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Assessment of chilli hybrids for higher yield

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Abstract

Assessment of chilli hybrids (each one acre) at Melavalavu village (DFI) of Kottampatti block was selected. The soil is black alluvial soil. The plants are grown in irrigated conditions and planted at a spacing of 75 x 60 cm. The initial soil fertility status was 230: 12: 285 kg NPK/ha. The treatments viz., T₁-Farmers hybrid (VNR 277 F1), T₂-TNAU chilli Hybrid CO 1 and T₃-Arka Harita were taken for this assessment trial. The height of the plant varied between 0.90 m (T₂) to 1.25 m (T₁). T₁ only recorded higher than the mean value of 1.05m. Similarly T₁ recorded higher spread of the plant (95 cm) followed by T₂ (85 cm) and T₃ 82 (cm). T₁ (Rs. 8.00/ kg) recorded the lowest value while T₃ (Rs. 12/kg) recorded the highest marketable price per kg of green chilli. The net returns per hectare was higher in T₂ (Rs. 2, 67,850/ha), followed by T₃ (Rs. 2,62,900/ha) and lower in T₁ (Rs. 1,62,000). The percent increase of T₂ over the T₁ was 20.24%. The benefit cost ratio was higher in T₂ and T₃ i.e 3.74 and 3.67 respectively.

Keywords: VNR 277 F1, TNAU chilli hybrid CO 1, yield, economics

Introduction

Chilli is the prominent dryland crop of Madurai, Dindigul, Ramnad, Virudhunagar, Trichy districts of Southern Tamil Nadu. In Madurai, it is chiefly grown in blocks viz., Sedapatti, Kottampatti, Alanganallur and Usilampatti. It is grown in both alluvial soil and red lomy soil of Madurai district. Chilli is grown throughout the year and peak season is from August to February. It is grown for both green and red chilli (both samba and gundu types). The peak flowering period starts from September and extends till November. The average price of Chilli varies between Rs. 20 to 40. The major problem faced by the farmers viz., the cost of the seed, less pungency which fetch low price in the market and incidence of powdery mildew and Leaf Curl Virus (LCV). Hence, hybrids with high pungency, dark green, tolerant to LCV with higher yield will boost the chilli cultivation in Madurai district.

Materials and Methods

The Melavalavu village (DFI) of Kottampatti block was selected for this trial. The soil is black alluvial soil. The plants are grown in irrigated conditions and planted at a spacing of 75 x 60 cm, The initial soil fertility status was 230: 12: 285 kg NPK/ha. The total rainfall received in this area from July 2018 to February 2019 was 230 mm in 28 days. Sowing was taken up during August 2019 followed by transplanting during September 2019. It started flowering from November and the produce was harvested during first fortnight of December 2019 to January 2020. The fertilizers viz., 10 kg Urea, 512 kg SSP & 50 kg MOP were applied in three split doses except SSP during basal, flower initiation and pod initiation. The treatments viz., T₁-Farmers hybrid (VNR 277 F1), T₂-TNAU chilli Hybrid CO 1 and T₃-Arka Harita were taken for the assessment trial.

Results and Discussion

Growth and Yield Attributes

The height of the plant varied between 0.90 m (T₂) to 1.25 m (T₁). T₁ only recorded higher than the mean value of 1.05 m. Similarly T₁ recorded higher spread of the plant (95 cm) followed by T₂ (85 cm) and T₃ 82 (cm). This clearly indicates that, the number of plants is higher in T₂ & T₃ as compared to T₁. The mean spread was 87.33 cm. This will comparable with the scientists viz., Janaki, *et al.* 2015^[1], Nivedha *et al.* 2019^[2] and Dhumal *et al.* 2020^[3]. The days to 50% flowering varied from 39 (T₁) to 48 days (T₃), which is an indicator of earliness in yield. The length of the pod and the diameter was higher in T₁ (11.00 cm and 1.1.2 cm respectively) and hence the individual pod weight (6.12g). Both COCH1 and Arka Harita

(5.40 and 5.45g respectively) were lower in individual pod weight as compared to the private hybrid (Table 1). The LCV and PM incidence was higher in T₁ as compared to T₂ and T₃ which probably decreased the yield and higher cost of production. With regard to yield per plant, T₂ recorded higher yield (24.35t/ha) as compared to T₁ (20.25t/ha) and T₃ (23.90t/ha) as mentioned in Fig.1. The colour value was lower in T₁ (light green) as compared to T₂ and T₃ (dark green). This will comparable with Karak *et al.* 2015^[4], Yatagiri *et al.* 2017^[5], Rohini and Lakshmanan, 2017^[6] and Nivedha *et al.* 2019^[7].

Cost Economics

The market value differed between the varieties assessed. T₁ (Rs. 8.00/ kg) recorded the lowest value while T₃ (Rs. 12/kg) recorded the highest marketable price per kg of green chilli. The net returns per hectare was higher in T₂ (Rs. 2, 67,850/ha), followed by T₃ (Rs. 2,62,900/ha) and lower in T₁ (Rs. 1,62,000). The percent increase of T₂ over the T₁ was 20.24%. The benefit cost ratio was higher in T₂ and T₃ *i.e* 3.74 and 3.67 respectively (Table 2).

