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Performance and economics of sweet corn as influenced by leafy vegetables intercropping system under rainfed condition

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ABSTRACT : The present investigation was undertaken during *Kharif* 2009-10 at the Farm of Department of Agronomy, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyaapeeth, Akola. The objective of this study was to study the effect of different vegetables intercrops on growth, yield and economics of sweet corn and vegetable intercropping systems. The experiment was laid out in Randomized Block Design with four replications and six treatments. These six treatments comprised of sweet corn as a base crop and fenugreek, spinach, coriander, garlic and shepu as intercrops. Sole sweet corn was sown at uniform spacing at 90 × 20 cm. In intercropping treatments treatment sweet corn + fenugreek, sweet corn + spinach, sweet corn + coriander, sweet corn + garlic and sweet corn + shepu were sown at uniform spacing in 15 cm between two rows. The investigation was planned with specified objectives as to study the effect of various vegetable intercrops on growth, yield and productivity of sweet corn under rainfed condition. The sole sweet corn and sweet corn + shepu significantly increased the plant height, functional leaves, leaf area and total dry matter per plant as well as yield contributing characters *viz.*, length of cob and no. of grains per cob over other vegetables intercropping treatments. The grain and fodder yield was also increased with sole sweet corn and sweet corn + shepu over the other treatments. The cob yield, no. of cobs per hectare also recorded higher with sole sweet corn. The GMR, NMR and B : C ratio intercropping system were found higher in sweet corn + coriander and sweet corn + spinach.

Key Words : Sweet corn, Intercropping system, Growth, Yield, Economics

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