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Weed flora as influenced by different weed control practices in Summer Greengram (*Vigna radiata* L.)

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Abstract

An experiment was conducted to find out “Weed flora influenced by weed control in Summer Greengram (*Vigna radiata* L.). The soil of experimental field was loamy sand in texture with low in organic carbon and available nitrogen, medium in available phosphorus and potassium and having pH value of 7.45. The predominant weed flora observed in experimental field were *Cynodon dactylon* L., *Digitaria sanguinalis* L. amongst monocot; dicot weeds like *Amaranthus viridis* L., *Alternanthera pungens*., *Convolvulus arvensis* L., *Vernonia cinerea* L., *Eclipta alba* (L.) Hassk, *Trianthema portulacastrum*., *Euphorbia hirta* L., *Physalis minima* L. and sedges like *Cyperus rotundus* L. Weed free treatment itself indicate the total eradication of the weeds during entire crop growth period hence it may kept as best and superior one. For any weed parameter comparison it may be superior and excluded in the comparison with other weed control treatments. The weed populations of monocot, dicot and sedge at 30, 60 DAS and at harvest were found minimum under the application of ready mixture of clodinafop propargyl + acifluorfen sodium 250 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS. Besides weed free situation, significantly lower dry weight of weeds were recorded under ready mixture of clodinafop propargyl + acifluorfen sodium 250 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS. Among the different weed management treatments, the highest WCE and minimum weed index was observed under the weed free treatment followed by treatment ready mixture of clodinafop propargyl + acifluorfen sodium 250 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS.

Keywords: Different weed, Summer Greengram, *Vigna radiata* L

Introduction

Pulses are major source of protein among the vegetarians in India and complement the staple cereals in the diets with proteins, essential amino acids, vitamins and minerals. The protein from pulses is easily digestible, restively cheaper and has high biological values. Pulses provide significant nutritional and health benefits and are known to reduce several noncommunicable diseases such as colon cancer and cardiovascular diseases (Yude *et al.*, 1993; Jukanti *et al.*, 2012) [23, 7]. Among the pulses, greengram (*Vigna radiata* L.) is one of the most important and extensively cultivated crop in India, which is cultivated in arid and semi-arid region. Green gram is locally known as “Mug, Moong, Mungo or Golden gram”. It originated from Indo-Burma and area of south East Asia. Its food value is essentially due to its high protein content about 25%, 1.3% fat, 3.5% mineral, 4.1% fiber and 56.7% carbohydrate. The grains are mainly used as dal or to make flour and green pods used as vegetables. In India mung beans are also consumed as a snack, called “Dal mung”. The dried mung beans are soaked in water, then partly dried to a dry matter content of about 42%, and then fried in hot oil. Traditionally it prepared at home and now a day, it is available from industrial producers. The germinated greengram seed containing Vitamin-C and easily digestible protein which is ideally useful in the diet of infants. In spite of the importance of this crop in our daily diet average productivity of this crop is very low in India as well as in the Gujarat. The low production of this crop is mainly due to crop-weed competition and other reasons.

Weed management is an important key factor for enhancing the productivity of green gram, as weeds compete for nutrient, water, light and space with crop plants during early growth period. Moreover, besides low yield of crop, it increases cost of production, harbor insect-pest and diseases, deteriorating quality of farm produce and reduce land value of the different factors

known for reduction in crop production, among them weed stand first (Subramanian *et al.*, 1993) ^[17]. Weed infestation is one of the major constraints in greengram cultivation. In view of severe infestation of annual and perennial weeds in summer greengram, the potential yield is generally not realized. The available pre and post-emergence herbicide, Pendimethalin, imazethapyr, and imazethapyr + quizalofop-ethyl are able to check the emergence and growth of annual grasses and broadleaved weeds. The major weed species during the summer season *Echinochloa colonum* L, *Physalis minima* L, *portulaca quadrifida* L, *Dactyloctenium aegyptium* L, *Trianthema portulacastrum* L, *Euphorbia hirta* L, *Phyllanthus niruri* L, *Amaranthus viridis* L, *Celosia argentea* L, *Digitaria longiflora* L, *Commelina benghalensis* L and *Cyperus rotundus* L etc. are the major weed species. Weed infestation is one of the major constraints in greengram cultivation. In view of severe infestation of annual and perennial weeds in summer greengram, the potential yield is generally not realized. The available pre and post-emergence herbicide, Pendimethalin, imazethapyr, and imazethapyr + quizalofop-ethyl are able to check the emergence and growth of annual grasses and broadleaved weeds. In present days we are using majority of single herbicide molecules which is control limited weed flora. But the recent trend to use different two or more herbicides mixture either tank mix or ready mix at the time of application. No single herbicide will be capable to destroy all type of weeds without crop injury because of higher dose requirements for increasing the spectrum of weeds kill. These combinations of herbicides result into wide spectra to control of weeds.

