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Effect of foliar spray of GA₃ and KNO₃ on growth and yield of tuberose

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Abstract

A study was conducted to evaluate the effect of foliar spray GA₃ and KNO₃ on growth and yield of tuberose at horticulture section, college of Agriculture, Nagpur, Dr. PDKV, Akola, India, in 2019-2020. Randomized Block Design was used consisting fifteen treatments and three replications. Treatments were T₁ - GA₃ 100 ppm, T₂ - GA₃ 200 ppm, T₃ - GA₃ 300 ppm, T₄ - KNO₃ 1 %, T₅ - KNO₃ 1.5 %, T₆ - KNO₃ 2 %, T₇ - GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 1%, T₈ - GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5 %, T₉ - GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 2%, T₁₀ - GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1%, T₁₁ - GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5%, T₁₂ - GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 2%, T₁₃ - GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃ 1%, T₁₄ - GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5%, T₁₅ - GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃ 2%. The results of the present investigation indicated that, significantly maximum vegetative growth of tuberose in respect of plant height at 30 DAS (35.18 cm), 60 DAS (46.23 cm), 90 DAS (55.80 cm), 120 DAS (60.58 cm), number of leaves plant⁻¹ at 30 DAS (33.40), 60 DAS (46.13), 90 DAS (56.80), 120 DAS (66.69), and leaf area (48.87 cm) were recorded maximum with application of (T₁₁) GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5%. The yield parameters viz., spikes plant⁻¹ (6.67), spikes plot⁻¹ (74.67), spikes ha⁻¹, florets spike⁻¹, in tuberose were recorded maximum with the treatment of (T₁₁) GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% and it found minimum in (T₄) KNO₃ 1.5 %.

Keywords: Foliar spray, GA₃, KNO₃, spike, ppm

Introduction

Tuberose (*Polianthes tuberosa* L.) belongs to family Amaryllidaceae is native of Mexico. In India, it is popularly known as Rajanigandha, Nishigandha, Sugandharaja, Gulchadi and Gul-e-Shahu. Tuberose is much adorned for its colour, elegance and fragrance. It is grown mainly for cut flowers, interior and table decoration, bouquet, garland, veni and gajra. Tuberose is of good source of essential oil, which are utilized in preparation of various cosmetics and perfumes.

Among the commercially grown flowers, tuberose occupies prime position in India since it is used as cut flower, loose flower as well as for its potential in perfume industry. Tuberose is cultivated in many tropical and subtropical parts of world including India.

One of the most important growth substances is GA₃ which influence the growth and promote flowering in many flowering crops. The role of GA₃ stimulate vegetative growth by cell multiplication and cell elongation in ornamental bulbous plants has received considerable attention in recent years. Gibberellins function as controllers of growth in plants. They work to start the germination of seeds, shoot growth and maturation of leaves, and affect flowering with seed germination.

Similarly, KNO₃ contains the essential plants elements like nitrogen and potassium and is ideal for hydroponics, fertigation and foliar application. KNO₃ regulate physiological processes in plants. KNO₃ contains readily available nitrate nitrogen and readily available potassium as well as it is safe. KNO₃ combats salinity, efficient for plant nutrition, for stronger and healthier plants, improves water use efficiency and save water, increases the spike yield in tuberose.

Material and Methods

The present experiment was carried out at farm of Horticulture Section, College of Agriculture, Nagpur during 2019 - 2020. Nagpur city comes under Vidarbha region of Maharashtra state. An experiment was conducted in Randomized Block Design with 3 replications and fifteen treatments of foliar application of GA₃ and KNO₃ with different concentrations alone viz., T₁ - GA₃ 100 ppm, T₂ - GA₃ 200 ppm, T₃ - GA₃ 300 ppm, T₄ - KNO₃ 1 %, T₅ - KNO₃ 1.5 %, T₆ - KNO₃ 2 %, T₇ - GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 1%, T₈ - GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5 %, T₉ - GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 2%, T₁₀ - GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1%, T₁₁ - GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5%, T₁₂ - GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 2%, T₁₃ - GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃

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1%, T₁₄ - GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5%, T₁₅ - GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃ 2%. FYM was applied 20 tonnes ha⁻¹ was mixed at the time of last harrowing in the field prior to application of chemical fertilizers. As per the recommendation of Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, recommended fertilizer dose of fertilizer (NPK) 200:300:200 kg ha⁻¹ was applied. The plot size was 1.8 m x 1.2 m with plant to plant spacing 30 x 30 cm. The data were statistically analysed as per method suggested by Panse and Sukhatme (1967)^[8] for Randomized block design.

