minimum days to 50% flowering (83.92) and days to seed maturity (113.49) was recorded in N₂ treatment and the maximum days in N₁ treatment (84.08 and 113.98) respectively. In the same table, the significance difference on days to 50% flowering and days to seed maturity due to application of different levels of phosphorous. The minimum days to 50% flowering (83.42) and days to seed maturity (111.45) in the treatment P₂ where as the maximum days to 50% flowering in the treatment P₃ (84.75) and maximum days to seed maturity in P₁ (115.83) treatment. Whereas the interaction effect of different levels of phosphorous on days to 50% flowering and days to seed maturity was found to be non-significant. This might be due to the fact that days taken to flowering are determined by C: N ratio. The plants tend to flower earlier with higher C: N ratio. Similar results were reported by Malav and Yadav (1997) [4] in coriander

Number of umbels plant⁻¹, number of umbellets umbel⁻¹ and number of seeds umbel⁻¹

The inflorescence of coriander is called umbel. Umbel contain umbellate where seed setting takes place. The numbers of umbel were directly responsible for a good yield of coriander. More umbel per plant ensures more seed yield. The results of experiment conducted, are presented in Table 3 and it

indicates that nitrogen and phosphorus levels significantly affected the number of umbels per plant, number of umbellets per umbel and number of seeds per umbel. Significantly maximum number of umbels plant⁻¹ (61.86), number of umbellets (9.19) and number of seeds umbel⁻¹ (23.30) was due to application of nitrogen @ 60 kg/ha (N₂) and the minimum number of umbels plant⁻¹ (57.52), number of umbellets (5.55) and number of seeds umbel⁻¹ (22.58) was recorded in N₁ treatment. Whereas, the application of phosphorous with 40 kg/ha (P₂) showed maximum number of umbels plant⁻¹ (61.98), number of umbellets (6.47) and number of seeds umbel⁻¹ (24.38) followed by P₃ treatment. The minimum number of umbels plant⁻¹ (56.48), number of umbellets (5.08) and number of seeds umbel⁻¹ (23.18) was recorded in P₁ treatment followed by P₄ treatment. The interaction effects due to application of different levels of nitrogen and phosphorous was found to be significant for all yield attribute parameters in Table 4. The maximum number of umbels plant⁻¹ (66.30), number of umbellets umbel⁻¹ (7.67) and number of seeds umbel⁻¹ (26.50) due to application with 60 kg Nitrogen/ha + 40 kg P₂O₅/ha (N₂P₂) which was followed by N₂P₃ (60 kg Nitrogen/ha + 50 kg P₂O₅/ha). Whereas the minimum umbels plant⁻¹ (54.00), number of umbellets umbel⁻¹ (4.92) and number of seeds umbel⁻¹ (21.17) due to application with 40 kg Nitrogen/ha + 30 kg P₂O₅/ha (N₁P₁) which was followed by N₁P₂ (40 kg Nitrogen/ha + 60 kg P₂O₅/ha) treatment. More number of seeds per umbel depends on number of umbels per plant and number of umbellate per umbel that is why maximum seeds were recorded with the dose which gave highest number of umbels per plant. Similar results were observed by Salarajai *et al.* 2005 [11] and Mohammad *et al.* 2011 [6] in anise.

Table 3: Effect of different levels of nitrogen and phosphorus on yield and yield attributes of Coriander cv. Ajmer coriander-1 (mean data of two years).

