

# Physiological and biochemical effects of cotton plant as a result of spraying with some insecticides fungicides and herbicides

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For this study three The main objective in this investigation was to study the physiological and biochemical effects of Vitavax Captan as fungicide, Fluometuron and Trifluralin as herbicides, and Drosopan and Lanit as insecticides, on Giza 69 cotton variety. Lines of experiments, in the laboratory, the greenhouse and the field were conducted.

1. Laboratory experiments: Seeds of cotton were soaked in fungicide and herbicides solutions in water at the rate of 1/10 of the field recommended rate. These soaked seeds were planted, half in Petri dishes and the other half in 10 cm diameter pots. The germination percentage, radicle + hypocotyle, root and stem lengths, seedling lengths, and dry weights were all measured.

2. Greenhouse experiment: The seeds were planted in 10 cm diameter clay pots and treated with the pesticides at the rate of 2/3 the field recommended rate. The pesticides were applied individually or in combinations. The data of germination percentage, root length, stem length (plant height), dry weight/plant, and the chemical analysis of the cotton leaves at the age of 45 days were all recorded.

Field experiments: Field exp. was carried out in the experimental station of the Agr. Research Centre of Giza during 1978 and 1979 seasons. The pesticides were applied in different combinations as the recommended rates and time. The effect of combined pesticides on growth and yield of cotton plant were studied. Leaf area and seed analysis for all chemical contents were determined. The results obtained can be summarized in the following:

(1) The laboratory experiment: The germination percentages and the radicle + hypocotyle lengths in Petri dishes were reduced by soaking seeds in pesticide solutions, except Vitavax Captan which gave an increase. The root and stem lengths and dry weight/plant of plants grown in pots, were increased by soaking seeds with Vitavax and Fluometuron and their combinations, while Trifluralin and its combination with Vitavax caused a reduction.

(2) Greenhouse experiment: Germination percentages were significantly reduced by the application of combined fungicide with herbicides. Plant height was significantly increased only by the application of Fluometuron alone. Dry weight/plant was increased by fungicide and herbicide applications. The insecticides caused a reduction. The herbicides and Lanit treatments increased the total chlorophyll in the cotton leaves, while the fungicide and Drosopan showed a reduction. All pesticide treatments increased the total carotenoids, as compared to control. The pesticide applications had no clear effect on the mineral content of the cotton leaves. The total carbohydrates content was increased by the pesticide applications, except Trifluralin which caused a reduction. Generally, the pesticide treatments tended to increase the reducing sugars content, while the insecticides caused a reduction. The phenol compounds in the cotton plant compared to control. The total amino nitrogen was generally reduced by the pesticide treatments as compared to control.

(3) Field experiments: Germination percentages were decreased significantly by the application of Trifluralin and Fluometuron in 1978 season, and Vitavax Captan + Trifluralin in 1979 season as compared to the control. The plant height, generally, was increased by the pesticides treatments as compared with the control especially at the plant age of 90 days. The increase was significant only at plant age of 45 days in 1979 season. The application of pesticides showed an increase in dry weight/plant at the plant age of 45 days in 1979 season, as compared to control, the

differences were significant. At the plant age of 90 days the effect had the opposite trend with insignificant differences. The pesticides treatments had no clear effect on stand count as compared to control. The differences between treatments and control were not significant. The application of herbicides and insecticides tended to increase the yield of seed cotton in kantar/feddan as compared with the control, while Vitavax Captan tended to decrease the yield but the differences were not significant. The pesticide treatments had no definite effect on the average of boll weight in both seasons as compared with control. The differences between the treatments were not significant. The pesticide, 3 applications, generally, caused a reduction in lint percentage values as compared with the control. The reduction was more pronounced in 1979 season. The pesticides treatments had no definite effect on seed index as compared with control, the differences were not significant. The application of pesticides, generally, showed a reduction in the earliness percentage, as compared with the control, the differences were significant only in 1979 season. Fineness (Micromire values) and strength (PJessely index) were not affected by insecticide applications. The chlorophyll content of the cotton leaves tended to increase by fungicide and herbicide applications at the ages of 45 and 90 days in 1978 season, while their effect was the reverse in 1979 season. The insecticides caused a reduction in chlorophyll content in 1978 season but the effect was the opposite in 1979 season. Vitavax Captan and Trifluralin reduced chlorophyll content in the cotton leaves at the ages of 45 and 90 days in both seasons as compared to the control. The insecticides increased chlorophyll content at the age of 10 days while at 125 days old the results were the opposite. Fungicide and herbicide applications individually or in combinations, increased the total chlorophyll content of the cotton leaves at the ages of 45 and 90 days in 1978 season, while their effect tended to be the opposite in 1979 season. The insecticides generally, tended to increase the total chlorophyll in both seasons. Vitavax Captan, Trifluralin and Fluometuron tended, in general, to increase the total carotenoids content of the cotton leaves at the early stages in 1978 season, while the effect was the reverse in 1979 season. The insecticides, generally, caused a reduction in total carotenoids in 1978 season, while showed an increase in 1979 season. The fungicide and herbicide treatments tended to increase the total nitrogen content in the cotton leaves at the early stages in both seasons as compared with the control. The insecticides however, had no clear trend. Vitavax Captan, Trifluralin and Fluometuron caused an increase of the total P content of the cotton leaves at the early stages in 1979 season, as compared with the control. Drosan treatments showed a reduction of P content at the ages of 110 and 125 days in both seasons. Generally, potassium content of cotton leaves was increased at the age of 45 days in both seasons, by using the fungicide and herbicides. The insecticides however, had no clear effect on potassium content. The fungicide and herbicides tended to increase the total carbohydrates in the cotton leaves at the age of 45 days in 1978 season, while at 90 days the carbohydrates content was decreased, as compared to control. The insecticides tended to decrease carbohydrates in 1978 season. All pesticides however, had no clear effect in 1979 season. The total phenols content in the cotton leaves was increased at the age of 45 days in 1978 by applying fungicide and herbicides, while at the age of 90 days the same mentioned pesticides caused a reduction. In 1979 season, the results were the opposite. The insecticides showed in general, a reduction of total phenols as compared with the control. Generally, the polyphenols content of the cotton leaves, at the early stages, was increased by using the fungicide and herbicides in both seasons as compared with the control, while the insecticides showed the opposite effect. Vitavax Captan, Trifluralin and Fluometuron, generally, increased the reducing sugars in the cotton leaves at the early stages in both seasons as compared with the control. Moreover, the insecticides caused a reduction in reducing sugars in both seasons. The fungicide and herbicides and the insecticide as applications tended to decrease the total amino nitrogen content of cotton leaves at the age of 45 days as compared with the control in both seasons. Seed oil content and quality was not affected by the pesticide application.