



RESEARCH PAPER

Effect of grow cover and sowing time on growth, yield and quality of muskmelon (*Cucumis melo* L.)

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Abstract : The present investigation entitled Effect of grow cover and sowing time on growth, yield and quality of muskmelon (*Cucumis melo* L.) was carried out at Instructional farm, Jambuvadi, College of Horticulture, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh during 2022-23. The experiment was laid out in Randomized Block Design with Factorial Concept (FRBD) with two factors. The treatments consisted of five date of sowing *i.e.*, second fortnight of December, first fortnight of January, Second fortnight of January, First fortnight of February and second fortnight of February under open field as well as biodegradable low tunnel, respectively. The result clearly indicated that effect of the grow cover (biodegradable grow cover) and sowing time (1st fortnight of February) (G_2S_4) recorded minimum days to germination (5.20), days to flowering (22.40) and maximum vine length (139.53 cm), length of secondary branches vine⁻¹ (121.92), fruit weight (538.33 g), polar diameter (9.50 cm), fruit yield vine⁻¹ (1.80 kg vine⁻¹), total fruit yield (76.44 t ha⁻¹), pulp thickness (3.00 cm), TSS(8.11°Brix) and minimum cavity index (3.68cm).

Key Words : Muskmelon, Grow cover, Sowing time, Growth, Yield, Quality

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