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Impact of alternative energy sources on growth and yield of banana cv. GRAND NAINE

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ABSTRACT : Of late growing awareness on health and environmental issues associated with the intensive use of chemical inputs has led to interest in alternate forms of agriculture in India as well as in the world. An investigation was carried out during 2010-2011, to study the effect of organic manures, organic amendments and green manures in comparison with inorganic fertilizers on growth, development, yield and yield of banana cv. GRAND NAINE. The treatment T₁₀ with the combined application of organic manures, amendments and green manures (Farmyard manure @ 10 kg + Neem cake @ 1.25 kg + Vermicompost @ 5 kg and Wood ash @ 1.75 kg /plant + triple green manuring with sunhemp + Double intercropping of Cowpea + biofertilizers viz., Vesicular Arbuscular Mycorrhizae @ 25 g, *Azospirillum* @ 50 g, Phosphate Solubilizing Bacteria @ 50 g and *Trichoderma harzianum* @ 50 g/plant) registered the maximum growth (Pseudostem height and girth – 218 and 69.53 cm, number of leaves – 14.56 and leaf area index – 3.79) and yield (bunch weight – 27.96 kg, finger length and girth – 23.56 and 15.12 cm, finger weight – 280.25 g, pulp and peel weight – 194.13 and 65.27 g) characters under drip irrigation.

KEY WORDS : Organic manures, Amendments, Growth, Yield

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