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Full Length Research Paper

Morphological, Phenological, and Yield Parametric Evaluation of Eggplant (*Solanum melongena* L.) Under the Influence of the Spiritual Blessing/Biofield Energy Treatment (SBET)

Mahendra Kumar Trivedi[1], Dahryn Trivedi[1], Alice Branton[1], Tejas Bapu Gaikwad[2], Nikhil Rajendra Phutankar[2], Vivek Dattaram Kadam[2], Sambhu Mondal[3], Snehasis Jana[3,*]

[1]Trivedi Global, Inc., Research and Development, Henderson, Nevada, USA.
[2]Shree Angarsiddha Shikshan Prasarak Mandal's College of Agriculture, Dept. of Horticulture, Sangulwadi, Mohitewadi, Maharashtra, India.
[3]Trivedi Science Research Laboratory Pvt. Ltd., Research and Development, Thane (W), Maharashtra, India.

Abstract

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Background: Eggplant (*Solanum melongena* L.) is the economically important plants with good source of fiber, vitamins, minerals, and phenolic contents. In order to solve the increasing food demand and the presence of potential health benefits of eggplants need to increase both quality, productivity, yields, and cost-effectiveness. **Objective:** Therefore, the current study objective was to achieve the vegetative growth, phenological development, yield of eggplant, and soil fertility using spiritual blessing (biofield) energy treatment (SBET)-Trivedi Effect®. **Methods:** The physical features of soil were measured using the hand feel method. The mineral components were determined using standard methods. Plant morphological, phenological, and yield-related parameters were noted by experienced scientist. **Results:** The eggplant yields (ton) were significantly increased by 50.16% per hectare in the blessing/biofield energy treatment group compared to control. Numbers of fruits per plant, fruit weight, others vegetative parameters were also significantly improved in the treatment group compared to the control. **Conclusion:** SBET-Trivedi Effect® significantly improved morphological, phenological, and yield-related parameters of eggplant compared to control group. Thus, these results warrant further independent verification, to be an absolute cost-effective approach" in the near future, since cost-effectiveness wasn't analyzed.

Keywords: Blessing energy treatment, eggplant, soil analysis, yield.

1. Introduction

Eggplant (*Solanum melongena* L.) is an economically important vegetable with great source of fiber, vitamins, minerals (iron, zinc, potassium, magnesium, and calcium), and phenolic contents. The purple skin colour is due to the presence of anthocyanin "nasunin", and the fruit contains a high number of phenolic compounds, chlorogenic acid [1, 2]. Various study outcomes reported that eggplant fruit extract has been widely used in various disorders such as gastritis, burns, arthritis, warts, inflammatory infections, stomatitis,

***Corresponding author** Email: publication@trivedisrl.com

etc. in human health due to its antioxidant activity. Chlorogenic acid promotes apoptosis in cells leads to anticarcinogenic potential against various cancerous cells, such as leukemia and lung cancer cells [3, 4]. Eggplant has been cultivated for decades in Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Near East countries. As on 2018 survey reported that around 50 million tons of eggplants are produced over 1.8 million-hectare land worldwide in the leading countries like China, India, Iran, Turkey, etc. [5, 6].

In order to solve the increasing food demand and the presence of potential health benefits of eggplants need to increase both quality, productivity, yields, and cost-effectiveness. Besides, high-yielding genetic varieties and modern scientific farming strategies need an alternative strategy that could improve the eggplant's vegetative quality, productivity, and cost-effectiveness. Complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) therapies comprise a diverse group of modalities used alongside conventional healthcare approaches. Spiritual blessing (biofield) energy treatment (SBET), such as the Trivedi Effect®, is one form of CAM, known as the Trivedi Effect®, it is a phenomenon in which a spiritual energy practitioner is able to harness a unique type of intelligent energy in the universe that can be transmitted to living organisms as well as non-living organisms through the transmission of a spiritual energy [7]. Several scientific journals have published substantial experimental evidence about the Trivedi Effect®'s incredible results on the fields of agriculture [8-11]. Therefore, the current study objectives were (i) to see the vegetative growth, phenological development, and yield of eggplant when using SBET-Trivedi Effect® and (ii) to assess the soil fertility leading to growth and productivity of eggplants under the influence of SBET-Trivedi Effect® on land assigned to the treatment group.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1. Experimental Site and Environmental Condition

