

## Varietal performance of bitter gourd (*Momordica charantia* L.) in respect of flowering and fruiting parameters under Parbhani district of Maharashtra, India

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### ABSTRACT

An experiment was performed to study the varietal performance of bitter gourd varieties in respect of flowering and fruiting parameters at Department of Horticulture, Marathwada Agriculture University, Parbhani, Maharashtra. Results revealed that Variety 'Priya' gave best result of flowering in terms of nodal position of first female flower, days to appearance of first female flower, number of female flower, sex ratio of flowers and fruiting parameters like weight of fruit, number of fruits per vine.

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**Key words :** Bitter gourd, Varietal performance

### INTRODUCTION

Amongst the vegetables, fruit vegetables particularly cucurbits which is a very big group has commercial importance due to its nutritional value, good keeping and transport quality. Bitter gourd (*Momordica charantia* L.) is a major cucurbit crop grown in *Kharif* and summer season. Bitter gourd fruits contained crude protein, ash, phosphorus, sulphur, phenol, carbohydrates and is rich source of iron and vitamin 'C'. The commercial cultivation of bitter gourd in Maharashtra has been increased due to its high remunerative value. With increase in number of irrigation projects the area under this crop in Marathwada region is likely to be increased. However, Scientific knowledge of the cultivation practices of bitter gourd is lacking. A large number of cultivators cultivate this crop by using either their own seed or available seed in the market. The present status of bitter gourd production is not satisfactory and hence, the yield is low. Very little work has been done in respect of varietal performance and other package of practices Information about performances of varieties is lacking. Therefore, an experiment entitled varietal performance of bitter gourd (*Momordica charantia* L.) in respect of flowering and fruiting parameters under Parbhani district Maharashtra, India was conducted.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present study entitled varietal performance of

bitter gourd (*Momordica charantia* L.) in respect of flowering and fruiting parameters under Parbhani district of Maharashtra, India was conducted during *Kharif* season in the year 2007-2008 at Department of Horticulture, Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani, Maharashtra. The experimental site was having well leveled and uniform with medium black soil having uniform texture and good drainage. The experiment was laid out in RBD and consisted of eight treatments and three replications. The treatment details are as below:

Tr. No.	Treatments (Variety)
T <sub>1</sub>	Phule Green Gold
T <sub>2</sub>	Hirkani
T <sub>3</sub>	Phule Ujjwala
T <sub>4</sub>	Priya
T <sub>5</sub>	Kokon Tara
T <sub>6</sub>	Bitter Gourd 2
T <sub>7</sub>	MC 84
T <sub>8</sub>	Co White Long (Cheak)

The experimental plot was applied with 100:50:50 Kg NPK from urea, single super phosphate and murate of Potash. The seed was sown at the spacing of 150 cm as row to row and 100 cm as plant to plant. All standard cultural operations were carried out as per recommendations and observations of flowering and fruiting parameters were recorded at regular interval.

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