

EFFECT OF DIFFERENT PLANTING DATES ON PRODUCTIVITY POTENTIAL OF NEW GENOTYPES OF SOYBEAN UNDER AGRO-CLIMATIC CONDITIONS OF JHARKHAND

ARVIND KR. SINGH, C. S. SINGH, A. K. SINGH AND S. KARMAKAR

Department of Agronomy,
Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi - 834 006, Jharkhand
e-mail: aksbau@gmail.com

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*Corresponding
author

ABSTRACT

A field experiment was conducted at Agricultural Farm, Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi, Jharkhand to study the effect of sowing times and varieties on growth, yield and quality of soybean during *kharif* season for three consecutive years from 2009 to 2011. The experiment consisting of 12 treatments with 4 dates of sowing in main plots and 3 varieties in subplot lay out in split plot design with four replications. The soil of the experimental field was sandy loam, acidic in reaction, low in organic carbon, available nitrogen, phosphorus, and medium in available potassium. A significant increase in dry matter production, crop growth rate, number of pods per plant, seed index and oil yield recorded higher up to 15th July sowing. Maximum grain yield was recorded in 15th June sowing (2305 kg/ha) which remained at par with sowing of 30th June during all the years of experimentation. Lowest grain yield was recorded under 30th July planting (1649 kg/ha). The increase in grain yield was 39.8%, 38.8% and 26.1% in 15th June, 30th June and 15th July respectively over 30th July sowing. Among the varieties, BSS2 recorded maximum grain yield (2085 kg/ha), which showed its superiority over the rest varieties.

INTRODUCTION

Soybean (*Glycine Max (L.) Merrill*) is the world's most important oilseed crop grown under diverse agro-climatic conditions which contributes 25 percent to the global vegetable oil production. Currently the crop is grown in 103 million ha globally with an annual production of 261 million tons and average productivity of 2533 kg/ha. India ranks fourth in terms of area (10.69 million ha) and fifth in production (14.14 million tons) of soybean in the world. As compared to world (2.5 t/ha), average productivity of soybean in India is low (1.2 t/ha) because it is mainly cultivated under rainfed condition and late arrival of monsoon and erratic distribution of rainfall is very common now a days. In Jharkhand, the area under soybean cultivation is about 850 ha with a production of 521 tones and productivity of 509 kg/ha (Anonymous, 2014). Yield potential of soybean in Jharkhand is not being fully exploited due to many factors, among which use of improper sowing dates and low yielding varieties are the most important ones. Due to global climate change, there is uncertainty of monsoon and its distribution which leads to staggered sowing. Sowing date is considered to affect growth stages significantly and is one of the important factors in determining the harvest of maximum yield. Appropriate planting date causes optimal utilization of the climatic resources such as temperature, humidity, day length and also anthesis time adoption with proper temperature. An early planting date of soybean was invariably found to be more productive than later ones (Shafiq *et al.*, 2006). The delayed planting due to high sensitivity of

soybean to photoperiod and prevailing temperature affect yield negatively by curtailing the duration of vegetation and reproductive growth and drop in yield components (Egli and Bruening, 2000). Temperature is the most crucial factor for achieving the optimum plant population, temperature lower than 8 °C and higher than 38 °C is not suitable for performance of soybean (Arshi, 2001). In view of above, the present investigation was initiated to study the effect of different planting dates on productivity potential of new genotypes of soybean under agro – climatic conditions of Jharkhand.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A fields experiment was carried out during *kharif* season for three consecutive years 2009 to 2011 at the Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi situated at an altitude of 625 m above MSL, 23°17' North latitude and 35 ° 19' East longitudes. The soil of the experimental field was sandy loam, acidic in reaction (pH 6.2), low in organic carbon (0.37 %), available nitrogen (213.24 kg N/ha), phosphorus (14.54 kg P₂O₅/ha), and medium in available potassium (180 kg K₂O/ha). The experiment consisting of 12 treatments with 4 dates of sowing viz. 15th June, 30th June, 15th July, 30th July in main plots and 3 varieties of soybean i. e. RKS 18, JS 97-52 and BSS 2 in subplot was conducted in split plot design with four replications. Crop was grown at a row spacing of 45 cm and received recommended basal dose of nutrients and @ 20:60:40::kg N: P₂O₅:K₂O:S per ha through di-ammonium phosphate,

muriate of potash and gypsum respectively. Soybean seeds were inoculated with *Bradyrhizobium japonicum* culture @ 5 g per kg seed. The rainfall received during kharif 2009, 2010 and 2011 was 1160 mm and 1210 mm, 1480 mm respectively. Other crop management practices were performed as per recommended package. Oil content was estimated by Soxhlet extraction method (A.O.A.C., 1970). The observations on plant height, dry matter accumulation, number of pods per plant, 100 seeds seed weight and stover yield were recorded. Since data followed the homogeneity test, pooling of data was done over the seasons and mean data was statistically analyzed for each parameter as per standard method prescribed by Cochran and Cox, (1957) and presented here under.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Growth characters

Significant differences were exhibited by date of sowing and varieties on growth characters of soybean (Table 1). Date of sowing significantly influenced the plant height and maximum plant height was recorded with June sowing which was significantly superior to July sowing. Dry matter accumulation increased as the growth progressed and maximum dry matter was recorded with 15th June which remains at par with 30th June sowing but was significantly superior to 15th and 30th July sowing. Decrease in plant height and dry matter production in late sowing was due to shorter growing period. Similar results

were obtained by Billore *et al.*, (2000). Pronounced improvement in crop growth rate was noticed due to date of sowing between 30 to 60 DAS and maximum crop growth rate was observed with 30th June sowing which might be due to better vegetative growth under 30th June sown crop.

