

Efficacy of Different Herbicides On Yield And Nutrient Uptake Of Chickpea (*Cicer arietinum* L.)

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ABSTRACT

The present research "Efficacy of different herbicides on yield and nutrient uptake of chickpea (*Cicer arietinum* L.)" was conducted at Experimental Farm, Department of Agriculture, Mata Gujri College, Fatehgarh Sahib during rabi season of 2017-18, 2018-19. The experiment was laid out in Randomized Block Design with tentreatment and replicated thrice. Among herbicidal treatments, maximum yield was recorded in T₅- pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE which was statistically at par with T₇- pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE and T₆- oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE + quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE. In case of nutrient uptake by crop, the highest uptake was observed in T₅- pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE which was statistically at par with T₇- pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE and T₆- oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE + quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE and superior to rest of the treatments. In case of nutrient depletion by weeds, the lowest depletion was observed in T₅- pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE which was statistically at par with T₇- pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE and T₆-oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE + quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE and inferior to rest of the treatments during both the years. Weed free recorded significantly higher nutrient uptake and yields over rest of the treatments.

KEYWORDS: Chickpea (bengal gram), Herbicide, Nutrient depletion, Weed, Yield

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INTRODUCTION

The botanical name of Chickpea is *Cicer arietinum* L. occupies prime position among pulses by virtue of its short growth period, huge tonnage capacity and outstanding nutrient value as food, feed and forage. It is commonly known as 'gram' or 'bengal gram' and locally known as 'chana' is belonging to family 'Leguminosae'. It is an important and unique food legume, because of people consume it as processed whole seed (boiled, roasted, parched, fried, steamed and sprouted), dal and besan, while unripe grains eaten as a raw snack ([10]). It is also considered to have some medicinal effects and used for blood purification. Chickpea is known for high source of protein (21.1%), carbohydrate (61.5%), fat (4.5%), minerals and vitamins. Among important minerals, phosphorus (340 mg), iron (7mg) and zinc (3 mg/100g) are present [10]. According to FAO [4] chickpea is the third most important pulse crop in the world after french bean and field peas. Leading countries in area and production of chickpea are Pakistan, Turkey, Mexico, Canada and Australia. India is the major producing country for chickpea. It alone has nearly 52.5 % of the world acreage and production of chickpea. Weed competition for qualitative growth and development concurring with depletion of nutrient is the major concerns that limiting the crop yield [3]. This is a short stature crop with slow initial growth and therefore, heavily infested with wide spectrum of weeds. The prevalence of monocot weed were found with relative density of

68.2% as compared to dicot weeds (24.2%). Among the monocots, *Cyperus rotundus* had the highest relative density (33.1%) followed by *Cynodondactylon* (27.8 %), while among dicots *Launea pinnatifolia* registered the highest relative density of 13.3% followed by *Chenopodium album* (6.0%) and *Anagallis arvensis*(4.8%) [9]. Chickpea is an important crop of *rabi* crop besides limited moisture crop has to compete with weeds. Timely weed management practices play an important role in the successful cultivation of the crop. Chickpea suffers severely due to competition stress of weeds with yield reduction to the tune of 20 to 49.5 % depending on nature and density of weeds. Weed infestation is one of the major limiting factors in the productivity of the crops both under rainfed and irrigated situations. On an average, the reduction in crop yield to the tune of 20-40% has been reported in weed infested crops which calls for effective weed control measures. Control of weeds is vitally important not only to check the losses, caused by them but also to increase the fertilizer use efficiency. The lowest uptake of nutrients by weed observed in treatments T₁₀-2 hand hoeing at 15 and 40 DAS + 1 hand weeding at 30 DAS followed by T₈ - pendimethalin @ 1000 g ha PE + 1 at 40DAS, which may be due to lowest weed count [2].

