



Effect of GA₃ and growing media on seedling growth of jamun (*Syzygium cumini* L.)cv. Local

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ABSTRACT

The present investigation was conducted at Fruit Research Station, Lalbaug, Department of Horticulture, College of Agriculture, JAU, Junagadh during 2018. The treatments comprised of different concentrations of GA₃ and growing media. The treatment G₄: GA₃ 500 ppm had significant influence on different seed germination traits like maximum number of leaves, stem length, stem girth, root length, seedling fresh and dry weight, root: shoot ratio and leaf area. The media M₃ had significant influence on different seedling traits like maximum number of leaves, stem length, stem girth, root length, seedling height, fresh and dry weight of shoot, fresh and dry weight of root, root: shoot ratio and leaf area in jamun seedlings. Among the interaction effect G₄M₃ was found to be significantly better in terms of various seedling growth parameters viz., number of leaves, stem length and stem girth. Similarly, maximum seedling height (70.09 cm), fresh weight of shoot (16.26 g), dry weight of shoot (5.04 g), fresh weight of root (6.04 g), dry weight of root (3.05 g), root: shoot dry weight ratio (0.60) and leaf area (13.59 cm²) were also found significantly in interaction effect of treatment G₄M₃. From the observation, it can be concluded that seedling growth of jamun seedling cv. Local, can be enhanced by the seed treatment with GA₃ @ 500ppm for 24 hours followed by sowing of the seeds in media consisting of Soil+ Cocopeat+ Vermicompost (1:1:1) alone or in combination.

Keywords: Jamun, Media, Gibberellic acid, Cocopeat, Vermicompost, FYM.

Received 17.09.2019

Revised 20.10.2019

Accepted 08.11.2019

INTRODUCTION

Jamun [*Syzygium cumini* L.] is an important indigenous minor fruit, belonging to the family Myrtaceae and grown throughout the tropics and subtropics as an avenue crop. It is also known as Indian blackberry, java plum and black plum. In India, these are mostly found in scattered range from lower Himalaya region having an elevation of 1300 m to Kumaon hills of 1600 m. It is widely grown in various part of India from the Indo-Gangetic plains in the north to Tamil Nadu in the south [5].

It is commonly propagated by seed and has no dormancy period hence fresh seeds are sown immediately after extracting from fruits. Seed can be sown 4-5 cm deep in the nursery. There is occurrence of polyembryony in jamun to the extent of 20-50%, hence nucellar seedling may be utilized to produce true to the type plants. The seeds of jamun took 24-61 days for total germination under Bihar conditions. Studies revealed that seed extraction of jamun after heaping the fruits for a single day was better for getting good quality seeds in comparison to the extraction of seeds immediately after collection [15]. Large sized seeds have higher germination percentage (99-98%) than small sized (89-79%) [13]. Seeds are orthodox in nature and it can't be stored for long time because germination capacity decreases with increasing storage period.

The increase in seedling growth with GA₃ treatments was due to the fact that this hormone increased osmotic uptake of nutrients, causing cell elongation and thus increased height of the plant and stem girth also increased due to greater cell division and elongation [14]. Gibberellins (GA₃) activate the embryonic vegetative growth, weakens the endosperm layer that involves in the embryo and restricts its growth and mobilizes the energetic reserves from the endosperm of cereals [3].

Media is one of the factors, which plays an important role in growth and survival of seedlings. Different growing media like soil, cocopeat, Farm Yard Manure (FYM) and vermicompost either alone or in different

proportion have been found beneficial to influence growth of seedlings. A good growing media provides sufficient anchorage or support to the plant, serves as a reservoir for nutrients and water, allows proper oxygen diffusion to the roots and permits gaseous exchange between roots and the atmosphere outside root substrate. Hence the present study was conducted to evaluate the effect of GA₃ and media on seedling growth of jamun cv. Local.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The experiment was conducted at Fruit Research Station, Lalbaugh, Department of Horticulture, College of Agriculture, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh, Gujarat during July to November of 2018. Junagadh is situated at 21.5°N latitude and 70.5°E longitude with an altitude of 60 meters above MSL on the western side at the foot hill of mountain Girnar sierra (Gujarat). Climate is typically subtropical, characterized by fairly cool and dry winter, hot and dry summer and warm and moderately humid monsoon. The rainy season commences by third week of June and ends in September. July and August are the months of heavy precipitation. Winter sets in the month of November and continues till the month of February. December and January are the coldest months of winter. Summer commence in the second fortnight of February and ends in the middle of June. April and May are the hottest months.

