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## Effect of organic fertilizers and Bio: fertilizers on growth, yield and quality of cauliflower (*Brassica oleracea* L. Var. *Botrytis*)

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#### Abstract

The present experiment was carried out during September to December 2018 in Departmental Research Field of Department of Horticulture, SHUATS, and Prayagraj. The experiment was conducted in Randomized Block Design (RBD), with three replication comprised of eleven treatments *viz*. To (Control), T<sub>1</sub> {Rhizobium (100g/kg seed)}, T<sub>2</sub> {Rhizobium (100g/kg seed) + Compost (11t/ha), T<sub>3</sub> {Rhizobium (100g/kg seed) + Compost (11t/ha) + 75% RDF}, T<sub>4</sub> {Rhizobium (100g/kg seed) + Compost (11t/ha) + 100% RDF}, T<sub>5</sub> {Rhizobium (100g/kg seed) + PSB (120g/kg seed), T<sub>6</sub> {Rhizobium (100g/kg seed) + Compost (11t/ha) + PSB (120g/kg seed)}, T<sub>7</sub> {PSB (120g/kg seed)}, T<sub>8</sub> {PSB (120g/kg seed) + Compost (11t/ha) + 75% RDF }, T<sub>10</sub> {PSB (120g/kg seed) + Compost (11t/ha) + 100% RDF. The seedlings were transplanted at a spacing of 90 x 45 cm. From the findings; it is found that the treatment T<sub>8</sub> {PSB (120g/kg seed) + Compost (11t/ha)} was found superior over other treatments in terms of growth, yield and quality of Cauliflower with highest B: C ratio (1.83).

Keywords: Cauliflower, PSB, rhizobium and compost

## Introduction

Cauliflower (*Brassica oleracea* L var. *botrytis*) is an important member of Cruciferae family. The name cauliflower consists of two Latin words namely 'caulis' means cabbage and 'floris' means flower. It is grown throughout the country for its tender curds which are used as vegetable, soup and for pickling (Choudhury *et al.*, 2004) <sup>[6]</sup>. The crop is reported to be a native of Southern Europe in the Mediterranean region and was introduced in India in 1822 from England (Chatterjee, 1986) <sup>[5]</sup>. Cauliflower has high protein and peculiar in stability of vitamin C after cooking (Singh, 1997) <sup>[19]</sup>.

It is rich in minerals such as potassium, sodium, iron, phosphorus, calcium, magnesium etc. It also contains vitamin A (Singh, 1997)<sup>[19]</sup>. The popularity of the crop has been constantly increasing and now it occupies more area than other vegetables in certain parts of the world. In India cauliflower occupies an area of 4, 14,000 hectare with a production of 78, 97,000 metric tons (Department of Agriculture, GOI, 2017)<sup>[8]</sup>.

The application of bio-fertilizers in vegetable crop has been found very effective for sustainable production of vegetables. Bio-fertilizers offer an economically attractive and ecologically sound means of reducing external inputs and improving quality and quantity of internal sources. These inputs contain microorganisms which are capable of mobilizing nutritive elements from non-usable form to usable form through different biological process. They are also less expensive, eco-friendly and sustainable; do not require non-renewable source of energy during their production and improve growth and quality of crops by producing plant hormones. Bio-fertilizers also increase the sustainability of the soil and make it more productive. Being bio-control agents, these control many plant pathogens and harmful microorganisms (Asokan *et al.*, 2000) <sup>[1]</sup>.

Organic manures and bio-fertilizers are the important components of integrated nutrient management. Organic manures also supply the trace amounts of micronutrients which are generally not supplied by the farmers to their vegetable crops. The embined use of vermin-compost with inorganic fertilizers enhances utilization of nutrients by the soil microbial process (Lenin & Rangaswamy, 2002). Worm casts contain 5 times more N, 7 times more P and 11 times more K than ordinary soil, the main minerals needed for plant growth (Sharma and Agarwal, 2004).

