

Original Research Article

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Effect of Pruning Techniques on Yield in High Density Planting of Guava (*Psidium Guajava* L.) cv. Lucknow-49

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ABSTRACT

Keywords

Guava, Planting, Pruning intensity and yield

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The present investigation entitled “Response of pruning techniques on yield in high density planting of guava cv. L-49” experiment was conducted on 11 years old healthy, vigorous high density plantation. The treatments comprised of four spacing’s viz; 2 x 1 m (M₁), 2 x 2 m (M₂), 3 x 3 (M₃) and 3 x 6 m (M₄) and three pruning intensity i.e. upto last two season growth (S₁), upto last three season growth (S₂) and upto last four season growth (S₃) with six plants in a treatment replicated three times in split plot design. The higher yields with closer spacing were mainly observed due to increased tree number per unit area.

Introduction

The guava (*Psidium guajava* L.) the apple of tropics is one of the important fruit crops of India. Guava is rich source of vitamin C, vitamin A, vitamin B2 (Riboflavin) and minerals like calcium, phosphate and iron. The ultra high density plantation in 2 x 1 m and 2 x 2 m produced higher yield but crowding of plants was observed in these spacing. After three years of planting due to crowding, the intercultural operations were difficult. Hence, subsequent experiment is planned to standardize the pruning techniques in high density plantation of guava. The success of any enterprise in agriculture can best be judged by assessing the economic benefits earned by the farmer. Its basic function is to

confine the exploitation zone of the plant with regard to light, water and nutrients, so the highest total yield potential can be reached in the smallest possible area (Singh, 2005). With ever increasing land costs and the need for early returns on invested capital, there is a worldwide trend towards high density planting.

Materials and Methods

The present investigations entitled “Response of pruning techniques on yield in high density planting of guava cv. Allahabad safeda” was carried out at Agricultural Research farm of Rama University, Kanpur during 2017 and 2018 year. The treatments comprised of four spacing’s viz; 2 x 1 m (M₁), 2 x 2 m (M₂), 3 x

2 (M₃) and 3 x 3 m (M₄) and three pruning intensity i.e. upto last two season growth (S₁), upto last three season growth (S₂) and upto last four season growth (S₃) with six plants in a treatment replicated three times in split plot design. The pruning of guava plants was done in January, 2016 with three pruning intensities i.e. 1- Upto last two seasons growth, 2- Upto last three seasons growth and 3- Upto last four seasons growth. Harvesting of fruits was done at the end of July, 2016. Second trial was started in mid of the August at that time 50 % current season growth was pruned in all treatments and harvesting of fruits was done during Jan-Feb-2017. Due to famine in Uttar Pradesh state, pruning for third trial was done in June-2017. In that pruning, the 50% current season growth was pruned. Harvesting of fruits of third trial was done during Nov-Dec-

2017. The yield was recorded plant wise and treatment wise.

Results and Discussion

In data analyzed and results were presented in Table and discussed under appropriate headings.

Yield and yield contributing parameters

Yield contributing parameters per tree and yield per hectare were presented as follows. The maximum yield of fruit per tree (7.13 Kg) was recorded in the treatment T₄ (M₂S₁) followed by the treatment T₇ (M₃S₁) (6.21). The maximum yield per hectare (21.05 t) was recorded in the treatment T₁ (M₁S₁) presented in Table 1.

Table.1 Yield of guava under HDP

Treatment (Plant density)	Total Yield per Plant (kg)	Total Yield per ha. (t)
T₁ (M₁S₁)	4.00	21.05
T₂ (M₁S₂)	3.42	17.08
T₃ (M₁S₃)	2.98	14.88
T₄ (M₂S₁)	7.13	16.82
T₅ (M₂S₂)	5.53	13.83
T₆ (M₂S₃)	4.42	11.31
T₇ (M₃S₁)	6.21	9.35
T₈ (M₃S₂)	4.26	6.82
T₉ (M₃S₃)	3.52	5.95
T₁₀ (M₄S₁)	4.97	5.52
T₁₁ (M₄S₂)	4.04	4.49
T₁₂ (M₄S₃)	2.90	3.23
SE1 (m)	0.194	0.592
CD1 at 5%	NS	NS
SE2 (m)	0.271	0.763
CD2 at 5%	NS	NS

In present investigations, fruit yield per unit area decreases as intensity of pruning increases from S₁ to S₃. It is because as intensity of pruning increases the more

biomass was pruned out. Hence, in S₂ and S₃ pruning intensity were branches beheaded upto three season and four season growth. Due to in this treatment for development of

framework more energy was diverted which resulted in fewer yields than S₁ pruning intensity, where only two season growth was pruned out. The fruit yield per plant increased in wider spacing but, the yield per unit area was increased with increase in plant density. The higher fruit yield with closer spacings was reported by several workers like Yadav and Kale (1992), Lal *et al.*, (1996), Kumar and Singh (2000), Singh and Dhaliwal (2007), Kundu (2007), and Ravishankar *et al.*, (2008).

Economics of high density guava production

The economical study of Farm Business Management is always concerns with the efficiency of enterprise. The data regarding the economics of guava production under the high density planting during 2017 and 2018 years.

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