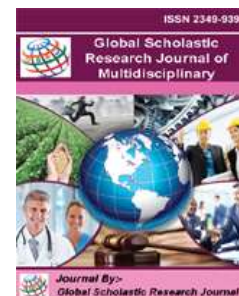




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TRAINING OF VINES IN BLACK PEPPER (*PIPER NIGRUM* L.)

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Abstract

The investigations on training of vines in black pepper (*Piper nigrum* L.)” were conducted at the pepper research unit attached to the Department of Plantation Crops and Spices, College of Horticulture, Kerala Agricultural University Main Campus, Vellanikkara during 2012-2014. The experiment was carried out with an objective to highlight the effects of agrotechniques such as pruning, tipping and lowering in inducing plagiotrops in black pepper (*Piper nigrum* L.). Pruning carried out six months after planting showed that unpruned plants produced more number of orthotropic shoots in both Panniyur 1 and 2. Pruning at ten months after planting did not have significant effect on the number of orthotropic shoots produced in both Panniyur 1 and Panniyur 2. When pruning was done six months and ten months after planting, the height at which first lateral was produced was much lower in pruned plants compared to the unpruned plants. Tipping immediately after planting had a negative effect on the number of orthotropic shoot produced and plant spread. However, the height at which first lateral was produced was lower in tipped plants compared to the untipped plants but the difference was not significant. When tipping was carried out three months after planting there was significant lowering of height at production of first lateral but plant spread was more in untipped plants. Lowering had significant positive effect on number of orthotropic shoots produced and plant spread in both Panniyur 1 and Panniyur 2.

Key Words: *Piper nigrum*, agrotechnique, plagiotrops

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