The experiment was conducted in a farmland located in the Konkan region agricultural land, Bhandarwadi, Sindhudurg, Maharashtra, India, in the period from February to June, 2025. The site was situated between north latitude 15° 37' to 16° 40' and east longitude 73° 19' to 74° 13' with an altitude of 26 m above mean sea level. The climate of the experimental location was characterized by hot summers and cool winters. The temperature goes up to 40℃ in April to May and cools down to about 8℃ to 25℃ in December to February. The uncertain and erratic rainfall yields frequent dry spells, plagued by deficit soil moisture during the crop growth period.

2.2. Test Item Information

The blessing/SBET (The Trivedi Effect®)-treated eggplant (brinjal) seeds were the test item in this study. The following were the details of this vegetable crop seeds presented in **Table 1.** The eggplant seeds were divided into two parts; one part was considered the control, untreated/unblessed. The other part of the seeds was coded as treated and subjected to receive spiritual blessings energy treatment (SBET). Then, the seeds were cultivated in the selected farmland for morphological, growth, and yield parameters analysis. Furthermore, the cultivation practices were applied the same for both groups of plants with standard irrigation, fertilization, and pesticides.

2.3. Experimental Design and Plots

In this study, two groups were used in a Randomized Complete Block Design (RCBD): an unblessed/untreated control group (coded as CONEGPG) and a Blessing energy treatment group (coded as BTEGPG), each with three replications. Like seeds, the experimental plot was also divided into two equal plots with one defined as a control plot and the other one for a treatment plot. The experiment was laid out with three replications. Each block consisted of two plots (control and blessing/biofield-treated). These plots were used to assign each block randomly according to the experiment's design. There were six plots, each measuring 3.5 m × 2.5 m. Spacing was maintained at 0.5 × 0.5 m, with a half-meter distance between replications and 50 cm between plots, for a total area of the experimental site of 60.0 m^2 and an individual plot size of 8.75 m^2. The experimental farming area was cleaned. The standard levels of fertilizers (50: 100: 50 kg NPK ha^{-1}) were applied directly in each plot, incorporated into the soil before planting the seeds.

2.4. Spiritual Blessing Energy Treatment (SBET) Strategy

The control seeds per plot group did not receive any treatment, labelled as untreated/control eggplant group (CONEGPG). The treated eggplant seeds per plot group, labelled as BTEGPG, which was received *in-person* (physical presence) spiritual blessing (biofield) energy treatment (SBET) for approximately 4 minutes by Mahendra Kumar Trivedi, an experienced (> 15 years) renowned spiritual blessing/biofield energy healing practitioner on the day prior to the farming process. The unique BET was provided through the practitioner's inherent energy transmission process to the treated group of seeds and land without physical contact. This blessing method encompassed with the laying on of hands and prayers by the healing practitioner to the treatment group of seeds/land, which were performed from a distance of approximately 1.5 feet, under a temperature of 28 ± 2°C and a relative humidity of 65 ± 5%. In this practice, the healer harnessed a powerful

inherently intelligent divine energy sourced from the Universe and transmitted it to the treatment group of seeds and land.

2.5. Analysis of Soil Properties

The soil type of the study land was sandy loam soil. These soils were light, well-drained, and low in fertility. Before the start of an experiment, soil samples from the topsoil (depth 30 cm) were collected from random locations using a five-point sampling method per plot, mixed, and took 1 kg in the study area, air-dried, and sieved using a 2-mm sieve and stored at 4℃. The physical and chemical characteristics were then determined. The hand-feel method was used to determine the soil's textural class [12]. The Walkley and Black dichromate wet oxidation method was used to determine soil organic carbon (SOC) [13]. Micro-Kjeldahl digestion was used to determine total nitrogen (N) [14]. Available phosphorus (P) was determined by Bray-1 extraction followed by molybdenum blue colorimetry [15]. Exchangeable Ca, Mg, and Na were extracted using 1 M ammonium acetate [16]. The concentration of K was determined on a flame photometer [17], and Ca, Mg, and Na were determined by the EDTA titration method [18]. Soil pH was determined using a soil-water mixture at a 1:2 ratio of with a digital pH meter.

