

Original Research Article

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## Studies on Performance of French Bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris* L.) cv. Contender for Seed Production under Garhwal Himalayas

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### ABSTRACT

#### Keywords

Rhizobium, NPK, Humic acid, Seed production and quality, Yield

#### Article Info

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The present investigation was carried out during 2014-15 in Department of Horticulture, H.N.B. Garhwal University, Srinagar (Garhwal) with the sole objective to find out the effect of integrated nutrient management on quality seed production of French bean genotype. Aim of the study is to observe the effect of different combinations of organic sources of nutrients viz., FYM, NPK, along with bio-fertilizer on different growth parameters, yield and profitability of French bean cultivar Contender. The experiment was laid out in Randomized Block Design with eleven treatments and three replications. In this investigation, the results revealed that application of 100% RDF + Rhizobium culture+ Humic Acid, significantly decrease the days of germination (9.33), growth parameters and yield of the crop viz., plant height (43.50 cm after 60 days of sowing), number of branches plant<sup>-1</sup> (3.83 after 60 days of sowing), green pod Weight (6.87 gm), green pod number plant<sup>-1</sup> (67), number of grain pod<sup>-1</sup> (6.07), Seed Yield Plant<sup>-1</sup> (38.17 gm), seed yield bed<sup>-1</sup> (1.027kg) and seed yield ha<sup>-1</sup> (1430.083kg). For overall point of view of the outcome of the experiment it has been reveal that genotype with relatively bolder seeds with more number of seeds per pod, and higher bearing capacity per plant generally gives higher seed yield and relatively good plant vigour. Treatment T8, T9 and T10 is suitable for considering once for seed production point of view.

### Introduction

Seed is considered as the basic critical and vital input for enhancing and stabilizing productivity of different vegetable crops, harnessing higher net monetary returns per unit area, input and time of different vegetable crops. Good seed therefore, is the basis or critical input upon which all other inputs will depend for their full effectiveness. According to Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)

of United Nations, India is the world leader in production of dry seed of French bean followed by Brazil and Myanmar. On the other hand China is world leader in production of green beans followed by Indonesia and then Turkey (FAOSTAT, 2010). Scarcity of quality seed is one of the major hinders faced by the French bean growers of the Hills of Uttarakhand for producing quality French bean pod. Although there is greater scope for seed production of French bean during winter

season in the Hills of Uttarakhand. Genotype is the most important factor in any crop production program and is the basic material to which all other technologies are applied (Goutam *et al.*, 2001). Therefore, unless a good genotype of high potential is used; other technologies will also not work. These genotypes are also greatly varied in their performance under different agro-climatic conditions of the country which often creates confusions among the farmers about their choice of variety. So, selection of particular variety for seed production is also prime important for higher seed yield. Hence, it is essential to look forward for the production of quality seed in the state itself to uplift quality production of French bean. In this back drop, the present experiment was undertaken with the objectives to study the performance of French bean genotypes for seed yield and its varietal characterization based on plant morphology.

## **Materials and Methods**

This present experiment was conducted at Department of Horticulture, Horticulture Research Centre, Chauras H.N.B. Garhwal central University, Srinagar, Uttarakhand India, during 2014/2015. The soil of experiment site is sandy loam in nature with around 0.57% organic carbon, 0.06% total nitrogen, available Phosphorous 30.10 kg/ha, available Potassium 115.7 kg/ha and pH 6.5. The experimental site is under subtropical humid region with range of average temperature of 12°C to 36°C during the experimental period (September to February). Eleven treatment used for evaluated to assess growth, flowering and yield attributing characters of plants and seed and quality parameters of seed to screen out for best performing genotype for seed production purposes. Preliminary information on eleven treatments is given in Table 1. The experiment was laid out in Randomized Block Design

with 3 replications of each treatment. French bean seeds were sown in the field at a spacing of 60 cm x 30 cm in plots of 3x2 m<sup>2</sup> size.

## **Results and Discussion**

### **Growth and flowering characters**

The representation of mean data of various growth and flowering characters of French bean variety in Table 2 are showing significant variations.

