

# Effect of organic nutrient management on quality parameters and yield of fodder cowpea varieties

**Comment [U1]:** Bio-fertilizer and FYM effect.... At Tirupati

## ABSTRACT

The field experiment was conducted during Rabi season of, 2022 on sandy clay loam soils at a dry land farm in the S.V. Agricultural College in Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, India. To study the effect of organic nutrient management on quality parameters and yield of fodder cowpea varieties during Rabi season of, 2022 on sandy clay loam soils. The treatments were laid out in Split-split-plot design of the study included in three replications. The treatments experiment consisted of four varieties viz., V<sub>1</sub>: Vijaya, V<sub>2</sub>: MFC-09-01, V<sub>3</sub>: MFC-09-03, and V<sub>4</sub>: MFC-08-14 assigned to main plots, four organic nutrient management practices viz., F<sub>1</sub>: Control, F<sub>2</sub>: 100 % organic source through (FYM) F<sub>3</sub>: 75 % organic source through (FYM) + *Rhizobium* + PSB + KSB and F<sub>4</sub>: 50 % organic source through (FYM) + *Rhizobium* + PSB + KSB allotted to sub-plots. The soil was neutral in reaction (6.8 pH) low in available nitrogen (176 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) and medium in available phosphorus (27 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) and low in available potassium (219 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) status. The results revealed that among the varieties tested, higher quality parameters i.e., (Crude protein content, Total ash content and dry fodder yield) was recorded with variety MFC-09-01 (V<sub>2</sub>) and dry fodder yield (5.8 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) as well as crude protein (15.1 %), ash content (12.5 %) were obtained with the application of 75 % organic source through (FYM) + *Rhizobium* + PSB + KSB. Furthermore, compared to all other treatments.

**Comment [U2]:** Present the background of the study, follow what to be determined. Show the treatments and layout in sequence. Then present the anova result and conclude the findings

The abstract lack this composition

**Comment [U3]:** Introduce the problem in brief ahead

**Comment [U4]:** Show the treatments/ factors tested

**Comment [U5]:** Write in separate line: The varieties tested as main plot treatment and organic nutrient management as sub plot treatment. How much was the rate applied and how much is the share of the other organic source (Rhizobium+PSB+KSB... amount should be notified

**Keywords:** Biofertilizers, fodder cowpea, FYM, quality parameters, dry fodder yield, Sandy clay loam soils, quality parameters.

**Comment [U6]:** remove the abbreviations and list the levels of each factors in parenthesis

**Comment [U7]:** Soil is not the factor tested, not customary to present as result of factors tested

**Comment [U8]:** Where is the recommendation or conclusion?

**Comment [U9]:** Not complete

**Comment [U10]:** Ok, but not stated any where

**Comment [U11]:** Cow pa background, importance as forage crop need to come first. But why this study is initiated should come around the end leading to the questions to be answered or need for the study

== Hence correct the sequence of statements  
== and supporting literatures required to strengthen the problem  
== why this study is essential??  
Where is the question?

**Comment [U12]:** Source??

**Comment [U13]:** Source??

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Leguminous cowpea (*Vigna unguiculata*) is a popular tropical leguminous annual fodder crop grown during the warm and wet seasons. Because of its rapid growth, it can be grown during the warm and wet seasons. It may be raised on an annual basis. It is raised for green form feeding, hay production, or ensiling in combinations with sorghum or maize. Cowpea contains 20 per cent crude fibre and 16 per cent crude protein.

India's livestock production is vital to India's agricultural sector and considerably boosts GDP. Green fodder and dry fodder availability are currently deficient by 35.6 percent and 10.95 percent, respectively [1]. Looking ahead to 2050, the IGFR Vision 2050 study. The country projects a demand for 1012 million tonnes of green fodder and 631 million tonnes of dry fodder by 2050. However, the lack of fodder and its poor quality provide problems for the livestock industry. The gap between the dry and green feed supply is typically 40%; by 2025, this disparity can increase to 45%. To fulfil the vast animal population in India's high fodder demand, there is a need to boost forage crop output and productivity while maintaining soil health and environmental sustainability to fulfil high fodder demand of the vast animal population in India's. [2].

When compared to European nations, the production and use of fodder in India paints a very different picture when compared with European nations. The country's current fodder resources can only supply between 45 and 50 per cent of the demand, and the severity of the fodder shortage varies from state to state. The situation is made worse by the expanding livestock industry, particularly that of genetically modified animals and this is the scenario of fodder production in India.

Leguminous cowpea (*Vigna unguiculata*) is a popular tropical fodder crop. Because of its rapid growth, it can be grown during the warm and wet seasons. It may be raised on an annual basis. It is raised for green form feeding, hay production, or ensiling in combinations with sorghum or maize. Cowpea contains 20 per cent crude fibre and 16 per cent crude protein.

