Research Article

Effect of Different Organic Amendment against Rice Root-Knot Nematode, *Meloidogyne Graminicola* in Rice

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Abstract

A pot experiment was conducted in screen house of Department of Nematology to study the effect of cakes (mustard and neem) and plant leaves (calotropis and neem) @ 1% and 2% w/w dose on rice infected with *Meliodogyne graminicola*. Cakes and plant leaves were incorporated in the naturally nematode infested soil 15 days before seed sowing. Untreated soil was maintained for comparison. After 45 days of seed sowing observations were recorded. The results showed that all treatments significantly improved plant height over untreated check, except neem cake @ 1% dose. Plant weight was significantly increased in all the treatments as compared to untreated check. Number of galls per plant reduced in all the treatments except neem cake @ 1% dose. Minimum reproduction factor was observed in mustard cake @ 2 % dose that stands at par with neem leaves @ 2% dose.

Keywords: Cakes, leaves, *Meliodogyne graminicola*, organic amendment and rice

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Introduction

Rice is staple food for about half of the population of our planet [1]. It is used in ready to eat products, cattle feed, paper making and as fuel source. It is grown in almost all the states of India as a principal food crop. Total area under rice cultivation in 2015-16 was 43.49 million hectares with production of 104.4 m tons in India while in Haryana it was 1.3 m ha with production of 4.1 m tons.

Rice is quite susceptible to different nematodes and is attacked by *Meloidogyne* spp. *Hirscmanniella* spp. *Aphelenchoides besseyi*, and *Ditylenchus angustus* [2]. Amongst these species, *M. graminicola* is a primary pest of rice and posses a substantial threat to rice cultivation [3]. The nematode is characterized by root-knot diseases or hook shaped galls in rice roots. Occurrence of this particular disease has been reported globally including India [4]. In severe infestation of this obnoxious pest yield losses of up to 64 per cent has been recorded in rice crop [5]. Though chemicals provide easy, quick and effective methods of nematode control but in the recent years ongoing of serious health problems their use has been minimized. Considering the damaging potential and heavy economic losses caused by this nematode on rice, the present study was planned to assess efficacy of different plant parts i.e. cakes and leaves against rice root-knot nematode on variety PR106.

Material and Methods

The experiment was set up in green house to study the effect of plant part such as fresh neem leaves, fresh calotropis leaves and oil cakes i.e. neem cake, mustard cake on rice for plant growth and nematode population. Chopped leaves of neem and calotropis, each @ 1% and 2% (w/w) and powdered oil cakes of neem and mustard each @ 1% and 2% (w/w) were incorporated in 15 cm dia. earthen pots filled with *Meloidogyne graminicola* infested soil. A waiting period of 15 days was provided for proper decomposition of organic amendments. Initial nematode population was 1.5 larvae/g soil. Seeds of rice variety rice variety PR106 were sown in these pots. After germination one plant per pot was maintained. There were total nine treatments including untreated check. Each treatment was replicated four times. Pots were arranged in completely randomized design. Observations on plant growth parameters and nematode multiplication were recorded after 45 days of sowing.

Results and Discussion

The results showed that all treatments significantly improved plant height over untreated check, except neem cake @ 1% dose. Amongst various plant products, maximum height (9.75 cm) was recorded in mustard cake @ 2% which differed significantly from all other treatments with respect to 2% dose, 2 % dose in all the treatments showed significantly higher plant height than the lower dose (1%). Similarly, all plant products significantly increased the

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plant weight over untreated check. The maximum weight (1.82 g) was recorded in mustard cake @ 2% dose followed by mustard cake (1.0 g) @ 1% dose.

Both the doses of calotropis leaves did not differ significantly from each other in terms of plant weight. Similarly, both the doses of neem leaves did not differ significantly from each other. The present studies are in an agreement with the observation recorded by [6] who found that mustard cake @ 2% dose increased wheat plant growth. [7] also reported mustard and neem seed cakes significantly better the plant growth and decreased the population of *Hirschmanniella oryzae* at higher dosages of neem and mustard cakes.

Reduction in number of galls (**Table 1**) was observed in all the treatments except in neem cake @ 1%. Minimum number of galls (3.25/plant) was observed in mustard cake @ 2% followed by neem leaves @ 2% (4.25), which did not differ significantly from each other. Nematode population in root and soil decreased in all the treatment over untreated check. [8] found that population of plant-parasitic nematodes, *Meloidogyne incognita, Rotylenchulus reniformis, Tylenchorhynchus brassicae* etc. significantly reduced in mungbean and chickpea by addition of oil seed cakes of different plant origin. In our experiment growth of rice seedling improved in amended soil, due to the reduction in the populations of plant-parasitic nematodes.

The data in **Table 2** revealed that maximum population in root and soil was recorded in untreated check (1944.1) and it was minimum (528.8) in mustard cake @ 2% dose followed neem leaves @ 2% dose (575.0). Maximum multiplication (1.3) of nematode occurred in untreated check which was statistically at par with neem cake @ 1 % dose. Minimum multiplication (0.4) was observed in mustard cake @ 2 % dose which is statistically at par with neem leaves @ 2 % dose followed by neem leaves (0.6) times @ 1% dose.

 Table 1 Effect of oil cakes, leaves on plant growth and number of galls on rice infected with Meloidogyne

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Treatments	Dose (%)	Plant height (cm)	Plant weight (g)	Number of Galls/plant			
Neem cake	1	5.25 (16.7)	0.45 (40.6)	17.50 (16.7)			
Neem cake	2	6.50 (44.4)	0.83 (159.4)	13.25 (-11.7)			
Mustard cake	1	8.00 (77.8)	1.00 (212.2)	9.00 (-40.0)			
Mustard cake	2	9.75 (116.7)	1.82 (468.8)	3.25 (-78.3)			
Calotropis	1	5.50 (22.2)	0.52 (62.5)	8.00 (-46.7)			
leaves							
Calotropis	2	5.75 (27.8)	0.57 (78.2)	7.00 (-53.3)			
leaves							
Neem leaves	1	5.75 (27.8)	0.74 (131.3)	6.00 (-60.0)			
Neem leaves	2	6.25 (38.9)	0.76 (137.5)	4.25 (-71.7)			
Untreated check		4.50	0.32	15.00			
CD at 5%		1.23	0.11	2.23			
Figures within parentheses denote increase (+)/decrease (-) over untreated check.							

Table 2 Effect of oil cakes and leaves on multiplication of *Meloidogyne graminicola* in rice

Treatments	Doses	Nematode population in			R.F.
	(%)	Root	Soil (Kg ⁻ 1)	Root+Soil	-
Neem cake	1	1201.3	500.0	1701.3	1.1
Neem cake	2	1063.8	493.8	1557.6	1.0
Mustard cake	1	806.3	450.0	1256.3	0.8
Mustard cake	2	297.5	231.3	528.8	0.4
Calotropis leaves	1	801.3	462.5	1263.8	0.8
Calotropis leaves	2	713.8	425.0	1138.8	0.8
Neem leaves	1	501.3	325.0	826.3	0.6
Neem leaves	2	337.5	237.5	575.0	0.4
Untreated check	-	1050.3	893.8	1944.1	1.3
CD at 5%		234.5	60.5	232.9	0.2

The results confirm the findings of [9] who found the 20g neem cake was more effective in reducing the nematode population (*Aphelenchoides composticola*) on button mushroom (*Agaricus bisporus*). Similar results were found by [10] who observed that neem cake at 5 g/kg soil had fewest egg masses of *M. graminicola* in rice.

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