

**THE EFFECT OF VERMICOMPOST AND VERMIWASH ON  
GROWTH AND YIELD OF MUNG BEAN**

*(Vigna radiata)*



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## ABSTRACT

Organic farming is a sustainable agricultural system that enhances soil health, biodiversity, and food quality by avoiding synthetic chemicals and using natural inputs like compost, vermiwash, and biological pest control. This study evaluated the effects of vermicompost (VC) and vermiwash (VW) on the growth and yield of mung bean (*Vigna mungo*) through a pot experiment in Kalutara District, Sri Lanka. Three mung bean varieties (*MI5*, *MI6*, and *MIMB7*) were tested under different VC (25%, 50%, 75%, 100%) and VW (25%, 50%, 75%, 100%) concentrations, along with an inorganic fertilizer- recommended by Department of Agriculture, Sri Lanka and untreated control. The experiment followed a completely randomized design (CRD) with six treatments and five replicates. Growth and yield parameters were assessed, and statistical analysis was conducted using Minitab 17 software. VC and application VW significantly improved growth and yield parameters of mung bean varieties compared to the control and chemical treatments ( $P < 0.05$ ). In VC application, the highest plant height ( $52.70 \pm 0.57$  cm by *MIMB7*), number of leaves ( $19.80 \pm 1$  by *MIMB7*), and number of branches ( $5.00 \pm 0.00$  by *MI5*, *MI6* and *MIMB7*) were observed under 100% VC. The lowest days to flowering ( $31.60 \pm 1.14$  by *MI6*) and the highest number of pods per plant ( $11.00 \pm 1.4$  by *MIMB7*) were also recorded under 100% VC, showing significant differences from control and chemical application. In VW application, the highest plant height ( $29.18 \pm 0.89$  cm by *MI6*), number of leaves ( $12.60 \pm 1.34$  by *MI6* and *MIMB7*), and number of branches ( $4.20 \pm 0.45$  by *MIMB7*) were observed under 100%, 75% VW. The lowest days to flowering ( $35.20 \pm 0.45$  by *MI5*) and the highest number of pods per plant ( $6.20 \pm 0.84$  by *MIMB7*) were also recorded under 100% VW showing significant differences from control and chemical applications. There is a significant interaction effect of fertilizer concentration and variety on plant height, days to flowering, number of pods per plant and pod length. Number of leaves, number of main branches and pod length mainly affected by only fertilizer concentration ( $P < 0.05$ ). Seeds per pod mainly affected by fertilizer concentration and variety effect only. These findings highlight the potential of vermicompost and vermiwash as sustainable alternatives to chemical fertilizers for improving mung bean growth and yield.

**Keywords:** Vermicompost, vermiwash, organic farming, mung bean, sustainable agriculture.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION .....	ii
ACKNOWLEDGMENT .....	iv
ABSTRACT.....	v
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.....	xiii
CHAPTER 01 .....	1
INTRODUCTION.....	1
CHAPTER 02 .....	4
LITERATURE REVIEW.....	4
2.1 Mung Bean ( <i>Vigna radiata</i> ) .....	4
2.1.1. Origin.....	4
2.1.2 Scientific Classification.....	5
2.1.3 Morphological Characteristics of Mung Bean.....	5
2.1.4 Nutritional Composition of Mung Bean.....	6
2.1.5 Mung Bean Cultivation .....	7
2.1.5.1 Climatic Requirements .....	7
2.1.5.2 Soil.....	7
2.1.5.3 Land preparation.....	7
2.1.5.4 Seed Rate Sowing and Spacing in Mung Bean .....	8
2.1.5.5 Pest Management.....	8
2.1.5.6 Disease Management.....	9
2.1.6 Fertilizer Application.....	10
2.2 Biological Characteristics of Earthworms.....	11
2.2.1 Earthworms.....	11
2.2.2 Scientific Classification.....	12
2.2.3 Morphology and Reproductive Biology of Earthworms .....	12
2.2.4 Native Earthworms Species in Sri Lanka and Their Ecological Roles. ....	13
2.2.5 Vermicompost .....	14
2.2.6 Vermicomposting: Conversion of Organic Waste into Nutrient rich Vermicompost .....	14
2.2.7 Vermiwash.....	15
2.2.8 Preparation of Vermiwash.....	16
2.2.9 Nutrient Composition of Vermicompost.....	16
2.2.10 Nutritional Composition of Vermiwash .....	18

