Research Paper

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Performance of different varieties of coriander for growth and yield under Marathwada conditions

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ABSTRACT

An experiment was conducted to study the performance of different varieties of coriander for growth and yield under Marathwada condition at Department of Horticulture, M.A.U., Parbhani (M.S.) during 2007-08. The variety V_4 Japani exhibited maximum height of plant. The variety V_5 Surbhi was superior in case of maximum number of primary and secondary branches, maximum east west and north-south spread up of plant. Highest stem girth was recorded in variety V_7 DWD-3. Highest yield per hectare was recorded in variety V_5 Surbhi followed by V_7 DWD-3, while lowest yield was found in variety V_6 Gawran.

Key words : Performance, Coriander, Varieties, Growth, Yield

India has been known as the "Home of Spices" from very ancient times. The importance of minor spices in India is well recognized. The most important minor spices cultivated in India are Coriander, Cumin, Fennel, Methi, Ajwain and Dill.

Coriander (*Coriandrum sativum* L.) is an annual herb, belonging to family umbeliferae. It is grown in India, Morocco, Mexico, Romania, Poland, Hungary and USA, for its aromatic leaves and cremocarpic seeds, which are extensively used as a spice and food flavouring agent throughout the world and enjoys a unique position in seed spices. Both the herb and spice above all are valued as they add taste to an otherwise monotonus diet (Singh and Singh, 1996).

India is largest producer of coriander although the major portion is consumed within the country itself (John, 1994). In India it is grown on area of 5.12 lakh hectares with annual production of 3.08 lakh million tonnes with an average yield of 575 kg/ha (Anonymous, 2003). During 2001-2002 India earned about Rs. 4504.50 lakh in foreign exchange by exporting 1500 MT of coriander (Anonymous, 2003).

Coriander is grown commercially in Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are leading states in area and production (Singh and Singh, 1996).

In Maharashtra, the total area under coriander is 10,618 hectares with total production of 16,441 tonnes with an average yield of 1.548 t/ha. In Marathwada region, total area under coriander is 1680 ha with total production of 1336 tonnes (Anonymous, 2003).

Very meagre research work has been undertaken

on performance of coriander under Marathwada condition. So the present investigation on 'performance of different varieties of coriander for growth and yield under Marathwada condition' was carried out.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Eight varieties of coriander viz., V_1 -R-31, V_2 -Kalmi, $V_3 - S$ 101, $V_4 - Japani$, $V_5 - Surbhi$, $V_6 - Gawran$, $V_7 - DWD$ 3, $V_8 - Green$ Gold were tested. The experiment was laid out in Randomized Block Design (RBD) with three replications at Department of Horticulture, Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani during 2007-08. Certified seeds of varieties R-31, Kalmi, Japani, S 101, Surbhi, Gawran and Green Gold were obtained from Department of Horticulture, Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani and DWD-3 was obtained from University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, Karnataka state and sown on 8th February, 2008 with spacing of 30 x 10 cm in a flat bed of 3.0 x 1.8 m dimensions. Soil type of the plot was medium black with good drainage. Recommended package of practices were adopted to raise crop successfully. Five plants were selected at random in each plot to record various observation on different characters. The yield was taken on plot basis and then converted into per hectare. The mean data were subjected to statistical analysis following the standard procedure of Panse and Sukhatme (1976).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Analysis of variance was carried out for different characters as indicated in Table 1 revealed significant