



ISSN (E): 2277-7695  
ISSN (P): 2349-8242  
NAAS Rating: 5.23  
TPI 2023; 12(10): 127-132  
© 2023 TPI  
[www.thepharmajournal.com](http://www.thepharmajournal.com)  
Received: 02-08-2023  
Accepted: 05-09-2023

**Omveer Singh Raghuwanshi**  
Department of Horticulture,  
Faculty of Agriculture Science &  
Technology, Bilkisganj, Sehore,  
Madhya Pradesh, India

**NK Nagaich**  
Department of Horticulture,  
Faculty of Agriculture Science &  
Technology, Bilkisganj, Sehore,  
Madhya Pradesh, India

**Devesh Pandey**  
Department of Horticulture,  
Faculty of Agriculture Science &  
Technology, Bilkisganj, Sehore,  
Madhya Pradesh, India

**Mahendra Bele**  
Department of Horticulture,  
Faculty of Agriculture Science &  
Technology, Bilkisganj, Sehore,  
Madhya Pradesh, India

**Corresponding Author:**  
**Omveer Singh Raghuwanshi**  
Department of Horticulture,  
Faculty of Agriculture Science &  
Technology, Bilkisganj, Sehore,  
Madhya Pradesh, India

## Effect of fertilizer levels through inorganic fertilizers and bio-fertilizers on growth and yield of tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum* L.)

**Omveer Singh Raghuwanshi, NK Nagaich, Devesh Pandey and Mahendra Bele**

### Abstract

The investigation was carried out during 2021 and 2022 for evaluation of the effect of inorganic fertilizers along with bio fertilizers on vegetative and yield characters of tomato. At 30 DAT, maximum plant height was recorded under the treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (*Azospirillum* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus). At 60 DAT, maximum plant height (110.85 cm) was recorded under the treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus). At 90 DAT, again maximum plant height (159.42 cm) was recorded under treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (153.86 cm). At 120 DAT, maximum plant height was recorded under the treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) recording a plant height of 180.84 cm. This was followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (*Azospirillum* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) recording a plant height of 175.28 cm. During the next year of experiment (2022), at 30 DAT, maximum plant height of 89.27 cm was recorded in treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (*Azospirillum* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus). At 60 DAT, maximum plant height of 112.02 cm was recorded under the treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (*Azospirillum* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus). At 90 DAT, again maximum plant height of 162 cm was recorded under the treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (156.44 cm). At 120 DAT, similar trend was observed and maximum plant height (182.02 cm) was recorded in treatment T<sub>8</sub> followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (176.46 cm) whereas minimum plant height was recorded in control (129.54 cm).

**Keywords:** Growth, yield, biofertilizers, inorganic fertilizers

### Introduction

The tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum* L.) is a member of the family Solanaceae. The number of chromosomes in tomato is  $2n = 24$ . It is one of the most popular fruit vegetable, rich in vitamins A, B<sub>6</sub>, C, and K; nutritional value. It contains a variety of nutrients including dietary fibre, molybdenum, copper, potassium, and manganese. Production varies by region due to factors such as variety, season, weather, planting time, management tactics, and soil qualities. Tomatoes can be grown in both the summer and winter. (Nandwani, 2014) [7]. Biofertilizers including *Azospirillum*, *Azotobacter*, and *Phosphobacteria* have been identified and deployed to commercial tomato production, revealing the crucial function of biofertilizers in today's high-yield farming. These bio-fertilizers, either alone or in conjunction with inorganic fertilizers, enhance the vegetative growth, productivity, and fruit quality of the tomato. Tomatoes are an important vegetable since they can be used in so many different ways. Fruits like tomatoes are more nutritious and cost less than other vegetables. For tomatoes to produce at their highest potential, an adequate supply of nutrients in an appropriate ratio is crucial. Because manures and fertilizers can be expensive and occasionally unavailable, most farmers are unable to apply them in an adequate quantity. Since almost all farmers rely on commercial fertilizers to produce lucrative yields, our soil does not accumulate as much organic matter as it formerly did. When applied continuously over time, mineral fertilizers change the soil's physical characteristics and may make it more difficult to increase yields (Zia *et al.*, 2000) [10].