Soybean varieties showed significant difference for plant height, dry matter production and crop growth rate. Tallest plant was recorded with BSS-2. Difference in plant height among varieties might be attributed to their genetic diversity. Maximum dry matter accumulation (g/plant) and CGR was recorded in BSS-2 which was significantly superior to rest of the varieties.

Yield attributes and yield

Yield attributes and yield were significantly affected by the date of sowing. Delayed sowing decreased pods/plant and seed index (100 seed weight). Sowing at 15th June significantly influenced the yield attributes and was statistically at par to 30th June sowing and significantly better to other two dates of sowing. Less no. of pods/plant in late sowing was due to less production of photosynthates due to shorter growing period. These results are in agreement with the findings of Pankaj *et al.* (2015).

The significant difference in grain yield, straw yield and harvest index was recorded with different date of sowing in upland situation of Jharkhand. Grain yield is a function of various yield attributes and maximum grain yield was recorded with 15th June sowing which was at par with 30th June but was

Table 1: Effect of date of sowing and varieties on plant height, dry matter and CGR of soybean (Pooled data of three years)

Treatment	Plant height(cm)	Dry matter at 30DAS (g)/plant	Dry matter at 45 DAS (g)/plant	Dry matter at 60 DAS (g)/plant	Mean CGR at 30-45 g/m ² /day	Mean CGR at 45-60 g/m ² /day
Date of sowing						
D ₁ (15 th June)	71.51	3.42	12.08	24.98	0.578	0.860
D ₂ (30 th June)	70.22	3.37	12.01	24.93	0.576	0.861
D ₃ (15 th July)	66.54	3.05	10.91	23.46	0.524	0.837
D ₄ (30 th July)	47.23	2.39	8.54	18.60	0.410	0.670
CD (P=0.05)	3.07	0.21	0.61	1.55	0.030	0.079
Variety						
V1 = RKS 18	63.97	3.06	10.86	23.08	0.520	0.815
V2 = JS 97-12	62.84	2.90	10.37	21.88	0.498	0.767
V3 = BSS2	64.82	3.21	11.44	24.01	0.548	0.839
CD (P=0.05)	NS	0.13	0.33	0.70	0.018	0.039

Table 2: Effect of date of sowing and varieties on yield attributes, grain yield, straw yield harvest index and oil yield of soybean (Pooled data of three years)

Treatment	Pods/plant	Seed Index (g)	Grain yield(kg/ha)	Straw yield(kg/ha)	Harvest index(%)	Oil yield(kg/ha)
Date of sowing						
D ₁ (15 th June)	70.11	10.59	2305	3215	40.74	438.60
D ₂ (30 th June)	69.17	10.35	2289	3191	40.82	437.08
D ₃ (15 th July)	66.54	10.30	2080	2989	40.47	381.39
D ₄ (30 th July)	47.23	9.50	1649	2581	38.10	296.45
CD (P=0.05)	2.96	NS	61	201	1.06	33.44
Variety						
V1 = RKS 18	63.40	10.37	2075	2993	39.98	386.17
V2 = JS 97-12	62.15	9.75	2016	2888	40.08	369.29
V3 = BSS2	64.24	10.44	2150	3102	40.03	409.66
CD (P=0.05)	1.96	NS	111	124	0.86	14.25

significantly superior to 15th and 30th July sowing. This accrued mainly because of more dry matter accumulation and yield attributing characters. Sowing in mid June gave 39.8% and 38.8 % more grain yield over 30th July sowing. This corroborate with the finding of Buehring *et.al.*, (2003) who reported that all soybean cultivars obtained more yield from early planting than delayed planting dates. With delay in planting, due to high sensitivity of soybean to photoperiod and prevailing temperature affect yield negatively by curtailing the duration of vegetative and reproductive growth and drop in yield components. Jamir *et al.* (2016) also noted similar results.

Soybean varieties showed significant variation for different yield attributes. Pods/plant was highest with BSS-2 which was at par with RKS 18 but significantly superior to JS 97-52 which might be due to their genetic diversity. Varieties differed significantly with respect to yielding ability and the maximum yield was recorded with BSS 2 followed by RKS 18 which was significantly superior to JS 97-52. Similar results were also founded by Jena *et al.* (2014)

Oil Yield

Date of sowing significantly influenced Oil yield of soybean and maximum oil yield was recorded with 15th June sowing which was closely followed by 30th June sowing and significantly superior to 15th and 30th July sowing which might be due to better yield and oil content in early sown crop.

Soybean varieties showed significant variation in oil yield which is a function of yield and oil content of soybean. Maximum oil yield was recorded with variety BSS2 which was significantly superior to RKS 18 and JS 97-52.

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