Organic nutrient source gives more emphasis on recovery and maintenance of soil fertility and for sustainable yield. Organic systems rely on the management of organic matter to enhance the soil fertility and productivity (Naik et al., 2014). Organic matter has an overwhelming effect on almost all soil properties. The best organic nutrient source not only provides organic matter but also add essential minerals to the soil. Organic manure when incorporated into the soil has positive effects on plant growth, yield and soil physiochemical properties (Huanget al., 2007). Biofertilisers help in fixing atmospheric nitrogen and mobilizing fixed macro-and micronutrients in the soil to plant-

| available forms. Organic farming plays a critical role in preserving long-term soil fertility and sustainability.

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Keeping the above facts in view the present study was planned to investigate the effect of organic nutrient management by applying FYM in combination with Rhizobium, PSB and KSB organic nutrient management FYM, Rhizobium, PSB and KSB in combination on the performance of fodder cowpea varieties under field conditions.

## 2. MATERIAL AND METHODS

The present investigation entitled "Effect of Organic nutrient management on quality and yield of fodder cowpea varieties" was conducted during rabi, 2022 in dryland farm of S.V. Agricultural College, ANGRAU, Tirupati, which is geographically situated at 13°56'56.4" N latitude and 79°67'68.4" E longitude, with an altitude of 182.9 m above the mean sea level. The soil was neutral in reaction (6.8 pH) low in available nitrogen (176 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) and medium in available phosphorus (27 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) and low in available potassium (219 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) status. The experiment was done using a The Split-plot design of the study included three replications. The treatments consisted of four varieties viz., V<sub>1</sub>: Vijaya, V<sub>2</sub>: MFC-09-01, V<sub>3</sub>: MFC-09-03, and V<sub>4</sub>: MFC-08-14 assigned to main plots, four organic nutrient management practices viz., F<sub>1</sub>: Control, F<sub>2</sub>: 100 % organic source through (FYM) F<sub>3</sub>: 75 % organic source through (FYM) + *Rhizobium* + PSB + KSB and F<sub>4</sub>: 50 % organic source through (FYM) + *Rhizobium* + PSB + KSB allotted to sub plots). The crop was sown with a seed rate of 40 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at a spacing of 30 × 10 cm.

Soil application of biofertilizers was done by mixing 1.25 l ha<sup>-1</sup> of each bio inoculant in 500 kg of well-decomposed FYM and applied as basal dose (applied 24 hrs before sowing). Seed treatment of biofertilizers was done by mixing 10 ml of each bio inoculant with 1 kg of seed and drying for 10-15 minutes under shade before sowing. Irrigation and weeding were done as and when required. At 50% flowering, harvesting was completed. The data on various parameters were statistically analysed using the split-plot design method recommended by Panse and Sukhatme [6].

### 2.1 Quality parameters

**Crude protein:** Total nitrogen content of plant samples was estimated by modified Micro kjeldhal method [7] and the crude protein content was estimated by using the following formula which was expressed in percentages.

$$\text{Crude protein (\%)} = \text{N (\%)} \times 6.25$$

**Crude fibre:** Crude fibre content in whole plant was estimated by acid-alkali digestion method and was expressed in percentage.

$$\text{Crude Fibre (\%)} = \frac{\text{Weight before ashing} - \text{weight after ashing}}{\text{Weight of the sample taken}} \times 100$$

**Total Ash content:** Ash is the inorganic component of the sample left after complete ignition of the sample at 600°C in muffle furnace. Ash content was calculated by using the following formula and expressed in percentage

$$\text{Total Ash content (\%)} = \frac{\text{Weight of ash a}}{\text{Weight of oven dry sample}} \times 100$$

### 2.2 Yield parameter

**Dry fodder yield:** After harvesting of fodder cowpea from net plot area, plants were left in the field for a period of one week for sun drying. Then dry fodder yield of cowpea was weighed in net plot area and total dry fodder yield was expressed in t ha<sup>-1</sup>.

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Data pertaining to Quality parameters and productivity at harvest, as influenced by application of organic nutrient management in fodder cowpea varieties were presented in Table and discussed in different sections.

**Comment [U14]:**

**Comment [U15]:** No need

**Comment [U16]:** May be remove, geographical location description is enough

**Comment [U17]:** Applied the comment in abstract section

**Comment [U18]:** Preparation of each treatment: Describe the FYM rate and amount of bio fertilizer mixed for each treatment clearly

How large is the plot size  
How the treatments were applied?  
What are the parameters measured, and how analysed not presented  
The procedures not sequentially presented  
Language and flow or coherence need rewriting  
When harvested?

