

Effect of Vermicompost and Vermitea on the Growth and Yield of Selected Vegetable Crops

Authors : Josephine R. Migalbin, Jurhamid C. Imlan, Evelyn P. Esteban

Abstract : A study was conducted to determine the effect of vermicompost and vermitea as organic fertilizers on the growth and yield of selected vegetable crops specifically eggplant, tomatoes and sweet pepper. The study was laid-out in Randomized Complete Block Design with 4 treatments replicated 4 times. The treatments were as follows: Treatment I (control), Treatment II (vermitea), Treatment III (vermicompost with buffalo manure), and Treatment IV (vermicompost with goat and sheep manure). In all the vegetable crops, almost all parameters significantly increased compared with the control except for number of fruits in eggplant and plant height in tomatoes where no significant difference was observed among treatments. The highest marketable fruit yield (tons/ha) was obtained from plants applied with vermicompost with goat and sheep manure but comparable with plants applied with vermicompost with buffalo manure and vermitea while the control plots received the lowest yield. The 28 spotted beetle (*Epilachna philippinensis*), and shoot and fruit borer (*Leucinodes orbonalis*) were the serious pests observed in the study on eggplant.

Keywords : marketable fruit yield, vermicompost, vermitea, vegetable crops

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