

## **The Effect of phytohormones on lower leaf and upper longer leaves in sweet potatoes (*Ipomoea batatas* Linn)**

ADESH KUMAR AND V.K. BHATNAGAR

Dept. of Botany, Hindu College, Moradabad

### **Abstract**

*The studies were carried out at Hindu P.G. College Moradabad U.P. The Response of various concentration (10, 25, 50, 100, 200, 400 and 800 of bio regulants as cycocel  $GA_3$  and Ethephon on the effect of phytohormones on lower leaf and upper longer in sweet potatoes. Effect of phytohormones sprays to 40 days old cauliflowers plants on photosynthetic efficiency of upper and lower leaves, recorded after three weeks of spray. It is Family Convolvulaceae. The tubers are a source of starch suitable for sizing paper and textile and for laundry use also adhesive and dextins, composition for insulating fibre and coating formulations for dry cells and in cosmetics. Spent pulp is used as cattle feeds. Sweet potato flour is employed as a coagulated in slurry thickness in extraction of alumina from Bauxite. Employed for industrial alcohol, lactic acid, acetone butanal, vinegar and yeast. Tender tops and leave are used as vegetable or salad. So sweet potatoes are also used for curry preparation. The present investigations were carried out to explore the effects of three growth regulators VIZ. cycocel, ethephon and  $GA_3$  on germination, vegetative growth, photosynthetic flowering no. of seed, total seed yield etc. of sweet potatoes. They are also sandy soil and they sweet potatoes are eaten raw, boiled and roasted. Chlorophyll content:  $GA_3$  Cycocel and ethrel, when applied to 10- or 40-days old plants, slightly increased chlorophyll content. Most of the treatment when applied to 55 days plant reduced chlorophyll content of the leaves. The maximum decrease was caused by  $GA_3$  application.*

**Keywords:** Tubers, photosynthetic, Cycocel, Chlorophyll, potatoes, dextins, yeast

### **Introduction**

The sweet potato is a native of in tropical America, Now it is widespread in all tropical in all tropics and some parts of the temperate zone and found abundantly in the south seas, china, Japan, Indonesia and India. It is cultivated throughout India.

The plant is a twining, trailing perennial vine with adventitious roots that end in swollen tubers (tuberous roots). The sweets potatoes required a sandy soil and a warm most climate. The plants are grown as annuals as and propagated vegetatively by using vine cuttings.

People in various parts of India seem to have traditional preference for one (white) or the other (red) colour of the skin of the tuber (tuberous roof).

In the Punjab white sweet potato is hardly grown, while in Karnataka it is the white varieties which are preferred. It of the plants of India, both red and white varieties are popular. Pusa Suffaid and Pusa Sunehris are supposed to best verities in yield, quality and nutritive value.

The sweet potatoes are eaten raw, boiled and roasted. They are not only a common vegetative, but they are used for canning, dehydrating, flour manufacture and as a source of starch, glyucose syrup and alcohol. Sweet potatoes are also used for curry preparation.

The tuber is a source of starch suitable for sizing paper and textile and for laundry use also used

in adhesives and dextrins, compositions for insulating fabrics and coating formulations for dry cells and in cosmetics. Spent pulp is used as cattle feed. Sweet potato flour is employed as a coagulant in slurry thickness in extraction of alumina from bauxite; employed for industries alcohol, lactic acid acetone acid, acetone butanol, vinegar and yeast. Tender tops and leaves are used as vegetable or salad.

The term vegetable is usually applied to edible plants which store up reserve food in roots, stem, leaves and fruits and which are eaten, cooked or raw as salad. The vegetables rank next to cereals as sources of carbohydrates food. The nutritive value of vegetable is tremendous, because of the presence of indispensable mineral salts and vitamins. India grows a large variety of vegetable belonging to the tropical subtropical and temperate groups. However, their present availability is only 1.3 ounce per adult per day. On the other hand, a balanced diet requires ten ounces of vegetable per adult per day. A good number of the vegetables in India are introduced from foreign countries, for convenience the vegetable may be classified in three categories (I) underground vegetable (II) herbage vegetable (III) fruit vegetable. Ethephon has been found to affect the growth and development of flowering plant (Bura, 1968; Cooke and Randail 1968 and Anon, 1968) and causes diverse responses in plant metabolism.