2.6. Seed Planting and Management

The seeds were planted by the direct sowing method. The plots were manually maintained at sufficient moisture levels for the first 10 days. After that drip irrigation system utilized self-compensating emitters spaced 0.5 m apart, operating at a discharge of 3 L h^{-1}. The crop was fertilized with different levels of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium fertilizer (50: 100: 50 kg NPK ha^{-1}) for each plot in every replication in the form of urea, single super phosphate (SSP), and muriate of potash (MOP), respectively in both the control and treatment groups. Entire SSP, MOP, and 50 per cent urea were applied as a basal dose during land preparation for sowing, and the remaining 50 per cent of urea was applied 21 days after sowing. Insecticide, Hamla 550 (Gharda Chemicals Limited, India) was sprayed (2 mL/L in water) in both groups' plots on days 21 and 49 after sowing. To measure vegetative growth and yield-related parameters, five plants were randomly selected from each plot after 80 days of sowing.

2.7. Plant Morphology

The qualitative morphological attributes such as plant habit, plant branching, plant spreading, stem colour, leaf colour, leaf blade length and width, leaf blade lobing, leaf hairs, leaf blade tip angle, leaf hairs, flower colour, flower size, fruit colour, fruit shape, fruit shape apex, seed colour, seed size/colour, and seediness etc. were evaluated. Additionally, various quantitative morphological attributes such as plant height (cm), number of branches per plant, stem diameter (cm), number of leaves per plant, leaf length and width (cm), days to 50% flowering, fruit length (cm), and fruit diameter (cm), etc., were recorded.

2.8. Crop Phenology and Yield Traits

The eggplant fruits were harvested at the stage of physiological maturity. The size of the fruits was measured in centimetres, and their mass was recorded with a weighing balance. The yield of eggplant fruits in kg per net plot was then converted to a tonne per hectare basis using a multiple factor.

2.9. Data Analysis

The data were represented as Mean ± SEM. Student's *t*-test was applied for comparison of two independent groups' data using SigmaPlot (v14.0) statistical software. Both normality and equal variance test were checked. If equal variances assumed then Student's *t*-test and where, equal variances not assumed results were reported as Welch's test. Statistical significance was fixed at $p < 0.05$.

3. Results

3.1. Analysis of Soil Properties

The results of the physical and chemical properties of the experimental site soil are shown in **Table 2.** The experimental site's soil was sandy loam. In general, high in bulk density, acidic, and low in amount of organic matter (OM), total nitrogen (N), and exchangeable Ca, Mg, and Na, indicating that the quantities of these soil nutrients were inadequate for optimum plant growth. Before planting, the control group (CONEGPG) soil's pH (5.01) was acidic, which can lower the cation exchange capacity (CEC) of a soil, indicating less fertile and potentially leading to fewer exchangeable plant nutrient cations. It was found that before planting, soil samples had low levels of exchangeable cations, such as calcium, magnesium, and sodium. After the SBET to the land, soil analysis data showed that the pH was improved slightly from acidic to moderately acidic (5.86). Additionally, total potassium and exchangeable cations (calcium, magnesium, and sodium) were improved in the BTEGPG.

