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Effect of pre-harvest treatment of GA₃ on physiological behaviour in Mango

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Abstract

Mango (*Mangifera indica* L.) is one of the most important fruit crops of many tropical and sub-tropical countries of world which belongs to the family Anacardiaceae (Nakasone and Paul 1998 and Purseglove 1972). The experiment was carried out in Horticulture Garden of Bihar Agricultural College, Sabour during Rabi season with the objectives focused in this direction on the effect of GA₃ application on physiological regulation of flowering and maturity in mango [*Mangifera indica* L.] cv. Langra. A critical analysis of data revealed that wide range of observation was observed on physiological traits. The traits such as photosynthetic rate (8.71 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$) and internal CO₂ concentration (283.80 ppm) was recorded with gibberellic acid @ 200 ppm while Stomatal conductance of leaf (0.163 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$) was recorded at the time of stone formation stage. A wide range was observed with application of gibberellic acid on Physiological parameters.

Keywords: Mango tree, variety Langra, GA₃, photosynthesis and application rate

Introduction

Mango (*Mangifera indica* L.) is one of the best fruit crops of many tropical and sub-tropical countries of world which belongs to the family Anacardiaceae (Nakasone and Paul 1998 and Purseglove 1972)^[10, 12]. Mango is popular and favorite in our country and is relished by people of all the ages because of its attractive appearance, enticing fragrance, rich aromatic flavor and attractive colour. It is found in North-East India, North-Burma and foot hills of the Himalayas and is said to have originated in the Indo-Burma region. India has vast germplasm and varietal diversity with about 1100 named varieties and no other country surpass but in India only few are grown on a commercial scale. Especially in Bihar, there is immense scope of mango crop because the agro-climatic conditions of Bihar are very congenial for mango production and the state has enormous wealth of mango genotypes.

Mango cv. Langra is predominant variety of Bihar which constitutes about 60 percent area under mango. The availability period of cv. Langra is very short hence it makes glut in the market. The farmers growing cv. Langra are not able to get good remuneration due to short availability. Moreover, the post harvest life of cv. Langra is very poor that make further problem in market. The use of plant growth regulators such as GA₃ by many researchers have shown reduced flower drop, high flower retention, increased yield and fruit quality in mango and other fruit species such as citrus, apple and guava (Hairdry *et al.*, 1997; El-Shaikh, 1999; Iqbal *et al.*, 2009)^[3, 2, 5]. Muarya and Singh (1981)^[9] and Dutta and Banik (2007)^[11] observed that foliar applications of GA significantly increased fruit length, diameter and fruit weight. Recent investigation has been conducted to increase the retention of flowers and fruits using plant growth regulators like GA₃. The present study was conducted to investigate the effect of GA₃ sprays at the flowering stage to improve mango fruit retention, yield and fruit quality in Keitt cultivar (Nkansah *et al.*, 2012)^[11].

Materials and Methods

The field experiment was conducted in AICRP (Fruits) Sabour, in the permanent experimental site under the Department of Horticulture (Fruit & Fruit Tech.), Bihar Agricultural College, Sabour, Bhagalpur, Bihar. The experimental plot had well drained sandy loam soil of good fertility with leveled surface. The experiment was carried out on plants those were planted in 1980 (33 year) at AICRP-fruit trial area of Bihar Agriculture College, Sabour.

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All the trees were maintained under uniform cultural practices during the course of investigation. Trees of mango cv. Langra were sprayed with 50, 100 and 200 ppm Gibberellic acid (GA₃) at Pea stage, Marble stage, Stone formation stage, 20 and 10 days before harvest. Control trees were spray with water.

