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INFLUENCE OF PLANTING TIME ON SEED YIELD AND QUALITY OF AGGREGATUM ONION GENOTYPES (*ALLIUM CEPA* L.VAR. *AGGREGATUM* DON)

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ABSTRACT

A field experiment was conducted at the Department of Vegetable Crops, Horticultural College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore during the year 2010 -2011. The main objective of the experiment was to evaluate the different genotypes of aggregatum onion and their planting season for seed yield and quality in Coimbatore condition. Treatments were three onion genotypes, namely CO (On) 5, Puttarasal type and Santhaipadugai local and four planting season as September, October, November and December. The trail was conducted in FRBD with three replications. Observation was recorded on days to flowering, days 50 % flowering, days to completion flowering, days to seed set, days to seed maturity, seed yield, germination percentage, root length, shoot length, dry matter production and vigour index. The genotypes and planting season showed the significant different for seed yield and quality parameter. The highest seed yield of 585.00 kg/ha observed on the variety Puttarasal type. Similarly, September planting date produced the highest seed yield (694.30 kg/ha) among four planting season. The genotype Santhaipadugai local planted during September season recorded significantly higher total soluble solid (14.37° brix) content and ascorbic acid content (9.43 mg 100 g^{-1}). The highest seed protein content was recorded in Puttarasal type (19%) during September season.

KEYWORDS: Small Onion, Planting Season, Genotype Effects, Seed Yield, Quality

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