3.2. Morphological Characteristics of Eggplant

Various observations on the growth and yield of eggplant were recorded at periodic intervals. **Figure 1** shows the different stages of the growth cycle of the eggplant:

Table 1: Details of eggplant seeds used in the present research

Vegetable Seed Name	:	Eggplant, Brinjal (*Solanum melongena* L.)
Label Number	:	442
Lot Number	:	NUBBL099
Kind	:	Desi
Variety	:	Black round
Manufacturer / Supplier	:	Namdeo Umaji Agritech (India) Pvt. Ltd.
Genetic Purity	:	98%
Recommended Storage	:	Cool and dry place
Expiry Date	:	17-06-2025

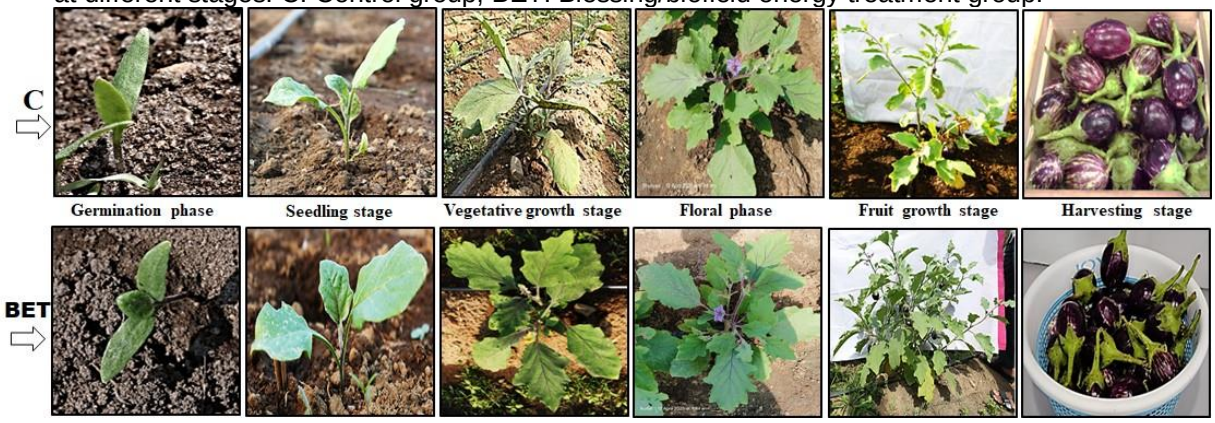
Table 2. Physical and chemical characteristics of the experimental sites' soil obtained from the 30 cm depth layer.

Soil properties	CONEGPG/BTEGPG* (before planting)	CONEGPG (after harvesting)	BTEGPG (after harvesting)
Sand (%)	69	71	70
Silt (%)	17	16	14
Clay (%)	14	13	16
Texture class	Sandy loam	Sandy loam	Sandy loam
Bulk density (Mg/m^3)	1.30	1.30	1.30
Moisture content (%)	1.03	11.38	11.85
Organic matter (%)	4.13	2.58	3.19
pH	5.01	5.73	5.86
Water holding capacity (WHC) (%)	22.93	24.11	20.24
Total nitrogen (N) (kg/ha)	41.38	26.09	26.99
Total phosphate ($PO4^{3-}$) (kg/ha)	17.78	13.81	9.01
Total potassium (K) (kg/ha)	1.43	1.21	23.01
Total sulphate (SO_4^{2-}) (kg/ha)	1.97	0.00	0.39
Total chloride (Cl^-) (kg/ha)	7.33	5.38	6.81
Exchangeable cation			
Calcium, Ca (cmol/kg)	2.67	2.64	4.13
Magnesium, Mg (cmol/kg)	2.27	2.05	3.12
Sodium, Na (cmol/kg)	1.19	1.1	2.4

cmol/kg: centimoles per kilogram**;** CONEGPG/BTEGPG* (Before treatment and planting), land of the experimental sites' soil was same.

germination and seedling, vegetative growth, flowering and fruit growth, and harvesting stages. The morphological observations of qualitative descriptors of eggplant vegetative growth are presented in **Table 3**. The observed traits varied in terms of stem, leaf, fruit, and seed characteristics. Plant growth habit was upright for both the biofield energy-treated group (BTEGPG) and the control group (CONEGPG). A very broad plant spread area was observed in the BTEGPG, and the CONEGPG was broad. Plant branching was intermediate for CONEGPG and strong for BTEGPG. In the treatment group (BTEGPG), dark green stems and dark greenish violet leaves were observed, whereas green stems and greenish violet leaves were observed in the CONEGPG. Leaf blade length and width were medium in CONEGPG and long and wide in BTEGPG. A greenish purple leaf colour vein was observed for

Figure 1. Sample images illustrate changes in vegetative growth characteristics of eggplant at different stages. C: Control group; BET: Blessing/biofield energy treatment group.