Materials and methods

The present investigation was carried on “Weed control in summer greengram (*Vigna radiata* L.)” with herbicides, its combination and cultural practices during summer season 2020 at Agronomy Instructional Farm, C. P. College of agriculture, Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University, Sardarkrushinagar. The topography of the experimental field area was fairly uniform and leveled. The soil of the experimental field was loamy sand in textural class, low in organic carbon and available nitrogen, medium in available phosphorus and potassium. Summer greengram variety “GM 6” was sown on March 3, 2020 with a spacing of 45 cm × 10 cm. The recommended dose of fertilizers at the rate of 20-40-00 kg of N-P₂O₅-K₂O/ha in the form of urea, single super phosphate was applied to all treatments. The experiment was laid out in randomized block design with three replications and the treatments comprised ten weed control treatments *viz.*, Pendimethalin 1.0 kg/ha as PE (T₁), Imazethapyr 50 g a.i./ha at PoE at 25 DAS (T₂), ready mixture of Pendimethalin + Imazethapyr 800 g a.i./ha PE (T₃), ready mixture of Imazethapyr + Imazamox 70 g a.i./ha PoE at 25 DAS (T₄), tank mixture of Imazethapyr 30 g a.i./ha + Quizalofop-p-ethyl 15 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS (T₅), ready mixture of Clodinafop Propargyl + Acifluorfen sodium 250 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS (T₆), tank mixture of Fomesafen 220 g a.i./ha + Fluazifop-p-ethyl 220 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS (T₇), hand weeding at 25 DAS and 40 DAS (T₈), weedy check (T₉) and weed free (T₁₀). Pre emergence herbicides application was done second day after 1st irrigation and post emergence at 25 DAS using knapsack sprayer fitted with flat fan nozzle by mixing in 500 litre of water/ha as per treatment. The weather conditions were favorable for crop growth and development of the crop. No severe incidence of any disease and pest was observed during the course of investigation. Weed density and weed dry matter per m² was recorded with the help of 0.5 x 0.5 m² quadrant at harvest. In

order to draw a valid conclusion, the data of weed density and weed dry matter were subjected to square root transformation ($\sqrt{x + 0.5}$) as suggested by Gomez and Gomez (1984) before statistical analysis. Weed Index (%) and Weed Control Efficiency (%) were worked out as per the formula suggested by Gill and Kumar (1969) ^[4] and Kondap and Upadhyay (1985) ^[9], respectively.

Results and Discussion

Different weed management practices significantly influenced on weed density and dry weight of weeds. Weed free treatment (T₁₀) was considered as totally weed free during entire crop growth period. Hence, it may not be compared but it was considered as a effective weed control treatment. The weed populations of monocot (2.58, 3.32 and 3.67 no./m² at 30, 60 DAS and at harvest, respectively), dicot (3.01, 3.47 and 3.96 no./m² at 30, 60 DAS and at harvest, respectively) and sedge (2.13, 2.85 and 3.13 no./m² at 30, 60 DAS and at harvest, respectively) were found minimum under the application of ready mixture of Clodinafop Propargyl + Acifluorfen sodium 250 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS (T₉). It might be due to timely removal of weeds in weed free by manual weeding and effective control of weeds by integration of herbicides are responsible for lower weed intensity under the above mentioned treatments. Further, dense crop canopy under these treatments had suppressing effect on weeds. This study was also reported by Devi (2012) ^[2], Upadhyay *et al.* (2012) ^[20], Patel *et al.* (2014) ^[12] and Rajib *et al.* (2014) ^[14]. The remarkable reduction in weed population at different stages might be due to effective weed control in respective treatments either manual or herbicidal control or both. These findings are coinciding with the results of Jajoria *et al.* (2014) ^[6] and Verma *et al.* (2017) ^[21].