## Materials and Method

In order to study the “Effect of fertilizer levels through inorganic fertilizers and bio-fertilizers on growth and yield of tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum* L.)” a field experiment was conducted at Horticulture complex, Faculty of Agriculture Science and Technology, Mansarovar Global University, Bilkisganj Sehore (M.P) during *rabi* season of 2021-2022 and 2022-23. The experiment will be conducted as per the plan given below:

### Factor A: Biofertilizers

#### Application method of *Azotobacter*

A carrier-based inoculum of *Azotobacter* @ 1 kg/ ha is dissolving in water to prepare slurry. Seedling uproot from the nursery and after then dip in slurry for 30 min. then they transplant to the main field.

#### Application method of *Azospirillum*

A carrier based inoculum of *Azospirillum* @ 1 kg/ ha is dissolving in water to prepare slurry. Seedling uproot from the nursery and after then dip in slurry for 30 min. then they

transplant to the main field.

### Application method of *Phosphobacteria*

A carrier-based inoculum of *Phosphobacteria* @ 1kg/ ha is dissolving in water to prepare slurry. Seedling uproots from the nursery and after then dip in slurry for 30 min. then they transplant to the main field.

### Factor B: Inorganic fertilizers

1. Nitrogen + Phosphorus (Source: Urea and SSP).

#### Treatment detail

B<sub>0</sub> – No bio-fertilizer

B<sub>1</sub> – *Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha

B<sub>2</sub> – *Azospirillum* 1 kg/ha

B<sub>3</sub> – *Phosphobacteria* 1 kg/ha

F<sub>0</sub> – No inorganic fertilizer

F<sub>1</sub> – 40 kg Nitrogen + 20 kg Phosphorus

F<sub>2</sub> – 80 kg Nitrogen + 40 kg Phosphorus

F<sub>3</sub> – 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus

**Table 1:** Treatment combination

Treatment Symbol	Treatment details
T <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>0</sub> F <sub>0</sub> (No bio-fertilizer + No inorganic fertilizer)
T <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>0</sub> F <sub>1</sub> (No bio-fertilizer + 40 kg Nitrogen + 20 kg Phosphorus)
T <sub>3</sub>	B <sub>0</sub> F <sub>2</sub> (No bio-fertilizer + 80 kg Nitrogen + 40 kg Phosphorus)
T <sub>4</sub>	B <sub>0</sub> F <sub>3</sub> (No bio-fertilizer + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus)
T <sub>5</sub>	B <sub>1</sub> F <sub>0</sub> ( <i>Azotobacter</i> 1 kg/ha + No inorganic fertilizer)
T <sub>6</sub>	B <sub>1</sub> F <sub>1</sub> ( <i>Azotobacter</i> 1 kg/ha + 40 kg Nitrogen + 20 kg Phosphorus)
T <sub>7</sub>	B <sub>1</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ( <i>Azotobacter</i> 1 kg/ha + 80 kg Nitrogen + 40 kg Phosphorus)
T <sub>8</sub>	B <sub>1</sub> F <sub>3</sub> ( <i>Azotobacter</i> 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus)
T <sub>9</sub>	B <sub>2</sub> F <sub>0</sub> ( <i>Azospirillum</i> 1 kg/ha + No inorganic fertilizer)
T <sub>10</sub>	B <sub>2</sub> F <sub>1</sub> ( <i>Azospirillum</i> 1 kg/ha + 40 kg Nitrogen + 20 kg Phosphorus)
T <sub>11</sub>	B <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ( <i>Azospirillum</i> 1 kg/ha + 80 kg Nitrogen + 40 kg Phosphorus)
T <sub>12</sub>	B <sub>2</sub> F <sub>3</sub> ( <i>Azospirillum</i> 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus)
T <sub>13</sub>	B <sub>3</sub> F <sub>0</sub> ( <i>Phosphobacteria</i> 1 kg/ha + No inorganic fertilizer)
T <sub>14</sub>	B <sub>3</sub> F <sub>1</sub> ( <i>Phosphobacteria</i> 1 kg/ha + 40 kg Nitrogen + 20 kg Phosphorus)
T <sub>15</sub>	B <sub>3</sub> F <sub>2</sub> ( <i>Phosphobacteria</i> 1 kg/ha + 80 kg Nitrogen + 40 kg Phosphorus)
T <sub>16</sub>	B <sub>3</sub> F <sub>3</sub> ( <i>Phosphobacteria</i> 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus)

## Results and Discussion

### Growth characters

Data pertaining to plant height and number of leaves at different days after transplanting is presented under Table 1 and table 2. A keen observation of the data reveals that application of inorganic fertilizers and biofertilizers had a significant effect on plant height in tomato on all the observation intervals.

