

Impact of Va-Mycorrhizal Fungi in Plant Growth

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ABSTRACT

Vesicular Arbuscular Mycorrhiza (VAM) is a mutualistic symbiotic association between soil inhabiting fungi and the roots of vascular plants. In this association, the host plant supplies photosynthetically derived carbohydrates to the fungus, while the fungus improves the plant's capacity to absorb mineral nutrients, especially phosphorus, from the soil environment.

In the present investigation 50 plant species were collected and analyzed for VAM colorization, spore population and physiochemical characteristics especially nitrogen phosphorus and potassium. However, 10 species of VAM fungi belonging to *Glomus*, *scutellospora* and *sclerocystics* were identified. All mycorrhizal fungus infected plants shows increase high growth rate.

Keywords: VAM Fungi, AMF, biofertilizer, symbiotic association, Root colorization

INTRODUCTION

The presence of VAM fungi significantly improves plant growth and biomass, production. This is primarily due to enhanced phosphorus, uptake, improved mineral nutrition, and better physiological functioning. VAM association is particularly beneficial under nutrient deficient soil conditions and contributes to reduced dependence on chemical fertilizers. (Allen, 1991, Smith and Read, 1997)

Experimental observations have shown that mycorrhizal plants exhibit higher growth rates, improved root development and greater adaptability to environmental stress compared to non mycorrhizal plants. This demonstrates the important functional role of VAM fungi in plant productivity (Rhodes and Gendemann, 1975), taxonomy of fungi has been described by Kaushik (2000).

Different genera of VAM fungi such as *Glomus*, *Scutellospora*, and *Sclerocystis* are commonly associated with plant roots. Among these, *Glomus* is considered the most dominant genus due to its widespread occurrence and high colonization potential. The potential economic benefit of the enhancement of phosphorus uptake through VAM fungi is found in the work of Plechetta and Morei (1996) *Glycine max* colonised by the VAM fungus.

The application of VAM fungi has considerable importance in agriculture, horticulture and ecological management. Their utilization promotes sustainable crop production, enhances soil fertility, reduces fertilizer requirements and supports ecological stability. Thus VAM fungi play a vital role in improving plant growth and maintaining sustainable agricultural systems. *Glomus intraradices* produced 83% of maximum growth at a solution concentration of 0.110 mg/ml. Non-mycorrhizal plants required 0.148 mg/ml for the same rate of growth. This calculated to a saving of 230 kg P₂O₅ to the farmer. The percentage of infection is 76%. There is no clear correlation between potassium content and VAM infection.

However 10 species of VAM fungi belonging to *glomus*, *Scutellospora* and *Sclerocystics* were identified. The Genus *glomus* was a dominant number, which can be multiplied in large quantities and inoculated to economically and medicinally important plant like *Nasaveia Zeylanica* (L) DC. *Annona Squamosa* L. *Bitilora indicum* L, Sweet, Sida, Brun, F. *Citrus medica* L, *Commiphora berrji* (Am.) Engl. *Cajanus cajan* (Linn.) Mill and *Cyrodon dactylonch* pass seedlings to increase the growth rate and biodiversity of plant.

Table 1- Mycorrhizal infection endogoneous spore population and physiochemical characteristics of the rhizosphere soil of the some plant species at Saharanpur.

Plant species	VAM Infection %	Total VAM spores	pH	Physico- Chemical Characters			
				Ec mmhos/cm ²	N kg/acre	P kg/acre	K kg/acre
Ranunculaceae <i>naravelia zeylanica</i> (L) D.C.	28	389	66	2.2	7.6	8.3	182
Annonaceae <i>Annona reticulate</i> L	52	1179	7.2	3.6	8.9	1.2	203

