

Efficacy of biodegraded coir pith for the cultivation of nitrogen fixing plants

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Abstract

The main objective of the study was to find out whether the composted coir pith has a positive influence on the nodulation and germination of seeds in Black gram (*Vigna mungo*) and Green gram (*Vigna radiata*) crops in soil compared to raw coir pith. Among the five different types of potting mixtures studied, it was found that a potting mixture having coir pith compost and soil in 9:1 ratio showed the highest performance in terms of nodule formation, root development and overall vegetative growth for both the crops. More or less the same results were obtained by the treatment having soil and composted coir pith in the ratio 1:1 and also in soil alone as potting medium showed comparable performance. Potting mixture having raw coir pith had the least performance in seed germination with little or no nodule formation in the studied plants.

Key words: Nodulation, Composted coir pith, Black gram, Green gram