Table 1: Effect of hybrids on growth and yield attributes

Treatments	Plant height (m)	Spread of plant (cm)	Days to 50% flowering (DAT)	Individual pod weight (g)	Pod length (cm)	Pod diameter (cm)	LCV (%)	PM (%)	Colour of pod
T ₁	1.25	95.0	39.0	6.12	11.0	1.12	25	35	Light green
T ₂	0.90	85.0	43.0	5.40	9.20	0.92	10	25	Dark green
T ₃	1.00	82.0	48.0	5.45	9.60	1.00	10	20	Dark green
Mean	1.05	87.3	43.3	85.33	9.93	1.01	11.6	26.6	

Table 2: Effect of hybrids on growth and yield attributes

Technology Option	No. of trials	Season of harvest	Yield (t/ha)	Net Returns* (Rs./ha)	BCR
T ₁ -Farmers hybrid (VNR 277 F1)	5	December	20.25	1,62,000	2.6
T ₂ -TNAU chilli Hybrid CO 1		December	24.35	2,67,850	3.74
T ₃ -Arka Harita		December	23.90	2,62,900	3.67

*Price per Kg: VNR G-166 Rs.8 Per Kg; CO1-11/kg; A.Harita: Rs.12 per Kg

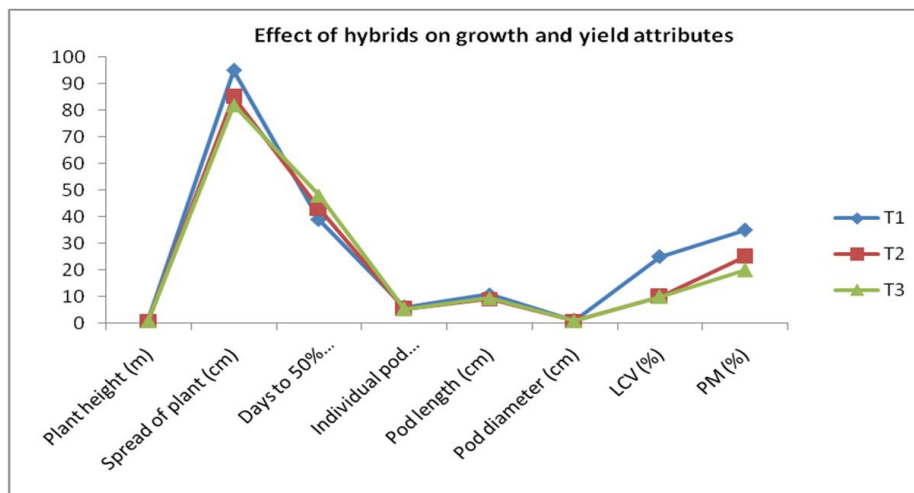


Fig 1: Effect of hybrids on growth and yield attributes

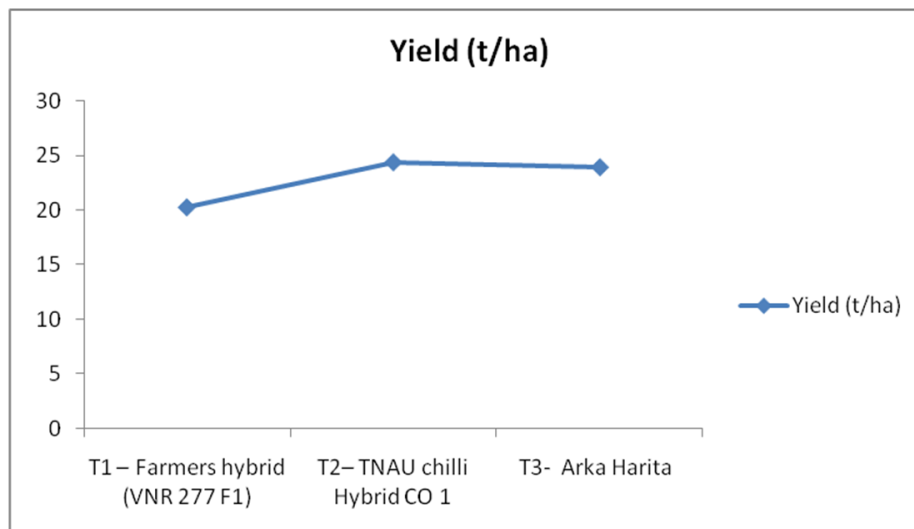


Fig 2: Effect of hybrids on yield of bhendi

Conclusion

The cost of hybrid seeds (COCH1 and *A. harita*) was much lower as compared to the private hybrid. The percent germination was also higher which lowered the initial cost of production. The main constraint is to produce the seedlings *via.*, portrays. This increase the initial cost of production upto 20% as compared to regular nursery. However, this was compensated by 99.99% establishment through transplanting. The higher yield might be due to higher number of plants survived till harvest. Almost 85% of the plants survived till last harvest in COCH1 and *A. harita*. COCH1 and *A. harita* can be recommended to Madurai condition with black alluvial soil and irrigated condition.

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