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The experiment was carried out at Experimental Farm, Department of Agriculture, Mata Gujri College, Shamsar Nagar, Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab, during *rabi* season of two consecutive years (2017-18 and 2018-19). The experiment was laid out in Randomized Block Design with ten treatments and replicated thrice. The treatments details are T₁ - weedy check, T₂ - weed free, T₃ - pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE, T₄- oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE, T₅ - pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE, T₆ - oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE + quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE, T₇ - pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE, T₈ - oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE + imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE, T₉ -quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE, T₁₀ - imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE. The soil of experimental site was clay loam in texture with low organic carbon (0.79 %) and medium in nitrogen (340kg/ha), phosphorus (16.75 kg/ha) and potassium (174kg/ha). The chickpea variety PBG-7 was used. The seed rate of 50 kg/ha in chickpea was used and sowing was done in line with 30 × 10 cm² spacing in 2.7 × 2.5 m² gross plot size on November 09, 2017 and 2018. Crop was raised with recommended package of practices for the region. A basal dose of 15 kg N and 20 kg P₂O₅/ha were drilled uniformly before sowing through urea and diammonium phosphate, respectively in individual plot at the depth of 7 to 8 m below the seed. Herbicides were applied as per treatments with hand sprayer fitted with flat fan nozzle and the spray volume was 500 liters/ha. After sowing of the crop, one irrigation was applied at pod filling stage for proper growth and development during the growing season. Data on weed dry matter was recorded from an area enclosed in the quadrat of 0.5m² randomly thrown two places per plot and then converted into per square meter. The data on weeds were subjected to square root transformation. Weed species were separately counted from each sample and their density was recorded as average number/m². Oven dry weight of weeds was recorded at 65°C for 48 hours and expressed as dry matter accumulation/m². Crop was harvested when pod began to turn yellow and leaf start shedding on 6 April during both the years. Crop was sun dried and biological yield were recorded separately for each treatment. Data collected on various parameters were analyzed statistically for valid conclusion.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Weed flora

The major weeds in experimental crop were *Melilotus alba*, *Chenopodium album*, *Cynodon dactylon*, *Phalaris minor*, *Phyllanthus niruri*, *Portulaca oleracea*, *Digera arvensis*, and *Anagallis arvensis* during both the years of study. Similar weed species in chickpea during winter season also reported by Gupta et al. (2012)⁵ and Butter et al. (2008)¹. Rathod et al. (2017)⁸ conducted trial in two consecutive years at Gulbarga (Karnataka) to study the dominated weed flora in chickpea. They reported that *Panicum* spp. and *Cynodon dactylon* among grasses, *Cyperus rotundus* among sedges and *Amaranthus viridis*, *Physalis minima*, *Chrozophora rottleri*, *Phyllanthus niruri*, *Aristolochia bracteata*, *Trianthema portulacastrum*, *Portulaca oleracea* and *Digera arvensis* among broad leaf weeds were highly infested the field.

Effect of different herbicides on yield and harvest index

Significantly improvement in yield attributing characters due to employed herbicide under particular treatment significantly increases seed yield and stover yield of chickpea. The various treatments were influenced significantly on crop (Table 1). The maximum seed yield, stover yield and biological yield was observed in T₅ - pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE which was at par with T₇ - pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE and T₆ - oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE + quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE. However, the maximum harvest index was recorded in T₅ - pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE. This was due to effective control of weeds by this treatment which resulting into better plant growth due to less competition regarding nutrient, space, CO₂ etc. In these treatments higher nutrient availability to crop and finally highest seed and straw yield. The results are corroborated with the research finding of Gupta *et al.* [5], Singh *et al.* [11] and Yadav *et al.* [12].

Table 1. Efficacy of Different Herbicides on crop yield and harvest index

Treatments	Seed yield (q/ha)		Stover yield (q/ha)		Biological yield (q/ha)		Harvest index (%)	
	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19
T ₁ - Weedy check	10.17	11.49	15.54	17.95	25.71	29.44	39.33	39.15
T ₂ - Weed free	22.67	23.54	27.50	30.43	50.17	53.96	45.19	43.73
T ₃ - Pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE	14.19	15.29	18.10	21.86	32.29	37.15	43.94	41.26
T ₄ - Oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE	13.87	14.72	17.71	21.65	31.58	36.37	44.34	40.45
T ₅ - Pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + Quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE	21.74	22.73	25.80	27.72	47.54	50.45	45.66	45.13
T ₆ - Oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE + Quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE	19.85	20.97	24.32	25.96	44.17	46.93	44.88	44.44
T ₇ - Pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + Imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE	20.29	21.54	24.63	26.46	44.92	48.00	45.14	44.76
T ₈ - Oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE + Imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE	15.88	16.86	21.58	23.32	37.47	40.18	42.39	41.97
T ₉ - Quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE	15.45	16.54	20.27	23.06	35.72	39.60	43.27	41.70
T ₁₀ - Imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE	14.80	15.75	19.54	22.60	34.34	38.36	42.91	41.10
Sem ±	1.14	1.22	1.23	1.33	1.70	1.67	2.42	2.32
CD @ 5%	3.38	3.64	3.65	3.96	5.05	4.96	NS	NS