CONEGPG, whereas an intense purple colour leaf vein was found in BTEGPG. BTEGPG and CONEGPG had strong and intermediate leaf lobbing, respectively. The leaf blade tip angle was medium for both CONEGPG and BTEGPG. Leaf hairs were many in the BTEGPG and a few hairs were observed in CONEGPG. The flower colour of CONEGPG was light purple, whereas purple was observed in BTEGPG. The colour of the eggplant fruit was deep purple in the BTEGPG group and CONEGPG had purple colour fruits. Most of the fruits in both groups had a rounded fruit shape apex. The CONEGPG group had pale brown seeds and the BTEGPG had brown seeds. The number of seeds per fruit (seediness) was medium in CONEGPG and high in BTEGPG. Many qualitative morphological traits in BTEGPG were better than CONEGPG, which indicated the superior quality of the blessing/biofield energy-treated eggplant fruits (**Table 3**).

3.3. Crop Phenology and Yield Traits

Phenological characteristics and yield traits of eggplant are shown in **Table 4.** Days required for germination ranged from 7–10 for CONEGPG and 7–8 for BTEGPG. The plant height of BTEGPG and CONEGPG at the harvesting stage was 80.54 cm and 64.27 cm, respectively. The plant height was significantly ($p \leq 0.001$) increased by 25.32% at the harvesting stage in the BTEGPG compared to the control, CONEGPG. A significant ($p \leq 0.001$) number of branches (14.16) per plant was observed in BTEGPG compared to CONEGPG (9.21), with upright behaviour considered as a desirable trait in eggplant. Stem diameter of BTEGPG produced the thickest diameter (2.28 cm); while CONEGPG produced plants with the thinnest diameter (1.74 cm). The stem diameter of BTEGPG was significantly ($p \leq 0.001$) increased by 31.03% compared to the control, CONEGPG. Data showed that BTEGPG produced the significant ($p \leq 0.001$) highest number of leaves (86.69) compared to the CONEGPG (67.82). The days to first flowering were recorded in BTEGPG (43.41 days) followed by CONEGPG (46.89 days), data was not significant ($p > 0.05$). The BTEGPG took less time (65.27 days) to 50% flowering; while control group CONEGPG took more time (70.38 days).

A significant ($p \leq 0.001$) number of fruits per plant was recorded in BTEGPG (26.14), whereas a smaller number of fruits per plant was observed in CONEGPG (19.20). It was found that more than seven fruits were formed in the BTEGPG compared to the control group, CONEGPG. This showed that when the number of branches in BTEGPG increased, the number of fruits also increased. The significant ($p \leq 0.001$) higher fruit length at maturity was recorded in BTEGPG (8.77 cm) compared with CONEGPG (6.44 cm). The significantly ($p \leq 0.001$) better fruit weight was observed in BTEGPG (105.72 g) compared to CONEGPG (75.86 g). The fruit yield per plant was recorded in BTEGPG (2.73 kg), whereas the fruit yield per plant in CONEGPG was 1.44 kg. Brinjal yield per hectare was significantly increased by 50.16% in the BTEGPG (9.46 t/ha) compared to the CONEGPG (6.30 t/ha) (**Table 4**). Other parameters such as days to first fruiting, days to first harvest, and crop duration were difference from the control. But the data were not significant ($p > 0.05$).

