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Title: RESPONSE OF FOLIAR SPRAY OF BORON AND PLANT GROWTH REGULATORS ON GROWTH, YIELD AND QUALITY OF GUAVA (Psidium guajava L.) cv. ARKA AMULYA

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**Abstract:** Guava (*Psidium guajava* L.) the apple of tropics, belongs to the family Myrtaceae. It is one of the most common fruit in India. It claims to be the fourth position in area and production after mango, banana and citrus and Bihar ranks next to Uttar Pradesh. Being a native of tropical America, it is widely grown in most parts of our country. It has attained a respectable place and popularity amongst the dietary list of common people in the country. Availability of the fruits for a longer part of the year at moderate price provides a chance of fresh fruits for consumption. As it is evident that the soil of Jharkhand is acidic and gravelly in nature i.e. coarse textured sandy soil, hence it has maximum leaching capacity. If nutrients are added into the soil, the absorption is delayed and scanty. In such circumstances, growth as well as production will be insufficient. In recent year variety of chemicals in solution form are directly applied as foliar spray since they are readily absorbed and utilized more efficiently. This method is more convenient, gives quicker response and permits accurate timings on the resultant effects. Moreover, soil application requires larger size which may be uneconomical; hence it can be replaced by spray application of smaller doses. In spite of all above facts, the fruit growers of Chotanagpur and Santhal Parganas have no authentic information's regarding the impact of various nutrients and growth regulators in cultivation of guava for maximum return at minimum cost. Thus, in view of the above an endeavour was made to study the effect of boron and GA<sub>3</sub>, NAA, SA, Ethephon on the reproductive growth, fruit-set, yield and quality of guava. The present investigation was carried out at the Horticulture Research Section RVC campus of the Department of Horticulture, Birsa Agricultural University, Kanke, Ranchi. The experiment was layout in Randomized Block Design with eleven treatments and it was replicated thrice. The result of foliar spray on guava indicated the SA 100ppm and NAA 200ppm were the best treatments to get maximum yield and best quality of fruits such as physical as well as chemical properties of fruits in comparison to control. The next treatments which showed better performance in enhancing the yield as well as quality of fruits were SA 200ppm and boron 200ppm. On the basis of results obtained, it may be concluded the SA 100ppm emerged as the best treatment to get maximum yield and superior quality of fruits just followed by NAA 20ppm, SA 200ppm and boron 200ppm and these were at par among there. Hence, on the basis of result obtained the spray of SA 100ppm and NAA 20ppm may be recommended to the growers for better production of guava with best quality of fruits.

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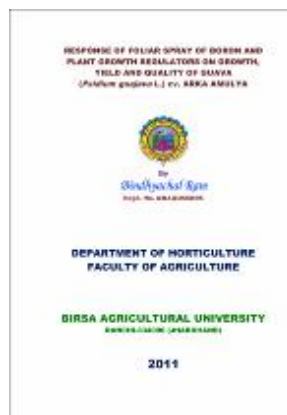
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