During the first year of experiment (2021), at 30 DAT, it was observed that maximum plant height was recorded under the treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) where plant height of 88.21 cm was recorded. This was followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (*Azospirillum* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) recording a plant height of 82.65 cm. All other treatments also had a significant impact on the plant height in tomato. Minimum plant height at 30 DAT was recorded under the treatment T<sub>1</sub> (No bio-fertilizer + No inorganic fertilizer) where a plant height of 35.73 cm was recorded. At 60 DAT, the growth trend of the tomato plants continued and treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) recorded maximum plant height (110.85 cm) followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (*Azospirillum* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) where plant

height of 105.29 cm was recorded. Minimum plant height of 58.37 cm was recorded under treatment T<sub>1</sub> (No biofertilizer + No inorganic fertilizer). At 90 DAT, again maximum plant height (159.42 cm) was recorded under treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (153.86 cm) whereas minimum plant height was recorded under the treatment T<sub>1</sub> (106.94 cm). At 120 DAT, maximum plant height was recorded under the treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) recording a plant height of 180.84 cm. This was followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (*Azospirillum* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) recording a plant height of 175.28 cm. Minimum plant height was recorded in control (T<sub>1</sub>) with a plant height of 128.36 cm.

During the next year of experiment (2022), at 30 DAT, maximum plant height of 89.27 cm was recorded in treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (*Azospirillum* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) with a plant height of 83.71 cm. Minimum plant height at 30 DAT was recorded under control (36.79 cm). At 60 DAT, maximum plant height of 112.02 cm was recorded under the treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus)

followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (*Azospirillum* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) with a plant height of 106.46 cm. At 90 DAT, again maximum plant height of 162 cm was recorded under the treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (156.44 cm). At 120 DAT, similar trend was observed and maximum plant height (182.02 cm) was recorded in treatment T<sub>8</sub> followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (176.46 cm) whereas minimum plant height was recorded in control (129.54 cm).

During the first year of experiment (2021), at 30 DAT, it was observed that maximum number of leaves was recorded under the treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) and T<sub>12</sub> (*Azospirillum* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) where seven (7) number of leaves were recorded. This was followed by treatment T<sub>16</sub> (*Phosphobacteria* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) recording 6.5 number of leaves. All other treatments also had a significant impact on the plant height in tomato. Minimum number of leaves at 30 DAT were recorded under the treatment T<sub>1</sub> (No bio-fertilizer + No inorganic fertilizer) where 3.6 number of leaves were recorded. At 60 DAT, similar trend in number of leaves in tomato plants continued and treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) recorded maximum number of leaves (22.43) followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (*Azospirillum* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) where 22.39 number of leaves were recorded. Minimum number of leaves (19.03) were recorded under treatment T<sub>1</sub> (No bio-fertilizer + No inorganic fertilizer). At 90 DAT, again maximum number of leaves (49.91) were recorded under treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (49.88) whereas minimum number of leaves were recorded under the treatment T<sub>1</sub> (46.51). At 120 DAT, maximum number of leaves were recorded under the treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) recording 72.41 leaves. This was followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (*Azospirillum* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) recorded 72.31 number of leaves. Minimum number of leaves (69.01) was recorded in control (T<sub>1</sub>).

During the next year of experiment (2022), at 30 DAT, maximum number of leaves (7.4) were recorded in treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) along with treatment T<sub>12</sub> (*Azospirillum* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus). Minimum number of leaves (4.0) at 30 DAT were recorded under control. At 60 DAT, maximum number of leaves (22.43) were recorded under the treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (*Azospirillum* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) with 22.39 number of leaves. At 90 DAT, again maximum number of leaves (51.16) were recorded under the treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (50.89). At 120 DAT, similar trend was observed and maximum number of leaves (74.05) were recorded in treatment T<sub>8</sub> followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (73.89) whereas minimum number of leaves were recorded in control (70.65).