The treatments comprised of different concentrations of GA₃ (G₁: Water soaked, G₂: GA₃ 300 ppm, G₃: GA₃ 400 ppm and G₄: GA₃ 500 ppm) and different growing media [M₁: Soil+ Cocopeat+ FYM (1:1:1), M₂: Soil+ Cocopeat+ FYM (2:1:1), M₃: Soil+ Cocopeat+ Vermicompost (1:1:1), M₄: Soil+ Cocopeat+ Vermicompost (2:1:1)]. There were sixteen treatments combination embedded in a Completely Randomized Block Design (factorial) with three repetitions. The details of the treatments applied in the present investigation are as under: T₁: G₁M₁, T₂: G₁M₂, T₃: G₁M₃, T₄: G₁M₄, T₅: G₂M₁, T₆: G₂M₂, T₇: G₂M₃, T₈: G₂M₄, T₉: G₃M₁, T₁₀: G₃M₂, T₁₁: G₃M₃, T₁₂: G₃M₄, T₁₃: G₄M₁, T₁₄: G₄M₂, T₁₅: G₄M₃ and T₁₆: G₄M₄.

Gibberellic acid solution of 300, 400 and 500ppm were separately prepared by dissolving 300, 400 and 500 mg GA₃. (GA₃ was completely dissolved by addition of small quantity of NaOH pellets) in 1 liter of distill water. Seeds were soaked with different concentration of GA₃ for 24 hours and sown 1.2 cm deep in the 9 x 11 cm polythene bags. Whereas, Different growing media were prepared 1st July, 2018 according to proportion of soil, cocopeat, FYM and vermicompost and filled in 9 X 11 cm black polythene bags. A light irrigation was given immediately after dibbling of seeds for proper establishment. Irrigations were given repeatedly depending upon soil moisture status of the plant. Five plants were selected at random from each treatment and tagged for recording the observations. Required observations were recorded from each repetition of different treatments and average value was calculated. The analysis of variance for experimental design was carried out for all the characters under study.

The height from the base of shoot to the tip of the shoot, girth at bottom and number of leaves of five tagged seedlings was measured by metric scale, vernier callipers, manual counting respectively at 30, 60, 90, 120 and 150 days after sowing and average value was calculated. The leaf area was measured by leaf area meter with five seedlings per treatment at the 150 days after sowing and average value was calculated. The height of five tagged seedlings was measured by metric scale from the tip of root to the tip of the shoot of the seedling at 150 days after sowing and average value was calculated. The root length of five seedlings was measured by metric scale from the base of shoot to tip of root at the end of experiment and average value was calculated. The fresh weight of five seedling shoots and roots were weighed on digital weighing balance and average value was calculated at the end of experiment. The dry weight of seedling shoots and roots were calculated by drying them up under shed for three days and then oven dried at 60°C till the constant weight. The average value was calculated at the end of experiment. The shoot: root fresh weight ratio and dry weight ratio of five seedlings was calculated by dividing shoot fresh weight by root fresh weight and shoot dry weight by root dry weight respectively at the end of experiment and average value was calculated.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The result of the present investigation revealed that the different concentration of GA₃ growing media and their interaction were significantly affected the seedling growth parameters (presented from Table-1 to 6).