Gibberellins have been shown to enhance the synthesis of lipid in aleurone layer in *Hordeum vulgare* young and (1970) reported that ethephon application stimulated the carbohydrates synthesis in citrus *reticulata*.

Dastal and Leopold (1967) reported that ethephon and  $GA_3$  have opposing physiological effects in fruits ripening.

Robin et al. (1968) postulated that influence of ethephon on sex expression and growth may be due to some form of anti-gibberellin activity. Cucumber and melon normally produced male flowers earlier than female flower.

During recent years the application of phytohormones has increased tremendously for the betterment and improvement of agriculture and horticulture crops. Synthetic plant bio-regulants at proper concentration and manner of their application

may result in increased production in our crops and other crops when a plant switches over the reproductive phase from vegetative phase, there occurs numerous complexities in physiological activities. In fact, these changes are governed by plant growth regulatory substance. The phytohormones include a large number of synthetic and naturally produced compounds, which bring about major vegetative and reproductive changes, when at proper concentrations and in an appropriate manner at suitable stage of plant growth.

The discovery of phytohormones has opened new vistas up on the horizon of crop production. They have provided man with a powerful means of stimulating the growth and development of the plants. It is the plant growth regulator, their so-called, magic substance, without a particle of magic that makes plant grow that the make plant growth enormous size. A minute's dose in one milli part of water is sufficient to bring about fantastic change in morphology physiology and histology of plants with this change there is an increment in fresh and dry weight of shoot and roots. Similar finding has been reported in different crops such as sugar beet, wheat, maize, soybean and sunflower (Pavera and Cantiliffe (1994).

### Materials and Methods

**Selection of Plant material:** The details of the material used and experimental procedures and techniques followed for the various experiments during the course of this investigation are described below:

**General:** All chemicals employed in the investigation were of analytical grade supplied by BDH (India) unless specified otherwise.

Dehydrated absolute ethyl alcohol was supplied by Bengal Chemical Company, India. Etheral was supplied by Ducehem U.S.A.,  $GA_3$  acid supplied by CDH (Central Drug House) (P) Ltd. Post Box No. 7138, New Delhi-110002.

**Fertilizer and other chemicals:** Urea, single super phosphate, muriate of potash (Gujarat fertilizer) were obtained from crop research center, G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology Pantnagar. Diathane-N-45 and sandevit were also obtained from crop research center Pantnagar.

**Apparatus**

1. All glassware used was either of coming India Ltd. Or Pyrex U.S.A.
2. Vacuum pump (Metrex, India)
3. Spekall (Carl Zeiss Jena- DDR)
4. Luxmeter (Research- Luxmet- 300, Atlantic India).
5. Blender (Metrex, India)
6. Measuring blender.

**Air Hand sprayer**

**Field Culture:** For exposure to estimate photosynthesis efficiency of individual leaves, a plot (19.20x12.7 sqm) was selected. A normal dose of N.P.K. was applied to the soil. About 100 seeds were sown by keeping normal distance recommended for crops. After 10 days seedling was thin to twenty.

**Preparation of Hormones solution:** To prepare stock solution of different hormones the following additions were made per liter. Deionized water was used for solution preparations.

| Hormones           | Amount added/liter(Mgs) | Concentration |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| GA <sub>3</sub>    | 100                     | 100           |
| Cycocel            | 50                      | 50            |
| Ethephon (1ml=400) | 1.25ml                  | 500           |

GA<sub>3</sub> and Ethephon were directly dissolved in water. Cycocel was first dissolved in a few drops of absolute ethyl alcohol and then required volume was made by deionized water 0.22ml of "Sandovit" per liter of hormones solution was added as a surfactant.