Results and Discussion

Photosynthesis rate (µmol/m²/sec)

The data related to the photosynthetic rate are presented in Table-1 and represented graphically in Fig. - 1(a). The maximum photosynthetic rate (8.71 µmol/m²/sec) was recorded with gibberellic acid (GA₃) @ 200 ppm which at par with gibberellic acid (GA₃) @ 100 ppm. Minimum photosynthetic rate (7.42 µmol/m²/sec) was recorded in gibberellic acid (GA₃) @ 0 ppm which at par with gibberellic acid (GA₃) @ 50 ppm.

The maximum photosynthetic rate (8.36 µmol/m²/sec) was recorded at the time of 10 days before expected harvest stage which at par with the time of stone formation stage. Minimum photosynthetic rate (7.75 µmol/m²/sec) was recorded at the pea stage which at par with the time of 20 days before expected harvest stage.

The interaction effect was found to be significant effect on the photosynthetic rate shown in Table-2 and represented graphically in Fig.- 1(b). It clearly indicates that the highest photosynthetic rate (9.67 µmol/m²/sec) was recorded with gibberellic acid (GA₃) @ 200 ppm within stone formation stage followed by (9.13 µmol/m²/sec) with gibberellic acid (GA₃) @ 100 ppm within pea stage whereas, the lowest photosynthetic rate (6.69 µmol/m²/sec) was found gibberellic acid (GA₃) @ 0 ppm within 20 days before expected harvest stage. (Hayashi, 1961; Little and Loach, 1975; Whiley, 1986; Wieland and Wample, 1985; Khandaker *et al.*, 2013 and Kasambhai, 2015)^[4, 8, 13, 14, 7, 6].

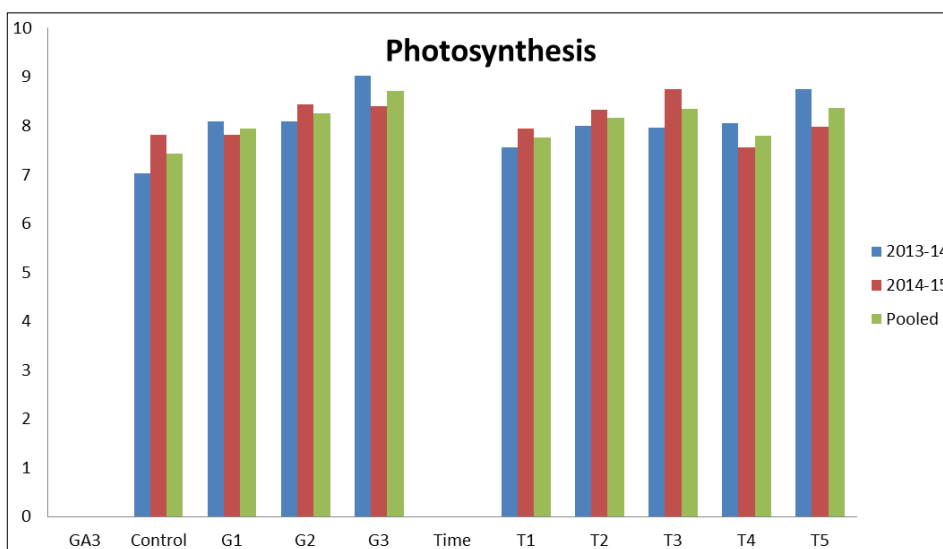


Fig 1(a): Effect of GA₃ application on different stages on photosynthesis (µmol/m²/sec) in mango cv. Langra