## Materials and Methods

The present investigation entitled "Effect of organic fertilizers and biofertilizers on growth, yield and quality of cauliflower (Brassica oleracea L. var. botrytis)" were carried out at Research Field of Department of Horticulture, Naini Agricultural Institute, Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences, Prayagraj (U.P.) in the year 2018-19 in Randomized Block Design (RBD) with 11 treatments. Total number of treatments were Eleven viz. T<sub>0</sub> (control),  $T_1$  {rhizobium (100g/kg seed)},  $T_2$  {rhizobium (100g/kg seed) + compost (11t/ha), T<sub>3</sub> {rhizobium (100g/kg seed) + compost (11t/ha) + 75% RDF}, T<sub>4</sub> {rhizobium (100g/kg seed) + compost (11t/ha) + 100% RDF, T<sub>5</sub>  $\{$ rhizobium (100g/kg seed) + PSB (120g/kg seed), T<sub>6</sub> $\}$ {rhizobium (100g/kg seed) + compost (11t/ha) + PSB (120g/kg seed)}, T<sub>7</sub> {PSB (120g/kg seed)}, T<sub>8</sub> {PSB (120g/kg seed) + compost (11t/ha)},  $T_9$  {PSB (120g/kg seed) + compost (11t/ha) + 75% RDF },  $T_{10}$  {PSB (120g/kg seed) + compost (11t/ha) + 100% RDF were used.

The area of Prayagraj district comes under subtropical belt in the south east of Utter Pradesh, which experience extremely hot summer and fairly cold winter. The maximum temperature of the location reaches up to 46 °C- 48 °C and seldom falls as low as 4 °C- 5 °C. The relative humidity ranges between 20 to 94%. The average rainfall in this area is around 1013.4 mm annually. However, occasional precipitation is also not uncommon during winter months.

## **Results and Discussion**

Statistical data on plant height, number of leaves, width of leaves, length of leaves, leaf area, girth of stem, diameter of curd, fresh weight of curd, yield per plot, yield per hectare, TSS, compactness, ascorbic acid and B-carotene of cauliflower are presented in table 1 & table 2.

Regarding plant height increasing pattern observed up to 60 days after transplanting. At every stage significant difference in plant height was noted at 30 days after transplanting, the highest plant height (27.43 cm) was recorded in control followed by  $T_1$  (27.34 cm),  $T_2$  (25.79 cm) and  $T_3$  (23.73 cm), while the minimum plant height (18 cm) recorded in T<sub>9</sub>. At 45 days after transplanting T<sub>5</sub> recorded with maximum plant height (47.89 cm) followed by  $T_1$  (46.32 cm),  $T_2$  (45.16 cm), and  $T_7$  (43.93 cm) & the minimum plant height (36.11 cm) was recorded in T<sub>9</sub>, similarly at 60 days after transplanting the maximum plant height (53.37 cm) was recorded in T<sub>3</sub> followed by control (52.6 cm),  $T_1$  (52.5 cm) and  $T_8$  (51.6 cm), whereas minimum plant height (48.53 cm) recorded in T7. Rhizobium was significantly increased the N and K availability by 19.57 and 5.47 per cent over control due to increased nitrogen fixation with the Rhizobium inoculation so that plant height stimulated by the nutrients Meshram et al., (2005)<sup>[11]</sup> and Dubey (1998)<sup>[9]</sup>.

Number of leaves had not been same in increasing pattern where, at a different period of time different treatments showing their dominance. At 30 days after transplanting, the maximum number of leaves (8.25) was recorded in  $T_8$ followed by  $T_6$  (8.09),  $T_7$  (7.53) and  $T_9$  (7.4), while the minimum number of leaves (6.32) recorded in T<sub>5</sub>. At 45 days after transplanting T<sub>5</sub> recorded with maximum number of leaves (15.94) followed by  $T_9(15.51)$ , control (14.99), and  $T_{10}$ (14.71) & the minimum number of leaves (12.76) was recorded in T<sub>6</sub>, similarly at 60 days after transplanting the maximum number of leaves (24.37) was recorded in T<sub>8</sub> followed by control (22.43), T<sub>7</sub> (22.03) and T<sub>9</sub> (21.8), whereas minimum number of leaves (20.97) recorded in T<sub>6</sub>. Phosphate solubilising bacteria (PSB) convert insoluble phosphorous into soluble phosphorous which help to intake more nutrients through roots and enhance in plant height, leaf length, leaf

width, leaf weight per plant and curd diameter, similar result finding found by Verma and Yadav (2011)<sup>[22]</sup>, Upadhyay *et al.* (2012)<sup>[21]</sup> and Choudhury *et al.* (2004)<sup>[6]</sup> in cauliflower and (Ranjeet and Ravi, 2004)<sup>[12]</sup> in broccoli.