Effect of GA₃ on seedling growth parameters

The results pertaining to seedling growth parameters were significantly influenced by varying GA₃ concentrations. The maximum number of leaves (5.55, 9.00, 10.23, 11.65 and 12.30), stem length of seedling (13.40 cm, 18.15 cm, 22.18 cm, 28.19 cm, and 35.43 cm) and stem girth of seedlings (1.90 mm, 2.09 mm, 2.41 mm, 2.81 mm and 3.31 mm) at 30, 60, 90, 120 and 150 DAS respectively was recorded treatment (G₄). The same treatment also have enhanced effect on root length (11.95 cm), seedling height (67.79 cm), fresh weight of shoot (15.76 g), dry weight of shoot (4.56 g), fresh weight of root (5.53 g), dry

weight of root (2.55 g), root: shoot fresh weight ratio (0.59), root: shoot dry weight ratio (0.55) and maximum leaf area (13.20 cm²).

The increase in seedling growth parameters might be due to the involvement of GA₃ in the activation of cytological enzymes along with increase in cell wall plasticity and better water absorption. This hormone increased osmotic uptake of nutrients, causing cell elongation and thus increased height of the plant. Stem girth also increased due to greater cell division and elongation [14]. The increase in number of leaves and leaf area might be due to activity of GA₃ at the apical meristem resulting in more synthesis of nucleoprotein responsible for increasing leaf initiation and area. The number of roots, root length and root: shoot ratio increased due to GA₃ treatment might have resulted in increased production of photosynthates and their translocation through phloem to the root zone [16]. The seeds treated with GA₃ might be accelerated the translocation and assimilation of auxins, resulting better root growth and vegetative characters due to overall assimilation and redistribution of materials within plants enhance the growth attributes. Moreover, GA₃ also induced the activity of gluconeogenic enzymes during early stages of seed germination and vigour characteristics that are reflect in terms of increase in root length [7]. These results are in close agreement with [10] in ber. Whereas, increase in fresh and dry weight of stem and leaves were due to the fact that GA₃ improves the rate of photosynthesis and cause greater accumulation of photosynthates in papaya [4].

Effect of media on seedling growth parameters

Regarding different media under study, the medium consisting of M₃ i.e. Soil+ Coco peat+ Vermicompost @ 1:1:1 was recorded significantly maximum influence on different traits of jamun seedling like maximum number of leaves (5.28, 8.50, 9.44, 10.52 and 11.73), stem length (12.03 cm, 16.79 cm, 20.70 cm, 26.72 cm and 33.73 cm) and stem girth (1.78 mm, 2.05 mm, 2.37 mm, 2.76 mm and 3.26) at 30, 60, 90, 120 and 150 DAS, respectively.

The maximum root length (30.57 cm), seedling height (64.30 cm), maximum fresh weight of shoot (13.32 g), dry weight of shoot (3.85 g), fresh weight of root (4.47 g), dry weight of root (1.83 g), root: shoot fresh weight ratio (0.64), root: shoot dry weight ratio (0.47) and leaf area (13.15 cm²) were maximum under the same treatment combination of M₃.

The increasing seedling growth parameters might be due to combined application of soil, vermicompost, FYM and cocopeat probably due to the synergistic combination of different media in improving the physical conditions of the growing media and nutritional factors. The conducive effect of media composition on water holding capacity, porosity, soil aeration supplying substantial amount of nutrient specially nitrogen and micronutrients for good seedling growth over soil alone [6]. Increase in number of leaves might be due to corresponding increase in plant height [8]. The beneficial effect of media on number of roots, root length and root: shoot ratio might be due to improved soil structure, porosity, water holding capacity, activity of useful soil micro fauna and flora, maintained soil temperature and improved soil health and nutrient status of media [9]. The findings of this experiment are in close conformity of [1] and [12] in papaya, [2] in phalsa. The leaves of seedling grown in this media (M₃), also has better effect due to presence of nitrogen in vermicompost and cocopeat which might improve the photosynthetic rate and dry matter production. The medium with vermicompost and cocopeat is more suitable than vermicompost alone because of the better physical properties and enhanced nutrient level [11].

