

Recent Trends in Horticulture

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Horticulture is a branch of agriculture that deals with science, art, and business development of growing plants. It includes all type of plants such as, vegetables, fruits, medicinal plants, sprouts, mushroom, and algae etc., and also non-food crops like ornamental plants, trees, and grass. A horticulturist is a person who applies his knowledge, technology, and skills to grow plants intensively that are used by humans for food and non-food needs. Horticulture involves nine areas of study such as, Arboriculture, Turf management, Floriculture, Land scape horticulture, olericulture, pomology, viticulture, oenology, and postharvest physiology. The Journal of Horticulture is an open access journal that publishes high impact research articles. The present issue Volume 3, Issue 3 published 7-research articles and 1-short communication.

Babatunde et al. [1] tried to obtain information on interaction of tillage passes and NPK fertilizers application rates on some growth factors of *Amaranthus viridis*. The soil treatment of this experiment includes three levels of tillage passes (0, 3, and 6) that equivalent to the soil density 1.7, 1.3, and 1.5 g/cm³ respectively and four levels of NPK fertilizers (0, 100, 150, and 200 kg/ha). This experiment was continued for three replications in randomized designed plots. This experimental result summarized that the effects of interactions between tillage and fertilizers rates were observed on stem girth, fresh weight, plant height, root length, and percent of N, P, and K uptake. The increase in plant height and improved uptake of phosphorous were observed at T₂F₂ (6 passes and 150 kg/ha). Thus, they concluded that T₂F₂ (6 passes and 150 kg/ha) NPK fertilizer application could be more suitable for the optimum yield for *Amaranthus viridis* on sandy clay soil.

Foster et al. [2] studied the effect of different growing environments in modifying first expression of root-stock-induced dwarfing of the scion. An experiment was conducted in which Royal Gala trees were grafted onto the three different vigor clonal root stocks such as M27', 'M9', and 'M793' and grown in three different locations. The growth and detailed architectural measurement were done over first year and repeated for the second year. This work demonstrated that primary axis or sylleptic shoot termination is consistently expressed by M9 and M27 dwarfing rootstock in different growing environments and years. Thus, this study provided new phenotypic information for future studies for elucidating the genetic and physiological bases for apple root-stock-induced dwarfing.

The passion fruit belongs to Passifloraceae family that is native of southern Brazil through Paraguay to northern Argentina. Matheri et al. [3], tried to study the phenotypic variations existing between Purple and Brazil varieties, as well as their hybrids that are developed by KALRO. The phenotypic variations were observed by applying principle component technique and cluster analysis statistical tools of Minitab 17.0 software to discriminate the accessions based on seven quantitative morpho-agronomic traits targeted with replication per plant and variety. The dendrogram and scatter plot clustered indicates the phenotypic relatedness with in the varieties. Thus, this study affords the current body of knowledge on passion fruit breeding.

Zhang et al. [4] studied the cold tolerance of Kentucky blue grass at the genomic level. For this they sequenced and analyzed the Kentucky blue grass transcriptomes under cold treatment and control treatment by RNA-seq and de novo assembly. At the same time they also aimed to identify more transcription factors associated to cold tolerance. In this study, nearly 3,896 unigenes were identified between control and cold treated plants and several transcriptional factors were identified as differentially expressed genes. Thus, this study provided valuable resource for the studies on the transcriptional regulation of cold tolerance.

Yuan et al. [5], aimed to study the role of PuADF in fruit ripening. Expression of ADF gene, named PuADF, which is down-regulated during fruit ripening. The screening of cDNA library from 'Nanguo' pear fruit using PuADF as bait identified two proteins that interacted with PuAS and PuDAD1 that are associated with program cell death. This expression PuAS and PuDAD1 was affected by ethylene. Thus, they concluded that PuADF is involved in ethylene-mediated fruit ripening and interact with PuAS and PuDAD1, which in turn are involved in fruit ripening.

The Japanese beetle (*Popillia japonica*) one of the most wide spread and destructive insect pest which damages various fruits, field, and garden crops. Management of these beetles with bacillus *thuringiensis galleriae* is possible but its activity is not long lasting. Maier et al. [6], hypothesized the management of Japanese beetle with Kaolin clay. Its mechanism includes repellency, impairment or disruption of oviposition and feeding activity. The abrasive mineral present in Kaolin clay promotes the cuticle disruption and digestive system obstruction. Various field tests with Kaolin clay in different application rates effectively minimized the feeding damage caused by Japanese beetles and no side-effects were recorded on several fruit weight. Thus, Kaolin clay is a good alternative for the management of Japanese beetle.

Aryal [7], conceptualized integrated nutrient management technology for better fruit yield in Chilly. This experiment was laid out in completely randomized block design, that include three replication and nine treatments that includes N1A1, N1A2, N1A3, N2A1, N2A2, N2A3, N3A1, N3A2, and N3A3, which was conducted in IAAS farm, Lamjung. The combination of nitrogen and Azotobacter in indicated

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by N and A respectively, in which 1,2,3 indicates controls and 3 and 4 indicate 50 kg/ha and 100 kg/ha, respectively. From the results, it is clear that soil treated with N3A3 which consists of 100 kg/ha nitrogen and seedling inoculation of *Azotobacter* is the best combination for good yield of chilly.

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