5. Discussion

A variety of biofield treatments, such as Pranic Agriculture [19], meditation [20], and chi energy [21], focus on the intricate interactions between energy fields and plants, facilitated by skilled healers. When these unique healing energies are thoughtfully applied to plants, they have been shown to significantly enhance growth and boost overall yield. For instance, in a study by Lee and Wu (2019) [22], reported that the application

Table 3. Effects of spiritual blessings (biofield) energy treatment (SBET) on qualitative vegetative parameters of eggplant at 80 days after sowing (DAS).

Vegetative trait	Control group (CONEGPG)	Treated group (BTEGPG)
Plant growth habit	Upright	Upright
Plant spread	Broad	Very broad
Plant branching	Intermediate	Strong
Stem length/diameter	Medium	Large
Stem color	Green	Dark green
Leaf blade color	Greenish violet	Dark greenish violet
Leaf: color of the vein and its intensity	Greenish purple	Intense purple
Leaf blade length	Medium	Long
Leaf blade width	Medium	Wide
Leaf blade lobing	Intermediate	Strong
Leaf blade tip angle	Medium	Medium
Color of the petiole	Greenish purple	Purple
Leaf hairs	Few	Many
Leaf spines	Measly	Prominent
Flower color	Light purple	Purple
Flower size	Small	Medium
Petal colour	White	Pale purple
Flowering time (DAS)	45-50	43-45
Fruit shape	Oval	Oval
Fruit colour	Purple	Deep purple
Fruit apex shape	Rounded	Rounded
Fruit calyx length	Very short	Short
Fruit calyx prickles	None/very few	A few
Fruit calyx colour	Green	Greenish purple spot
Fruit: length of peduncle	Medium	Medium
Fruit weight	Light weight	Medium weight
Fruit curved	Absent	Absent
Fruit flesh density	Compact	Very compact
Raw fruit flesh taste and texture	Mildly bitter and spongy	Mild, sweet, and soft
Seed colour	Pale brown	Brown
Seed size	Small (< 2 mm)	Intermediate (> 3 mm)
Seediness (Number of seeds/fruit)	Medium	High

of biofield treatment on lettuce and bok choy resulted in not only considerable vegetative growth but also elevated levels of chlorophyll and carotenoids in the treated plants, surpassing those observed in the control group. This demonstrates the profound impact that energy field interactions can have on plant vitality and health.

In this study, rapid germination in BTEGPG may be due to a soft seed coat and seed's good ability to adapt soil conditions whereas slow germination in CONEGPG may be due to the comparatively hard seed coat [23]. A higher number of branches in the SBET group per plant might be due to an increase in plant height, as well as the photosynthetic ability of the BTEGPG. This might be due to the sustained-release property of soil nutrients, and to provide the required nitrogen amount as per the growth stages of the plant. For protein synthesis nitrogen is essential, it might have helped in the production of a greater number of branches in the treated group, BTEGPG. The treatment group, BTEGPG, took less time

Table 4. Quantitative assessment of phenology and yield traits of eggplant after treatment with spiritual blessing (biofield) energy treatment (SBET)

Vegetative trait	Control group (CONEGPG)	Treated group (BTEGPG)
Days to germination	7-10	7-8
Germination percentage	83.75 ± 0.16	97.69 ± 0.22***
Plant height (cm)	64.27 ± 1.36	80.54 ± 1.26***
Plant spread (cm)	44.35 ± 1.10	62.77 ± 1.86***
Number of branches/plant	9.21 ± 0.24	14.16 ± 0.42***
Stem diameter (cm)	1.74 ± 0.02	2.28 ± 0.03***
Number of leaves per plant	67.82 ± 0.74	86.69 ± 0.89***
Leaf blade length (cm)	10.21 ± 0.62	17.74 ± 0.55***
Leaf blade width (cm)	8.52 ± 0.06	12.49 ± 0.08***
Days to first flowering	46.89 ± 1.57	43.41 ± 1.22
Days to 50% flowering	70.38 ± 0.32	65.27 ± 0.59***
Days to first fruiting	55.35 ± 1.26	52.61 ± 1.09
Days to 50% fruiting	78.12 ± 4.33	71.63 ± 0.12
Fruit pedicel length (cm)	2.82 ± 0.03	3.49 ± 0.08***
Days to first harvest	75.33 ± 1.62	74.72 ± 1.22
Fruit weight (g)	75.86 ± 1.14	105.72 ± 1.36***
Crop duration (days)	118.58 ± 1.77	117.26 ± 1.49
Fruit length (cm)	6.44 ± 0.11	8.77 ± 0.18***
Fruit width (cm)	4.17 ± 0.03	5.64 ± 0.05***
100-seed weight (g)	0.35 ± 0.01	0.67 ± 0.02***
Number of fruits per plant	19.20 ± 0.04	26.14 ± 0.02***
Fruits yield per plant (kg/plant)	1.44	2.73
Total fruit yield (kg)	16.54	24.82
Fruit yield/sq. m plot (kg/sq. m)	0.63	0.95
Fruit yield/hectare (ton/ha)	6.30	9.46

