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## Effect of Gamma Irradiation on production of tuberose Var. Mexican single

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### Abstract

The present research “Studies on Effect of gamma irradiation on Tuberose (*Polianthes tuberosa* L.) var. Mexican Single” was carried out at Experimental Farm, Department of Agriculture, Mata Gujri College, Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab during summer season 2022-2023. The experiment was laid out in randomized block design with seven treatments such as no- gamma irradiation, 7 gy, 14 gy, 21 gy, 28 gy, 35 gy and 42 gy and the treatments were replicated thrice. Results indicated that lower dose of 7 gy of gamma irradiation show positive result on growth of Tuberose variety Mexican single. As the dose of gamma irradiation increases it affect the vegetative characteristics of tuberose. Early bulb sprouting was observed in 7 gy of gamma irradiation. Maximum plant height, plant canopy, maximum number of leaves were recorded in lowest dose (7 gy) of gamma irradiation Flowering characteristics like days to spike initiation and days taken to opening 1<sup>st</sup> floret was increased with increases doses of gamma irradiation. Early spike initiation, days taken to opening 1<sup>st</sup> floret, maximum number of florets/spike and maximum number of spikes/plot was recorded in 7gy of gamma irradiation.

**Keywords:** Tuberose, gamma irradiation, mutation

### Introduction

India's tropical and subtropical regions are home of tuberose (*Polianthes tuberosa* L.). (Trublood, 1973) [16]. It belongs to the family Amaryllidaceae and commonly called Rajanigandha in Bengali and Gulcheri in Hindi. Single, semi-double, double, and variegated varieties of tuberose most widely grown in India. The single-row tuberose has a stronger fragrance than the double-row variety and it is also used in the cosmetics and perfume industries. (Abraham and Desai, 1976) [1]. Tuberose requires both conventional and unconventional breeding methods, and well-planned breeding programs. Due to self-incompatibility, conventional breeding techniques using hybridization in tuberose are limited. (Sreethramu *et al.*, 2000) [14]. Various improved tuberose cultivars have been developed through selection, hybridization and mutation breeding. Therefore, it is a large scope of non-conventional breeding methods such as mutation breeding. Mutation breeding is an effective and valuable method. The diversity of biological organisms can be increased by using mutation techniques. It is to be expected that mutations may result in floret color changes because the tuberose leaf bases, particularly crown leafy, contain carotenoid pigments. (Navabi *et al.*, 2016) [10]. Mutation breeding is the most common method used to create mutant cultivars in flower crops, accounting for 90% of the types that are produced, including 22% that are X-ray and 64% that are gamma ray tolerant (Jain, 2005) [5]. Physical mutagens, such as UV light (X-rays, neutrons, and gamma rays) and ionising radiation as well as a number of chemical agents, are well-known examples of mutagens that are highly competent in causing mutation in animals, plants, and microbes. The benefits of physical mutagens include accurate fair repeatability, dissymmetry, greater and uniform penetration of multicellular methods, especially by gamma irradiation. Gamma rays have produced a greater number of beneficial mutants (Predieri, 2001) [11] and continue to exhibit a larger potential for improving vegetatively propagated plants.

### Materials and Methods

The experiment entitled “Effect of gamma irradiation on Tuberose var. Mexican single” was carried out during March 2022- May 2023 at Research Farm of Mata Gujri College, Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab. Field of experimental site lies at 30.6435° North latitude and 76.3970° East longitudes. The altitude of the location is 246 meter above the mean sea level. The bulb of Mexican single was treated with gamma rays at 7g y, 14 gy, 21 gy, 28 gy, 35 g

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and 42 gy in gamma chamber, at PAU, Ludhiana during 19 March 2022. And gamma rays treated bulbs replicated thrice with seven treatments in Randomized Block Design (RBD).