**Comment [U19]:** Write after the data collection section

**Comment [U20]:** Title data collection and write under the sub section the parameters measured

**Comment [U21]:** How? Show the procedure applied and sample size too

**Comment [U22]:** Check the temperature

**Comment [U23]:** The result and discussion didn't close to the standard reporting in articles.

= 1. Show how the tested factors affected the variable measure.

= Show the presence of interaction

= Present the result data location

= Discuss how each factor affect the variable, Concentrate on the main results

- show the confirming similar studies and discuss how it support the findings

**Comment [U24]:** In which Table?

**Comment [U25]:** The ANOVA result for all variables is NS.

The study do not need any discussion

### 3.1 Quality parameters

#### Crude protein content

Crude protein content, was higher with the variety MFC-09-01 ( $V_2$ ), which was followed by MFC-08-14 ( $V_4$ ), which was however comparable with Vijaya ( $V_1$ ). The difference in quality parameters and dry fodder yield among the varieties might be due to its genetic potential of having profuse vegetative growth and dry matter accumulation which ultimately led to higher nutrient uptake especially nitrogen, an essential component of protein which might have resulted in more crude protein content in that variety (Iqbal *et al.* (1998)). Among the various organic nutrient management practices tried, higher crude protein was higher with application of 75 % N through organic source (FYM) + *Rhizobium* + PSB + KSB ( $F_3$ ). The higher protein content in cowpea was mainly due to stimulatory effect of organic manure on efficiency of soil microbes and mitigates micronutrient deficiency besides supply of major nutrients and improving the physico-chemical properties of soil. These results consistent with findings of Meena *et al.* (2012), Ram *et al.* (2018).

**Comment [U26]:** If the abbreviations presented with the variables what is the need for use of symbols? Present first the ANOVA effect/ the effect of main plot and sub plot factors

**Comment [U27]:** Break the statement, and rewrite

**Comment [U28]:**

**Comment [U29]:** discuss

#### Crude fibre

Crude fibre content was higher with the variety MFC-09-03 ( $V_3$ ) followed by Vijaya ( $V_1$ ) which was however, comparable with the variety MFC-08-14 ( $V_4$ ) whereas the lower fibre content was recorded with the variety MFC-09-01 ( $V_2$ ). Fodders containing low crude fibre content are an indication of more palatability by animals and they contain digestible nutrients. These similar findings observed by Kalra and Sharma-Sharma (2015), and Saptale *et al.* (2015).

**Comment [U30]:** Show the ANOVA effect before discussion

**Comment [U31]:** discuss

**Comment [U32]:** the same comment

#### Total ash content

Total ash content, was higher with the variety MFC-09-01 ( $V_2$ ), which was followed by MFC-08-14 ( $V_4$ ), which was however comparable with Vijaya ( $V_1$ ). The difference in quality parameters and dry fodder yield among the varieties might be due to its genetic potential of having profuse vegetative growth and dry matter accumulation which ultimately led to higher nutrient uptake especially nitrogen, an essential component of protein which might have resulted in more crude protein content in that variety (Iqbal *et al.* (1998)). Among the various organic nutrient management practices tried, higher crude protein was higher with application of 75 % N through organic source (FYM) + *Rhizobium* + PSB + KSB ( $F_3$ ). The higher protein content in cowpea was mainly due to stimulatory effect of organic manure on efficiency of soil microbes and mitigates micronutrient deficiency besides supply of major nutrients and improving the physico-chemical properties of soil. These results consistent with findings of Meena *et al.* (2012), Roy *et al.* (2015) and Sharma *et al.* (2016).

**Comment [U33]:** ??

#### 3.2 Dry fodder yield

Dry fodder, was higher with the variety MFC-09-01 ( $V_2$ ), which was followed by MFC-08-14 ( $V_4$ ), which was however comparable with Vijaya ( $V_1$ ). The difference in quality parameters and dry fodder yield among the varieties might be due to its genetic potential of having profuse vegetative growth and dry matter accumulation which ultimately led to higher nutrient uptake especially nitrogen, an essential component of protein which might have resulted in more crude protein content in that variety (Iqbal *et al.* (1998)). Among the various organic nutrient management practices tried, dry fodder yield, ( $\text{tha}^{-1}$ ) was higher with application of 75 % N through organic source (FYM) + *Rhizobium* + PSB + KSB ( $F_3$ ), which was followed by 50% N through organic source + *Rhizobium* + PSB + KSB ( $F_4$ ) which was at par with 100 % N through organic source (FYM) ( $F_2$ ), whereas shorter plants were noticed in control ( $F_1$ ). FYM could be attributed to the stimulated activities of microorganisms and synchronized release of nitrogen, which might have stimulated the cellular activity, useful for the process of cell division. The results are in close conformity with the findings of Zalate *et al.* (2009), Verma and Munshi (2003).