**Preparation of field:** After harvesting the previous crop thoroughly ploughing was given and left as a couple of days. This was followed again by plough, planking and finally leveled. Farmyard manure was applied in good amount at the time of land preparation with the help of measuring tape, Flage and ropes the required are 19.20 meter

**Foliar Spray of Hormones****Spraying stages:**

1. 40 days after seedling emergence.
2. 55 days after seedling emergence.
3. 70 days after seedling emergence (flowers Stage)

**Concentration of phytohormones:** used seven concentrations of each hormone 10, 25, 50, 100, 200, 400, 800 ppm as given below were sprayed at every stage of development.

**Treatments**

| Concentration (ppm) |                                    |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Control             | Water                              |
| GA <sub>3</sub>     | 10, 25, 50, 100, 200, 400, 800 ppm |
| Cycocel             | 10, 25, 50, 100, 200, 400, 800 ppm |
| Ethephon            | 10, 25, 50, 100, 200, 400, 800 ppm |

Thirty plants were sprayed for each concentration

**Chemical analysis:** Chemical analysis was conducted in the plant physiology Lab of Botany Department Hindu College, Moradabad and college of basic science, G.B. Pantnagar, University Pantnagar (U.A.).

**Quantitative determination of chlorophyll content:** Chlorophyll a, b and chlorophyll content of leaves were determined spectrophotometrically according to the method of Arnon (1949). After the pigment was extracted in 80% acetone in a semi dark room. Weighed leaf disc. (0.01 gm fresh material) from each treatment were extracted in liters of 80% acetone and volume is to be multiplied by 0.1. Extracted repeatedly in small amount of 80 percent acetone and filtered till visibly colorless and final volume of the extract was adjusted the absorbance of pigment extract read at 645, 652 and 663 against 80 percent acetone as blank. The concentration of chlorophylls was calculated with help of Arnon's (1949) equation as given below-

$$\begin{aligned}
 (1) \text{ Chlorophyll a (mg/g,}^{-1} \text{ fresh wt.)} &= \frac{12.7 (A_{663}) - 2.69 (A_{645}) \times \frac{V}{1000 \times W}}{V} \\
 (2) \text{ Chlorophyll b (mg/gm}^{-1} \text{ fresh wt.)} &= \frac{22.9 (A_{645}) - 4.68 (A_{652}) \times \frac{V}{1000 \times W}}{V} \\
 (3) \text{ Total Chlorophyll (mg gm}^{-1} \text{ fresh weight)} &= \frac{20.2 (A_{645}) + 8.02 (A_{663}) \times \frac{V}{1000 \times W}}{V} \\
 (4) \text{ Chlorophyll a/b} &= \frac{\text{Mg Chlorophyll a/gm tissue}}{\text{Mg Chlorophyll b/gm tissue}}
 \end{aligned}$$

In the above equation 'A' = absorbance of chlorophylls extracts at the specific indication wavelength  
 'V' = Final volume of solution,  
 W gms = tissue extracted.

Climate of Moradabad: Moradabad is placed in the interior of subtropical continental region. Its climate is typically monsoon. The meteorological data for Moradabad for year. There is seasonal rhymes of weather. Seasonal variation in temperature and moisture condition governs the distribution pattern, growth and phenology of plants in region. The terrain is also characterized by heavy rainfall and periodic-inundation of its vast area by the over flooding and shifting of river flowing through it. There are three well marked season i.e.- Summer, rainy and winter. How thorn and Hopping (1977) noted that ethephon application increased the fruits number per plant and yield in Cucurbita moschata 19.20-meter x 12.75 meter was measured and divided into 66 sub-plots in three block or replication

as per plan of lay out.

## Result and Discussion

### Photosynthesis

1. Chlorophyll Content: Data recorded other 3-weeks of spray top and lower (14<sup>th</sup> from top leaves of plants are present).

Non-significant changes in chlorophyll content to lower and upper leaves of plants treated with different hormones was observed. However, a significance increase in chlorophyll a/b ration of bottom leaf with different treatment was found. The maximum increase in a/b ratio was seen in leaf of plants sprayed with 50 ppm ethephon (48.8% increase) and minimum increase was 26.8% with GA<sub>3</sub> lar ppm followed by 400 ppm (18.0%).