Treatments which had PSB were showing more prominent result of leaf length. At 30 days after transplanting, the maximum length of leaves (17.63 cm) was recorded in control followed by T<sub>7</sub> (17.16 cm), T<sub>9</sub> (16.48 cm) and T<sub>8</sub> (16.35 cm), while the minimum length of leaves (13.66 cm) recorded in T<sub>3</sub> At 45 days after transplanting T<sub>5</sub> recorded with maximum length of leaves (33.2 cm) followed by T<sub>2</sub> (31.84 cm), T<sub>8</sub> (31.27 cm), and T<sub>9</sub> (30.3 cm) & the minimum length of leaves (26.25 cm) was recorded in T<sub>6</sub>, similarly at 60 days after transplanting the maximum length of leaves (39.83 cm) was recorded in  $T_8$  followed by  $T_3$  (38.47 cm),  $T_9$  (38 cm) and  $T_6$ (35.73 cm), whereas minimum length of leaves (32.83 cm) recorded in T<sub>5</sub>. Phosphate solubilising bacteria (PSB) convert insoluble phosphorous into soluble phosphorous which help to intake more nutrients through roots and enhance in plant height, leaf length, leaf width, leaf weight per plant and curd diameter, similar result finding found by Verma and Yadav (2011)<sup>[22]</sup>, Upadhyay et al. (2012)<sup>[21]</sup> and Choudhury et al. (2004) <sup>[6]</sup> in cauliflower and (Ranjeet and Ravi, 2004) <sup>[12]</sup> in broccoli.

Treatments having Compost + PSB were better in width of leaves of cauliflower than others. At 30 days after transplanting, the maximum width of leaves (16.05 cm) was recorded in  $T_6$  followed by  $T_7$  (15.04 cm), control (15.01 cm) and T<sub>9</sub> (14.84), while the minimum width of leaves (11.83 cm) recorded in T<sub>3</sub>. At 45 days after transplanting T<sub>6</sub> recorded with maximum width of leaves (21.61 cm) followed by T<sub>7</sub> (21.03 cm), control (21.03 cm), and T<sub>9</sub> (20.84 cm) & the minimum width of leaves (17.63 cm) was recorded in T<sub>3</sub>, similarly at 60 days after transplanting the maximum width of leaves (23.27 cm) was recorded in  $T_6$  followed by  $T_7$  (22.57 cm),  $T_4$  (22.19 cm),  $T_1$  (21.93 cm), whereas minimum width of leaves (18.28 cm) recorded in T<sub>3</sub>. Phosphate solubilising bacteria (PSB) convert insoluble phosphorous into soluble phosphorous which help to intake more nutrients through roots and enhance in plant height, leaf length, leaf width, leaf weight per plant and curd diameter, similar result finding found by Verma and Yadav (2011) [22], Upadhyay et al. (2012) <sup>[21]</sup> and Choudhury *et al.* (2004) <sup>[6]</sup> in cauliflower and (Ranjeet and Ravi, 2004) <sup>[12]</sup> in broccoli.

