

Growth and Yield of Okra and Tomato as Affected by Pig Dung and Other Manures Issue for Economic Consideration in Benue State

Olatunji, O. and V.U. Oboh

Abstract

Pot experiments were conducted to compare the effects of pig dung and other sources of manure on the production of okra (*Abelmoschus esculentum*) and Tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum* mill) at University of Agriculture, Makurdi. A survey was also conducted in Makurdi metropolis to determine the comparative availability and cost of pig dung and other manures. Three levels of organic manures were used, 0 ton/ha, 4 tons/ha and 8 tons/ha. Record of agronomic characteristics such as leaf area, plant height, number of leaves/plant, the fresh pod weight was taken as relevant. Increases in growth and yield of crops were recorded in response to application of the manures. Pig manure was more effective than goat manure in increasing growth of tomato, and was more effective than poultry manure in increasing okra growth and yield. Application of Pig manure increased pod yield by 52%. In the study area, pig manure is cheaper and also readily available than poultry manure. It is highly recommended for vegetable crops production.

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