

Climate Change Impact on Integrated Weed Management in Groundnut

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Abstract—An investigation was undertaken in randomized block design with twelve treatments during kharif season of 2012-13 at Instruction Farm, JAU, Junagadh (Gujarat, India) to study the integrated weed management in groundnut. Results revealed that application of pendimethalin @ 0.900 kg ha⁻¹ as pre-emergence + imazethapyr @ 75 g ha⁻¹ at 20 days after sowing were found equally effective to the weed free check in controlling weeds and improving yield attributes and quality parameters and ultimately seed yield (1709 kg ha⁻¹) and stalk yield (2567 kg ha⁻¹) of groundnut and which was at par with hand weeding (20 days after sowing) & interculturing (40 days after sowing) and pendimethalin @ 0.900 kg ha⁻¹ as pre-emergence plus hand weeding and interculturing at 40 days after sowing. However, significantly highest nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium in soil after crop harvest was recorded with oxadiargyl @ 90 g ha⁻¹ as post-emergence at 20 days after sowing plus hand weeding and interculturing at 40 days after sowing.

Keywords: groundnut, oxadiargyl, imazethapyr, pendimethalin.

1. INTRODUCTION

Modified growing conditions, due to climate change, will influence the occurrence and dominance of plant species and biodiversity. As weed populations show greater variations, it is possible that with a changed climate weeds too will achieve a greater competitive fitness against the crop plants. In many cases the impacts of invasive species benefiting from climate change are likely to exceed the direct impacts of climate change. Hence, under climate change condition, efficient weed management practices need to be assessed to enhance groundnut production.

Groundnut is the third largest oilseed produced in world. Groundnut covers total area of 18.9 million hectares with production of 17.8 million tonnes in the world. In Gujarat, the region of Saurashtra is considered to be the groundnut bowl of the country. During kharif, weed infestation is a severe problem in groundnut due to its slow initial growth, low height, less canopy and wide inter row spacing (60 cm). Manual weeding and mechanical weeding through bullock/mini tractor drawn implements is, even though, effective but increases cost of cultivation tremendously due to hike in labour prices in recent past thereby decreasing net returns from groundnut cultivation. Moreover, manual or mechanical weeding is not preferable after about 45 days of

sowing as it interferes in peg penetration and pod formation in groundnut. Therefore, weed control through herbicides, especially in cases of labour shortage and when field condition is not suitable for manual and mechanical weeding, is very useful. Scanty scientific information is available regarding weed management in groundnut especially for south Saurashtra region of Gujarat, hence, present experiment was undertaken to find out appropriate integrated weed management practice for groundnut.

2. MATERIAL AND METHODS

An experimental was conducted at Department of Agronomy, College of Agriculture, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh (Gujarat, India) for kharif season of the year 2012-13. Total 12 treatments viz., pendimethalin 30% EC @ 0.900 kg ha⁻¹ PE + HW & IC at 40 DAS, pendimethalin 38.7% CS @ 0.750 kg ha⁻¹ PPI + HW & IC at 40 DAS, oxyfluorfen @ 0.240 kg ha⁻¹ PE + HW & IC at 40 DAS, quizalofop-ethyl @ 40 g ha⁻¹ POE at 20 DAS + HW & IC at 40 DAS, pendimethalin 30% EC @ 0.900 kg ha⁻¹ PE + quizalofop-ethyl @ 40 g ha⁻¹ POE at 20 DAS, imazethapyr @ 75 g ha⁻¹ POE at 20 DAS + HW & IC at 40 DAS, pendimethalin 30% EC @ 0.900 kg ha⁻¹ PE + imazethapyr @ 75 g ha⁻¹ POE at 20 DAS, oxadiargyl @ 90 g ha⁻¹ POE at 20 DAS + HW & IC at 40 DAS, propaquizafop @ 90 g ha⁻¹ POE at 20 DAS + HW & IC at 40 DAS, HW & IC at 20 & 40 DAS, weed free and unweeded control were tested in randomized block design and replicated thrice were tested in randomized block design and replicated thrice. The total rainfall received during the crop growth period was 1047.1 mm during 2012-13 with fairly good distribution. The soil was medium clayey in texture and slightly alkaline in reaction with pH (7.98) and EC (0.29 dS m⁻¹), low in available N (237.8 kg ha⁻¹), and medium in available P (23.34 kg ha⁻¹) and available K (249.18 kg ha⁻¹). Groundnut 'GG-20' (semi spreading type) was sown at 60 x 10 cm spacing using seed rate of 120 kg ha⁻¹ with recommended dose of fertilizers i.e. 12.5 kg N ha⁻¹, 25 kg P₂O₅ ha⁻¹ and 0 kg K₂O ha⁻¹.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Effect on yield attributes and yield

