

Protected cultivation of ASHWAGANDHA (*Withamia semnifera*) crop (2006).

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Abstract:

At Nagarjuna Medicinal Plant Garden, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola, an experiment was conducted during 11th October to 22nd March, 2006. Modified Quonset type structure of 17 m x 4m i.e. Nethouse covered with 50% shade and one Polyhouse with fan pad cooling system and one open field was used for experimentation. Ashwagandha (*Withamia semnifera*) crop was selected for this study considering its massive substance and medicinal worth. The magnetically treated seeds were manually sown in each plot on 11.10.2005. Magnetic treatment was given by putting two samples on North Pole magnet and South Pole magnet and one sample of seeds was revolved in rotary magnetic seed treator for 20 minutes and the fourth sample was kept untreated. In the experimentation, environmental parameters like temperature, relative humidity and light intensity alongwith biometric characteristics of the plant were inspected. Yield performance in nethouse, polyhouse and open field was evaluated.

Keywords: ASHWAGANDHA, *Withamia semnifera*, protected cultivation, Nethouse, medicinal plant, greenhouse, shade net.

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