Leaf area at 30 days after transplanting, the maximum leaf area (187.79 cm<sup>2</sup>) was recorded in  $T_7$  followed by control  $(184.59 \text{ cm}^2)$ , T<sub>8</sub>  $(179.12 \text{ cm}^2)$  and T<sub>9</sub>  $(178.51 \text{ cm}^2)$ , while the minimum leaf area (139.69 cm<sup>2</sup>) recorded in T<sub>3</sub>. At 45 days after transplanting T<sub>3</sub> recorded with maximum leaf area  $(458.35 \text{ cm}^2)$  followed by T<sub>9</sub> (450.335 cm<sup>2</sup>), control (443.888 cm<sup>2</sup>), and T<sub>2</sub> (443.443 cm<sup>2</sup>) & the minimum leaf area (370.048 cm<sup>2</sup>) was recorded in T<sub>4</sub>, similarly at 60 days after transplanting the maximum leaf area (582.802 cm<sup>2</sup>) was recorded in  $T_6$  followed by  $T_8$  (571.167 cm<sup>2</sup>),  $T_9$  (554.748 cm<sup>2</sup>) and T<sub>4</sub> (526.179 cm<sup>2</sup>), whereas minimum leaf area (428.09 cm<sup>2</sup>) recorded in T<sub>5</sub> Phosphate solubilising bacteria (PSB) convert insoluble phosphorous into soluble phosphorous which help to intake more nutrients through roots and enhance in plant height, leaf length, leaf width, leaf weight per plant and curd diameter, similar result finding found by Verma and Yadav (2011) <sup>[22]</sup>. Upadhyay et al. (2012)<sup>[21]</sup> and Choudhury et al. (2004)<sup>[6]</sup> in cauliflower and (Ranjeet and Ravi, 2004)<sup>[12]</sup> in broccoli.

Stem girth was show minor difference between treatments which are par with each other and difficult to convey the best one. At 30 days after transplanting, the maximum girth of stem (2.81 cm) was recorded in  $T_4$  followed by  $T_{10}$  (2.8 cm),  $T_9$  (2.77 cm) and  $T_3$  (2.53 cm) while the minimum girth of

stem (1.64 cm) recorded in T7. At 45 days after transplanting T<sub>9</sub> recorded with maximum girth of stem (4.52 cm) followed by  $T_3$  (4.49 cm),  $T_7$  (4.43 cm), and  $T_{10}$  (4.34 cm) & the minimum girth of stem (3.37 cm) was recorded in T<sub>2</sub>, similarly at 60 days after transplanting the maximum girth of stem (5.53 cm) was recorded in control followed by  $T_5$  (5.4 cm),  $T_9$  (5.37 cm) and  $T_{10}$  (5.33 cm), whereas minimum girth of stem (4.93 cm) recorded in T<sub>4</sub>. Bio-fertilizers enhance the availability of the nitrogen and phosphorus to plants and give rise better utilization of the nutrients by the plant which might have in turn promoted more root growth and development by higher nitrogen fixation in the soil. The increased uptake of nitrogen with biofertilizers helped in increasing photosynthetic area, chlorophyll content coupled with increased net photosynthetic rate and in turn increased supply of carbohydrates to the plants. The present findings are in close agreement with the earlier work done by Sable and Bhamare (2007)<sup>[13]</sup> in cauliflower.

The data verified that  $T_8$  was recorded maximum diameter of curd, 15.53 cm followed by  $T_9$  (15.33 cm),  $T_4$  (13.27) and  $T_{10}$  (12.53 cm) &  $T_7$  was recorded with minimum diameter of curd 10.97 cm. Phosphate solubilising bacteria (PSB) convert insoluble phosphorous into soluble phosphorous which help to intake more nutrients through roots and enhance in plant height, leaf length, leaf width, leaf weight per plant and curd diameter, similar result finding found by Verma and Yadav (2011) <sup>[22]</sup>, Upadhyay *et al.* (2012) <sup>[21]</sup> and Choudhury *et al.* (2004) <sup>[6]</sup> in cauliflower and (Ranjeet and Ravi, 2004) <sup>[12]</sup> in broccoli.

Narrow difference among the fresh weight of cauliflower was noted in the present experiment. Treatment T<sub>9</sub> was recorded maximum fresh weight of curd, 0.70 kg followed by T<sub>8</sub> (0.66 kg), T<sub>4</sub> (0.57 kg) and T<sub>7</sub> (0.54 kg) & T<sub>1</sub> was recorded with minimum fresh weight of curd 0.34 kg. The maximum increase in all these quality parameters were observed with PSB inoculation, which might be due to improved nutrient availability in the root zone and solubilisation of the native phosphate status of the soil by PSB. Phosphorus solubilising bacteria enhances the availability of phosphorus to plants and gives rise to better utilization of nutrients by the crop which might have in turn greater root development, nodulation and higher N-fixation in the soil. Thus, the increase in availability of N and P might have resulted in greater content in broccoli head (Tanwar *et al.*, 2003; Sibbal *et al.*, 2003).