2.2.11 Comparison with Inorganic Fertilizers .....	18
2.2.12 Benefits to Plants and Soil.....	19
CHAPTER 03 .....	20
03 MATERIALS AND METHODS .....	20
3.1 Experimental site .....	20
3.2 Species and varieties.....	20
3.3 Experiment.....	20
3.3.1 Experimental Design .....	20
3.3.2 Treatments .....	21
3.4 Preparation of Pots.....	22
3.5 Seed Treatment .....	22
3.6 Seed Germination .....	22
3.7 Preparation of Vermicompost and Vermiwash .....	23
3.7.1 Maintenance of Red Earthworms .....	23
3.7.2 Preparation of Vermicompost Bin.....	23
3.7.3 Preparation of Vermiwash Bin .....	24
3.8 Agronomic Practices.....	25
3.8.1 Planting.....	25
3.8.2 Irrigation .....	25
3.8.3 Weed Control.....	25
3.8.4 Fertilizer Application.....	25
3.8.4.1 Vermicompost Application.....	25
3.8.4.2 Vermiwash Application.....	25
3.8.4.3 Inorganic Fertilizer Application for T9 .....	26
3.8.5 Thinning Out.....	26
3.8.6 Pest and Disease Management .....	26
3.8.6.1 Pest Control .....	26
3.8.6.2 Disease Control.....	26
3.9 Data Collection .....	26
3.9.1 Growth Parameters .....	26
3.9.2 Yield Parameters.....	27
3.9.3 Soil Parameters .....	27
3.9.3.1 pH .....	27
3.9.3.2 Electrical Conductivity .....	27
3.9.3.3 Water Content (Oven Drying Method).....	28

3.9.4 Vermicompost Parameter .....	29
3.9.4.1 Determination of Total Nitrogen Content of compost Sample.....	29
3.9.4.2 Determination of Total Phosphorus Content .....	30
3.9.4.3 Determination of Total Potassium Content of Vermi Compost (Flame Photometric Method) .....	30
3.9.5 Liquid Organic Fertilizer Parameter .....	30
3.9.5.1 Determination of pH.....	30
3.9.5.2 Determination of Electrical Conductivity.....	31
3.9.5.3 Determination of Total Nitrogen Content in Vermiwash.....	31
3.9.5.4 Determination of Phosphorous and Potassium in Vermiwash .....	32
3.10 Statistical Analysis .....	32
CHAPTER 04 .....	33
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION .....	33
4.1 Nutrient Analysis of Vermiwash and Vermicompost.....	33
4.1.1 Nutrient Analysis of Vermiwash .....	33
4.1.2 Nutrient Analysis of Vermicompost.....	34
4.1.3 Nutrient Analysis of Soil .....	34
4.2 Effect of the Vermicompost for Growth and Yield Parameters of Mung Bean .....	35
4.2.1 Growth Parameters .....	35
4.2.1.1 Effect of the Vermicompost for Plant Height (cm) .....	35
4.2.1.2 Effect of the Vermicompost for Number of Leaves .....	38
4.2.1.3 Effect of the Vermicompost for Number of Main Branches .....	41
4.2.1.4 Effect of the Vermicompost for Days to Flowering .....	44
4.2.2 Yield Parameter .....	47
4.2.2.1 Effect of the Vermicompost for Number of Pods per Plant .....	47
4.2.2.2 Effect of the Vermicompost for Pod Length .....	50
4.2.2.3 Effect of the Vermicompost for Pod Width.....	53
4.2.2.4 Effect of the Vermicompost for Number of Seeds per Pod.....	56
4.3 Effect of the Vermiwash for Growth and Yield Parameters of Mung Bean ..	59
4.3.1 Growth Parameters .....	59
4.3.1.1 Effect of the Vermiwash for Plant Height (cm) .....	59
4.3.1.2 Effect of the Vermiwash for Number of Leaves .....	62
4.3.1.3 Effect of the Vermiwash for Number of Main Branches .....	65
4.3.1.4 Effect of the Vermiwash for Days to Flowering .....	68

4.3.2 Yield Parameter .....	71
4.3.2.1 Effect of the Vermiwash for the Number of Pods per Plant.....	71
4.3.2.2 Effect of the Vermiwash for Length of Pod .....	74
4.3.2.3 Effect of the Vermiwash for Pod Width.....	77
4.3.2.4 Effect of the Vermiwash for Number of Seeds per Pod .....	80
4.4 Interactive Effects of Vermicompost, Vermiwash, and Genotype on Growth Parameters and Yield of Mung Bean ( <i>Vigna radiata</i> ).....	83
CHAPTER 05 .....	89
Conclusion.....	89
REFERENCES.....	90