Table 1: Effect of Phytohormones sprays to 40 days old plants, on chlorophyll a, chlorophyll b, total chlorophyll and chlorophyll a/b ratio, in lower & upper leaves, recorded after three weeks of spray

| Statements                          | Conc.<br>(ppm) | Chlorophyll a      |               | Chlorophyll b           |               | Total Chlorophyll |                      | Chlorophyll a/b |               |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------|
|                                     |                | Lower<br>leaf      | Upper<br>leaf | Lower<br>leaf           | Upper<br>leaf | Lower<br>leaf     | Upper<br>leaf        | Lower<br>leaf   | Upper<br>leaf |
|                                     |                | Mg/gm fresh weight |               |                         |               |                   |                      |                 |               |
|                                     | D.W.           | 0.674              | 0.754         | 0.398                   | 0.360         | 1.074             | 1.11                 | 1.699           | 2.164         |
| Cycocel                             | 10             | 1.065              | 0.885         | 0.470                   | 0.470         | 1.535             | 1.360                | 2.245           | 1.905         |
|                                     | 25             | 1.140              | 0.895         | 0.500                   | 0.400         | 1.600             | 1.300                | 2.242           | 2.220         |
|                                     | 50             | 1.225              | 0.920         | 0.545                   | 0.350         | 1.770             | 1.270                | 2.240           | 2.315         |
|                                     | 100            | 1.240              | 0.930         | 0.560                   | 0.330         | 1.780             | 1.250                | 2.235           | 2.400         |
|                                     | 200            | 1.255              | 0.945         | 0.580                   | 0.320         | 1.790             | 1.230                | 2.230           | 2.440         |
|                                     | 400            | 1.266              | 0.950         | 0.585                   | 0.315         | 1.800             | 1.215                | 2.228           | 2.465         |
| GA <sub>3</sub>                     | 800            | 1.280              | 0.966         | 0.590                   | 0.305         | 1.805             | 1.200                | 2.225           | 2.490         |
|                                     | 10             | 0.822              | 0.599         | 0.340                   | 0.260         | 1.170             | 0.860                | 2.380           | 2.342         |
|                                     | 25             | 0.800              | 0.585         | 0.338                   | 0.210         | 1.160             | 0.750                | 2.300           | 2.450         |
|                                     | 50             | 0.770              | 0.560         | 0.337                   | 0.200         | 1.155             | 0.700                | 2.220           | 2.550         |
|                                     | 100            | 0.745              | 0.455         | 0.335                   | 0.170         | 1.150             | 0.626                | 2.155           | 2.644         |
|                                     | 200            | 0.730              | 0.450         | 0.330                   | 0.150         | 1.140             | 0.600                | 2.140           | 2.690         |
| Ethephon                            | 400            | 0.710              | 0.430         | 0.320                   | 0.130         | 1.130             | 0.550                | 2.130           | 2.710         |
|                                     | 800            | 0.700              | 0.420         | 0.310                   | 0.120         | 1.120             | 0.510                | 2.110           | 2.730         |
|                                     | 10             | 0.840              | 0.885         | 0.336                   | 0.330         | 1.155             | 1.220                | 2.570           | 2.880         |
|                                     | 25             | 0.870              | 0.880         | 0.395                   | 0.325         | 1.160             | 1.210                | 2.560           | 2.850         |
|                                     | 50             | 0.880              | 0.878         | 0.400                   | 0.320         | 1.175             | 1.205                | 2.525           | 2.800         |
|                                     | 100            | 0.895              | 0.875         | 0.420                   | 0.318         | 1.200             | 1.190                | 2.400           | 2.790         |
|                                     | 200            | 0.900              | 0.870         | 0.430                   | 0.315         | 1.250             | 1.180                | 2.200           | 2.765         |
|                                     | 400            | 0.910              | 0.868         | 0.450                   | 0.313         | 1.365             | 1.185                | 2.115           | 2.755         |
|                                     | 800            | 0.915              | 0.865         | 0.455                   | 0.310         | 1.385             | 1.170                | 2.105           | 2.740         |
|                                     | -              | 0.123              | 0.108         | 0.053                   | 0.051         | 0.178             | 0.166                | 0.123           | 0.192         |
|                                     | 0.425          | 0.365              | 0.103         | 0.124                   | 0.570         | 0.534             | 0.407*               | 0.612           |               |
| Significant at 5% probability level |                |                    |               | Fourteen leafs from top |               |                   | Eighth leaf from top |                 |               |

