

Effect of organic mulches on runner production of strawberry (*Fragaria x ananassa* Duch.)

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The runner production of strawberry cv. Sweet Charlie was evaluated under various organic mulches *viz.*, dry grass, saw dust, sugarcane trash and paddy, while plants without mulch served as control. The mulches of about 6 cm thickness were applied around plant basin one week after transplanting. Results revealed that all the organic mulches significantly increased runner production of strawberry. Maximum number of runner per plant, runner platelets per runner and runner plantlets per plant was recorded with paddy straw followed sugarcane trash. The per cent increase in number of runner plantlets over control with paddy straw, sugarcane trash, saw dust and dry grass mulch was 33.33 per cent, 27.78 per cent, 18.00 per cent and 14.00 per cent, respectively. Organic mulches also increased the length of the runner stolon, number of leaves and leaf area of runner plantlets.

Key words : Mulch, Organic, Runner, Strawberry

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