Results and Discussion

1 Growth Parameter

The data regarding the effect of foliar application of GA₃ and KNO₃ on flower quality of tuberose are presented in table 1. showed that, the effect of foliar spray of GA₃ and KNO₃ on Growth parameter i. e. Plant height (cm), 30 DAS, 60 DAS, 90 DAS, 120 DAS, Number of leaves plant⁻¹, 30 DAS, 60 DAS, 90 DAS, 120 DAS and Leaf area (cm²) in tuberose was found significant except plant height before spraying and number of leaves before spraying.

At 30 DAS, significantly maximum plant height was recorded with treatment T₁₁ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% (35.18 cm) which was found to be statistically at par with treatments T₁₃ i.e. GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (33.48 cm), T₁₀ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (33.06 cm) and T₂ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm (32.19). Whereas, treatment T₄ i.e. KNO₃ 1% recorded minimum plant height (26.56 cm).

At 60 DAS, the treatment T₁₁ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% (46.23 cm) recorded significantly maximum plant height which was found to be statistically at par with the treatment T₁₃ i.e. GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (45.29 cm), T₁₀ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (44.10 cm), T₂ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm (43.84 cm), T₈ i.e. GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% (43.08 cm), T₇ i.e. GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (42.92 cm) and T₁₂ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 2% (42.19 cm). Whereas, treatment T₄ i.e. KNO₃ 1% recorded minimum plant height (36.60 cm).

At 90 DAS, the treatment T₁₁ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% (55.80 cm) recorded significantly maximum plant height which was found to be statistically at par with treatment T₁₃ i.e. GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (55.19 cm), T₁₀ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (54.43 cm), T₂ GA₃ 200 ppm (53.84), T₈ i.e. GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% (53.29 cm) and T₇ i.e. GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (52.91 cm). Whereas, treatment T₄ i.e. KNO₃ 1% recorded minimum plant height (46.60 cm).

Similarly, at 120 DAS, the treatment T₁₁ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% (60.58 cm) recorded maximum plant height which was found to be statistically at par with the treatment T₁₃ i.e. GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (59.33 cm), T₁₀ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (59.00 cm), T₂ i.e. GA₃ 200 (58.67 cm), T₈ i.e. GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% (58.00 cm) and T₇ i.e. GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (57.85 cm), Whereas, treatment T₄ i.e. KNO₃ 1% recorded minimum plant height (50.68 cm).

At 30 DAS, the treatment T₁₁ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% (33.40 cm) recorded maximum number of leaves plant⁻¹ which was found to be statistically at par with the treatment T₁₃ i.e. GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (33.13 cm), T₁₀ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (32.60 cm), T₂ i.e. GA₃ 200 (32.47 cm), T₈ i.e. GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% (31.53 cm) and T₇ i.e. GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (31.27 cm). Whereas, treatment T₄ i.e. KNO₃ 1% recorded minimum number of leaves plant⁻¹ (25.87 cm).

At 60 DAS, maximum number of leaves plant⁻¹ was observed under the treatment T₁₁ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% (46.13) which was found to be at par with each other T₁₃ i.e.

GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (43.13) and T₁₀ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (45.07), T₂ (44.00), T₈ (43.93), T₇ (43.20) were found in second trend respectively. However, the minimum number of leaves was noticed under the treatment T₄ i.e. KNO₃ 1% (39.00).

Similarly, at 90 DAS, significantly the maximum number of leaves plant⁻¹ (56.80) were recorded with the treatment T₁₁ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% and it was at par with the treatment T₁₃ i.e. GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (56.53), T₁₀ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (55.40 cm), T₂ i.e. GA₃ 200 (54.60 cm), T₈ i.e. GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% (53.60 cm) and T₇ i.e. GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (53.07 cm). However, minimum number of leaves plant⁻¹ (48.67) were recorded under T₄ i.e. KNO₃ 1%.

