

## Effect of Gamma Irradiation and Ems on Germination and Survival of Okra (*Abelmoschus esculentus* L.) cv Arka Nikita

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### ABSTRACT

The present investigation was devised to observe different doses of chemical and physical mutagen on the germination and survival percentage of okra variety Arka Nikita. Seeds of okra variety Arka Nikita were treated with different doses of gamma rays and EMS. The experiment was laid out in Randomized Complete Block Design (RCBD) with thirteen treatments and three replications. It was clearly observed that germination and survival percentage decreased

with increase in doses of gamma rays and EMS. Results revealed that among different treatments, treatment T<sub>1</sub> (Control) recorded maximum germination (85) and survival per cent (98.82) and observed dose-dependent reduction in biological factors such as germination and survival, the LD<sub>50</sub> values for gamma rays and EMS were 0.4% and 60 kR, respectively.

**Keywords** Gamma rays, EMS, Germination, Survival, LD<sub>50</sub>.

### INTRODUCTION

Okra (*Abelmoschus esculentus* (L.) Moench), familiar as bhendi or Lady's finger is the sixth important annual vegetable crop belongs to the family Malvaceae. It is widely grown all over the world's warmer regions throughout the year. The immature edible green fruits of okra are rich in iodine and other unsaturated fatty acids such as oleic and linoleic acids. The total production and average productivity of okra has been declining over the years due to lack of genetic variability available for further selection. The low production potential of the commercial varieties and the incidences of novel and devastating viral diseases such as yellow vein mosaic had limited the yield of okra. To touch the emerging demand of the okra production, alternative and sustainable means of breeding strategies should be employed so as to increase the genetic potential of the crop.

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Induced mutagenesis is used in many crops for the improvement of economically valuable traits. A random change in the nucleotide sequence in the DNA can induce macro as well as micro mutations in the organisms. Various physical and chemical mutagens are popular for inducing such mutations in plant species. Among which the gamma radiations are known to induce large genetic variations in the crop plants (Chandrashekar *et al.* 2013). In okra, mutation breeding using gamma rays and EMS has been done by Baghery *et al.* (2016), Sood *et al.* (2016), Asare *et al.* (2017), Hazra *et al.* (2021) and Sasipriya and Gangaprasad (2021).

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present investigation was carried out at College of Horticulture, Hiriyyur using okra variety Arka Nikita. The seeds were treated with different doses of gamma rays (10 kR, 20 kR, 30 kR, 40 kR, 50 kR and 60 kR) from IIHR, Bangalore and EMS (0.1%, 0.2%, 0.3%, 0.4%, 0.5% and 0.6%). About 100 seeds for each treatment and a set of control of Arka Nikita were utilized for giving each treatment. The experiment was laid out in Randomized Complete Block Design, with thirteen treatments and three replications. The seeds were sown with a spacing of 45 cm × 60 cm. Observation on germination and survival percentage were recorded. LD<sub>50</sub> was estimated using Probit curve analysis.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The data regarding germination percent and survival percent is recorded and presented in Table 1. Significant differences were recorded for both germination per cent and survival per cent among various treatments.

### Germination percent

The maximum germination per cent (85) was recorded in T<sub>1</sub> (Control) whereas, the minimum germination per cent (60) was recorded in T<sub>13</sub> – 0.6% EMS (Table 1).

It was clearly observed that germination percentage decreased with increase in doses of gamma rays and EMS. The reduction in germination percentage

**Table 1.** Effect of gamma rays and EMS on germination, survival and mortality per cent in M<sub>1</sub> generation.

Treatment	Germination (%)	Survival (%)
T <sub>1</sub> - Untreated (control)	85.00	98.82
T <sub>2</sub> - 10 kR	83.30	89.16
T <sub>3</sub> - 20 kR	81.80	84.15
T <sub>4</sub> - 30 kR	78.20	78.20
T <sub>5</sub> - 40 kR	75.00	68.00
T <sub>6</sub> - 50 kR	72.70	60.27
T <sub>7</sub> - 60 kR	68.75	50.72
T <sub>8</sub> - 0.1% EMS	83.89	88.09
T <sub>9</sub> - 0.2% EMS	81.73	85.36
T <sub>10</sub> - 0.3% EMS	80.40	71.25
T <sub>11</sub> - 0.4% EMS	75.89	50.00
T <sub>12</sub> - 0.5% EMS	68.75	27.54
T <sub>13</sub> - 0.6% EMS	60.00	6.67
SEm±	3.30	2.99
CD @ 5 %	9.64	8.73

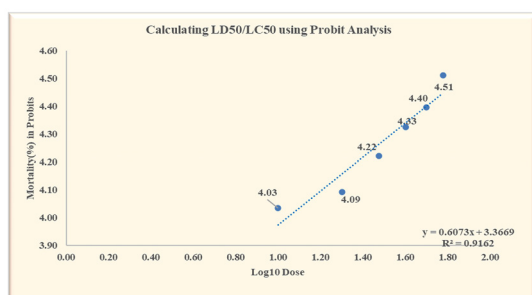
**Table 2.** Calculating LD<sub>50</sub>/LC<sub>50</sub> using probit analysis for gamma treatment.