Yield per plot had effect by the application of levels of organic and bio-fertilizers on cauliflower. Treatment  $T_9$  was recorded maximum yield per plot, 4.08 kg followed by  $T_4$  (3.48 kg),  $T_2$  (3.22 kg) and  $T_7$  (3.14 kg) &  $T_6$  was recorded with minimum yield per plot 2.46 kg. Nitrogen fixation bacteria + PSB might have improved both nitrogen and available phosphorus in Rhizosphere as they are free nitrogen fixation bacteria and phosphate solubilises, respectively. The combined inoculation of nitrogen fixation bacteria and PSB benefits plants more than either group of organisms alone Shrivastava and Ahalawat, (1995), Chalka (1999) <sup>[4]</sup>, Khandelwal & Pareek (2007) <sup>[10]</sup> in broccoli.

Treatment T<sub>9</sub> was recorded maximum yield per hectare, 165.7 q/ha followed by T<sub>4</sub> (141.59 q/ha), T<sub>8</sub> (141.56 q/ha) and control (125.07 q/ha) & T<sub>1</sub> was recorded with minimum yield per hectare 97.22 q/ha. Nitrogen fixation bacteria + PSB might have improved both nitrogen and available phosphorus in Rhizosphere as they are free nitrogen fixation bacteria and phosphate solubilises, respectively. The combined inoculation of nitrogen fixation bacteria and PSB benefits plants more than either group of organisms alone Shrivastava and

Ahalawat, (1995), Chalka (1999) <sup>[4]</sup>, Khandelwal & Pareek (2007) <sup>[10]</sup> in broccoli.

T<sub>8</sub> was recorded significantly maximum B:C ratio, 1:1.83 followed by T<sub>9</sub>, 1:1.8. T<sub>1</sub> was recorded with minimum B:C ratio, 0.54. T<sub>9</sub> was recorded significantly maximum net return, (55899.43 Rs. /ha) followed by T<sub>8</sub>, (51665.54 Rs. /ha). T<sub>1</sub> was recorded with minimum net return, (14799.31 Rs. /ha). The maximum increase in all these quality parameters were observed with PSB inoculation, which might be due to improved nutrient availability in the root zone and solubilisation of the native phosphate status of the soil by PSB. Phosphorus solubilising bacteria enhances the availability of phosphorus to plants and gives rise to better utilization of nutrients by the crop which might have in turn greater root development, nodulation and higher N-fixation in the soil. Thus, the increase in availability of N and P might have resulted in greater content in broccoli head (Tanwar et al., 2003; Sibbal et al., 2003).

Data pertaining showed that phosphorous content increase T.S.S of cauliflower. Treatment  $T_{10}$  was recorded maximum T.S.S, 7.13 <sup>o</sup>B followed by  $T_9$  (7.07 <sup>o</sup>B),  $T_3$  (7.07 <sup>o</sup>B) and  $T_6$  (. 6.7 <sup>o</sup>B) &  $T_7$  was recorded with minimum (5.73 <sup>o</sup>B) T.S.S. Nitrogen fixation bacteria + PSB might have improved both nitrogen and available phosphorus in Rhizosphere as they are free nitrogen fixation bacteria and phosphate solubilises, respectively. The combined inoculation of nitrogen fixation bacteria and PSB benefits plants more than either group of organisms alone Shrivastava and Ahalawat, (1995), Chalka (1999) <sup>[4]</sup>, Khandelwal & Pareek (2007) <sup>[10]</sup> in broccoli and by Dass *et al.* (2005) <sup>[7]</sup> in pea.