Treatments	Days to 50% flowering	Days to seed maturity	No. of umbels plant ⁻¹	No. of umbellets umbel ⁻¹	No. of seeds umbel ⁻¹	No. of seeds umbel ⁻¹	1000 seed weight (g)	No. of seeds plant ⁻¹	Seed yield ha ⁻¹ (kg)
Nitrogen levels									
N ₁	84.08	113.98	57.52	5.55	22.58	4.25	10.90	3056.04	623.55
N ₂	83.92	113.49	61.86	6.19	25.30	5.22	12.01	3810.81	726.19
C.D.	0.87	0.98	1.10	0.56	1.05	0.65	0.62	208.71	47.61
SE(m)	0.49	0.45	0.36	0.18	0.34	0.21	0.20	68.14	15.55
Phosphorous levels									
P ₁	83.58	115.83	56.48	5.08	23.18	4.31	10.34	3134.25	626.33
P ₂	83.42	111.45	61.98	6.47	24.38	5.077	12.59	3660.85	704.50
P ₃	84.75	113.15	61.40	6.31	24.28	4.803	11.86	3552.31	690.14
P ₄	84.25	114.50	58.97	5.64	23.92	4.752	11.02	3386.30	678.50
C.D.	2.12	1.94	1.55	0.79	1.25	0.06	0.87	295.164	45.35
SE(m)	0.69	0.63	0.51	0.26	0.48	0.60	0.29	96.378	21.99

Table 4: Interaction effect of different levels of nitrogen and phosphorus on yield and yield attributes of Coriander cv. Ajmer coriander-1 (mean data of two years).

Treatments	Days to 50% flowering	Days to seed maturity	No. of umbels plant ⁻¹	No. of umbellets umbel ⁻¹	No. of seeds umbel ⁻¹	No. of seeds umbellet ⁻¹	1000 seed weight (g)	No. of seeds plant ⁻¹	Seed yield ha ⁻¹ (kg)
N ₁ P ₁	83.50	116.00	54.00	4.92	21.17	3.62	10.05	2578.90	554.45
N ₁ P ₂	85.00	110.92	57.67	5.27	22.25	4.17	11.52	3008.21	613.15
N ₁ P ₃	83.50	112.83	59.83	6.53	22.57	4.37	10.98	3172.43	643.21
N ₁ P ₄	84.33	116.17	57.75	5.50	24.32	4.84	11.03	3464.64	683.38
N ₂ P ₁	83.67	115.67	58.97	5.23	25.20	5.00	10.63	3689.60	698.22
N ₂ P ₂	81.83	111.98	66.30	7.67	26.50	5.98	13.67	4313.50	795.85
N ₂ P ₃	86.00	113.47	62.83	6.08	26.00	5.24	12.73	3932.19	737.07
N ₂ P ₄	84.17	112.83	59.33	5.78	23.52	4.67	11.01	3307.97	673.63
C.D.	NS	NS	2.19	1.12	2.10	0.89	1.01	417.425	95.23
SE(m)	0.98	0.90	0.71	0.36	0.69	0.42	0.40	136.299	31.09

N₁P₁ : (40 kg Nitrogen/ha + 30 kg P₂O₅/ha), N₁P₂ : (40 kg Nitrogen/ha + 40 kg P₂O₅/ha), N₁P₃ : (40 kg Nitrogen/ha + 50 kg P₂O₅/ha), N₁P₄ : (40 kg Nitrogen/ha + 60 kg P₂O₅/ha), N₂P₁ : (60 kg Nitrogen/ha + 30 kg P₂O₅/ha), N₂P₂ : (60 kg Nitrogen/ha + 40 kg P₂O₅/ha), N₂P₃ : (60 kg Nitrogen/ha + 50 kg P₂O₅/ha), N₂P₄ : (60 kg Nitrogen/ha + 60 kg P₂O₅/ha).