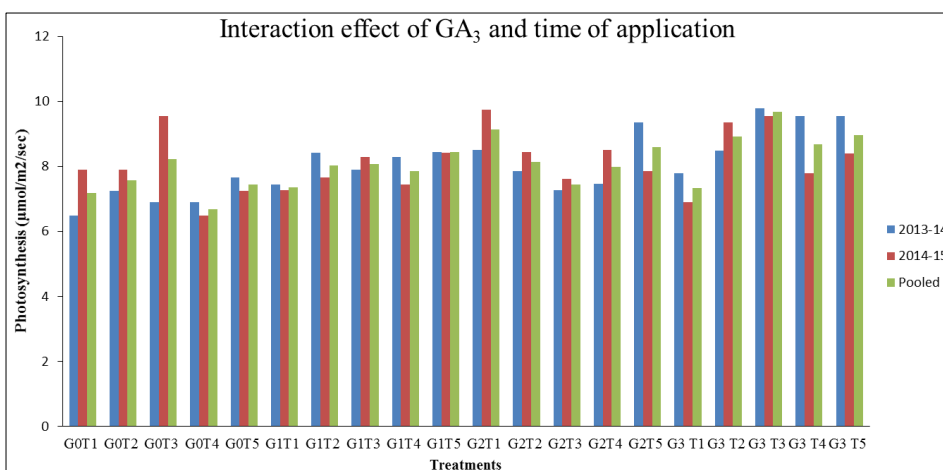


Fig 1(b): Interaction effect of GA₃ and its application time on photosynthesis (µmol/m²/sec) in mango cv. Langra

Table 1: Effect of GA₃ application on different stages on photosynthesis (µmol/m²/sec), stomatal conductance (µmol/m²/sec) and Internal CO₂ concentration of leaf (ppm) in mango cv. Langra

GA ₃ application	2013-14	2014-15	Pooled	2013-14	2014-15	Pooled	2013-14	2014-15	Pooled
Control	7.03	7.81	7.42	0.153	0.161	0.157	275.30	273.90	274.60
50 ppm	8.09	7.81	7.95	0.155	0.159	0.157	282.50	280.30	281.40
100 ppm	8.09	8.43	8.26	0.159	0.157	0.158	283.80	281.60	282.70
200 ppm	9.03	8.39	8.71	0.168	0.158	0.163	283.80	283.80	283.80
SE ± mean	0.039	0.038	0.027	0.003	-	-	1.90	2.22	1.46

CD (P=0.05)	0.116	0.112	0.078	0.008	NS	NS	5.63	6.56	4.18
Time of application									
Pea stage	7.55	7.94	7.75	0.158	0.163	0.160	281.38	275.38	278.38
Marble stage	8.00	8.33	8.16	0.149	0.159	0.154	280.63	282.13	281.38
Stone formation stage	7.96	8.75	8.35	0.155	0.171	0.163	279.88	282.50	281.19
20 days before expected harvest	8.05	7.55	7.80	0.173	0.150	0.161	281.50	280.13	280.81
10 days before expected harvest	8.75	7.98	8.36	0.160	0.151	0.156	283.38	279.38	281.38
SE \pm mean	0.044	0.042	0.030	0.003	0.003	0.002	-	-	-
CD (P=0.05)	0.129	0.125	0.087	0.009	0.010	0.007	NS	NS	NS

Table 2: Interaction effect of GA₃ and its application time on photosynthesis ($\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$), stomatal conductance ($\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$) and Internal CO₂ concentration of leaf (ppm) in mango cv. Langra