Dose/Conc	Total	Dead	Log <sub>10</sub> dose	Empirical probits
0.00	100	0		
10.00	100	16.7	1.00	4.03
20.00	100	18.2	1.30	4.09
30.00	100	21.8	1.48	4.22
40.00	100	25	1.60	4.33
50.00	100	27.3	1.70	4.40
60.00	100	31.25	1.78	4.51

at higher doses might have an impact on the ability of seeds to germinate due to injury to seed embryos, disturbances caused at the physico-chemical level of cells, chromosomal damage or their combined effect (Bashir *et al.* 2013). This finding was in close conformity with the earlier findings of Elangovan and Pavadai (2015), Baghery *et al.* (2016), Laskar *et*

**Table 3.** Calculating LD<sub>50</sub>/LC<sub>50</sub> using probit analysis for EMS treatment.

Dose/Conc	Total	Dead	Log <sub>10</sub> dose	Empirical probits
0.00	100	0		
0.1 %	100	18.27	1.00	4.09
0.2 %	100	19.6	1.30	4.14
0.3 %	100	24.11	1.48	4.30
0.4 %	100	31.25	1.60	4.51
0.5 %	100	40	1.70	4.75
0.6 %	100	10	1.78	3.72



**Fig. 1.** Calculating LD<sub>50</sub>/LC<sub>50</sub> using probit analysis for gamma treatment.

*al.* (2018) in tomato, Hasan *et al.* (2020) in chilli and Sasipriya and Gangaprasad (2021) in okra,.

### Survival percent

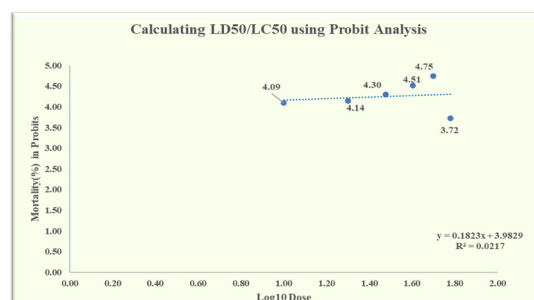
The maximum survival per cent (98.82) were recorded in T<sub>1</sub> (Control). Whereas, the minimum survival per cent (6.67) were recorded in T<sub>13</sub> - 0.6% EMS (Table 1).

It was clearly observed that survival percentage decreased with increase in doses of gamma rays and EMS. The decrease in survival after mutagen exposure could be due to inactivation or a decrease in auxin content, which might affect cell division and resulted in poor establishment. This finding was in close conformity with the earlier findings of Elangovan and Pavadai (2015), Baghery *et al.* (2016), Laskar *et al.* (2018) in tomato, Hasan *et al.* (2020) in chilli and Sasipriya and Gangaprasad (2021) in okra.

### Probit curve analysis

#### Gamma irradiation

The standardized dose for gamma rays in the current investigation was 60 kR with a log 10 dose value of 1.78 and Empirical probit value of 4.51 (Table 2). As increase in 1 unit of log 10 dose as a result 0.6073% increase in the Empirical probit value. Irrespective of the log 10 dosage the average numerical probit value is 3.3669 (Fig. 1) 91.62% of variation in numerical probit value is explained by log 10 dose and rest of the variation is due to other variable which are not involved in the studies.



**Fig 2.** Calculating LD<sub>50</sub>/LC<sub>50</sub> using probit analysis for EMS treatment.

### EMS treatment

The standardized dose for EMS in the current investigation was 0.4% EMS with a log10 dose value of 1.60 and Empirical probit value of 4.51 (Table 3). As increase in 1 unit of log 10 dose as a result 0.1823% increase in the Empirical probit value. Irrespective of the log 10 dosage the average numerical probit value is 3.9829, 2.17% (Fig. 2) of variation in numerical probit value is explained by log 10 dose and rest of the variation is due to other variable which are not involved in the studies.

Such reduction in seed germination and survival could be ascribed to gamma ray's doses and EMS concentrations, which disrupt genetic and cytological processes, leading to early seedling elimination. The results were supported by the works done by Gupta *et al.* (2016), Hazra *et al.* (2021), Sasipriya and Gangaprasad (2021).

### CONCLUSION

The significant differences were recorded for the germination and survival per cent (Table 1) among various treatments. The maximum germination per cent (85) and survival per cent (98.82) was recorded in T<sub>1</sub> (Control) whereas, the minimum germination (60) and survival per cent (6.67) was recorded in T<sub>13</sub> - 0.6% EMS. The LD<sub>50</sub> values for gamma rays and EMS were 0.4% and 60 kR, (Tables 2–3) respectively.

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