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# Effect of foliar application of plant growth regulators on growth and yield of potato seed tubers propagated from micro plantlets on soilless solid media in greenhouse

■ RAVINDRA AWATI<sup>1</sup>, ANJANABHA BHATTACHARYA AND BHARAT CHAR<sup>1</sup>

### AUTHORS' INFO

#### Associated Co-author :

<sup>1</sup>Mahyco Research Centre,  
Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Company  
Private Limited, JALNA (M.S.)  
INDIA

#### Author for correspondence: ANJANABHA

#### BHATTACHARYA

Mahyco Research Centre,  
Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds  
Company Private Limited,  
JALNA (M.S.) INDIA  
Email: [anjanabha.bhattacharya@mahyco.com](mailto:anjanabha.bhattacharya@mahyco.com)

**ABSTRACT :** In the present study, effect of foliar application of plant growth regulators on growth and yield of potato seed tubers cv. KUFRI CHIPSONA 3, grown from micro plantlets, on soil-less solid media in greenhouse conditions, were evaluated. Out of seven treatments studied, six included plant growth regulators, of which, two were plant growth enhancers (GA<sub>3</sub>, NAA), four were plant growth retardants (Paclobutrazol, Triacantanol, Ethrel and Chlormequat chloride-CCC) and one control (water spray). Treatments were designated, namely, T<sub>0</sub> control (water spray), T<sub>1</sub> GA<sub>3</sub> (0.0036 ppm), T<sub>2</sub> paclobutrazol (100 ppm), T<sub>3</sub> triacantanol (0.5 ppm), T<sub>4</sub> NAA (100 ppm), T<sub>5</sub> ethrel (250 ppm) and T<sub>6</sub> CCC (500 ppm) as foliar application on 30 DAP (days after planting) old crop plants. Results indicate that the treatment with T<sub>5</sub> ethrel (250 ppm) was significantly effective in altering crop phenotype, chiefly, in terms of plant growth parameters like crop height (dwarf phenotype, 61.1cm vs. control, 110.2cm), main shoot diameter (5.8cm vs. 4.2cm), number of tuber per plant (3.4 vs. 2.6) and total yield of tuber [g per block] (534.6g vs. 246g in controls) in comparison to T<sub>0</sub> control-water spray. Application of Ethrel (250 ppm) at 30 DAP is recommended on micro plantlets generated crop plants, grown in soil-less solid media cultivation in green house condition, for increased yield of potato seed tubers.

**KEY WORDS :** Plant growth regulator, Plant growth enhancers, Plant growth retardants, Potato seed tubers, Harvest index

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