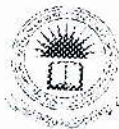


**EFFECT OF PLANTING GEOMETRY WITH THE
APPLICATION OF JEEWAMIRTA ON THE GROWTH
AND YIELD OF *Abelmoschus esculentus* L.
INTERCROPPED WITH *Vigna unguiculata* L.**

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ABSTRACT

Increasing world population demands higher agricultural crop production to fulfill the food requirement. Therefore intercropping is the best way to increase productivity in limited land area with organic inputs. To enhance the positive attitudes towards intercropping and organic farming, this experiment was carried out at the Crop Farm of Eastern University, Sri Lanka during the period of January to April 2019 to study the effect of planting geometry with the application of Jeewamirta on the growth and yield of *Abelmoschus esculentus* L. intercropped with *Vigna unguiculata* L. The experiment was laid out in a Randomized Complete Block Design (RCBD) with four replications. Treatments were okra as a sole crop with the spacing of 90cm×60cm (T1), cowpea as a sole crop with the spacing of 30cm×15cm (T2), okra in 60cm×60cm with one row of cowpea (T3), okra in 90cm×60cm with 2 rows of cowpea (T4) and okra in 120cm×60cm with three rows of cowpea.

This investigation showed that there was a significant ($p<0.05$) effects in planting geometry. Okra with two rows of cowpea (T4) increased plant height, fresh and dry shoot biomass, fresh and dry root biomass, leaf area, days for 50% and 100% flowering, number of fruits per plant, weight per fruit and yields than their monocroppings. Further, Land Equivalent Ratio and Area – Time Equivalent Ratio showed a significant ($p<0.05$) increased in T4. Further, gross return, net profit were significantly ($p<0.05$) increased in T4 compare with the monocropping and in economic point of view okra intercropped with cowpea (T4) gave higher return.

Therefore it could be concluded that okra in 90 cm × 60cm with two rows of cowpea can be recommended for okra cowpea intercropping to enhance the growth and yield.

CONTENT

ABSTRACT	I
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	II
CONTENT	III
LIST OF TABLES	VIII
LIST OF FIGURES	X
LIST OF EQUATIONS	XI
CHAPTER 01	1
1.0 Introduction	1
1.1 Intercropping systems	1
1.2 Objective of the study	5
CHAPTER 2	6
2.0 LITERATURE REVIWE	6
2.1 Intercropping	6
2.2 Okra	8
2.2.1 Introduction	8
2.2.2 Taxonomy	9
2.2.3 Morphology of okra	9
2.2.4 Requirements for growing okra	10
2.2.5 Recommended varieties in Sri Lanka by the Department of Agriculture	10
2.2.6 Okra cultivation in Sri Lanka	12
2.3 Cowpea	13
2.3.1 Introduction	13
2.3.2 Cowpea cultivation in Sri Lanka	16
2.3.3 Recommended varieties of cowpea in Sri Lanka	17
2.4 Organic fertilizer	18
2.5 Jeewamirta as an organic fertilizer	19

2.5.1 Composition of Jeewamirta Liquid fertilizer	21
2.5.2 Effect of Jeewamirta	22
CHAPTER 03	24
3.0 MATERIALS AND METHODS	24
3.1 Location	24
3.2 Seed treatment	24
3.3 Seed germination	24
3.4 Experimental Design	25
3.4.1 Treatments.....	25
3.5 Preparation of Jeewamirta	26
3.5.1 Ingredients required (per acre).....	26
3.6 Application of Jeewamirta.....	27
3.7 Preparation of Neemastra	27
3.8 Agronomic practices	27
3.8.1 Land preparation	27
3.8.2 Planting	27
3.8.3 Irrigation	28
3.8.4 Weeding	28
3.8.5 Pest and disease management	28
3.9 Measurements	28
3.9.1 Plant Height (cm).....	28
3.9.2 Leaf number	28
3.9.3 Chlorophyll content	28
3.9.4 Number of days to 50% and 100% of flowering	29
3.9.5 Leaf area per plant (cm ²).....	29
3.9.6 Fresh biomass of shoot (g).....	29
3.9.7 Dry biomass of shoot (g).....	29

3.9.8 Fresh biomass of root (g)	29
3.9.9 Dry biomass of root (g)	29
3.9.10 Number of effective nodules per plant.....	29
3.9.11 Length of fruit (cm)	30
3.9.12 Girth of fruit (cm)	30
3.9.13 100 seeds weight (g)	30
3.9.14 Weight of fruit at each picking (g).....	30
3.9.15 Average yield (t/ha)	30
3.10 Biological indices	30
3.10.1 Land Equivalent Ratio (LER)	30
3.10.2 Area-Time Equivalency Ratio (ATER)	31
3.11 Economic indices.....	31
3.11.1 Total cost (Rs)	31
3.11.2 Gross return (Rs).....	31
3.11.3 Net profit (Rs)	31
3.11.4 Benefit/Cost ratio	32
3.12 Statistical Analysis	32
CHAPTER 4	33
4.0 Results and Discussion.....	33
4.1 Plant Height	34
4.1.1 Okra.....	34
4.1.2 Cowpea	46
4.2 Chlorophyll content	50
4.2.1 Okra.....	50
4.2.2 Cowpea	53
4.3 Number of leaves per plant.....	55
4.3.1 Okra.....	55

4.3.2 Cowpea	58
4.4 Days to 50% and 100% flowering	60
4.4.1 Okra.....	60
4.4.2 Cowpea	62
4.5 Leaf area at harvesting time.....	64
4.5.1 Okra.....	64
4.5.2 Cowpea	66
4.6 Weight of fresh and dry shoot biomass	68
4.6.1 Okra.....	68
4.6.2 Cowpea	70
4.7 Weight of fresh and dry root biomass	73
4.7.1 Okra.....	73
4.7.2 Cowpea	75
4.8 Fruit length	77
4.8.1 Okra.....	77
4.8.2 Cowpea	79
4.9 Girth of the fruit per okra plant	81
4.21 Number of effective nodules per cowpea plant	83
4.11 100 seed weight	85
4.11.1 Okra.....	85
4.11.2 Cowpea	87
4.12 Weight of fruit per plant at each picks	89
4.12.1 Okra.....	89
4.12.2 Cowpea	92
4.13 Yield at each picking and cumulative yield.....	94
4.13.1 Okra.....	94
4.13.2 Cowpea	97

4.14 Biological indices	99
4.14.1 Land Equivalent Ratio	99
4.14.2 Area Time Equivalent Ratio	101
CHAPTER 5	105
5.0 CONCLUSION	105
CHAPTER 06	106
6.0 SUGGESTION	106
REFERENCES	107