



RESEARCH PAPER

Response of black gram varieties to sowing times under rain fed vertisol of Southern Tamil Nadu

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Abstract : The field experiments were conducted during 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 in *Rabi* season (October - December) at Agricultural Research station, Kovilpatti to identify the optimum time of sowing and best suitable blackgram variety for rainfed vertisol. Experiments were laid out in split-plot design with three replications. The treatment combinations comprised of three dates of sowing *viz.*, 39th, 41st and 43rd standard weeks (pre monsoon, monsoon and post monsoon sowing, respectively) in main plot with four different black gram varieties *viz.*, CO 5, CO 6, Vamban 4 and Vamban 5 in the sub plot. The results revealed that sowing during 39th standard week (pre monsoon-D₁) registered increased growth and yield parameters *viz.*, plant height, DMP, LAI, number of pods/plant, number of seeds/pod, pod length, 100 seed weight, which reflected on increased grain yield. Similarly among the varieties tried CO 5 registered higher growth and yield attributes which reflected on increased grain yield which was followed by Vamban 4.

Key Words : Black gram, Dates of sowing, Genotypes, Growth, Yield

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