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 2. 1 : Morphology of Mung Bean.....	5
Figure 3. 1 : Field layout.....	21
Figure 3. 2 : Mung Bean Seed Viability Test .....	22
Figure 3. 3 : Vermicompost setup.....	24
Figure 3. 4 : Vermiwash setup .....	24
Figure 3. 5 : EC meter.....	28
Figure 4. 1 : Plant height of MI5.....	37
Figure 4. 2 : Plant height of MI6.....	37
Figure 4. 3 : Plant height of MIMB7 .....	37
Figure 4. 4 : Number of leaves MI5.....	40
Figure 4. 5 : Number of leaves MI6.....	40
Figure 4. 6 : Number of MIMB7 .....	40
Figure 4. 7 : Number of main branches of MI5 .....	43
Figure 4. 8 : Number of main branches of MI6 .....	43
Figure 4. 9 : Number of main branches of MIMB7.....	43
Figure 4. 10 : Days to flowering of MI5 .....	46
Figure 4. 11 : Days to flowering of MI6.....	46
Figure 4. 12 : Days to flowering of MIMB7.....	46
Figure 4. 13 : number of pods MI5 .....	49
Figure 4. 14 : number of pods MI6 .....	49
Figure 4. 15 : number of pods MIMB7.....	49
Figure 4. 16 : Pod length of MI5 .....	52
Figure 4. 17 : Pod length of MI6 .....	52
Figure 4. 18 : Pod length of MIMB7 .....	52
Figure 4. 19 : Pod width of MI5 .....	55
Figure 4. 20 : Pod width of MI6 .....	55
Figure 4. 21 : Pod width of MIMB7 .....	55
Figure 4. 22 : Number of seeds per pod MI5.....	58
Figure 4. 23 : Number of seeds per pod MI6.....	58
Figure 4. 24 : Number of seeds per pod MIMB7.....	58
Figure 4. 25 : Plant height of MI5.....	61
Figure 4. 26 : Plant height of MI6.....	61
Figure 4. 27 : Plant height of MIMB7 .....	61
Figure 4. 28 : Number of leaves of MI5 .....	64
Figure 4. 29 : Number of leaves of MI6 .....	64
Figure 4. 30 : Number of leaves of MIMB7 .....	64
Figure 4. 31 : Number of main branches of MI5 .....	67
Figure 4. 32 : Number of main branches of MI6 .....	67
Figure 4. 33 : Number of main branches of MIMB7.....	67
Figure 4. 34 : Days to flowering of MI5 .....	70
Figure 4. 35 : Days to flowering of MI6.....	70
Figure 4. 36 : Days to flowering of MIMB7.....	70

Figure 4. 37 : Number of pods per plant MI5 .....	73
Figure 4. 38 : Number of pods per plant MI6 .....	73
Figure 4. 39 : Number of pods per plant MIMB7.....	73
Figure 4. 40 : Length of pod MI5 .....	76
Figure 4. 41 : Length of pod MI6 .....	76
Figure 4. 42 : Length of pod MIMB7 .....	76
Figure 4. 43 : Pod width of MI5 .....	79
Figure 4. 44 : Pod width of MI6 .....	79
Figure 4. 45 : Pod width of MIMB7 .....	79
Figure 4. 46 : Number of seeds per pod MI5.....	82
Figure 4. 47 : Number of seeds per pod MI6.....	82
Figure 4. 48 : Number of seeds per pod MIMB7.....	82

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 2. 1 : Application of chemical fertilizer .....	10
Table 2. 2 : Scientific classification of Earthworms .....	12
Table 2. 3 : Nutrient Composition of Vermicompost .....	17
Table 2. 4 : Nutritional composition of vermiwash .....	18
Table 3. 1 : Concentration of vermicompost and vermiwash .....	21
Table 4. 1 : Nutrient content of vermiwash .....	33
Table 4. 2 : Nutrient content of vermicompost .....	34
Table 4. 3 : Nutrient content of soil .....	34
Table 4. 4 : Vermicompost application on average plant height of Mung bean .....	36
Table 4. 5 : Vermicompost application on average leaves on Mung bean .....	39
Table 4. 6 : Vermicompost application on average main branches of Mung bean.....	42
Table 4. 7 : Vermicompost application on average days to flowering of mung bean .	45
Table 4. 8 : Vermicompost application on average number of pods per Mung bean plant.....	48
Table 4. 9 : Vermicompost application on average pod length of mung bean .....	51
Table 4. 10 : Vermicompost application on average pod width of mung bean .....	54
Table 4. 11 : Vermicompost application on average number of seeds per pod of mung bean .....	57
Table 4. 12 : Vermiwash application on average plant height of Mung bean .....	60
Table 4. 13 : Vermiwash application on average number of leaves of Mung bean....	63
Table 4. 14 : Vermiwash application on average number of main branches of Mung bean .....	66
Table 4. 15 : Vermiwash application on average days to flowering of Mung bean ...	69
Table 4. 16 : Vermiwash application on average number of pods per plant of Mung bean .....	72
Table 4. 17 : Vermiwash application on average length of pods of Mung bean .....	75
Table 4. 18: Vermiwash application on average width of pods of Mung bean .....	78
Table 4. 19 : Vermiwash application on average number of seeds per pod of Mung bean .....	81
Table 4. 20: The interaction effects of fertilizer concentration (vermicompost and vermiwash) on mung bean genotype on growth and yield parameters.....	84