

Influence of sowing time and plant population on seed cotton yield

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ABSTRACT:

The present study was conducted to evaluate yield performance of cotton under various plant spacing by keeping normal to maximum plant population under four sowing dates. FH-NOOR cotton variety was sown in triplicate split-plot design having a net plot size measuring 5.45×3.78m, while keeping sowing dates as main-plot and plant populations as sub-plots. The results indicated that there was a significance difference among sowing dates, plant spacing and interaction between sowing dates and spacing for round all studied traits of cotton. It was found that the higher performance of cotton genotype was recorded for 24 inch plant spacing and six inch plant spacing for most of the studied traits under early and late sowing dates as compared with intermediate sowing dates. The highest plant population was recorded under six inch plant spacing and second date of sowing. The good fibre quality was found under 18 to 24 inch plant spacing under intermediate sowing dates. It was concluded from our study that the sowing date and plant spacing affects cotton yield and quality of fibre, so there is a need to grow cotton plants under optimum agronomic practices.

Keywords:

Gossypium hirsutum, Seed cotton, Sowing times, Plant population, Fibre strength.