Table 1: Effect of different GA₃ levels and growing media on number of leaves of jamun cv. Local

Treatments	30 DAS	60 DAS	90 DAS	120 DAS	150 DAS
Gibberellic acid (G)					
G ₁	4.37	7.55	8.41	9.02	10.57
G ₂	4.47	7.64	8.78	9.81	10.95
G ₃	4.96	8.38	9.02	10.50	11.53
G ₄	5.55	9.00	10.23	11.65	12.30
S.E.m.±	0.08	0.10	0.08	0.11	0.08
C.D. at 5%	0.23	0.28	0.23	0.31	0.24
Media (M)					
M ₁	4.35	7.72	8.93	10.16	11.11
M ₂	4.77	8.15	9.02	10.12	11.20
M ₃	5.28	8.50	9.44	10.52	11.73
M ₄	4.95	8.21	9.05	10.19	11.31
S.E.m.±	0.08	0.10	0.08	0.11	0.08
C.D. at 5%	0.23	0.28	0.23	0.31	0.24

Interaction					
T ₁ : G ₁ M ₁	4.29	7.08	8.29	9.07	10.43
T ₂ : G ₁ M ₂	4.34	7.79	8.32	9.15	10.46
T ₃ : G ₁ M ₃	4.48	7.86	8.53	9.13	10.68
T ₄ : G ₁ M ₄	4.36	7.47	8.50	8.72	10.69
T ₅ : G ₂ M ₁	3.78	6.68	8.91	9.42	10.86
T ₆ : G ₂ M ₂	4.63	7.80	8.77	9.78	10.95
T ₇ : G ₂ M ₃	4.82	8.17	8.78	9.73	11.03
T ₈ : G ₂ M ₄	4.65	7.91	8.67	10.31	10.95
T ₉ : G ₃ M ₁	4.40	8.23	9.09	10.33	11.34
T ₁₀ : G ₃ M ₂	4.87	8.27	9.17	10.37	11.49
T ₁₁ : G ₃ M ₃	5.50	8.56	9.09	10.64	11.63
T ₁₂ : G ₃ M ₄	5.06	8.46	8.73	10.68	11.68
T ₁₃ : G ₄ M ₁	4.92	8.87	9.43	11.80	11.80
T ₁₄ : G ₄ M ₂	5.22	8.74	9.80	11.15	11.92
T ₁₅ : G ₄ M ₃	6.33	9.41	11.35	12.58	13.58
T ₁₆ : G ₄ M ₄	5.73	8.99	10.32	11.06	11.91
S. Em.±	0.16	0.19	0.16	0.21	0.16
C.D. at 5%	0.47	0.55	0.46	0.61	0.47
C.V. %	5.83	4.08	3.04	3.60	2.49

Table 2: Effect of different GA₃ levels and growing media on stem length (cm) of jamun cv. Local

Treatments	30 DAS	60 DAS	90 DAS	120 DAS	150 DAS
Gibberellic acid (G)					
G ₁	9.39	14.43	18.34	24.34	31.35
G ₂	10.61	15.41	19.29	25.29	32.29
G ₃	11.78	16.78	20.74	26.73	33.73
G ₄	13.40	18.15	22.18	28.19	35.43
S.Em.±	0.24	0.21	0.19	0.19	0.22
C.D. at 5%	0.69	0.61	0.55	0.55	0.64
Media (M)					
M ₁	10.53	15.52	19.53	25.50	32.75
M ₂	11.06	15.82	19.80	25.80	32.80
M ₃	12.03	16.79	20.70	26.72	33.73
M ₄	11.56	16.64	20.52	26.52	33.52
S.Em.±	0.24	0.21	0.19	0.19	0.22
C.D. at 5%	0.69	0.61	0.55	0.55	0.64
Interaction					
T ₁ : G ₁ M ₁	8.83	13.80	17.82	23.81	30.80
T ₂ : G ₁ M ₂	10.17	15.32	18.99	24.99	32.17
T ₃ : G ₁ M ₃	9.30	14.33	18.33	24.32	31.26
T ₄ : G ₁ M ₄	9.26	14.27	18.24	24.24	31.16
T ₅ : G ₂ M ₁	9.76	14.78	18.79	24.78	31.78
T ₆ : G ₂ M ₂	9.52	14.39	18.57	24.56	31.51
T ₇ : G ₂ M ₃	12.39	16.39	20.05	26.05	33.09
T ₈ : G ₂ M ₄	10.76	16.09	19.75	25.75	32.77
T ₉ : G ₃ M ₁	11.48	16.48	20.46	26.37	33.38
T ₁₀ : G ₃ M ₂	11.60	16.62	20.59	26.59	33.64
T ₁₁ : G ₃ M ₃	12.04	17.04	21.01	27.05	34.02
T ₁₂ : G ₃ M ₄	11.99	16.99	20.90	26.90	33.88
T ₁₃ : G ₄ M ₁	12.03	17.03	21.03	27.03	35.04
T ₁₄ : G ₄ M ₂	12.95	16.95	21.05	27.05	33.88
T ₁₅ : G ₄ M ₃	14.39	19.39	23.42	29.45	36.54
T ₁₆ : G ₄ M ₄	14.24	19.21	23.20	29.20	36.27
S. Em.±	0.48	0.43	0.39	0.38	0.44
C.D. at 5%	1.38	1.22	1.11	1.11	1.28
C.V. %	7.33	4.55	3.31	2.55	2.32