At 120 DAS, significantly the maximum number of leaves plant⁻¹ (66.69) were recorded with the treatment T₁₁ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% and it was at par with the treatment T₁₃ i.e. GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (65.99), T₁₀ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (65.84), T₂ i.e. GA₃ 200 (64.27 cm), T₈ i.e. GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% (63.60 cm) and T₇ i.e. GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (63.20 cm). However, minimum number of leaves plant⁻¹ (58.07) were recorded under T₄ i.e. KNO₃ 1%.

Maximum leaf area at 50 % flowering stage (48.87 cm²) was noticed in the treatment T₁₁ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% which was found at par with the treatment T₁₃ i.e. GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (48.00 cm²), T₁₀ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (47.92 cm²), T₂ i.e. GA₃ 200 (47.75 cm), T₈ i.e. GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% (45.90 cm²), T₇ i.e. GA₃ 100 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (45.73 cm²) and T₁₂ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 2% (45.28 cm²).

This might to be due to the fact that, an application of gibberellic acid at different concentrations might have increased the plant height, number of leaves and leaf area by increasing internodal length and the growth stimulation due to GA₃ is attributed to both cell division and cell enlargement. And KNO₃ is supplementary source of nitrogen and potassium. Significantly, increase in plant height due to nitrogen involved in various metabolic processes of plant and potassium increases protein synthesis in the plants.

Devadanam *et al.* (2007)^[2] observed that, the plant height was although found increased in all the GA₃ treatment (50, 100 and 150 ppm), but maximum height of plant (59.13 cm) was recorded under the treatment of foliar application of GA₃ at 150 ppm in tuberose cv. Single. Khan *et al.* (2004)^[7] observed that, addition of nitrogen and potassium increased the plant height and number of suckers in petunia. The optimum dose was found to be 30 g per m² of nitrogen and 20 g m² of potassium.

2. Yield Parameter

The data regarding the effect of foliar application of GA₃ and KNO₃ on flower quality of tuberose are presented in table 1. showed that, the effect of foliar spray of GA₃ and KNO₃ on Growth parameter i. e. spike plant⁻¹, spike plot⁻¹ spike ha⁻¹ spike plant⁻¹ in tuberose was found significant. Significantly maximum number of spike plant⁻¹ was noticed in the treatment T₁₁ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% (6.67) which was found at par with the treatment T₁₃ i.e. GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (6.33), T₁₀ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (6.00) and T₂ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm (5.67). Whereas, minimum number of spike plant⁻¹ was recorded in T₄ i.e. KNO₃ 1% (2.00).

The same pattern like spike plant⁻¹ was observed in spike plot⁻¹ respect of maximum number of spike plot⁻¹ Significantly maximum number of spike plot⁻¹ was noticed in the treatment T₁₁ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% (74.67) which was found

at par with the treatment T₁₃ i.e. GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (71.33) and T₁₀ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (68.00) Whereas, minimum number of spike plot⁻¹ was recorded in T₄ i.e. KNO₃ 1% (35.83). The maximum number of spike hectare⁻¹ was also noticed in the treatment T₁₁ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% (7.11) which was found at par with the treatment T₁₃ i.e. GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (7.00), T₁₀ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (6.67) and T₂ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm (6.33). Whereas, minimum number of spike hectare⁻¹ was recorded in T₄ i.e. KNO₃ 1% (3.07). Maximum florets spike⁻¹ was observed under the treatment T₁₁ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% (28.33), T₁₃ i.e. GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (27.67) and T₁₀ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (27.00) which were found at par with each other. The treatments T₂ (25.67), T₈ (25.33), T₇ (25.00) were found in second trend respectively. However, the minimum florets spike⁻¹ was noticed under the treatment T₄ i.e. KNO₃ 1% (18.67).

Significantly maximum number of bulbs plant⁻¹ was noticed in the treatment T₁₁ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1.5% (6.59) which was found at par with the treatment T₁₃ i.e. GA₃ 300 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (6.00) and T₁₀ i.e. GA₃ 200 ppm + KNO₃ 1% (5.85). whereas, minimum number of bulbs plant⁻¹ was recorded in T₄ i.e. KNO₃ 1% (2.89).

The result revealed that, GA₃ resulted in increase in spike yield due to cell multiplication and cell elongation characters. Also, additional KNO₃ provided significant enhancement in all three parameters. The number of flower per spike increased significantly with the application of GA₃ and KNO₃. Mahajan *et al.* (2012) [3] observed that, number of floret spike⁻¹ (38.00), length of spike (112.86cm) length of rachis (34.46), diameter of spike (0.946 cm), length of fully open floret (6.71) and diameter of floret (3.92) were found maximum in application of GA₃ 200 ppm and KNO₃ 1.5%.