## Results and Discussion

It is evident from the table 1 that the different treatments of gamma irradiation influenced significantly on days taken to sprouting of tuberose. The late sprouting was observed in T<sub>7</sub> (93.31 days) i.e. 42 gy which was statistically inferior. It is due to that higher doses cause the severe cell damage, cellular components and genetic materials which causes late sprouting. Similar result was also found by Kainthura *et al.* (2016)<sup>[6]</sup> in Tuberose. While in T<sub>2</sub> (59.04 days) i.e. 7 gy of gamma irradiation resulted in early sprouting which was statistically at par with T<sub>3</sub> (60.12 days) i.e.14 gy, T<sub>1</sub> (62.28 days) i.e. No gamma irradiation used, T<sub>7</sub> (66.74 days) i.e. 42 gy and T<sub>4</sub> (67.55 days) i.e. 21gy because lower dose of gamma rays increases the metabolism activities and stimulate sprouting of tuberose bulbs (Misra and Bajpai, 1983)<sup>[9]</sup>. Regar *et al.* (2022)<sup>[12]</sup> found similar results that slight earliness in sprouting of tuberose bulbs when bulbs treated with lower doses of gamma rays. Maximum plant height was recorded in T<sub>2</sub> (36.28 cm) i.e. 7 gy of gamma irradiation which was statistically at par with treatment T<sub>1</sub> (32.17 cm) i.e.no gamma irradiation used. It is due to that low doses of gamma irradiation increase the metabolism activities in plants and helps in the synthesis of endogenous growth regulators which helps in increase the plant height of tuberose. Similar result was observed by Abraham and Desai (1976)<sup>[1]</sup> in Tuberose. Maximum plant canopy and maximum number of

leaves was recorded in lowest dose of gamma irradiation T<sub>2</sub> (30.29 cm) and T<sub>2</sub> (20.25 cm) i.e. 7 gy which was statistically at par with no gamma irradiation. It is due to the found that the low doses of gamma irradiation increase auxin synthesis in plants and increase the cell division which results in maximum plant canopy and leaves of tuberose. According to Ali (2002)<sup>[3]</sup>, low radiation intensity produced superior results as compared to high radiation intensity in terms of growth characteristics.

Flowering parameters shows that early spike initiation was recorded with T<sub>2</sub> (272.07 days) i.e. 7 gy dose of gamma irradiation which was statistically superior. This is due that gamma irradiation at low dose helps in synthesis of auxin which promotes the cell division in plants. Similar outcomes was observed by Kutty *et al.* (2020)<sup>[7]</sup> in tuberose. Maximum number of florets/spikes was observed in T<sub>2</sub> (40.66) i.e. 7 gy which was at par with T<sub>1</sub> (37.77) i.e. no gamma irradiation used, T<sub>3</sub> (36.33) i.e. 14 gy and T<sub>4</sub> (33.78) i.e. 21gy. It is due to that low doses helps in increase the plant growth, hence promote the number of florets on spike of tuberose. Similar outcomes were found by Kainthura and Srivastava (2015)<sup>[6]</sup> in tuberose. Maximum number of spikes/plot was found in T<sub>2</sub> (47.67) i.e. 7 gy which was statistically at par with T<sub>1</sub> (46.33) i.e. no gamma irradiation. The number of spikes was increased with low doses of gamma irradiation. Because lower doses of gamma irradiation help in slightly increasing of photosynthetic activities in plants, hence due to that maximum number of spikes/plot was observed in tuberose. Similar outcomes were noticed by Kainthura and Srivastava (2015)<sup>[6]</sup> in tuberose.

**Table 1:** Different treatments of gamma irradiation influenced significantly

Treatments	Days to bulbs sprouting	Plant height (cm)	Plant canopy (cm)	Leaves per plant	Days to spike initiation	Number of florets/spike	Number of spikes/plot
T <sub>1</sub> no gamma irradiation	62.28	32.17	25.86	17.36	287.63	37.77	46.33
T <sub>2</sub> 7gy	59.04	36.28	30.29	20.25	272.07	40.66	47.67
T <sub>3</sub> 14gy	60.12	28.28	21.67	12.62	290.97	36.33	42.67
T <sub>4</sub> 21gy	67.55	23.96	18.71	11.32	287.30	33.78	29.00
T <sub>5</sub> 28gy	69.55	15.81	13.07	8.49	308.50	24.00	27.33
T <sub>6</sub> 35gy	66.74	8.94	7.99	4.67	397.10	22.89	17.00
T <sub>7</sub> 42gy	93.31	4.17	3.67	2.83	407.83	17.77	12.33
Sem±	2.98	2.37	2.28	1.58	1.11	2.28	1.04
CD (0.05)	9.17	7.31	7.03	4.86	3.42	7.03	3.22

## Conclusion

From the above study it is concluded that Gamma rays at lowest dose of gamma irradiation (7 gy) is best for growing of tuberose var. Mexican Single. Because 7 gy of gamma irradiation improves the vegetative and flowering parameters of tuberose.

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