Table 3: Effect of different GA₃ levels and growing media on stem girth (mm) of jamun cv. Local

Treatments	30 DAS	60 DAS	90 DAS	120 DAS	150 DAS
Gibberellic acid (G)					
G ₁	1.57	1.89	2.19	2.57	3.07
G ₂	1.67	1.93	2.24	2.64	3.14
G ₃	1.80	1.95	2.25	2.65	3.15
G ₄	1.88	2.09	2.41	2.81	3.31
S.Em.±	0.0232	0.03	0.0366	0.04	0.04
C.D. at 5%	0.07	0.10	0.11	0.10	0.10
Media (M)					
M ₁	1.67	1.89	2.19	2.58	3.08
M ₂	1.71	1.91	2.22	2.61	3.11
M ₃	1.78	2.05	2.37	2.76	3.26
M ₄	1.77	2.00	2.30	2.71	3.21
S.Em.±	0.02317	0.03	0.03657	0.04	0.04
C.D. at 5%	0.07	0.10	0.11	0.10	0.10
Interaction					
T ₁ : G ₁ M ₁	1.43	1.78	2.08	2.44	2.94
T ₂ : G ₁ M ₂	1.63	1.89	2.19	2.56	3.06
T ₃ : G ₁ M ₃	1.60	1.99	2.29	2.66	3.16
T ₄ : G ₁ M ₄	1.62	1.91	2.21	2.61	3.11
T ₅ : G ₂ M ₁	1.63	2.01	2.34	2.74	3.24
T ₆ : G ₂ M ₂	1.57	1.86	2.16	2.56	3.06
T ₇ : G ₂ M ₃	1.71	1.93	2.22	2.62	3.12
T ₈ : G ₂ M ₄	1.76	1.92	2.22	2.62	3.12
T ₉ : G ₃ M ₁	1.78	1.79	2.08	2.48	2.98
T ₁₀ : G ₃ M ₂	1.83	2.00	2.31	2.71	3.21
T ₁₁ : G ₃ M ₃	1.79	2.03	2.33	2.73	3.23
T ₁₂ : G ₃ M ₄	1.80	1.96	2.26	2.69	3.19
T ₁₃ : G ₄ M ₁	1.83	1.98	2.27	2.67	3.17
T ₁₄ : G ₄ M ₂	1.80	1.90	2.19	2.60	3.10
T ₁₅ : G ₄ M ₃	2.02	2.26	2.66	3.06	3.56
T ₁₆ : G ₄ M ₄	1.88	2.22	2.53	2.93	3.43
S. Em.±	0.05	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07
C.D. at 5%	0.13	0.19	0.21	0.20	0.20
C.V. %	4.64	5.92	5.58	4.55	3.83

Table 4: Effect of different GA₃ levels and growing media on root length, seedling height and leaf area of jamun cv. Local

