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RESEARCH PAPER

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Effect of organic manures and biofertilizers on the productivity of garden bean [*Dolichos lablab* (Roxb.) L. var. typicus]

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ABSTRACT : Field experiment was conducted at the vegetable unit of the Department of Horticulture, Faculty of Agriculture, Annamalai University. The study was to find out the effect of organic manures and biofertilizers on the productivity of garden bean cv. KONKAN BUSHAN. The experiment was laid out in a Randomized Block Design with 10 treatments. Each treatment was replicated thrice. Among the treatments tested, inoculation of *Rhizobium* and vesicular arbuscular mycorrhizae along with vegetable waste vermicompost and foliar supplementation of vermiwash proved superior and recorded significant increase on the growth characters of garden bean such as plant height, leaf area index and dry matter production during both years of crop growth. The same combination of treatments further recorded maximum pod yield (T_2) . As a result of increased nutrient uptake, nodulation and biological nitrogen fixation of Rhizobium, colonization of vesicular arbuscular mycorrhizae and supplement of nutrients through vermiwash and vermicompost (vegetable) and the highest 'N' content (3.02 %) of the vegetable derived vermicompost, the treatment T_{7} was found to be superior. These results indicate that the garden bean being a leguminous vegetable crop responds very well for inoculation of *Rhizobium*, VAM and vermicompost and its wash for providing all necessary nutrients in their available form which in turn leads to the avoidance of inorganic inputs.

KEY WORDS : Vermicompost, Rhizobium, Inorganic inputs

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