

**Poster**

**SEEDLING EMERGENCE & EARLY SEEDLING GROWTH OF TOMATO (*SOLANUM LYCOPERSICUM* L.), BRINJAL (*SOLANUM MELONGENA* L.) AND CAPSICUM (*CAPSICUM ANNUM* L.) ON NURSERY BEDS COVERED WITH COLOUR POLYTHENE**

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**ABSTRACT**

An experiment was conducted to investigate the effect of colour polythene shade namely red (T1), yellow (T2), blue (T3), white (T4), green (T5) and transparent (T6) on seedling emergence and early growth of tomato, brinjal and capsicum. Growth of seedlings under different colour shade polythene was significant ( $P < 0.05$ ) and observed to be in the order of transparent > white > yellow > red > green > blue. The lowest values in, seedling height (16.6 cm), root length (3.5 cm), fresh weight (1.6 g/seedling), dry weight (0.15 g/seedling), leaf area (54.4 cm<sup>2</sup>/seedling) and chlorophyll content (24.6 SPAD) were recorded under blue colour, compared to the highest values of seedling height (29.1 cm), root length (6.6 cm), fresh weight (14 g/seedling) dry weight (1.7 g/seedling) leaf area (147.6 cm<sup>2</sup>/seedling) and chlorophyll content (35.6 SPAD) under transparent polythene at five weeks after sowing. Therefore, it was revealed that the blue and green colour polythene shade control the growth of seedlings, including the seedling height. Thus, further investigations are suggested to evaluate the field performance of seedlings grown under blue and green colour polythene shades.