Treatments	Root length (cm)	Seedling height (cm)	Leaf area (cm ²)
Gibberellic acid (G)			
G ₁	27.27	58.62	12.66
G ₂	29.19	61.47	12.96
G ₃	30.76	64.50	12.79
G ₄	32.35	67.79	13.20
S.Em.±	0.21	0.33	0.08
C.D. at 5%	0.60	0.96	0.23
Media (M)			
M ₁	29.16	61.92	12.57
M ₂	29.36	62.14	12.83
M ₃	30.57	64.30	13.15
M ₄	30.48	64.01	13.06
S.Em.±	0.21	0.33	0.08
C.D. at 5%	0.60	0.96	0.23
Interaction			

T ₁ : G ₁ M ₁	25.79	56.60	12.00
T ₂ : G ₁ M ₂	27.40	59.57	12.76
T ₃ : G ₁ M ₃	27.70	58.96	12.85
T ₄ : G ₁ M ₄	28.17	59.33	13.03
T ₅ : G ₂ M ₁	28.76	60.54	13.01
T ₆ : G ₂ M ₂	28.50	59.94	12.74
T ₇ : G ₂ M ₃	29.90	62.99	13.08
T ₈ : G ₂ M ₄	29.61	62.38	13.00
T ₉ : G ₃ M ₁	30.38	63.77	12.24
T ₁₀ : G ₃ M ₂	30.65	64.30	12.81
T ₁₁ : G ₃ M ₃	31.14	65.16	13.07
T ₁₂ : G ₃ M ₄	30.88	64.76	13.04
T ₁₃ : G ₄ M ₁	31.71	66.75	13.03
T ₁₄ : G ₄ M ₂	30.88	64.75	13.00
T ₁₅ : G ₄ M ₃	33.54	70.09	13.59
T ₁₆ : G ₄ M ₄	33.27	69.55	13.18
S. Em.±	0.42	0.66	0.16
C.D. at 5%	NS	1.91	0.47
C.V. %	2.41	2.82	2.17

Table 5: Effect of different GA₃ levels and growing media on fresh weight of shoot, dry weight of shoot, fresh weight of root and dry weight of root of jamun cv. Local

Treatments	Fresh weight of shoot (g)	Dry weight of shoot (g)	fresh weight of root (g)	Dry weight of root (g)
Gibberellic acid (G)				
G ₁	10.05	2.78	3.78	0.80
G ₂	11.83	3.24	4.24	1.29
G ₃	14.16	3.73	4.64	1.68
G ₄	15.76	4.56	5.53	2.55
S.Em.±	0.11	0.06	0.07	0.02
C.D. at 5%	0.31	0.16	0.19	0.06
Media (M)				
M ₁	12.39	3.35	4.31	1.35
M ₂	12.80	3.45	4.46	1.47
M ₃	13.32	3.85	4.77	1.83
M ₄	13.28	3.65	4.66	1.67
S.Em.±	0.11	0.06	0.07	0.02
C.D. at 5%	0.31	0.16	0.19	0.06
Interaction				
T ₁ : G ₁ M ₁	9.21	2.63	3.62	0.65
T ₂ : G ₁ M ₂	9.89	2.65	3.66	0.69
T ₃ : G ₁ M ₃	10.29	3.14	4.14	1.15
T ₄ : G ₁ M ₄	10.81	2.69	3.69	0.70
T ₅ : G ₂ M ₁	11.56	3.21	4.21	1.22
T ₆ : G ₂ M ₂	11.96	3.26	4.26	1.27
T ₇ : G ₂ M ₃	11.96	3.16	4.17	1.36
T ₈ : G ₂ M ₄	11.85	3.32	4.33	1.31
T ₉ : G ₃ M ₁	13.32	3.50	4.45	1.54
T ₁₀ : G ₃ M ₂	13.92	3.70	4.70	1.71
T ₁₁ : G ₃ M ₃	14.76	4.05	4.72	1.74
T ₁₂ : G ₃ M ₄	14.61	3.69	4.69	1.73
T ₁₃ : G ₄ M ₁	15.47	4.07	4.97	1.99
T ₁₄ : G ₄ M ₂	15.44	4.21	5.21	2.22
T ₁₅ : G ₄ M ₃	16.26	5.04	6.04	3.05
T ₁₆ : G ₄ M ₄	15.85	4.91	5.91	2.94
S. Em.±	0.21	0.11	0.13	0.04
C.D. at 5%	0.61	0.32	0.38	0.12
C.V. %	2.85	5.40	4.99	4.67