The data reveals that treatment  $T_7$  was recorded maximum compactness, 0.0421 followed by  $T_6$  (0.0359),  $T_3$  (0.0344) and  $T_2$  (0.022) &  $T_8$  was recorded with minimum compactness 0.0177 Nitrogen fixation bacteria + PSB might have improved both nitrogen and available phosphorus in Rhizosphere as they are free nitrogen fixation bacteria and phosphate solubilises, respectively. The combined inoculation of nitrogen fixation bacteria and PSB benefits plants more than either group of organisms alone Shrivastava and Ahalawat, (1995), Chalka (1999) <sup>[4]</sup>, Khandelwal & Pareek (2007) <sup>[10]</sup> in broccoli and by Dass *et al.* (2005) <sup>[7]</sup> in pea.

The data reveals that treatment  $T_9$  was recorded maximum ascorbic acid, 64.88 mg/100gm followed by  $T_5$  (63.5 mg/100gm),  $T_4$  (62.72 mg/100gm) and  $T_8$  (62.61 mg/100gm) & control was recorded with minimum ascorbic acid 47.36 mg/100gm. Nitrogen fixation bacteria + PSB might have improved both nitrogen and available phosphorus in Rhizosphere as they are free nitrogen fixation bacteria and phosphate solubilises, respectively. The combined inoculation of nitrogen fixation bacteria and PSB benefits plants more than either group of organisms alone Shrivastava and Ahalawat, (1995), Chalka (1999) <sup>[4]</sup>, Khandelwal & Pareek (2007) <sup>[10]</sup> in broccoli and by Dass *et al.* (2005) <sup>[7]</sup> in pea.

The data reveals that treatment  $T_6$  was recorded maximum Bcarotene, 27.82 µg/100gm followed by  $T_9$  (27.14 µg/100gm),  $T_5$  (26.57 µg/100gm) and  $T_3$  (26.4 µg/100gm) &  $T_1$  was recorded with minimum B-carotene 21.57 µg/100gm. Rhizobium was significantly increased the N and K availability by 19.57 and 5.47 per cent over control due to increased nitrogen fixation with the Rhizobium inoculation Meshram *et al.*, (2005) <sup>[11]</sup> and Dubey (1998) <sup>[9]</sup>.