The creation of more chlorophyll with the inoculation of nitrogen fixers is what causes this increase in plant height. The creation of plant growth regulators by bacteria in the rhizosphere, which are absorbed by the roots, may also be the cause of the enhanced vegetative growth. Moreover, increased hydrogenase, phosphate, and nitrogenase enzyme activity in

the rhizosphere was noted (El- Tantawy and Mohamed, 2009)<sup>[5]</sup>. The increased biological nitrogen fixation may be the cause of the higher vegetative growth. Improved root system growth and potential production of plant growth hormones such IAA, GA, and cytokinins. Plant growth characteristics may have increased directly as a result of biofertilizers. Moreover, the improvement in growth traits might result from PSB's stimulative effect on P solubilization, which would enhance P availability and plant absorption. These results are in conformity with the findings of (Poonia and Dhaka, 2012)<sup>[8]</sup>.

### Yield Characters

Data pertaining to average yield per plot (kg) and total yield are presented in Table 3. Average yield per plot was affected by the average fruit weight per plant and was significant in all the treatments as compared to the control treatment.

In the first year of the experiment, it was observed that maximum average yield per plot was recorded in the treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) with an average yield of 33.14 kg per plot followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (*Azospirillum* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) with an average yield of 31.93 kg. This was followed by treatment T<sub>16</sub> with an average yield per plot of 29.77 kg. Minimum average yield per plot was recorded in the treatment T<sub>1</sub> (15.06 kg).

During 2022, again similar trend was observed and maximum yield per plot was recorded in the treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) with a yield of 33.25 kg followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (*Azospirillum* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) with an average yield per plot of 32.18 kg. Minimum average yield per plot was observed in the treatment T<sub>1</sub> (15.21 kg).

The pooled estimates also revealed similar trend in average yield per plot with maximum yield being recorded in the treatment T<sub>8</sub> (33.20 kg) followed by T<sub>12</sub> (32.06 kg) and T<sub>16</sub> (29.31 kg). Minimum average yield per plot was recorded in T<sub>1</sub> (15.14 kg).

These results are consistent with those of Wange *et al.* (1998)<sup>[11]</sup> who found that applying *Azotobacter* and PSB increased strawberry yield. While nitrogen fixers and phosphorus solubilizers boosted the availability of nitrogen and phosphorus to the plants as well as their transfer from root to flower through plant foliage, the rise in yield may be attributable to an increase in fruit set per plant (Singh and Singh, 2009)<sup>[12]</sup>. Similar findings in safflower and tomatoes were reported by Mirzakhani *et al.* (2009)<sup>[13]</sup> and Poonia and Dhaka (2012)<sup>[8]</sup>, respectively. Baba *et al.* (2018)<sup>[14]</sup> also confirmed similar findings and reported that application of *Azotobacter*-3 + PSB (PS6) + 100% NPK application resulted in the highest fruit output (1.50 kg plant<sup>-1</sup>) ever.

During the first year of the study (2021), it was observed that maximum yield of 409.13 q per hectare was recorded in the treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (*Azospirillum* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus) where a total yield of 394.22 q per hectare was recorded. This was significantly superior to the yield obtained in all other treatments. Minimum yield of 185.97 q per hectare was recorded in T<sub>1</sub> (Control).

In the next year of the study also (2022), maximum yield of 410.52 q per hectare was recorded in the treatment T<sub>8</sub> (*Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus)

followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> and T<sub>16</sub> where a cumulative yield of 397.26 q per hectare and 356.34 q per hectare was recorded. Minimum yield of 187.81 q per hectare was recorded under the treatment T<sub>1</sub> (Control).