<i>Annona squamosa</i> L.	59	1562	7.2	2.4	10.2	7.6	231
<i>Artabotrys hexapetatus</i> (L.F.) Bhandari	48	1176	7.5	4.4	15.6	8.2	246
Capparaceae <i>Capparis sepia</i> L	--	823	7.2	4.6	12.6	3.6	234
Pittosporaceae <i>Pitioaportum floribundum</i> W & A	42	1182	7.8	6.6	1.8	2.8	272
Polylacaceae	43	1066	8.2	2.3	46.8	12.4	316
Portylaceae <i>pilosal</i> L.	—	124	8.0	6.4	19.4	10.8	162
<i>Portulaca quadrifude</i> Linn	—	160	7.8	6.6	15.6	8.3	173
Malvaceae <i>Abution undicum</i> (L) Sweet	62	1132	8.3	6.8	18.8	8.6	179
<i>Side acuta</i> Burm.F	65	1443	7.8	4.3	19.6	7.9	232
<i>Side rhombifolia</i> Linn	60	1322	8.2	5.8	18.8	4.4	321
Tilliaceae <i>Grewia pilose</i> W & A	32	656	7.6	8.3	13.6	2.8	292
<i>Greawia villosa</i> Wild	33	862	7.6	8.6	11.6	3.4	284
Elacocarpaceae <i>Elacocarpus tuberculatus</i> , Roxb.	22	1132	7.4	7.8	12.2	1.6	362
Zygophyllaceae <i>Trubulus ferrestris</i> L	40	1061	7.4	2.2	12.8	10.8	321
Geraniaceae <i>Averhoe bilmbi</i> L	42	1410	7.9	4.4	13.6	8.3	232
<i>Oxalis comiculata</i> L	43	979	7.6	7.6	14.2	6.8	191
Rutaceae <i>Citrus Medica</i> L	78	2212	7.2	5.4	15.6	20.8	356
<i>Clausena Dentate</i> (wild) Roemer	62	1856	7.4	5.8	20.6	16.4	320
<i>Toddalie Asiatica</i> (L) Lam.	42	1126	7.6	8.3	10.4	14.3	345
Burseraceae <i>Commiphora berryi</i> (Am.) Engl.	38	889	7.2	2.6	13.6	4.8	322
<i>Commiphora coudata</i> (W&A) Egnl.	36	986	7.8	4.8	11.8	3.8	300

Plant species	VAM Infectgion %	Total VAM spores	pH	Physico- Chemical Characters			
				Ec mm hos/cm ²	N kg/acre	P kg/acre	K kg/acre
Rhamnaceae <i>Culubrine asiatica</i> (Linn.)		802	6.3	1.6	122	4.8	186
Brongn <i>Scutia myrtina</i> (Burm) Kurz		562	6.5	1.8	123	5.2	188
Vitaceae <i>Cayratia redata</i> (Lour) Juss ex Gagn.		1002	6.6	5.6	131	11.2	252
Sapindiaceae <i>Allophylus cobbe</i> (L) Raesch	55	1066	7.8	8.6	168	20.6	346
<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i> N. Jacq.	36	904	7.3	7.9	166	16.4	232
Anacardiaceae <i>Anacardium occidentale</i> L.	32	518	5.6	2.3	172	3.6	298
Moringaceae <i>Moringa olefera</i> Lam Leguminaceae (or)	26	402	6.4	5.9	179	10.3	245

Papillonaceae							
Abrus Precatorius L.	88	2106	6.8	2.0	186	26.3	423
Alysicapus monilifer (L) DC	62	1542	7.8	2.16	156	24.1	266
Citoria femates L.	62	2226	8.6	1.63	110	23.1	348
Cajanus cajan (Linn.) Mill	73	1184	7.4	2.15	88	21.2	298
Crotalaria laevigata L.	56	2166	6.8	6.62	44	8.6	346
Erythruna suberasa Roxb.	63	1986	7.0	8.38	178	23.6	422
Mucuna Pruriens (L) DC.	56	1988	7.6	1.2	176	21.1	343
Phaseolus angularis (Wild)	79	1136	7.2	1.4	162	12.3	325
Taphrosia purpurea (F) Pers. Caesalpinaceae	86	1002	6.6	2.2	136	6.3	318
Cassia abusus L.	76	886	7.3	1.6	142	24.2	319
Cassia tora L.	74	982	6.9	2.2	157	21.6	322
Cassia auriculate L.	76	1564	6.6	3.8	133	2.2	412
Cassia siamea Lam.	68	1466	6.6	4.2	143	3.5	343
Cassia siamea Lam.	44	884	6.0	4.3	136	5.6	496
Commelinaceae Commelina benghalensis L.	93	2062	6.9	1.6	121	24.4	356
Commelina difusa Burm. F.	98	1686	7.2	7.9	199	23.2	322
Poaceae Chrysopogon fullus. (spreng.) chiov.	26	1122	7.8	6.8	192	18.3	333
Cyanodon dactylon (L) Pres.	34	1236	6.9	3.3	198	26.6	326

Table 2- VAM Species with unique code

Sl. No.	VAM Species	Code
1.	<i>Glomus aggregatum</i>	LAGR
2.	<i>Glomus fasciculatum</i>	LFSC
3.	<i>Glomus maculosum</i>	LMCL
4.	<i>Glomus microaggregatum</i>	LMAG
5.	<i>Glomus mosseae</i>	LMSS
6.	<i>Glomus radiation</i>	LRTD
7.	<i>Glomus tentebrosum</i>	LTNB
8.	<i>Sclerioeystis pakstanica</i>	SPKS
9.	<i>Scutellospora heterogama</i>	CHTG
10.	<i>Scutellospora weresubiae</i>	CWRS

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