Table 2: Effect of Phytohormone sprays to 40 days old Cauliflowers on photosynthetic efficiency of upper and lower leaves, recorded after three weeks of sprays

| Treatments       |             | Cpm gm <sup>-1</sup> dry wt. |                         | Cpm Cm <sup>-2</sup> leaf area |            |
|------------------|-------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| Phytohormones    | Conc. (ppm) | Lower leaf <sup>†</sup>      | Upper Leaf <sup>†</sup> | Lower Leaf                     | Upper Leaf |
| Water (Control)  |             | 17100±92.4                   | 12501±79.0              | 91.2±7.5                       | 77.0±7.1   |
| Cycocel          | 10          | 11799±77.0                   | 11990±75.0              | 67.0±6.7                       | 54.0±6.2   |
|                  | 25          | 13500±78.0                   | 12230±80.0              | 78.5±6.2                       | 65.2±7.0   |
|                  | 50          | 15330±80.0                   | 12944±81.2              | 85.5±6.6                       | 70.0±7.2   |
|                  | 100         | 16199±95.5                   | 13099±81.0              | 90.0±7.5                       | 73.0±6.9   |
|                  | 200         | 17220±93.5                   | 14000±80.7              | 92.5±7.5                       | 74.2±6.8   |
|                  | 400         | 18150±95.3                   | 14570±81.6              | 91.2±7.2                       | 75.4±6.7   |
|                  | 800         | 18770±95.4                   | 14880±83.2              | 90.6±6.6                       | 76.6±6.8   |
| GA <sub>-3</sub> | 10          | 14649±85.7                   | 11890±77.1              | 87.0±7.4                       | 69.0±6.8   |
|                  | 25          | 14530±86.6                   | 11212±76.2              | 87.5±7.2                       | 67.2±6.7   |
|                  | 50          | 14210±87.2                   | 11050±75.2              | 88.0±7.3                       | 64.3±6.5   |
|                  | 100         | 14149±84.0                   | 10350±72.0              | 89.0±7.4                       | 69.0±6.8   |
|                  | 200         | 14100±84.2                   | 10212±70.0              | 89.5±8.0                       | 58.6±6.2   |
|                  | 400         | 14010±83.7                   | 10010±73.0              | 90.2±7.9                       | 57.5±6.3   |
|                  | 800         | 14000±86.2                   | 10000±71.0              | 92.6±7.8                       | 56.2±6.2   |
| Ethephon         | 10          | 18249±95.5                   | 12224±78.3              | 85.0±7.2                       | 69.0±6.7   |
|                  | 25          | 13012±96.4                   | 12220±76.4              | 74.0±7.3                       | 65.2±5.6   |
|                  | 50          | 12272±98.2                   | 12210±77.2              | 70.0±7.2                       | 63.4±6.2   |
|                  | 100         | 11077±97.2                   | 12205±78.8              | 65.4±7.6                       | 60.5±6.7   |
|                  | 200         | 10000±96.5                   | 12750±76.3              | 60.6±6.2                       | 55.6±7.2   |
|                  | 400         | 9899±70.5                    | 12149±78.0              | 59.0±6.3                       | 58.0±6.3   |
|                  | 800         | 9500±73.6                    | 12120±77.7              | 58.6±6.2                       | 58.2±6.1   |

Fourteen leaves from top

II. Photosynthesis efficiency: Data recorded of after 3 weeks of spray on photosynthesis efficiency of lower (14<sup>th</sup> from top) upper (8<sup>th</sup> from top) leaves of different treatment are presented.

