

Effect of Super Absorbent Polymer on the Growth of Mango and Tomato

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ABSTRACT

Field trails were conducted to evaluate the performance of a super absorbent polymer on mango and tomato for improving seedling, plant establishment and crop development at AF Ecology centre research farm, Anantapuram. Super absorbent polymer was evaluated to suggest the farmers for improving crop growth and yield when there was limited water. The parameters evaluated are crop establishment, new twig formation, flowering, fruit formation and the crop tolerance against the drought. The plant height was 208.8 cm and 191.2 cm and the crown diameter is 163.8 cm and 165.8 cm for polymer treated and not treated respectively. The average flowering per a row in tomato for polymer treated is 12.0 and for the average flowering for polymer not treated are 10.8. The effective height of tomato crop for polymer treated and not treated was 33.4 cm and 29.6 cm respectively. the growth was found to be good when it treated with super absorbent polymer. The growth parameters of plants to which super absorbent polymer applied was appreciable.

Keywords: *Super absorbents, Polymer, Soil conditioner and Plant parameters.*