Table 6: Effect of different GA₃ levels and growing media on Root: shoot fresh weight ratio and Root: shoot dry weight ratio of jamun cv. Local

Treatments	Root: shoot fresh weight ratio	Root: shoot dry weight ratio
Gibberellic acid (G)		
G ₁	0.31	0.28
G ₂	0.35	0.40
G ₃	0.34	0.46
G ₄	0.38	0.55
S.Em.±	0.01	0.005
C.D. at 5%	0.02	0.01
Media (M)		
M ₁	0.33	0.39
M ₂	0.34	0.41
M ₃	0.36	0.47
M ₄	0.35	0.43
S. Em.±	0.01	0.005
C.D. at 5%	0.02	0.01
Interaction		
T ₁ : G ₁ M ₁	0.28	0.25
T ₂ : G ₁ M ₂	0.31	0.26
T ₃ : G ₁ M ₃	0.32	0.37
T ₄ : G ₁ M ₄	0.32	0.26
T ₅ : G ₂ M ₁	0.33	0.38
T ₆ : G ₂ M ₂	0.35	0.39
T ₇ : G ₂ M ₃	0.36	0.41
T ₈ : G ₂ M ₄	0.36	0.41
T ₉ : G ₃ M ₁	0.34	0.44
T ₁₀ : G ₃ M ₂	0.35	0.46
T ₁₁ : G ₃ M ₃	0.35	0.49
T ₁₂ : G ₃ M ₄	0.33	0.47
T ₁₃ : G ₄ M ₁	0.37	0.49
T ₁₄ : G ₄ M ₂	0.34	0.53
T ₁₅ : G ₄ M ₃	0.41	0.60
T ₁₆ : G ₄ M ₄	0.39	0.57
S. Em.±	0.01	0.01
C.D. at 5%	NS	0.03
C.V. %	5.49	4.04

Interaction effect of GA₃ and media on seed germination parameters

The interaction effect between GA₃ concentrations and different media on seedling growth parameters was found to be significant. Among the different combinations of GA₃ concentrations and media, G₄M₃ [GA₃ @ 500ppm with Soil+ Cocopeat+ Vermicompost (1:1:1)] recorded maximum number of leaves (6.33, 9.41, 11.35, 12.58 and 13.58), stem length (14.39 cm, 19.39 cm, 23.42 cm, 29.47 cm and 36.54 cm) and stem girth (2.02 mm, 2.26 mm, 2.66 mm, 3.06 mm and 3.56 mm) at 30, 60, 90, 120 and 150 DAS respectively. The same combination also provided maximum seedling height (70.09 cm), fresh weight of shoot (16.26 g), dry weight of shoot (5.04 g), fresh weight of root (6.04 g), dry weight of root (3.05 g), root: shoot dry weight ratio (0.60) and leaf area (13.59 cm²).

CONCLUSION

In the light of the results obtained from this investigation, it can be concluded that seed soaking with GA₃ @ 500 ppm for 24 hours, then after seeds sown in media consisting of Soil+ Cocopeat+ Vermicompost at the rate of 1:1:1 were found to be superior in terms of seedling growth of jamun seedling cv. Local.

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CITATION OF THIS ARTICLE

P J. Parmar, K. M. Karetha, H P. Purohit, S Mishra, and V. L. Purohit .Effect of GA₃ and growing media on seedling growth of jamun (*Syzygium cumini* L.) cv. Local. Bull. Env. Pharmacol. Life Sci., Vol 8 [12] November 2019: 52-59