Effect of different herbicides on nutrient content by crop

Nutrient content in seed and stover was non significantly affected by different herbicide treatments as shown in Table 2. The maximum nutrient content was observed in T₅ - pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE followed by T₇ - pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE. This is due to more availability of nutrient to crop. The similar result was reported by Bhutada and Bhale [2].

Table 2. Efficacy of different herbicides on N, P, K content (%) in chickpea crop

Treatments	N content in seed		N content in stover		P content in seed		P content in stover		K content in stover		K content in stover	
	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2017-18	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19
T ₁ - Weedy check	2.92	3.08	0.43	0.18	0.43	0.44	0.18	0.20	0.80	0.81	0.99	1.01
T ₂ - Weed free	3.94	3.95	0.69	0.34	0.69	0.68	0.34	0.35	1.18	1.20	1.39	1.41
T ₃ - Pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE	3.31	3.32	0.48	0.23	0.48	0.49	0.23	0.24	0.87	0.88	1.14	1.16
T ₄ - Oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE	3.22	3.23	0.46	0.22	0.46	0.47	0.22	0.23	0.84	0.85	1.13	1.15
T ₅ - Pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + Quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE	3.66	3.68	0.67	0.33	0.67	0.68	0.33	0.35	1.18	1.19	1.34	1.36
T ₆ - Oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE + Quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE	3.51	3.60	0.58	0.29	0.58	0.60	0.29	0.30	1.03	1.05	1.23	1.24
T ₇ - Pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + Imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE	3.59	3.65	0.64	0.32	0.64	0.65	0.32	0.33	1.16	1.17	1.25	1.26
T ₈ - Oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE + Imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE	3.29	3.28	0.51	0.28	0.51	0.52	0.28	0.29	0.97	1.01	1.20	1.22
T ₉ - Quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE	3.26	3.26	0.50	0.28	0.50	0.50	0.28	0.29	0.97	1.01	1.18	1.20
T ₁₀ - Imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE	3.19	3.21	0.49	0.28	0.49	0.50	0.28	0.29	0.94	0.95	1.17	1.20
Sem ±	0.27	0.24	0.06	0.03	0.06	0.06	0.03	0.03	0.11	0.10	0.12	0.09
CD @ 5%	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS

Effect of different herbicides on nutrient uptake by crop and depletion by weeds

Nutrient uptake by seed and stover was significantly affected by different herbicides (Table 3 and 4). Maximum nutrient uptake by seed and stover was recorded in T₅ - pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE which was at par with T₇ - pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE and T₆ - oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE + quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE. Significantly lowest nutrient depletion by weeds was recorded in T₅ - pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE which was at par with T₇ - pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE and T₆ -

oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE + quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE. It can be explained in the light of the facts that these treatments controlled the weeds effectively, might be made more nutrients available to crop and consequently encouraged higher concentration of nutrients and more yield and thereby higher uptake of nutrients by crop. These findings corroborate with the reports of Mani [7] and Kaur *et al.* [6].