**Comment [U34]:** eg. The analysis of variance showed that Dry fodder was significantly affected due to cow pea varieties and organic nutrient application. The interaction of the factors was not or was significant. The mean dry fodder yield ranged from... to.... and the maximum dry fodder yield recorded from variety... and the minimum from variety... The result suggested that....  
.....do the same for the other factors

Rewrite

**Comment [U35]:** Check the style

Table 1 Quality parameters and Yield of fodder cowpea as influenced by varieties and organic nutrient management practices

Treatments	Crude protein content %	Crude fibre content %	Ash content %	Dry fodder yield (t ha <sup>-1</sup> )
<b>Varieties(V)</b>				
V <sub>1</sub> : Vijaya	13.7	16.9	11.2	4.9
V <sub>2</sub> : MFC-09-01	15.7	15.3	13.0	5.3
V <sub>3</sub> : MFC-09-03	12.4	18.1	10.1	3.8
V <sub>4</sub> : MFC-08-14	14.1	16.3	11.4	5.1
SEm±	0.44	0.61	0.25	0.178
CD(P=0.05)	1.3	1.7	0.7	0.52
<b>Organic nutrient management practices (F)</b>				
F <sub>1</sub> : Control	12.9	18.3	10.1	3.6
F <sub>2</sub> : 100 %N through FYM	13.8	16.6	11.5	4.8
F <sub>3</sub> : 75 % N through organic source(FYM) + <i>Rhizobium</i> + PSB +KSB	15.1	15.3	12.5	5.8
F <sub>4</sub> : 50% N through organic source (FYM) + <i>Rhizobium</i> + PSB + KSB	14.1	16.4	11.6	4.9
SEm±	0.42	0.46	0.31	0.291
CD (P=0.05)	1.2	1.3	0.9	0.85
<b>Varieties (V) x Organic nutrient managementpractices (F)</b>				
<b>V at F</b>				
SEm±	0.848	0.924	0.620	0.528
CD(P=0.05)	NS	NS	NS	NS
<b>F at V</b>				
SEm±	0.824	0.953	0.577	0.526
CD(P=0.05)	NS	NS	NS	NS

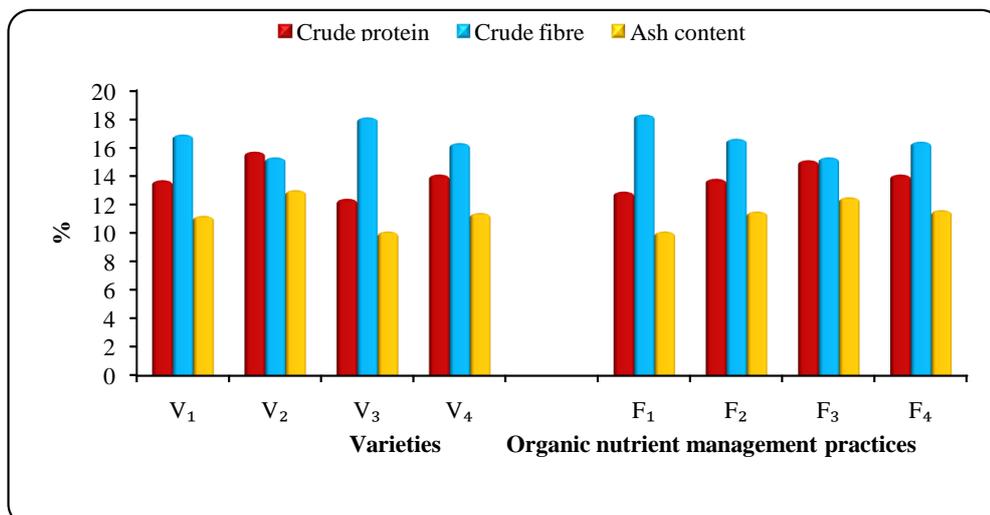


Fig. 1. Quality parameters of fodder cowpea as influenced by varieties and organic nutrient management practices

#### 4. CONCLUSION

In conclusion the study revealed that cultivation of genotype MFC-09-01 with 75 % of N through FYM + *Rhizobium* + PSB + KSB enhanced the yield, quality and economic returns of fodder cowpea in Southern Agro Climatic zone of A.P during *rabi*

#### REFERENCES

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**Comment [U36]:** The result showed no difference

**Comment [U37]:** Check the missed references

The style of citation not uniform. It is mixed. Some cited as number other cited as name of the author

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