Data represented as mean ± SEM (n = 5 plants per plot, 3 plots per treatment); ***$p \leq 0.001$ *vs.* control group (CONEGPG) using Student's *t*-test; Kilograms Per Square Meter (kg/m^2) = Tonnes Per Hectare (t/ha).

to first flowering and 50% flowering compared to the CONEGPG. The variation might be due to BTEGPG's varietal make-up of a short vegetative phase, which enhances its early flowering, and might be due to the application of SBET that alter the phenotypic difference. The better fruit weight was observed in the BTEGPG compared to CONEGPG. The weight variation observed in the treatment group may be due to differences in vegetative growth parameters, which lead to variations in photosynthesis and ultimately, fruit weight. The yield of fruit per plant is directly related with a high number of branches consisting of a high number of leaves.

Soils, fertilizers, and environmental factors are the three main variables for growth and productive yields of the eggplant. In any case, if the fertility of soils can improve and protect the plants from various environmental factors, then the yields will be more lucrative. Soil analysis data showed that the exchangeable that measures the total negative charges in the soil. This negative charge holds adsorbed plant nutrient cations such as calcium (Ca^{2+}), magnesium (Mg^{2+}), and potassium (K^{+}). These higher exchangeable Ca, Mg, Na and K were observed in BTEGPG plots, which may contribute to improved growth. CEC describes the soil's ability to supply nutrient cations to the soil solution for uptake by plants and is, therefore, a key determinant of soil fertility [24]. Finally, the brinjal fruit yield per hectare was also higher in the BTEGPG compared to the CONEGPG, which might be due to the high accumulation

of photosynthates in fruits, which is responsible for higher weight. The yield of fruit per eggplant is directly related to a high number of branches consisting of a high number of leaves.

5. Conclusion

Overall, spiritual blessing/biofield energy-treated eggplant (BTEGPG) significantly improved morphological (plant branching, stem length/diameter, leaf blade length/width/lobing, leaf hairs/spines, fruit weight/flesh density, seed size/colour, and seediness, etc.), phenological (plant height, number of branches/plant, stem diameter, fruit weight/length/width, etc.), and yield (number of fruits per plant, fruit yield per plant, and total fruit yield) related parameters under the conditions of this trial compared to control group.

Abbreviations

NPK: nitrogen phosphorus potassium; CAM: complementary and alternative medicine; SBET: spiritual blessing (biofield) energy treatment; CONEGPG: control eggplant group; BTEGPG: biofield energy-treated eggplant group; SSP: single super phosphate; MOP: muriate of potash; DAS: days after sowing; CEC: cation exchange capacity

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Conflict of Interests

Authors MKT, DT, and AB were employed by Trivedi Global, Inc. TBG, NRP, and VDK were employed by Shree Angarsiddha Shikshan Prasarak Mandal's College of Agriculture, Sangulwadi, Mohitewadi, Maharashtra, India. Authors SM and SJ were employed by Trivedi Science Research Laboratory Pvt. Ltd. The authors do not have any commercial interests on the objectivity of the research.

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