With respect to plant height the highest value was obtained in case of the treatment T8 (100% RDF+ Rhizobium culture + Humic Acid) (43.50 cm) and lowest for the treatment T0 (control) (26.33 cm) considering the number of branches per plant was recorded as the highest for the treatment T8 (3.83cm) and lowest in case of treatment T0 (3.03cm). Leaf area (cm<sup>2</sup>) per plant counted as maximum for the treatment T8 (8.33 cm) and minimum for the treatment T0 (5.93 cm) from the results and discussion of these plant growth parameters it can be concluded that under the agro-climatic condition of the experimental site in general, a good plant vigour has been shown in Treatment T8, T9 and T10 respectively. Whereas comparatively poor plant vigour specified in treatment T0 and T1. The differences in the plant growth characters may be due to the genetic variability within the genotype itself or may be due to the environmental effects. Amongst the treatments in case of days taken to flowering sowing to first flowering Observed in treatment T8 (41.67), T9 (46.33) and T3 (47.00). They differed statistically significantly from other genotype and can be considered as early flowering once. Whereas the longest duration for first flowering has been recorded In treatment T0, T1 and T10 (52, 50 and 50 days respectively). These can be considered as late flowering treatments. Similar findings with respect to days taken to pod set from 50%

flowering in common bean has been reported by Kamaluddin and Shahid- Ahmed (2011).

### **Yield attributing characters**

The data pertaining to yield attributing characters are presented in Table 3. Yield attributing characters were affected significantly within treatment. Pod weight differed in a considerable manner among the treatments which was maximum in T8, T9 and T10 (6.87, 6.12, and 6.00gm respectively) whereas minimum pod weight was observed in treatment T1 (3.80), T7 (4.47) and T5 (4.63)gm. The genotype included in the study produced an average variation of number of pods per plant was 36.67 to 67.00. Among the

treatment T8 produced maximum number of pods per plant (67.00) followed by T9 (62.33) and T10 (60.33). Mature pod yield obtained the highest in the treatment T8 (343.00 g/plant) followed by T9 (33.93 g/plant) and T10 (295.00). The lowest mature pod yield obtained from Treatment T0 (148.00 g/plant). The highest number of grain per pod was observed in treatment T8 (6.07), T9 (5.93) and T10 (4.93) – whereas minimum number of grain per pod was observed in treatment T0 and T1(3.27 and 3.80). The results are corroborated with the finding of Shukla *et al.*, (2006) their finding revealed that number of pods per plant had a positive contribution to seed yield.

**Table.1** Preliminary information on eleven treatments

RDF(NPK)	T <sub>1</sub>
100% RDF+ Rhizobium culture	T <sub>2</sub>
100% RDF+ Humic Acid	T <sub>3</sub>
75% RDF+ Rhizobium culture	T <sub>4</sub>
75% RDF+ Humic Acid	T <sub>5</sub>
50% RDF+ Rhizobium culture	T <sub>6</sub>
50% RDF+ Humic Acid	T <sub>7</sub>
100% RDF+ Rhizobium culture +Humic Acid	T <sub>8</sub>
75% RDF+ Rhizobium culture + Humic Acid	T <sub>9</sub>
50% RDF+ Rhizobium culture + Humic Acid	T <sub>10</sub>
Control	T <sub>0</sub>

Normal cultural practices were followed and plant protection measures. Particularly against while fly, were taken by spraying Hamla 550 [Choloropyriphos + cypermethrin (50%+50%) E.C.] The mentioned chemical was spread in two times at 10 days interval during the cultivation process. Pooled mean values of the parameters in each replication were statistically analyzed following Randomized Block Design. The ‘Table’ formulated by fisher and Yates (1963) were consulted for the purpose of comparison of ‘F’ values and for determination of critical differences (C.D. values) at the probability of 0.05.

**Table.2** Performance of different treatment for growth and flowering characters

Treatment	Plant height (cm)	Number of branch/plant	Days to 50% Flowering	Days to germination	Leaf area(cm <sup>2</sup> )
T <sub>1</sub>	28.98	2.93	50.00	9.33	6.40
T <sub>2</sub>	30.96	3.00	48.00	10.00	7.13
T <sub>3</sub>	30.05	3.03	47.00	12.33	7.10
T <sub>4</sub>	33.50	3.23	48.67	11.67	7.00
T <sub>5</sub>	29.05	2.77	48.33	12.67	6.97
T <sub>6</sub>	33.67	2.97	49.33	12.67	6.70
T <sub>7</sub>	27.72	3.03	49.67	11.67	6.60
T <sub>8</sub>	43.50	3.83	41.67	9.33	8.33
T <sub>9</sub>	39.00	2.97	46.33	10.33	7.90
T <sub>10</sub>	34.25	2.33	50.00	11.33	7.80
T <sub>0</sub>	26.33	2.13	52.00	12.67	5.93
<b>Range</b>	<b>26.33-43.50</b>	<b>2.13-3.83</b>	<b>41.67-52.00</b>	<b>9.33-12.67</b>	<b>5.93-8.33</b>
<b>CD 5%</b>	<b>4.10</b>	<b>0.40</b>	<b>5.25</b>	<b>2.80</b>	<b>1.15</b>