An appraisal of data (Table 1) showed that various weed management practices significantly influenced yield attributes of groundnut. Significantly the highest test weight, pod and haulm yield were recorded under the weed free check, however it remained at par with HW (20 DAS) & IC (40 DAS), pendimethalin 30% EC @ 0.900 kg ha⁻¹ as PE + imazethapyr and pendimethalin 30% EC @ 0.900 kg ha⁻¹ as PE + HW & IC 40 DAS in respect of test weight, pod and haulm yield. Whereas, significantly the lowest values of yield attributes were registered under the weedy check. Periodical removal of weeds by hand weeding and interculturing or herbicide application supplemented with weeding and interculturing suppressed weeds, which in turn provided better weed free environment to the crop during critical period for growth and development.

3.2 Effect on quality parameters

The data (Table 2) indicated that different weed management treatments exerted significant effect on protein and oil content in kernels. Protein and oil content in kernel were significantly influenced by different weed management practices. Significantly higher protein and oil content in kernel were recorded under weedfree, which remained statistically at par with HW & IC at 20 & 40 DAS, pendimethalin 30% EC @ 0.900 kg ha⁻¹ as PE + imazethapyr 75 g ha⁻¹ at 20 DAS, pendimethalin 30% EC @ 0.900 kg ha⁻¹ as PE + HW & IC at 40 DAS and propaquizafop @ 90 g ha⁻¹ as POE at 20 DAS + HW at 40 DAS and significantly the lowest values of protein and oil content in kernel were recorded under unweeded check (Table 2). These results are in conformity with findings of Chhatrala (2006) and Singh and Singh (2009).

Effect on weed parameters

An appraisal of data (Table 2) showed that various weed management practices significantly influenced dry weight of weeds. All the weed management treatments significantly reduced dry weight of weeds over the unweeded control. Next to the weedfree, HW & IC at 20 & 40 DAS recorded significantly the lowest weed dry weight (kg ha⁻¹), which was statistically at par with pendimethalin 30% EC @ 0.900 kg ha⁻¹ as PE + imazethapyr @ 75 g ha⁻¹ as POE at 20 DAS and pendimethalin 30% EC @ 0.900 kg ha⁻¹ as PE + HW & IC at 40 DAS. These findings are in conformity with those reported by Chaudhari *et al.* (2007) and Jhala *et al.* (2013).

Effect on soil nutrient status

Available nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium in soil after harvest of groundnut were significantly affected by different weed control practices (Table 3). Highest available nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium in the soil after harvest of the crop

was recorded under oxadiargyl @ 90 g ha⁻¹ as POE at 20 DAS + HW & IC at 40 DAS, which remained statistically at par with pendimethalin 38.7% CS @ 0.750 kg ha⁻¹ as PPI + HW & IC at 40 DAS and oxyfluorfen @ 0.240 kg ha⁻¹ as PE + HW & IC at 40 DAS. However, significantly lowest available nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium in the soil after harvest of the crop were recorded under unweeded control.

4. CONCLUSION

Effective control of weeds in kharif groundnut along with higher yield and quality of kernel could be achieved by keeping the crop weed free through hand weeding and interculturing as and when required or pre-emergence application of pendimethalin 30% EC @ 0.900 kg ha⁻¹ followed by post-emergence of imazethapyr @ 75 g ha⁻¹ or pre-emergence application of pendimethalin 30% EC @ 0.900 kg ha⁻¹ followed by one hand weeding in row zone and interculturing in inter row zone at 40 DAS, or one hand weeding at 20 DAS followed by one interculturing at 40 DAS and propaquizafop @ 90 g ha⁻¹ as POE at 20 DAS followed by one hand weeding at 20 DAS followed by one interculturing at 40 DAS under south Saurashtra agro-climatic conditions of Gujarat, India.