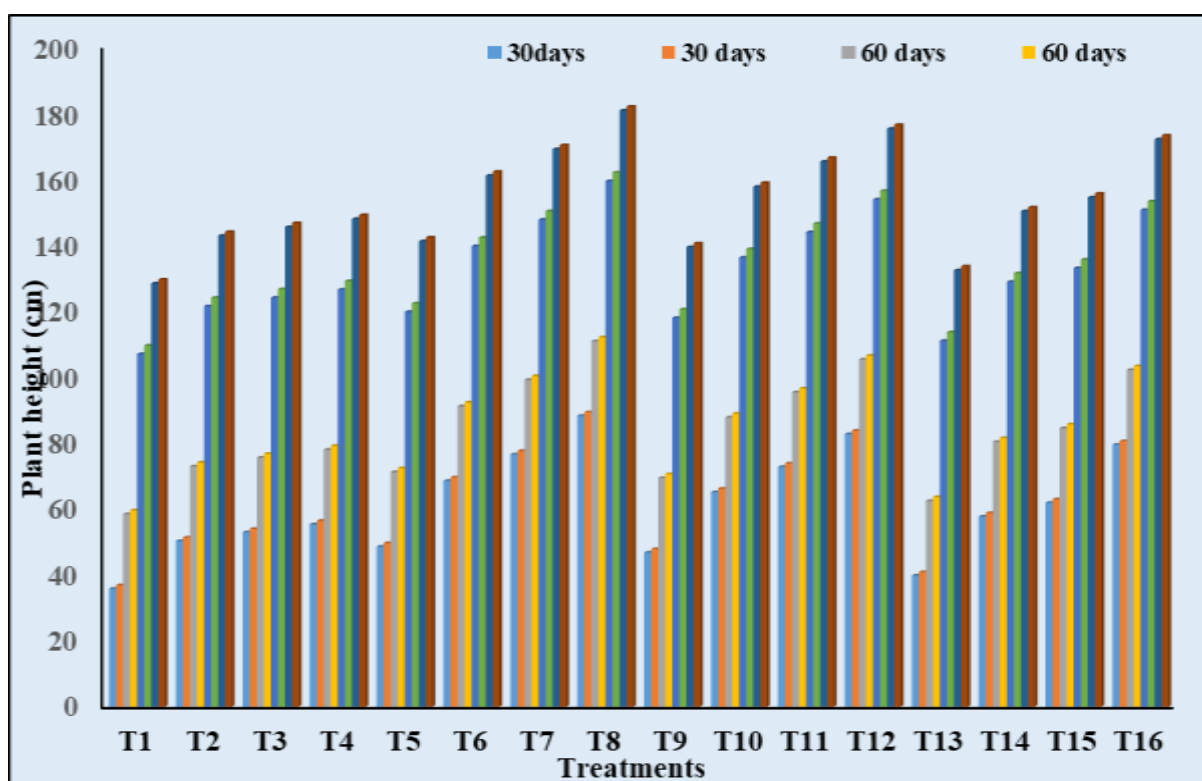
The pooled data also revealed similar trends in the cumulative yield of tomato. Maximum cumulative yield of 409.82 q per ha was recorded in the treatment T<sub>8</sub> followed by a yield of 395.74 q per ha recorded in treatment T<sub>12</sub> and 361.91 q per ha in T<sub>16</sub>. Minimum yield of 186.89 q per ha was recorded in the treatment T<sub>1</sub> (control).

Integration of biofertilizer (*Azotobacter* and *Azospirillum*) and inorganic fertilizers led to increased growth parameters which led to the strengthening of the photosynthetic area of the plant. This might have led to increased assimilation of the

carbohydrates and better assimilate partitioning in the tomato plants which led to increased yield as compared to the control treatment. These findings are in line with the findings of Wange *et al.*, (1998) <sup>[11]</sup> and Tripathi *et al.*, (2010) in strawberry, who recorded higher yield with *Azotobacter* and PSB application. The increase in yield might be due to increased fruit set per plant, due to the fact that nitrogen fixers and phosphorous solubilizers not only increased the availability of nitrogen and phosphorous to the plants but also increased their translocation from root to flower through plant foliage (Singh and Singh, 2009) <sup>[12]</sup>. Similar results were reported by Mirzakhani *et al.*, (2009) <sup>[13]</sup> in safflower and Poonia and Dhaka (2012) <sup>[8]</sup> in tomato.