Photosynthetic efficiency (Expressed as cpm/gm dry wt) was found to be higher in lower leaf than that of upper leaf in all the items except ethephon 500 ppm where effect was just the reverse photosynthetic efficiency of lower and upper leaves of plant given different treatment was not found to be significantly changed in most cases. However photosynthetic efficiency of lower leaf of plants of plants sprayed with 400 ppm ethephon described to about 42.11% of that of control on their other hand photosynthetic efficiency of lower leaf of plants sprayed with 50 ppm GA<sub>3</sub> increased by about 43.6%

Eighth leaf from top

in comparison to that of control.

Photosynthetic efficiency (Expressed as cpm/gm<sup>2</sup> leaf area) was found to be higher in lower leaf than that of upper leaf in all the treatment and ethephon 400 ppm. in which no difference in photosynthetic efficiency of two leaves was found. It was noted that the photosynthetic efficiency of lower leaf in plant sprayed with ethephon (400 ppm) decrease by about 35.16% of that of control while that of upper leaf of plants sprayed with GA<sub>3</sub> in (50 ppm) increased by about 61%. Johnson (1972) found, the infeld trails, that whole or partial defoliation of sunflower plants 1-2 days before flowering reduced seed yield by 93% with total defoliation and by 26 of 30% when all leaves were removed except the 5<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> from the apex or the top 12 respectively.

Early stage of germination radical elongation involves the cell division and expansion and the synthesis of enzymes (Lenormand et. Al. 1993).

Photosynthetic Efficiency: The Decrease in photosynthetic efficiency by cycocel as observed have has also been reported in sunflower, oat and chichwed. It has been suggested that such inhibitory effect may be attribute to the higher concentrations of hormone used while  $10^{-5}$ M (1.75 ppm) concentration cycocel increased photosynthetic  $\text{CO}_2$  fixation by 2.7-fold in Avena coleoptiles, at  $10^{-2}$ M (1750 ppm) concentration the  $\text{CO}_2$  fixation was markedly reduced by cycocel application. Almost similar trend of effects was obtained when photosynthetic efficiency was expressed either on leaf area basis ( $^{14}\text{C}$  counts  $\text{min}^{-1}$ ,  $\text{Cm}^{-2}$ ) or dry weight basis ( $^{14}\text{C}$  counts  $\text{min}^{-1}$ ,  $\text{mg}^{-1}$  dry weight). Most of the treatments cycocel (50 ppm) and  $\text{GA}_3$  (10 ppm) decreased photosynthetic  $^{14}\text{CO}_2$  fixation when applied to 10 days old plants. The maximum reduction was caused by ethrel treatments. When applied to 40- or 55-days old plants most of the hormonal sprays had slight inhibit effect. However, ethereal spay (50 ppm) at 55 days caused marked increase in photosynthetic efficiency of both bottom and top leaves.

## References

- Burg, S.P. (1968). Ethylene, plant senescence and abscission, Plant Physiol. 43, 1503-1511.
- Dostal, H.C. and Leopold, A. C. (1967). Gibberellin in delays ripening of tomatoes. Hort. Sci., 158:1579-1580.
- Hawthorne, B.T. and Hopping, M.B. (1977). Pumpkin ethereal and fruit development. Newland Commercial Grower; 32(5):21.
- Johnson, B.J. (1972). Effect of artificial defoliation on sunflower yield and other characteristics. Agron. J. 64:688-689.
- Lenormand, C.F., Martini, F. and Bainge, A.p. (1993). Germination of sunflowers seeds: Plant Physiol Biochem. 31:447-55.
- Parera, C.A. and Cantilffe, D.J. (1994). Pressing and seed priming. Horticulture 16:109-139.
- Russo, L. Dostal, H.C. and Leopold, A. (1968). Chemical regulation of fruit ripening. Biosciences, 18:19.
- Scott, P.C. and Leopold, A.C. (1967). Opposing effects of gibberellins and ethylene. Plant Physiol. 42:1021:1022.
- Young R. and John; O. (1970). Ethylene induscarotonoid synthesis in citrus fruits rinds. Horit. Sci. (Abst.), 6:303.
- Robinson, R.W., H. Wilezyuski, F.D. Dennis and Brayan H.N. (1968). chemical promotion of tomato fruit ripening. Proc. Amer. Soc. Hort. Sci., 93:823-930.