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Table 1: Effect of different treatments on yield attributes in the year of 2012-13

Treatments	Dose (g ha-1)	Shelling (%)	Yield (kg ha-1)		HI (%)
			Pod	Haulm	
T1- Pendimethalin 30% EC + HW & IC at 40 DAS	900	70.07	1665	2464	40.33
T2- Pendimethalin 38.7% CS + HW & IC at 40 DAS	750	69.33	1405	2295	37.98
T3- Oxyfluorfen + HW & IC at 40 DAS	240	69.40	1399	2249	38.00
T4- Quizalofop-ethyl + HW & IC at 40 DAS	40	68.70	1480	2276	39.40
T5- Pendimethalin 30% EC + Quizalofop-ethyl	900	69.07	1530	2375	39.18
T6- Imazethapyr+ HW & IC at 40 DAS	75	68.47	1467	2213	39.87
T7- Pendimethalin 30% EC + Imazethapyr1	900	71.95	1685	2467	40.57
T8- Oxadiargyl + HW & IC at 40 DAS	90	69.33	1297	2127	37.91
T9- Propaquizafop + HW & IC at 40 DAS	90	71.37	1597	2488	39.09
T10- HW & IC at 20 & 40 DAS	-	71.33	1606	2510	39.03
T11-Weedfree	-	73.03	1709	2567	39.98
T12-Unweeded control	-	58.54	886	1317	40.12
S.Em.+		0.99	60.79	37.76	1.10
C.D. (P=0.05)		2.90	178	111	NS
C.V. (%)		6.47	7.13	7.87	4.85

Table 2: Effect of different treatments on weed and quality parameters in the year of 2012-13

Treatments	Dose (g ha-1)	Dry weight of weeds (kg ha-1)	Content in kernels	
			Protein	Oil
T1- Pendimethalin 30% EC + HW & IC at 40 DAS	900	238	26.27	47.83
T2- Pendimethalin 38.7% CS + HW & IC at 40 DAS	750	398	25.55	46.19
T3- Oxyfluorfen + HW & IC at 40 DAS	240	425	25.53	44.04
T4- Quizalofop-ethyl + HW & IC at 40 DAS	40	450	26.01	45.73
T5- Pendimethalin 30% EC + Quizalofop-ethyl	900	480	25.63	46.87
T6- Imazethapyr+ HW & IC at 40 DAS	75	400	26.02	45.87
T7- Pendimethalin 30% EC + Imazethapyr1	900	235	26.56	47.37
T8- Oxadiargyl + HW & IC at 40 DAS	90	500	25.81	43.56
T9- Propaquizafop + HW & IC at 40 DAS	90	261	26.31	47.47
T10- HW & IC at 20 & 40 DAS	-	200	26.56	47.67
T11-Weedfree	-	0.00	26.83	49.79
T12-Unweeded control	-	1446	24.33	39.93
S.Em.+		21.43	0.23	0.95
C.D. (P=0.05)		62.84	0.68	2.79
C.V. (%)		8.85	7.55	3.58

Table 3: Effect of different treatments on available nutrient in soil in the year of 2012-13

Treatments	Dose (g ha-1)	Available in soil (kg ha-1)		
		Nitrogen	Phosphorus	Potassium
T1- Pendimethalin 30% EC + HW & IC at 40 DAS	900	189.49	15.73	185.48
T2- Pendimethalin 38.7% CS + HW & IC at 40 DAS	750	191.02	17.10	192.78
T3- Oxyfluorfen + HW & IC at 40 DAS	240	190.37	16.89	194.72
T4- Quizalofop-ethyl + HW & IC at 40 DAS	40	189.35	16.28	192.49
T5- Pendimethalin 30% EC + Quizalofop-ethyl	900	187.70	15.01	187.20
T6- Imazethapyr+ HW & IC at 40 DAS	75	193.99	17.21	193.16

T7-	Pendimethalin 30% EC + Imazethapyr	900	183.20	15.75	185.27
T8-	Oxadiargyl + HW & IC at 40 DAS	90	198.56	17.49	194.98
T9-	Propaquizafop + HW & IC at 40 DAS	90	185.80	15.86	186.00
T10-	HW & IC at 20 & 40 DAS	-	185.08	16.04	186.24
T11-	Weedfree	-	183.29	16.55	186.22
T12-	Unweeded control	-	171.93	10.44	182.11
	S.Em.±		0.84	0.40	0.78
	C.D. (P=0.05)		2.45	1.17	2.29
	C.V. (%)		8.83	13.96	6.53