**Table 1:** Effect of inorganic fertilizers and bio-fertilizers on plant height of tomato

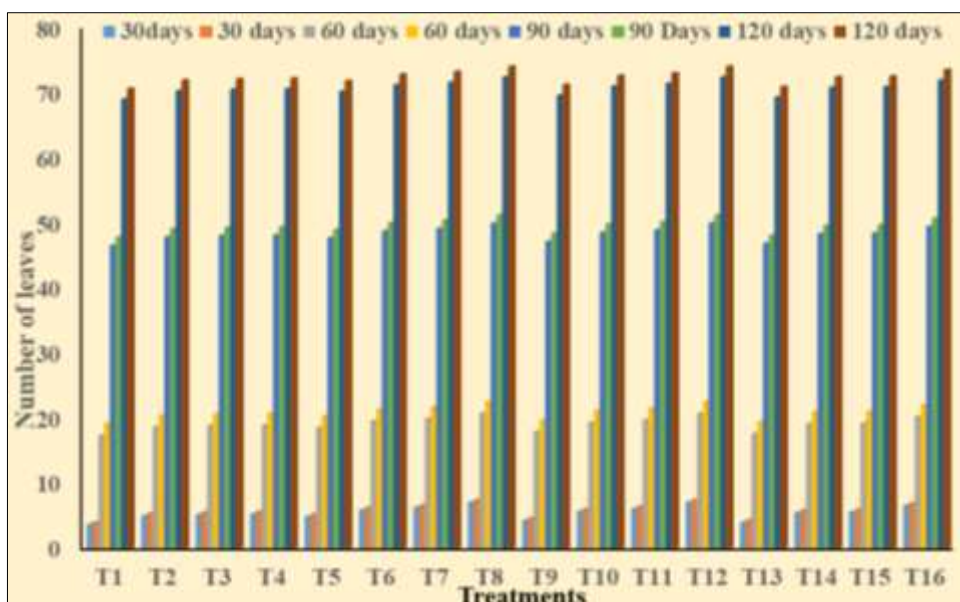
Treatment	Plant height (30 DAT)			Plant height (60 DAT)			Plant height (90 DAT)			Plant height (120 DAT)		
	2021	2022	Pooled	2021	2022	Pooled	2021	2022	Pooled	2021	2022	Pooled
T <sub>1</sub>	35.73	36.79	36.26	58.37	59.54	58.96	106.94	109.52	108.23	128.36	129.54	128.95
T <sub>2</sub>	50.23	51.29	50.76	72.87	74.04	73.46	121.44	124.02	122.73	142.86	144.04	143.45
T <sub>3</sub>	52.86	53.92	53.39	75.5	76.67	76.09	124.07	126.65	125.36	145.49	146.67	146.08
T <sub>4</sub>	55.30	56.36	55.83	77.94	79.11	78.53	126.51	129.09	127.8	147.93	149.11	148.52
T <sub>5</sub>	48.50	49.56	49.03	71.14	72.31	71.73	119.71	122.29	121.0	141.13	142.31	141.72
T <sub>6</sub>	68.46	69.52	68.99	91.1	92.27	91.69	139.67	142.25	140.96	161.09	162.27	161.68
T <sub>7</sub>	76.48	77.54	77.01	99.12	100.29	99.71	147.69	150.27	148.98	169.11	170.29	169.7
T <sub>8</sub>	88.21	89.27	88.74	110.85	112.02	111.44	159.42	162	160.71	180.84	182.02	181.43
T <sub>9</sub>	46.73	47.79	47.26	69.37	70.54	69.96	117.94	120.52	119.23	139.36	140.54	139.95
T <sub>10</sub>	65.05	66.11	65.58	87.69	88.86	88.28	136.26	138.84	137.55	157.68	158.86	158.27
T <sub>11</sub>	72.70	73.76	73.23	95.34	96.51	95.93	143.91	146.49	145.2	165.33	166.51	165.92
T <sub>12</sub>	82.65	83.71	83.18	105.29	106.46	105.88	153.86	156.44	155.15	175.28	176.46	175.87
T <sub>13</sub>	39.75	40.81	40.28	62.39	63.56	62.98	110.96	113.54	112.25	132.38	133.56	132.97
T <sub>14</sub>	57.66	58.72	58.19	80.3	81.47	80.89	128.87	131.45	130.16	150.29	151.47	150.88
T <sub>15</sub>	61.81	62.87	62.34	84.45	85.62	85.04	133.02	135.6	134.31	154.44	155.62	155.03
T <sub>16</sub>	79.46	80.52	79.99	102.1	103.27	102.69	150.67	153.25	151.96	172.09	173.27	172.68
S.Em(±)	1.32	1.41		1.09	1.11		0.85	0.82		0.56	0.61	
CD (@5%)	2.69	2.58		2.18	2.21		1.74	1.57		1.08	1.19	