GA ₃ application	Time of application	Photosynthesis ($\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$)			Stomatal conductance ($\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$)			Internal CO ₂ concentration of leaf (ppm)		
		2013-14	2014-15	Pooled	2013-14	2014-15	Pooled	2013-14	2014-15	Pooled
GA ₃ @ 0 ppm	Pea stage	6.48	7.89	7.18	0.16	0.18	0.17	274.00	267.50	270.75
	Marble stage	7.25	7.89	7.57	0.15	0.18	0.16	273.00	282.50	277.75
	Stone formation stage	6.89	9.55	8.22	0.16	0.17	0.16	274.00	282.50	278.25
	20 days before expected harvest	6.89	6.48	6.69	0.16	0.14	0.15	278.50	269.00	273.75
	10 days before expected harvest	7.65	7.25	7.45	0.15	0.15	0.15	277.00	268.00	272.50
GA ₃ @ 50 ppm	Pea stage	7.44	7.26	7.35	0.15	0.16	0.15	283.00	277.00	280.00
	Marble stage	8.42	7.65	8.03	0.17	0.14	0.15	281.00	277.00	279.00
	Stone formation stage	7.89	8.28	8.08	0.14	0.19	0.16	282.50	283.50	283.00
	20 days before expected harvest	8.28	7.44	7.86	0.19	0.16	0.17	283.50	283.00	283.25
	10 days before expected harvest	8.44	8.42	8.43	0.15	0.17	0.16	282.50	281.00	281.75
GA ₃ @ 100ppm	Pea stage	8.51	9.74	9.13	0.16	0.18	0.17	285.00	278.00	281.50
	Marble stage	7.85	8.44	8.14	0.15	0.15	0.15	286.50	282.50	284.50
	Stone formation stage	7.26	7.62	7.44	0.16	0.17	0.16	285.00	276.00	280.50
	20 days before expected harvest	7.47	8.51	7.99	0.17	0.15	0.16	276.00	285.00	280.50
	10 days before expected harvest	9.35	7.85	8.60	0.18	0.16	0.17	286.50	286.50	286.50
GA ₃ @200 ppm	Pea stage	7.78	6.89	7.33	0.18	0.15	0.16	283.50	279.00	281.25
	Marble stage	8.49	9.35	8.92	0.14	0.18	0.16	282.00	286.50	284.25
	Stone formation stage	9.79	9.55	9.67	0.18	0.17	0.17	278.00	288.00	283.00
	20 days before expected harvest	9.55	7.78	8.67	0.18	0.17	0.17	288.00	283.50	285.75
	10 days before expected harvest	9.55	8.39	8.97	0.18	0.14	0.16	287.50	282.00	284.75
SE \pm mean	0.087	0.085	0.061	0.006	0.007	0.005	-	-	-	
CD (P=0.05)	0.259	0.250	0.174	0.018	0.021	0.013	NS	NS	NS	

Stomatal conductance ($\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$)

The data related to the Stomatal conductance of leaf are presented in Table-1 and represented graphically in Fig. - 2(a). There are no significant effects of Stomatal conductance of leaf with application of gibberellic acid (GA₃) which range from 0.157 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$ to 0.163 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$.

The maximum Stomatal conductance of leaf (0.163 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$) was recorded at the time of stone formation stage which at par with the time of 20 days before expected

harvest stage. Minimum Stomatal conductance of leaf (0.154 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$) was recorded at the marble stage which at par with the time of 10 days before expected harvest stage.

The interaction effect was found to be significant effect on the Stomatal conductance of leaf shown in Table-2 and represented graphically in Fig.- 2(b). It clearly indicates that the highest Stomatal conductance (0.17 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$) and lowest Stomatal conductance (0.15 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$) was found. Similar findings were reported by Khandaker *et al.*, 2013)^[7].