| Treatments  | Plant height (cm) |         |         | Number of leaves |        |        | Length of leaves (cm) |               |        | Width of Leaves (cm) |               |        | Girth of stem (cm) |        |        | Leaf Area (cm <sup>2</sup> ) |         |         |
|---|-------------------|---------|---------|------------------|--------|--------|-----------------------|---------------|--------|----------------------|---------------|--------|--------------------|--------|--------|------------------------------|---------|---------|
| 1 reatments   | 30 DAT            | 45 DAT  | 60 DAT  | <b>30 DAT</b>    | 45 DAT | 60 DAT | <b>30 DAT</b>         | <b>45 DAT</b> | 60 DAT | <b>30 DAT</b>        | <b>45 DAT</b> | 60 DAT | <b>30 DAT</b>      | 45 DAT | 60 DAT | <b>30 DAT</b>                | 45 DAT  | 60 DAT  |
| T0: Control   | 27.43             | 42.31   | 52.60   | 6.39             | 14.99  | 22.43  | 17.63                 | 30.14         | 34.23  | 15.01                | 21.03         | 21.48  | 2.11               | 3.49   | 5.53   | 184.59                       | 443.888 | 515.172 |
| T1: Rhizobium (100g/Kg Seed)  | 27.34             | 46.32   | 52.50   | 7.23             | 14.34  | 21.70  | 16.31                 | 29.94         | 34.07  | 13.69                | 19.67         | 21.93  | 2.34               | 3.62   | 5.27   | 173.87                       | 412.159 | 523.34  |
| T2: Rhizobium (100g/Kg Seed) +<br>Compost (11t/Ha)                        | 25.79             | 45.16   | 51.03   | 7.13             | 13.90  | 21.37  | 15.88                 | 31.84         | 34.33  | 12.97                | 19.01         | 21.40  | 1.97               | 3.37   | 5.07   | 156.17                       | 443.443 | 456.608 |
| T3: Rhizobium (100g/Kg Seed) +<br>Compost (11t/Ha) + 75% RDF              | 23.73             | 43.21   | 53.37   | 6.92             | 13.87  | 21.77  | 13.66                 | 29.81         | 38.47  | 11.83                | 17.63         | 18.28  | 2.53               | 4.49   | 5.03   | 139.69                       | 458.35  | 493.672 |
| T4: Rhizobium (100g/Kg Seed) +<br>Compost (11t/Ha) + 100% RDF             | 21.67             | 38.09   | 51.53   | 6.33             | 14.33  | 21.73  | 16.18                 | 27.33         | 33.90  | 13.33                | 19.35         | 22.19  | 2.81               | 4.03   | 4.93   | 164.36                       | 370.048 | 526.79  |
| T5: Rhizobium (100g/Kg Seed) +<br>PSB (120g/Kg Seed)                      | 22.99             | 47.89   | 48.70   | 6.32             | 15.94  | 21.43  | 15.91                 | 33.20         | 32.83  | 14.26                | 20.23         | 18.65  | 2.28               | 3.72   | 5.40   | 168.34                       | 403.263 | 428.09  |
| T6: Rhizobium (100g/Kg Seed)+<br>Compost (11t/Ha) + PSB (120g/Kg<br>Seed) | 20.29             | 39.77   | 49.17   | 8.09             | 12.76  | 20.97  | 15.72                 | 26.25         | 35.73  | 16.05                | 21.61         | 23.27  | 2.29               | 4.04   | 5.33   | 169.48                       | 363.608 | 582.802 |
| T7: PSB (120g/Kg Seed)  | 20.81             | 43.93   | 48.53   | 7.53             | 13.94  | 22.03  | 17.16                 | 27.74         | 35.40  | 15.04                | 21.03         | 22.57  | 1.64               | 4.43   | 5.27   | 187.79                       | 438.584 | 522.079 |
| T8: PSB (120g/Kg Seed) +<br>Compost (11t/Ha)                              | 19.97             | 42.11   | 51.60   | 8.25             | 13.90  | 24.37  | 16.35                 | 31.27         | 39.83  | 13.42                | 19.37         | 20.52  | 2.46               | 4.12   | 5.03   | 179.12                       | 424.144 | 571.167 |
| T9: PSB (120g/Kg Seed) +<br>Compost (11t/Ha) + 75%RDF                     | 18.00             | 36.11   | 51.07   | 7.40             | 15.51  | 21.80  | 16.48                 | 30.30         | 38.00  | 14.84                | 20.84         | 21.23  | 2.77               | 4.52   | 5.37   | 178.51                       | 450.335 | 554.748 |
| T10: PSB (120g/Kg<br>Seed)+Compost (11t/Ha) + 100%<br>RDF                 | 21.75             | 39.15   | 49.40   | 6.61             | 14.71  | 21.73  | 15.81                 | 28.64         | 33.30  | 14.75                | 20.67         | 21.03  | 2.80               | 4.34   | 5.33   | 172.28                       | 414.487 | 489.792 |
| F-test  | s                 | S       | S       | s                | s      | S      | s                     | s             | s      | s                    | s             | S      | s                  | s      | s      | S                            | S       | S       |
| S.EM+-  | 0.61516           | 1.55473 | 0.74596 | 0.2517           | 0.3937 | 0.4122 | 0.3860                | 0.8160        | 1.0660 | 0.4136               | 0.3925        | 0.7766 | 0.1083             | 0.1552 | 0.1282 | 7.0268                       | 14.7526 | 26.0943 |
| C.D. (5%)   | 1.81472           | 4.58644 | 2.20058 | 0.7427           | 1.1614 | 1.2158 | 1.1386                | 2.4073        | 3.1447 | 1.2200               | 1.1578        | 2.2911 | 0.3195             | 0.4577 | 0.3782 | 20.7290                      | 43.5202 | 76.9782 |

 Table 1: Effects of Organic fertilizers and bio-fertilizers on Plant height (cm), Number of leaves/plant, Length of leaves (cm), Width of leaves (cm), Girth of stem (cm), Leaf area (cm<sup>2</sup>) of Cauliflower (*Brassica oleracea L. var. botrytis*).