**Graph 1:** Effect of inorganic fertilizers and biofertilizers on plant height in tomato

**Table 2:** Effect of inorganic fertilizers and bio-fertilizers on number of leaves in tomato

Treatment	Number of leaves (30 DAT)			Number of leaves (60 DAT)			Number of leaves (90 DAT)			Number of leaves (120 DAT)		
	2021	2022	Pooled	2021	2022	Pooled	2021	2022	Pooled	2021	2022	Pooled
T <sub>1</sub>	3.6	4	3.8	17.25	19.03	18.14	46.51	47.76	47.135	69.01	70.65	69.83
T <sub>2</sub>	4.9	5.3	5.1	18.55	20.33	19.44	47.81	49.06	48.435	70.31	71.95	71.13
T <sub>3</sub>	5.1	5.5	5.3	18.75	20.53	19.64	48.01	49.26	48.635	70.51	72.15	71.33
T <sub>4</sub>	5.2	5.6	5.4	18.85	20.63	19.74	48.11	49.36	48.735	70.61	72.25	71.43
T <sub>5</sub>	4.8	5.2	5	18.45	20.23	19.34	47.71	48.96	48.335	70.21	71.85	71.03
T <sub>6</sub>	5.8	6.2	6	19.45	21.23	20.34	48.71	49.96	49.335	71.21	72.85	72.03
T <sub>7</sub>	6.2	6.6	6.4	19.85	21.63	20.74	49.11	50.36	49.735	71.61	73.25	72.43
T <sub>8</sub>	7	7.4	7.2	20.65	22.43	21.54	49.91	51.16	50.535	72.41	74.05	73.23
T <sub>9</sub>	4.2	4.6	4.4	17.85	19.63	18.74	47.11	48.36	47.735	69.61	71.25	70.43
T <sub>10</sub>	5.6	6	5.8	19.25	21.03	20.14	48.51	49.76	49.135	71.01	72.65	71.83
T <sub>11</sub>	6	6.4	6.2	19.65	21.43	20.54	48.91	50.16	49.535	71.41	73.05	72.23
T <sub>12</sub>	7	7.4	7.2	20.65	22.43	21.54	49.91	51.16	50.535	72.41	74.05	73.23
T <sub>13</sub>	3.9	4.3	4.1	17.55	19.33	18.44	46.81	48.06	47.435	69.31	70.95	70.13
T <sub>14</sub>	5.4	5.8	5.6	19.05	20.83	19.94	48.31	49.56	48.935	70.81	72.45	71.63
T <sub>15</sub>	5.5	5.9	5.7	19.15	20.93	20.04	48.41	49.66	49.035	70.91	72.55	71.73
T <sub>16</sub>	6.5	6.9	6.7	20.15	21.93	21.04	49.41	50.66	50.035	71.91	73.55	72.73
S.Em(±)	0.62	0.67		0.71	0.84		0.81	0.85		0.72	0.75	
CD (@5%)	1.06	1.11		1.41	1.89		1.69	1.89		1.47	1.57	



**Graph 2:** Effect of inorganic fertilizers and bio-fertilizers on number of leaves in tomato

**Table 3:** Effect of inorganic fertilizers and bio-fertilizers on average yield and total yield of tomato

Treatment	Average yield per plot (kg)			Total yield (q/ha)		
	2021	2022	Pooled	2021	2022	Pooled
T <sub>1</sub>	15.06	15.21	15.14	185.97	187.81	186.89
T <sub>2</sub>	21.85	21.37	21.61	269.74	263.78	266.76
T <sub>3</sub>	22.66	22.88	22.77	279.74	282.42	281.08
T <sub>4</sub>	24.03	23.44	23.74	296.62	289.44	293.03
T <sub>5</sub>	20.50	20.49	20.50	253.13	252.95	253.04
T <sub>6</sub>	26.24	26.18	26.21	323.91	323.27	323.59
T <sub>7</sub>	30.43	29.91	30.17	375.69	369.29	372.49
T <sub>8</sub>	33.14	33.25	33.20	409.13	410.52	409.82
T <sub>9</sub>	19.59	19.78	19.68	241.80	244.24	243.02
T <sub>10</sub>	25.90	25.54	25.72	319.76	315.36	317.56
T <sub>11</sub>	28.58	28.33	28.45	352.80	349.71	351.26
T <sub>12</sub>	31.93	32.18	32.06	394.22	397.26	395.74
T <sub>13</sub>	18.14	18.38	18.26	224.01	226.88	225.44
T <sub>14</sub>	25.21	24.82	25.02	311.22	306.44	308.83
T <sub>15</sub>	25.19	24.93	25.06	310.94	307.77	309.35
T <sub>16</sub>	29.77	28.86	29.31	367.48	356.34	361.91
S.Em(±)	2.64	2.19		3.12	3.27	
CD (@5%)	5.21	4.86		5.68	6.04	

## Conclusion

From the result obtained during the investigation with different treatment combination of inorganic fertilizers and biofertilizers on growth and yield of tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum* L.). It is concluded that application of biofertilizers and inorganic fertilizers with the combination significantly increased the height of plant, number of leaves, average yield and total yield per hectare were maximum in *Azotobacter* 1 kg/ha + 120 kg Nitrogen + 60 kg Phosphorus.