Table 3. Efficacy of different herbicides on N, P, uptake (kg/ha) in chickpea crop

Treatments	N uptake by seed		N uptake by stover		Total N uptake by crop		P uptake by seed		P uptake by stover		Total P uptake by crop	
	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19
T ₁ - Weedy check	30.27	35.45	17.60	20.44	47.87	55.89	4.61	5.10	2.74	3.63	7.34	8.72
T ₂ - Weed free	89.47	92.79	44.86	49.66	134.33	142.45	15.67	15.93	9.38	10.73	25.05	26.65
T ₃ - Pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE	46.52	50.46	24.73	30.33	71.26	80.79	6.89	7.51	4.19	5.31	11.08	12.82
T ₄ - Oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE	44.41	47.77	23.03	28.77	67.45	76.53	6.41	6.91	3.98	4.96	10.39	11.87
T ₅ - Pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + Quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE	79.28	83.42	40.72	44.09	120.01	127.51	14.62	15.51	8.60	9.86	23.22	25.37
T ₆ - Oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE + Quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE	69.53	75.59	37.62	40.50	107.15	116.09	11.45	12.48	7.14	7.82	18.60	20.30
T ₇ - Pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + Imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE	72.93	79.03	38.51	41.84	111.44	120.87	12.89	13.84	7.77	8.55	20.66	22.40
T ₈ - Oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE + Imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE	52.40	55.64	31.20	34.00	83.59	89.64	8.19	8.72	6.02	6.89	14.21	15.61
T ₉ - Quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE	50.65	54.48	29.02	32.95	79.67	87.43	7.88	8.40	5.69	6.64	13.57	15.04
T ₁₀ - Imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE	47.36	50.40	27.26	31.81	74.61	82.21	7.49	7.88	5.47	6.56	12.96	14.44
Sem ±	6.36	6.74	2.81	2.90	7.20	8.49	1.31	1.13	0.87	0.93	1.51	1.53
CD @ 5%	18.89	20.02	8.35	8.62	21.38	25.22	3.88	3.36	2.57	2.76	4.47	4.54

Table 4. Efficacy of different herbicides on Kuptake by crop and N, P, K depletion (kg/ha)by weed

Treatments	K uptake by seed		K uptake by stover		Total K uptake by crop		N uptake by weed		P uptake by weed		K uptake by weed	
	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19	2017-18	2018-19
T ₁ - Weedy check	8.08	9.24	15.25	18.22	23.33	27.47	12.91	12.34	3.20	2.96	8.11	7.97
T ₂ - Weed free	26.77	28.25	38.59	43.43	65.36	71.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
T ₃ - Pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE	12.48	13.54	20.43	25.64	32.90	39.17	5.86	5.60	1.23	1.12	3.67	3.33
T ₄ - Oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE	11.47	12.43	20.13	24.82	31.60	37.24	7.43	7.29	1.79	1.68	4.67	4.28
T ₅ - Pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + Quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE	25.69	27.12	34.47	37.79	60.16	64.91	1.27	1.07	0.16	0.12	0.75	0.63
T ₆ - Oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE + Quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE	20.63	21.89	29.87	32.16	50.50	54.04	1.91	1.77	0.33	0.30	1.21	1.15
T ₇ - Pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + Imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE	23.40	24.83	30.70	33.28	54.10	58.11	1.72	1.49	0.24	0.18	1.05	0.93
T ₈ - Oxyflourfen @ 125 g/ha as PRE + Imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE	15.15	17.15	25.87	28.33	41.02	45.48	3.34	3.16	0.60	0.50	2.07	1.95
T ₉ - Quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE	14.80	16.49	24.09	27.50	38.90	43.99	4.58	4.45	0.85	0.73	2.89	2.70
T ₁₀ - Imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE	13.77	15.08	22.71	26.95	36.48	42.03	5.02	4.91	0.99	0.86	3.16	2.98
SEm ±	1.91	1.82	3.16	2.95	3.48	2.89	0.58	0.58	0.10	0.11	0.36	0.28
CD @ 5%	5.68	5.40	9.40	8.77	10.34	8.59	1.71	1.73	0.31	0.34	1.07	0.82

CONCLUSION

Weed management treatments showed significantly profound effect on crop yield and nutrient uptake by crop and weeds during both the years. Among weed management, Application of pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + quizalofop @ 60 g/ha as POE as pre and

post-emergence showed significantly lowest nutrient depletion by weeds, highest nutrient uptake by crop and highest crop yield and the second-best treatment was pendimethalin @ 1 kg/ha as PRE + imazethapyr @ 40 g/ha as POE.

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