Different weed management practices significantly influenced on dry weight of weeds. Application of ready mixture of Clodinafop Propargyl + Acifluorfen sodium 250 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS (T₆) significantly reduced the dry weight of weeds (32.58 g/m²) over weedy check (T₉). However, it was at par with hand weeding at 25 DAS and 40 DAS (T₈: 47.93 g/m²). The lower dry matter in these treatments might be due to better efficacy and prolonged effectiveness of applied herbicides and hand weeding which reduced weed growth and hence, resulted in rapid depletion of carbohydrate synthesis of weeds, already germinated has rapid respiration, bleaching of chlorophyll pigment, reduction in leaf area and diminution of photosynthesis process. Hand weeding, pre-emergence and post emergence application herbicides at initial and early crop growth stage, which resulted into the lowest weed counts and finally reduced the dry weight of weeds at harvest, ultimately the rapid growth of greengram crop, dense crop canopy might be suppressed weed growth as indicated by plant height and more number of branches per plant, which did not allow weeds to grow vigorously due to smothering effect. These findings are in agreement with the findings of Ali *et al.* (2011) ^[1], Tamang *et al.* (2015) ^[19], Dinesh *et al.* (2016) ^[3], Patel *et al.* (2016) ^[11], Singh *et al.* (2017) ^[15], Yadav *et al.* (2018) ^[22], Singh *et al.* (2019) ^[16] and Mahajan *et al.* (2020) ^[10].

The WCE considered 100 percent under the weed free treatment (T₁₀) by keeping weed free up to harvest of the crop. The highest WCE (84.49%) was recorded under the treatment ready mixture of Clodinafop Propargyl + Acifluorfen sodium 250 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS (T₆) followed by hand weeding at 25 DAS and 40 DAS (T₈: 77.19%), tank mixture of Imazethapyr 30 g/ha + Quizalofop-p-ethyl 15 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS (T₅: 74.90%), tank mixture of Fomesafen 220 g a.i./ha + Fluazifop-p-ethyl 220

g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS (T₇: 72.19%) and ready mixture of Pendimethalin + Imazethapyr 800 g a.i./ha PE (T₃: 71.55%). The higher weed control efficiency recorded under weed free treatment (T₁₀) might be due to periodical removal of weeds by hand weeding or herbicidal effects resulted in remarkable reduction in weed population and ultimately less dry weight of weeds. Similar results have been found by Devi (2012) [2], Raj *et al.* (2012), Upadhyay *et al.* (2012), Sultan and Baigh (2013), Rajib *et al.* (2014) [14], Harithavardhini *et al.* (2015) [5], Komal *et al.* (2015) [8], Dinesh *et al.* (2016) [3] and Singh *et al.* (2017) [15]. The weed free (T₁₀) itself having the lowest weed index, that's why it was excluded from the comparison with other weed control treatments. Besides this, the lowest weed index was found under treatment of ready mixture of Clodinafop Propargyl + Acifluorfen sodium 250 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS (T₆: 11.74%), followed by hand weeding at 25 DAS and 40 DAS (T₈:

12.53%) and tank mixture of Imazethapyr 30 g a.i./ha + Quizalofop-p-ethyl 15 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS (T₅: 21.44%). This might be due to the broad spectrum control of weeds achieved by using the application of ready mixture of Clodinafop Propargyl + Acifluorfen sodium 250 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS (T₆). Weed index worked out at harvest of crop was found lowest under weed free condition (T₁₀). These results are in accordance with the results indicated by Komal *et al.* (2015) [8], Dinesh *et al.* (2016) [3] and Singh *et al.* (2017) [15].

Conclusions

From the experimental results it can concluded that the summer greengram crop keep weed free for better yield and net realization but under paucity of labours, apply ready mixture of Clodinafop propargyl + Acifluorfen sodium 250 g a.i./ha as Post emergence at 25 DAS for effective control of weed flora.

Table 1: Major weed flora recorded during the crop growth period

Sr. No.	Family	Botanical name	English name	Local name
[A]	Monocot weeds			
1.	Gramineae	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i> (Linn.) Pers	Bermuda Grass	Doob Grass
2.	Gramineae	<i>Digitaria Sanguinalis</i> (L.) Scop	Crab grass	Arotaro
[B]	Dicot weeds			
1.	Amaranthaceae	<i>Amaranthus viridis</i> L.	Pig weed	Tandaljo
2.	Amaranthaceae	<i>Digera arvensis</i> Forsk.	Amaranthus	Kanjaro
3.	Amaranthaceae	<i>Alternanthera pungens</i>	Khakhi weed	Sata
4.	Convolvulaceae	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i> L.	Field bind weed	Hiaran, Khuri
5.	Compositae	<i>Vernonia cinerea</i> Less	Phulni	Fulakia
6.	Compositae	<i>Eclipta alba</i> (L.) Hassk	False daisy	Bhangra
	Aizoceae	<i>Trianthema portulacastrum</i>	Carpet weed	Satodi
8.	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Euphorbia hirta</i> L.	Spurge	Dudheli
9.	Solanaceae	<i>Physalis minima</i> L.	Ground cherry	Popti
[C]	Sedge			
1.	Cyperaceae	<i>Cyperus rotundus</i> L.	Nut sedge	Chidho