**Table.3** Performance of different treatment for yield attributing characters cv. Contender

Treatment	Pod Weight (gm)	No. of pod/plant	Pod yield /plant (gm)	Number of grains/pod	Seed length (cm)	Seed yield/ Plant (gm)	Seed yield/ bed (kg)	Seed yield/hq (kg)
T <sub>1</sub>	3.80	44.67	188.33	3.80	1.18	14.40	0.370	463.560
T <sub>2</sub>	5.05	51.00	261.67	4.93	1.38	27.97	0.533	742.610
T <sub>3</sub>	4.78	51.67	240.00	3.87	1.32	23.22	0.468	652.103
T <sub>4</sub>	5.00	49.00	251.67	4.40	1.33	21.08	0.415	577.841
T <sub>5</sub>	4.63	50.00	226.67	4.27	1.33	20.83	0.291	596.407
T <sub>6</sub>	4.80	49.00	226.67	4.57	1.25	21.57	0.445	619.615
T <sub>7</sub>	4.47	50.33	216.67	3.88	1.23	19.67	0.403	561.597
T <sub>8</sub>	6.87	67.00	343.00	6.07	1.53	38.17	1.027	1430.083
T <sub>9</sub>	6.12	62.33	339.93	5.93	1.43	36.10	0.823	1146.680
T <sub>10</sub>	6.00	60.33	295.00	4.87	1.45	30.55	0.662	922.227
T <sub>0</sub>	4.80	36.67	148.33	3.27	1.08	10.80	0.265	368.980
<b>Range</b>	<b>3.80-6.87</b>	<b>36.67-67.00</b>	<b>148.33 - 343.00</b>	<b>3.27-6.07</b>	<b>1.08-1.53</b>	<b>10.80-38.17</b>	<b>0.265-1.027</b>	<b>368.98-1430.083</b>
<b>CD 5%</b>	<b>0.70</b>	<b>8.10</b>	<b>40.50</b>	<b>0.36</b>	<b>0.22</b>	<b>3.20</b>	<b>90.25</b>	<b>180.20</b>

The treatment produced longest seed length was T8 (1.53), T9 (1.43), T0 (1.45) whereas the minimum seed length was observed in Treatment T0 and T1 (1.08 and 1.18 cm). So, they can be considered as bolder seeded

genotype. Genotype with lowest seed length was observed in treatment T0 and T1. So, they can be considered as lighter seeded genotype The genotypic differences on seed length in pole type French bean have also

been reported by Pandey *et al.*, (2011). 100 seed weight showed direct positive correlation with the seed size. These results are in consensus with the findings of Coimbra *et al.*, (1998) in French bean. As per seed yield is concerned the highest seed yield/plant, per bed and per hectare was obtained from treatment T8 (38.17 gm 1.027 kg and 1430.083kg) respectively followed by Treatment T9 (36.0g, 0.823kg and 1146.680 kg respectively) and lowest result in this respect was observed in Treatment T0 (10.80gm, 0.265 kg and 368.98 kg respectively). Relatively good seed yield has been observed in Treatment T8 (100% RDF+ Rhizobium culture + Humic Acid) and T9 (75% RDF + Rhizobium culture + Humic Acid). Whereas lesser seed yield was observed in Treatment T0 (Control). Seed quality parameters: Seed quality parameters amongst the genotypes (Table 3) clearly indicated that there were significant differences present among the Treatments under study.

Germination percentage of the harvested seed was measured highest for the Treatment T8 and T9 lowest for the Treatment T0. minimum days of germination was observed in treatment T8 whereas maximum days of germination was observed in treatment T0 Similar findings have been revealed by Chaudhury *et al.*, (2004) in the experiment with different French bean genotypes.

In conclusion, from overall point of view of the results and discussion it can be concluded that seeds obtained from Treatment T8 with relatively bolder seeds with more number of seeds per pod, and higher bearing capacity per plant generally gives higher seed yield. Among them, Treatment T8 (100% RDF+ Rhizobium culture +Humic Acid) and T9 (75% RDF+ Rhizobium culture +Humic Acid) was the best one as it produced highest seed yield and relatively good plant vigour.

This may be due to the fact that the agro-climatic condition of the experimental side during the cropping season best suited for this genotype. Among the other Treatment T9 and T10 also can be considered promising once for seed production point of view. Here from, it may be pointed out that while initiating the seed production programmed as a commercially lucrative venture for French bean mostly in the Subtropical condition of Uttarakhand Hills, one may consider variety like contender as the most promising once due their relatively good plant vigour and high seed yield potentiality.

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