## References

1. Kumar A, Pal V, Singh SP, Verma S. Effect of inorganic fertilizers and bio-fertilizers on growth, yield and quality of tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum* Mill.). International Journal of Agricultural Invention. 2016;1(1):116-118.
2. Vamadeva A, Prashant RK, Bara Bineeta M. Effect of organic manures and bio fertilizers on plant growth, seed yield and seedling characteristics in tomato. Journal of pharmacognosy and phytochemistry. 2017;6(3):807-810.
3. Aslam Z, Ahmad A, Bellitürk K, Kanwal H, Asif M, Ullah E. Integrated use of simple compost, vermicompost, vermi-tea and chemical fertilizers NP on the morpho-physiological, yield and yield related traits of tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum* L.). Journal of Innovative Sciences. 2023;9(1):1-12.
4. Cheraghi M, Motesharezadeh B, Alikhani HA, Mousavi SM. Optimal management of plant nutrition in tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum* Mill) by using biologic, organic and inorganic fertilizers, Journal of Plant Nutrition. 2023;46(8):1560-1579,
5. El-Tantawy ME, Mohamed MAN. Effect of Inoculation with Phosphate Solubilizing Bacteria on the Tomato Rhizosphere Colonization Process, Plant Growth and Yield under Organic and Inorganic Fertilization. Journal of Applied Sciences Research. 2009;5:1117-1131.
6. Gajbhiye RP, Sharma RR, Tewari RN. Effects of biofertilizers on the growth and yield parameters of tomato. Indian J of Hort. 2003;60(4):368-371.
7. Nandwani D. Growth and yield response of four tomato cultivars in the US Virgin Islands. J Agric. Univ. Puerto Rico. 2014;97:181–184.
8. Poonia MK, Dhaka BL. Effect of phosphorus solubilizing bacteria (PSB) on growth and yield in tomato. Journal of Horticultural Science. 2012;1:104-107.
9. Sengupta SK, Dwivedi YC, Kushwah SS. Response of tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum* Mill.) to bio-inoculants at different levels of nitrogen. Veg. Sci. 2002;29(2):186-188.
10. Zia MS, Mann RA, Aslam M, Khan MA, Hussain F. The role of green manuring in sustaining rice-wheat production. In: Proc. Symp. Integrated Plant Nutrition Management, NFDC, Islamabad; c2000. p. 130-149.
11. Williams BL, Schreiber KL, Zhang W, Wange RL, Samelson LE, Leibson PJ, *et al.* Genetic evidence for differential coupling of Syk family kinases to the T-cell receptor: reconstitution studies in a ZAP-70-deficient Jurkat T-cell line. Molecular and cellular biology. 1998 Mar 1;18(3):1388-1399.
12. Kumar P, Singh VK, Singh DK. Kinetics of enzyme inhibition by active molluscicidal agents ferulic acid, umbelliferone, eugenol and limonene in the nervous tissue of snail *Lymnaea acuminata*. Phytotherapy Research: An International Journal Devoted to Pharmacological and Toxicological Evaluation of Natural Product Derivatives. 2009 Feb;23(2):172-177.
13. Mirzakhani M, Ardakani MR, Band AA, Rejali F, Rad AS. Response of spring safflower to co-inoculation with *Azotobacter chroococum* and *Glomus intraradices* under different levels of nitrogen and phosphorus. American Journal of Agricultural and Biological Sciences. 2009;4(3):255-261.
14. Tokunaga R, Zhang WU, Naseem M, Puccini A, Berger MD, Baba H, *et al.* CXCL9, CXCL10, CXCL11/CXCR3 axis for immune activation—a target for novel cancer therapy. Cancer treatment reviews. 2018 Feb 1;63:40-47.