Table 1: Effect of foliar spray GA₃ and KNO₃ on growth and yield of tuberose

Tr. No.	Treatments	Plant height (cm)					Number of leaves plant ⁻¹					Leaf area	Spike plant ⁻¹	Spike plot ⁻¹	Spike ha ⁻¹ (lakh)	Spike plant ⁻¹
		Before spraying	30 DAS	60 DAS	90 DAS	120 DAS	Before spraying	30 DAS	60 DAS	90 DAS	120 DAS					
T ₁	GA ₃ 100 ppm	14.76	29.59	40.00	50.04	56.00	13.33	29.13	41.93	51.00	61.67	44.00	4.00	53.33	5.23	22.67
T ₂	GA ₃ 100 ppm	15.69	32.19	43.84	53.84	58.67	15.07	32.47	44.00	54.60	64.27	47.25	5.67	65.68	6.23	25.67
T ₃	GA ₃ 100 ppm	14.19	28.48	38.04	48.00	53.19	12.40	27.33	40.47	49.93	59.26	42.27	3.00	46.41	5.04	20.67
T ₄	KNO ₃ 1%	13.63	26.54	36.60	46.60	50.68	12.40	25.87	39.00	48.67	58.07	42.00	2.00	35.83	3.07	18.67
T ₅	KNO ₃ 1%	13.79	28.00	37.85	47.85	52.76	11.73	26.80	40.20	49.80	59.00	42.20	2.67	40.79	4.67	20.00
T ₆	KNO ₃ 1%	13.63	27.69	37.67	47.68	51.81	12.40	26.53	40.00	48.93	58.87	42.17	2.33	37.67	4.00	19.00
T ₇	GA ₃ 100ppm + KNO ₃ 1%	15.42	31.00	42.92	52.81	57.85	14.60	31.27	43.40	53.07	63.20	45.73	4.67	61.77	6.00	25.00
T ₈	GA ₃ 100ppm + KNO ₃ 1%	15.43	31.12	43.08	53.29	58.00	15.07	31.53	43.93	53.60	63.60	45.90	5.33	62.33	6.20	25.33
T ₉	GA ₃ 100ppm + KNO ₃ 1%	15.23	30.08	41.23	51.25	56.00	13.80	29.67	42.47	52.67	62.00	44.08	4.33	55.60	5.50	22.67
T ₁₀	GA ₃ 100ppm + KNO ₃ 1%	16.04	33.06	44.10	54.43	59.00	16.00	32.60	45.07	55.40	65.84	47.92	6.00	68.00	6.67	27.00
T ₁₁	GA ₃ 100ppm + KNO ₃ 1%	15.69	35.18	46.23	55.80	60.58	16.30	33.40	46.13	56.80	66.69	48.87	6.67	74.67	7.11	28.33
T ₁₂	GA ₃ 100ppm + KNO ₃ 1%	15.23	30.40	42.19	51.62	57.20	15.07	30.13	43.13	52.73	62.47	45.28	4.33	57.18	5.67	24.00
T ₁₃	GA ₃ 100ppm + KNO ₃ 1%	16.10	33.48	45.29	55.19	59.33	16.00	33.13	45.27	56.53	65.99	48.00	6.33	71.33	7.00	27.67
T ₁₄	GA ₃ 100ppm + KNO ₃ 1%	14.82	29.48	39.30	49.30	55.93	12.33	28.67	41.67	50.47	60.73	43.18	3.67	51.67	5.05	21.67
T ₁₅	GA ₃ 100ppm + KNO ₃ 1%	14.76	29.36	38.99	48.92	54.09	12.33	28.00	41.13	50.00	60.40	43.17	3.33	48.37	4.67	21.00
	SE (m)±	0.69	1.05	1.40	1.42	1.31	1.25	1.51	1.27	1.30	1.36	1.37	0.54	2.32	0.56	1.59
	CD at 5%	-	3.05	3.05	4.12	3.79	-	4.36	3.68	3.77	3.95	3.97	1.57	6.71	1.61	4.60

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