1000 seed weight (g), no. of seeds plant⁻¹ and seed yield ha⁻¹

The data pertaining to weight of 1000 seeds (g), no. of seeds plant⁻¹ and seed yield ha⁻¹ of coriander as influenced by application of different levels of nitrogen and phosphorus was presented in Table 3. The maximum 1000 seed weight (12.01 g), no. of seeds plant⁻¹ (3810.81) and seed yield ha⁻¹ (726.19 kg) was recorded in N₂ (60 kg/ha) treatment, whereas minimum was N₁ treatment. In the same table, P₂ (40 kg/ha) treatment was recorded the maximum 1000 seed weight (12.59 g), no. of seeds plant⁻¹ (3660.85) and seed yield ha⁻¹ (704.50 kg) followed by P₃ treatment. Whereas the minimum 1000 seed weight (10.34 g), no. of seeds plant⁻¹ (3134.25) and seed yield ha⁻¹ (626.33 kg) was recorded in P₁ treatment which was followed by P₄ treatment. In Table 4, the interaction effects due to application of different levels of nitrogen and phosphorus was found to be significant for all yield attribute parameters. The maximum 1000 seeds (13.67 g), no. of seeds plant⁻¹ (4313.50) and seed yield ha⁻¹ (795.85 kg) due to application with 60 kg Nitrogen/ha + 40 kg P₂O₅/ha (N₂P₂) which was followed by N₂P₃ (60 kg Nitrogen/ha + 50 kg P₂O₅/ha) treatment. Whereas the minimum 1000 seeds (10.05 g), no. of seeds plant⁻¹ (2578.90) and seed yield ha⁻¹ (554.45 kg) due to application with 40 kg Nitrogen/ha + 30 kg P₂O₅/ha (N₁P₁) which was followed by N₁P₂ (40 kg Nitrogen/ha + 40 kg P₂O₅/ha) treatment. This was probably due to the fact that both these nutrients play an important role in plant nutrient uptake and affects various physiological functions such as photosynthesis, chlorophyll synthesis and reduced attack of diseases and pests etc. and ultimately leads to the improvement of seed yield. The results of this experiment support the findings of Bhat and Sulikeri (1992)^[1] and Tehlan *et al.* (2008)^[13] in coriander crop.

Essential oil

The perusal data from Fig 1, revealed that the significant difference in essential oil content by application of different levels of N and P. Significantly the maximum essential oil content (2.40%) was observed in N₂P₂ (60 kg Nitrogen/ha + 40 kg P₂O₅/ha) followed by N₂P₃ (60 kg nitrogen + 50 kg P₂O₅/ha) where as minimum essential oil content (1.46%) was observed in N₁P₁ : (40 kg Nitrogen/ha + 30 kg P₂O₅/ha) followed by 1.78% in N₁P₂ (40 kg Nitrogen/ha + 40 kg P₂O₅/ha) treatment. This might be due to the increased vigour of plants at flowering stage and increased ability of the plant to produce more number of seeds per umbel resulted in

increased seed yield and essential oil. Similar results have been reported by Ravindra Kumar *et al.*, (2016)^[9].

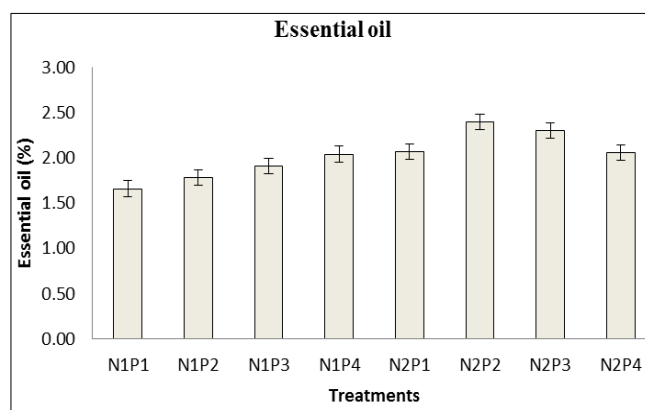


Fig 1: effect of different levels of nitrogen and phosphorus on essential oil of coriander cv. Ajmer coriander-1 (mean data of two years).

Conclusion

Coriander crop has been used for different industrial purposes and successful seed production mainly depends on use of healthy crop, more productive, higher quality and resistant to diseases and pests. Nitrogen and phosphorus are the two major nutrient required for the good production or yield of coriander. The increase seed yield ultimately depends on good yield contributing characters, which results from adequate dose of fertilizers. To standardize the rate of two major nutrients nitrogen and phosphorus, the study was conducted, and from the result of the study it could be concluded that treatment N₂P₂ i.e. (N 60 + P 40 kg/ha) was found to be best for obtaining higher seed yield and yield attribute characters.

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