Table 2: Monocot weed population as influenced by different weed control treatments in summer greengram

	Treatments	Monocot weed population (No./m ²)		
		At 30 DAS	At 60 DAS	At harvest
T ₁	Pendimethalin 1.0 kg a.i./ha as PE	3.48 (11.65)	4.25 (17.59)	4.44 (19.22)
T ₂	Imazethapyr 50 g a.i./ha at PoE at 25 DAS	3.93 (14.98)	4.59 (20.60)	4.81 (22.60)
T ₃	Ready mixture of Pendimethalin + Imazethapyr 800 g a.i./ha PE	2.79 (7.31)	4.22 (17.30)	4.41 (18.95)
T ₄	Ready mixture of Imazethapyr + Imazamox 70 g a.i./ha PoE at 25 DAS	3.88 (14.65)	4.56 (20.29)	4.70 (21.59)
T ₅	Tank mixture of Imazethapyr 30 g a.i./ha + Quizalofop-p-ethyl 15 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS	3.18 (9.65)	3.80 (13.96)	4.13 (16.58)
T ₆	Ready mixture of Clodinafop Propargyl + Acifluorfen sodium 250 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS	2.58 (11.31)	3.32 (10.55)	3.67 (12.94)
T ₇	Tank mixture Fomesafen 220 g a.i./ha+ Fluazifop p butyl at 220 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS	3.33 (10.65)	4.06 (15.96)	4.25 (17.59)
T ₈	Hand weeding at 25 DAS and 40 DAS	3.13 (9.31)	3.71 (13.29)	4.06 (15.95)
T ₉	Weedy check	6.33 (39.62)	7.24 (51.97)	7.29 (52.62)
T ₁₀	Weed free	-	-	-
	S.Em. ±	0.07	0.12	0.12
	C.D. at 5%	0.28	0.36	0.35
	C.V. %	3.7	5.2	4.8

Note: Figure in the parenthesis refers to original value and outside the parenthesis indicates transformed ($(\sqrt{X+0.5})$ value.

Table 3: Dicot weed population as influenced by different weed control treatments in summer greengram

	Treatments	Dicot weed population (No./m ²)		
		At 30 DAS	At 60 DAS	At harvest
T ₁	Pendimethalin 1.0 kg a.i./ha as PE	4.45 (19.28)	4.66 (21.26)	5.11 (25.60)
T ₂	Imazethapyr 50 g a.i./ha at PoE at 25	4.50	4.87	5.24

	DAS	(19.71)	(23.26)	(26.91)
T ₃	Ready mixture of Pendimethalin + Imazethapyr 800 g a.i./ha PE	4.10 (16.28)	4.63 (20.94)	5.01 (24.59)
T ₄	Ready mixture of Imazethapyr + Imazamox 70 g a.i./ha PoE at 25 DAS	4.48 (19.60)	4.70 (21.57)	5.14 (25.91)
T ₅	Tank mixture of Imazethapyr 30 g a.i./ha + Quizalofop-p-ethyl 15 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS	3.53 (11.94)	4.01 (15.55)	4.37 (18.58)
T ₆	Ready mixture of Clodinafop Propargyl + Acifluorfen sodium 250 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS	3.01 (8.55)	3.47 (11.52)	3.96 (15.20)
T ₇	Tank mixture Fomesafen 220 g a.i./ha+ Fluazifop p butyl at 220 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS	4.01 (15.56)	4.59 (20.57)	4.84 (22.94)
T ₈	Hand weeding at 25 DAS and 40 DAS	3.32 (10.52)	3.88 (14.54)	4.33 (18.22)
T ₉	Weedy check	7.33 (53.29)	8.11 (65.28)	8.19 (66.62)
T ₁₀	Weed free	-	-	-
	S.Em. \pm	0.13	0.15	0.14
	C.D. at 5%	0.39	0.43	0.44
	C.V. %	5.8	5.8	5.5

Note: Figure in the parenthesis refers to original value and outside the parenthesis indicates transformed ($(\sqrt{X+0.5})$ value.