**Table 2:** Effects of Organic fertilizers and bio-fertilizers on Ascorbic acid (mg/100g), T.S.S (<sup>0</sup>B), B-carotene (µg/100g), Compactness, Curd diameter (cm), Fresh weight of curd (kg), Yield per hectare (q/ha) and Yield per plot (kg) of Cauliflower (*Brassica oleracea L.* var. *botrytis*).

| symbols   | Treatments   | Ascorbic acid<br>(mg/100g) | T.S.S ( <sup>0</sup> B) | β-carotene<br>(µg/100g) | -      | Curd<br>diameter (cm) | Fresh weight<br>of curd (kg) | Yield per<br>hectare (q/ha) | yield per<br>plot (kg) |
|-----------|--|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| TO        | Control  | 47.36                      | 6.50                    | 23.23                   | 0.0310 | 11.95                 | 0.52                         | 125.07                      | 2.61                   |
| T1        | Rhizobium (100g/Kg Seed)   | 55.86                      | 6.60                    | 21.57                   | 0.0249 | 11.10                 | 0.34                         | 97.22                       | 2.98                   |
| T2        | Rhizobium (100g/Kg Seed) + Compost (11t/Ha)                      | 57.09                      | 5.77                    | 24.95                   | 0.0332 | 11.63                 | 0.49                         | 117.37                      | 3.22                   |
| T3        | Rhizobium (100g/Kg Seed) + Compost (11t/Ha) + 75% RDF            | 58.40                      | 7.07                    | 26.40                   | 0.0344 | 11.10                 | 0.46                         | 115.18                      | 2.60                   |
| T4        | Rhizobium (100g/Kg Seed) + Compost (11t/Ha) + 100% RDF           | 62.72                      | 6.47                    | 22.36                   | 0.0258 | 13.27                 | 0.57                         | 141.59                      | 3.48                   |
| T5        | Rhizobium (100g/Kg Seed) + PSB (120g/Kg Seed)                    | 63.50                      | 6.03                    | 26.57                   | 0.0259 | 11.67                 | 0.41                         | 105.42                      | 2.77                   |
| T6        | Rhizobium (100g/Kg Seed) + Compost (11t/Ha) + PSB (120g/Kg Seed) | 59.91                      | 6.70                    | 27.82                   | 0.0359 | 11.17                 | 0.47                         | 116.10                      | 2.46                   |
| T7        | PSB (120g/Kg Seed)   | 54.64                      | 5.73                    | 23.24                   | 0.0421 | 10.97                 | 0.55                         | 116.49                      | 3.14                   |
| T8        | PSB (120g/Kg Seed) + Compost (11t/Ha)                            | 62.61                      | 6.43                    | 23.94                   | 0.0177 | 15.53                 | 0.66                         | 141.56                      | 3.04                   |
| T9        | PSB (120g/Kg Seed) + Compost (11t/Ha) + 75% RDF                  | 64.88                      | 7.07                    | 27.14                   | 0.0195 | 15.33                 | 0.70                         | 165.70                      | 4.08                   |
| T10       | PSB (120g/Kg Seed) + Compost (11t/Ha) + 100% RDF                 | 60.55                      | 7.13                    | 23.19                   | 0.0246 | 12.53                 | 0.49                         | 110.44                      | 3.11                   |
| F-test    |  | S                          | S                       | S                       | S      | S                     | S                            | S                           | S                      |
| S.EM+-    |  | 2.09                       | 0.2227                  | 0.7716                  | 0.0047 | 0.4887                | 0.0405                       | 5.1336                      | 0.2428                 |
| C.D. (5%) |  | 6.16                       | 0.6569                  | 2.2761                  | 0.0140 | 1.4415                | 0.1194                       | 15.1445                     | 0.7162                 |

## Conclusion

On the basis of present experimental findings it is concluded that the treatment  $T_8$  was found superior over other treatments followed by  $T_9$  of cauliflower (*Brassica Oleracea* L. var. *botrytis*) cv. Mohini (local) was found better with different treatments of organic fertilizers and Bio-fertilizers, and lowest readings was recorded in  $T_1$  under growth, yield and quality parameters.

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