

## ***Growth of plants in Agnihotra Atmosphere and with Agnihotra Ash***

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In the previous article we have seen that Agnihotra Ash helps seeds to germinate better. The same result we get when seeds are kept for germination in a room where Agnihotra is performed regularly.

These are very simple experiments which everybody can easily perform at home also.

We again suggest that you try yourself – and then please also send us photos of your results.

Definitely the germination stage is very important for the life of plants. But unless we are just interested in sprouts it is important to see how plants grow further until they are harvested. Will plants also grow faster in the later stages, will there be a stronger resistance against diseases and pests, etc.? What about the quantity, the quality of the produce, the nutritional value, the shelf life?

There were a lot of observations and reports from people performing Agnihotra in their gardens as well as from farmers who performed Agnihotra in their fields and used Agnihotra Ash for irrigation and for preparing different sprays.

One relatively simple experiment was done in Fergusson College, Pune, India. Two plants were maintained providing same amount of water, light and other environmental conditions. One was kept in a room where Agnihotra was performed and another was kept in another room where Agnihotra was not performed. See the difference in growth of these two plants:



No Agnihotra

In Agnihotra Atmosphere

Although the experiment was not done under ideal conditions, still the difference in growth of these two plants is obvious. Ideally for such an experiment there should be a difference of three kilometres – but in this case the two plants were grown in two different rooms of the same building, so also the first plant got definitely SOME of the Agnihotra effect.

This is just one example. More systematic research has been done by Dr. Selvaraj at the Institute of Commercial Horticulture, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Ooty, India. Yield, quality of the produce, and disease resistance were examined, comparing:

- (i) Organic farming system
- (ii) Organic farming system + Agnihotra
- (iii) Conventional farming
- (iv) Absolute control

Following some of the results.

*Effect of organic farming on growth and yield of Rose cv. (cultivated variety) Passion*

Treatments	Fresh flower wt/ plant (g)	Stalk length (cm)	Flower diameter (cm)	No. of flowers/ plant/year	Shelf life of flowers (days)
Organic	19.54	85.59	6.81	26.54	14
Organic +Agnihotra	21.34	88.98	7.54	28.80	16
Conventional	12.98	75.98	5.54	16.70	3
Absolute Control	8.65	67.23	3.54	12.65	1.5
CD at 5%	0.85	2.95	0.55	1.25	-

Organic plus Agnihotra gave best results in all the parameters which were checked.

Flowers are normally grown in greenhouses, and because of high humidity fungal diseases are quite common. A study showed that Agnihotra can control one common fungal disease, powdery mildew (characteristic are white powdery spots on the leaves and stems).

*Effect of organic farming on the incidence of Powdery mildew of Rose cv. Passion*

Treatments	Powdery mildew ( <i>Spaerotheca pannosa</i> ) (%)
Organic	4.4
Organic +Agnihotra	2.9
Conventional	12.3
Control	25.9

Another experiment was done on potatoes. Yield and the occurrence of late blight were examined. (The disease late blight affects mainly potatoes and tomatoes – and which led to the Irish potato famine of the 1840s, two million people died or emigrated from Ireland then!).

*Effect of Agnihotra on pest complex of potato cv. Kufri jyoti*

Treatments	Late blight (%)	Yield (t/ha)
	90 days after planting	
Organic	45	8.4
Organic +Agnihotra	11	9.6
Conventional	65	4.2
Absolute Control	80	2.5

Other salient findings were:

- Organic farming with Agnihotra in Carnation recorded higher performance for plant height (95.43 cm), stalk length (93.24 cm), flower diameter (7.76 cm), number of flowers/plant/year (9.78), shelf life (14.43 days) compared to other treatments.
- In Carnation, Organic farming with Agnihotra showed higher disease resistance.
- In Gerbera, Organic farming with Agnihotra recorded higher performance for number of flowers 20, shelf life 16 days.
- In Gerbera, Organic farming with Agnihotra showed higher disease resistance for leaf spot, fusarium wilt.
- Among the four treatments Organic farming with Agnihotra in Potato recorded higher performance for yield (9.6 t/ha) and showed increased disease resistance.

These were quite impressive results of the first systematic study on yield, health, disease resistance, and shelf life of plants.

In the next article we will look into

- a) the underlying mechanisms – how does Agnihotra achieve these positive effects, and
- b) how to make use of these effects on farm level.