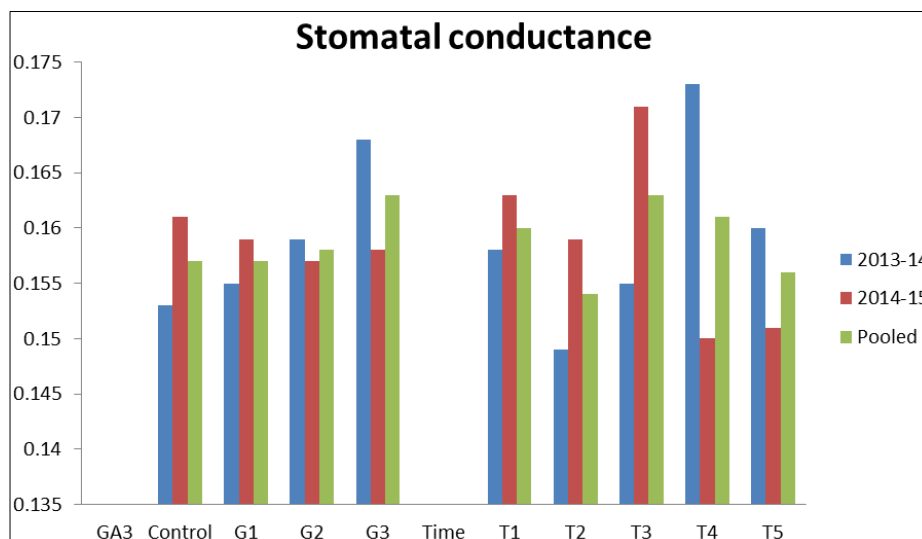


Fig 2(a): Effect of GA₃ application on different stages on stomatal conductance ($\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$) in mango cv. Langra

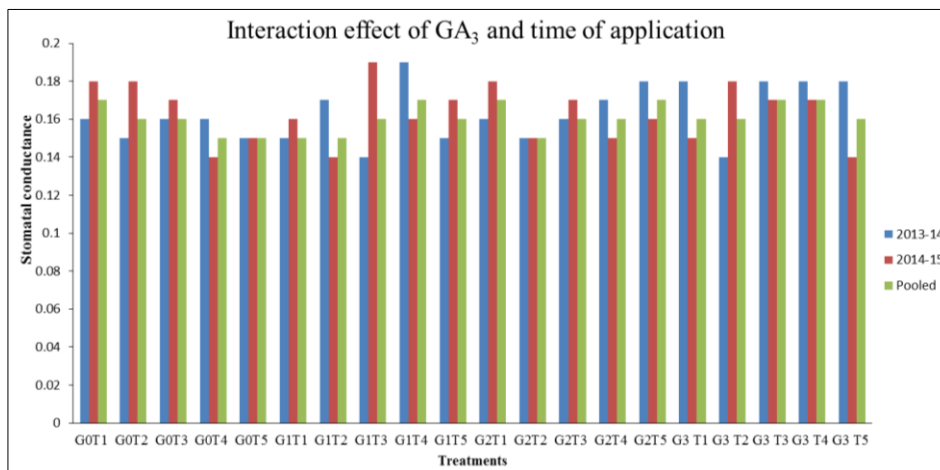


Fig 2(b): Interaction effect of GA₃ and its application time on stomatal conductance (µmol/m²/sec) in mango cv. Langra

Internal CO₂ concentration of leaf (ppm)

The data related to the internal CO₂ concentration of leaf are presented in Table- 1 and represented graphically in Fig.- 3(a). There is significant effect of internal CO₂ concentration of leaf with application of gibberellic acid (GA₃). The maximum internal CO₂ concentration of leaf (283.80 ppm) was recorded with gibberellic acid (GA₃) @ 200 ppm which at par with gibberellic acid (GA₃) @ 100 ppm. Minimum internal CO₂ concentration of leaf (274.60 ppm) was recorded with gibberellic acid (GA₃) @ 0 ppm which at par with gibberellic acid (GA₃) @ 50 ppm. There was no significant

effect of internal CO₂ concentration on leaf and range varies from 278.38 ppm to 281.38 ppm.

The interaction effect did not have any significant effect on the internal CO₂ concentration on leaf shown in Table-2 and represented graphically in Fig.- 3(b). The highest internal CO₂ concentration on leaf (86.50 ppm) was recorded with gibberellic acid (GA₃) @ 100 ppm within 10 days before expected harvest stage. However, the lowest internal CO₂ concentration of leaf was observed (270.75 ppm) with gibberellic acid (GA₃) @ 0 ppm within pea stage. Similar findings were reported by Zaharah *et al.*, 2012 [15].