Table 4: Sedge weed population as influenced by different weed control treatments in summer greengram

	Treatments	Sedge weed population (No./m ²)		
		At 30 DAS	At 60 DAS	At harvest
T ₁	Pendimethalin 1.0 kg a.i./ha as PE	2.80 (7.36)	3.49 (11.65)	3.76 (13.65)
T ₂	Imazethapyr 50 g a.i./ha at PoE at 25 DAS	2.92 (8.03)	3.53 (12.00)	3.89 (14.65)
T ₃	Ready mixture of Pendimethalin + Imazethapyr 800 g a.i./ha PE	2.74 (7.03)	3.39 (11.00)	3.63 (12.65)
T ₄	Ready mixture of Imazethapyr + Imazamox 70 g a.i./ha PoE at 25 DAS	2.86 (7.69)	3.44 (11.34)	3.81 (13.99)
T ₅	Tank mixture of Imazethapyr 30 g a.i./ha + Quizalofop-p-ethyl 15 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS	2.62 (6.36)	3.24 (9.99)	3.44 (11.33)
T ₆	Ready mixture of Clodinafop Propargyl + Acifluorfen sodium 250 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS	2.13 (4.03)	2.85 (7.63)	3.13 (9.33)
T ₇	Tank mixture Fomesafen 220 g a.i./ha+ Fluazifop p butyl at 220 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS	2.68 (6.68)	3.29 (10.34)	3.53 (11.99)
T ₈	Hand weeding at 25 DAS and 40 DAS	2.49 (5.68)	3.13 (9.33)	3.34 (10.65)
T ₉	Weedy check	3.12 (9.24)	3.85 (14.33)	3.93 (15.00)
T ₁₀	Weed free	-	-	-
	S.Em. \pm	0.06	0.08	0.08
	C.D. at 5%	0.17	0.23	0.22
	C.V. %	3.9	4.3	4.0

Note: Figure in the parenthesis refers to original value and outside the parenthesis indicates transformed ($(\sqrt{X+0.5})$ value.

Table 5: Dry weight of weeds at harvest as influenced by different weed control treatments in summer greengram

	Treatments	Dry weight of weed (g/m ²)
T ₁	Pendimethalin 1.0 kg a.i./ha as PE	63.66
T ₂	Imazethapyr 50 g a.i./ha at PoE at 25 DAS	67.46
T ₃	Ready mixture of Pendimethalin + Imazethapyr 800 g a.i./ha PE	59.78
T ₄	Ready mixture of Imazethapyr + Imazamox 70 g a.i./ha PoE at 25 DAS	66.06
T ₅	Tank mixture of Imazethapyr 30 g a.i./ha + Quizalofop-p-ethyl 15 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS	52.74
T ₆	Ready mixture of Clodinafop Propargyl + Acifluorfen sodium 250 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS	32.58
T ₇	Tank mixture Fomesafen 220 g a.i./ha+ Fluazifop p butyl at 220 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS	58.44
T ₈	Hand weeding at 25 DAS and 40 DAS	47.93
T ₉	Weedy chseck	210.16
T ₁₀	Weed free	-
	S. Em. \pm	6.11
	C.D. at 5%	18.16
	C.V. %	16.08

Table 6: WCE and WI as influenced by different weed control treatments in summer greengram

	Treatments	Weed control efficiency (%)	Weed index (%)
T ₁	Pendimethalin 1.0 kg a.i./ha as PE	69.70	26.90
T ₂	Imazethapyr 50 g a.i./ha at PoE at 25 DAS	67.89	29.11
T ₃	Ready mixture of Pendimethalin + Imazethapyr 800 g a.i./ha PE	71.55	23.62
T ₄	Ready mixture of Imazethapyr + Imazamox 70 g a.i./ha PoE at 25 DAS	68.56	27.31
T ₅	Tank mixture of Imazethapyr 30 g a.i./ha + Quizalofop-p-ethyl 15 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS	74.90	21.44
T ₆	Ready mixture of Clodinafop Propargyl + Acifluorfen sodium 250 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS	84.49	11.74
T ₇	Tank mixture Fomesafen 220 g a.i./ha+ Fluazifop p butyl at 220 g a.i./ha as PoE at 25 DAS	72.19	22.64

T ₈	Hand weeding at 25 DAS and 40 DAS	77.19	12.53
T ₉	Weedy check	0.00	35.21
T ₁₀	Weed free	100.00	0.00

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