



RESEARCH ARTICLE :

Response of cut dahlia cv. 'PINK ATTRACTION' to inorganic nutrition

■ IMTIYAZ TAHIR NAZIKI, RAIZ AHMED LONE AND GAZANFER GANI

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SUMMARY : A field experiment was performed with three levels of N (100, 175, 250 kg ha⁻¹) and two levels of each P₂O₅ (100, 150 kg ha⁻¹) and K₂O (50, 75 kg ha⁻¹) to find out the optimum doses of N, P₂O₅ and K₂O for better growth, flower and tuber production of dahlia cv. "PINK ATTRACTION" under temperate conditions of Kashmir. Increasing levels of N, P₂O₅ and K₂O significantly increased the plant height, number of branches/plant, spike length, flower size, flower weight and tuber yield. Highest plant height was recorded with nutrient combination of 250 kg N, 150 Kg P₂O₅ and 75 kg K₂O^{ha} (N₃P₂K₂) which was at par with N₃P₂K₁, N₃P₁K₂, N₃P₁K₁ but significantly more than N₂P₂K₂, Similarly spike length and flower number/plant also improved with combinations of increased N & P (250 and 150 kg ha⁻¹). Combinations of highest N, P & K doses also resulted in significantly higher tuber yields both in terms of weight and number. Highest of 1.042 kg/plant was recorded under N₃P₂K₂ whereas the lowest tuber yield of 0.820 kg/plant was recorded with N₁P₁K₁ combination.

KEY WORDS :

Plant height, Dahlia,
Crops, Spike

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Author for correspondence :

IMTIYAZ TAHIR NAZIKI

Division of Floriculture
and Landscape
Architecture, Sher-e-
Kashmir University of
Agricultural Sciences and
Technology, KASHMIR
(J&K) INDIA

See end of the article for
authors' affiliations