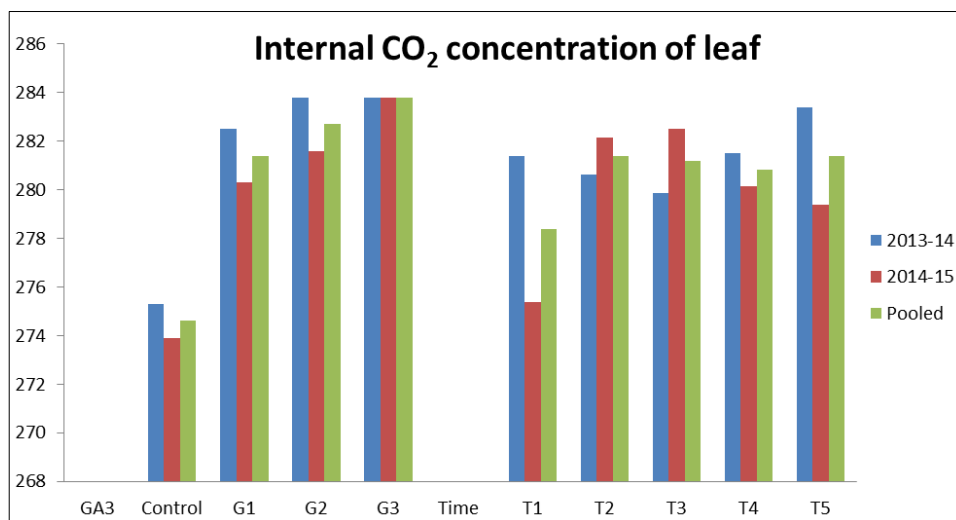


Fig 3(a): Effect of GA₃ on different stages on Internal CO₂ concentration of leaf (ppm) in mango cv. Langra

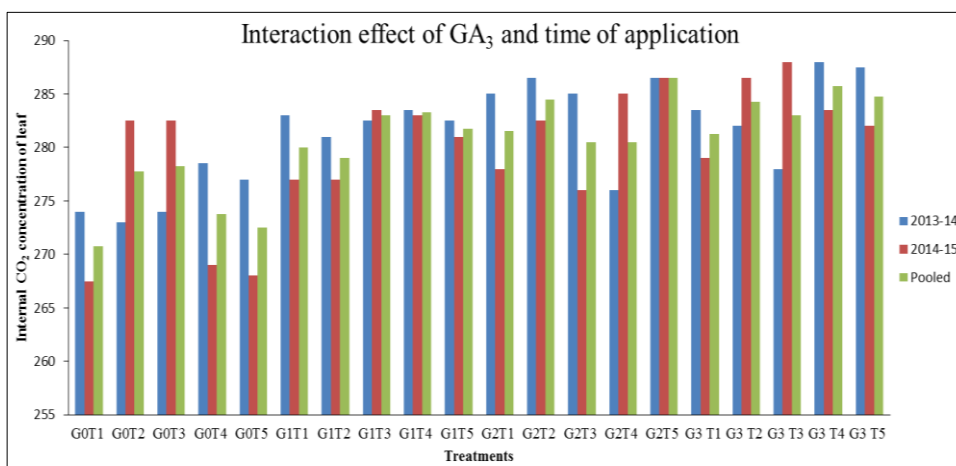


Fig 3(b): Interaction effect of GA₃ and its application time Internal CO₂ concentration of leaf in mango cv. Langra

Conclusion

The maximum photosynthetic rate ($8.71 \mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$) was recorded with gibberellic acid (GA_3) @ 200 ppm and at the time of 10 days before expected harvest stage. There are no significant effects of Stomatal conductance of leaf with application of gibberellic acid (GA_3) which ranged from $0.157 \mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$ to $0.163 \mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$. The maximum Stomatal conductance of leaf ($0.163 \mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$) was recorded at the time of stone formation stage. There is significant effect of internal CO_2 concentration of leaf with application of gibberellic acid (GA_3) while the interaction effect was non-significant to the internal CO_2 concentration on leaf. The maximum internal CO_2 concentration of leaf (283.80 ppm) was recorded with gibberellic acid (GA_3) @ 200 ppm.

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