



Effects of Jatropha Seed Cake (JSC) and Different Inorganic Fertilizers on Growth and Yield of Two Groundnut Cultivars under Three Harvesting Periods

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Authors' contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration between all authors. This work was carried out in collaboration between three authors. Author SMHE initiated the experiments, collected the data, performed the statistical analysis, Author SOY designed the study, managed the literature review and wrote the first drafts of the manuscript. Author ISM assisted with statistical analysis and contributed to the final draft. Three authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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ABSTRACT

Aim: to investigate the effect of Jatropha Seed Cake (JSC) and different fertilizers on growth and yield of two groundnut cultivars under three harvesting periods

Study Design: The experimental design was a randomized complete block in a split-plot replicated three times. Groundnut cultivars arranged as whole plots and five fertilizers treatment as sub-plot.

Locations: field experiments were conducted for two seasons 2011/12-2012/13 under semi-arid condition of Khartoum state in demonstration farm of Sudan University of Science and Technology,

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Material and methods: The treatments were Jatropha Seed Cake (2.5 t/ha), sulfur (119 kg/ha), single super phosphate (119 kg/ha), ammonium sulphate (119 kg/ha) and control on two groundnut cultivars (Sodri) and (Gebish) under three harvesting time (every 10 days).

Results: The results showed that yield increased with delayed in harvest periods for two seasons. The two tested cultivars revealed similar behavior during vegetative and reproductive growth. Except for plant height of third harvest of first season, primary branch of second harvest and yield of first and third harvest of two seasons. Results showed significant difference among fertilizers treatments and interaction between cultivars and fertilizers concerning the majority of growth and yield components. Super phosphate gave significant difference on leaf area index, plant height, number of primary branches, number of primary branches, number of pods/plant, germination %. On the other hand, sulfur and ammonium sulphate gave significant difference on number of pods/plant, germination % and yield. Ammonium sulphate and Jatropha Seed Cake revealed significant effect on yield in first and second season respectively

Conclusion: In conclusion addition of Jatropha Seed Cake and inorganic fertilizers appeared to be more promising. Delaying harvesting periods gave positive results.

Keywords: Groundnut inorganic fertilizers; Jatropha seed cake.

1. INTRODUCTION

Groundnut *Arachis hypogaea* L is a major cash crop grown mainly under rain-fed conditions in the semi-arid tropics. Groundnut is the 13th most important food crop of the world. It is the world's 4th most important source of edible oil and 3rd most important source of vegetable protein [1]. Groundnut is primarily used for oil extraction in Sudan [2]. It is consumed directly because of its high food value. Sudan is one of the major groundnut producing countries. The total area under groundnut production is approximately one million ha with an average yield of 855 kg/ha [2].

Substantial evidence showed that groundnut responds well to additional inorganic and organic fertilizers application [3-9]. Phosphorus is very important nutrient element for crop growth and yield. It plays an important role in physiological processes of plants. As P source, single superphosphate is the most suitable fertilizer for groundnut in Nigeria Savannah [10]. Sulfur deficiency in legume crops affects not only yield, but also the nutritional quality of the seeds [11].

Biodiesel is an environmental-friendly substitute for fossil fuel. Research on the production of biodiesel from vegetable oils has concentrated on jatropha, soybean, palm kernel, sunflower and rapeseed oils with scarce information on groundnut oils [12]. The biodiesel from *Jatropha curcas* had received much attention in past decades. The byproduct of oil extraction from

Jatropha curcas seeds and kernel is called seedcake. It is containing highly toxic protein that is not suitable for animal's feeds, although good for organic manure; it is being used as an organic fertilizer [13]. The cake is rich in nitrogen (3.2%) phosphorus (1.4%) and potassium (1.3%) and can be used as manures [14 and 15]. Limited studies have been reported on potential of Jatropha Seed Cake to be used as organic fertilizers. Organic manures are very important, as it contains both major and minor elements necessary for plant growth, and improve the physical, chemical and biological properties of soil [16]. The productivity of groundnut depends on proper selection of variety, fertilizer management. This study was carried out to identify the effect of Jatropha Seed Cake (JSC) and different types fertilizers on growth and yield of two groundnut cultivars under three harvesting periods.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1 Experimental site

Field experiments were conducted in Demonstration farm, College of Agricultural Studies, Sudan University of Science and Technology, Shambat, Khartoum North, Sudan for two consecutive seasons 2011/12- 2012/13. Shambat is located at longitude 32 35"E and latitude 15 31"N, within the semi-desert region. Climate of the locality is semi-desert and tropical with low relative humidity.

2.2 Layout of the Experiment and Land Preparation

The experiment was designed in split plots replicated three times. Two cultivars of groundnut (Sodri =V1) and (Gebish=V2) and four types of fertilizers were applied; (F1) control without fertilizer, (F2) inorganic Jatropha Seed Cake (JSC) of 2.5 t/ha, and three organic fertilizers: (F3) pure sulfur of 119 kg/ha, (F4) super phosphate of 119 kg/ha and (F5) Ammonia sulphate of 119 kg/ha. After maturing (about 110 days from sowing) three harvesting periods were taken (every 10 days), early, medium and late. The field was prepared according to adopted method by Engineering Department of Agricultural College. The seeds were sown in July 12th, and July 21th respectively for two seasons, 3-4 seeds per hole then thinned to two seed per hole. During July until August (about two months) it was irrigated by rain-fed then irrigation was applied every 15 days. For first season the three harvesting time were, October, 11- 21 and first November, and for second season October, 24, and November 4-14.

2.3 The Source of Seeds

Two cultivars of groundnut certified seed (Sodri = V1) and (Gebish= V2) were obtained from Al – Obied Research Center (North Kordfan), and Arabian Company for Seed, Khartoum.

2.4 Data Collection

Observation was taken from 10 plants selected randomly each subplot. Data was recorded on pre and post harvesting stage. The data recorded during pre-harvest; were percentage of germination after 3 weeks and 5 weeks, seeds that failed to germinate were counted per hole (implanting seeds), leaf area index after 90 days. The harvest stage data were: - height of plant, number of primary and secondary branches, and number of pods per plant. The yield of threshed seeds from one meter of each plots were taken and transformed in kg/ha.

2.5 Statistical Analysis

The collected data were subjected to standard statistical analysis. The procedure of analysis of variance and mean separation were followed

according to the description of [17]. The data was analyzed by MSTAT-C Statistical Package.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The effect of Jatropha Seed Cake (JSC), sulfur, super phosphate and ammonium sulphate fertilizer on germination % of two groundnut cultivars (Sodri and Gebish) were presented in Table (1a) for season 2011/12 and Table (1b) season 2012/13. There were no significant difference between two cultivars for 3 and 5 weeks of sowing, and among the fertilizers for 5 weeks of sowing, but there were significant differences among fertilizers x cultivars (F×V) for two seasons for 3 and 5 days of sowing. Sulfur fertilizer with V1 (Sodri) and super phosphate with V2 (Gebish) gave the highest values for first and second seasons respectively. Among fertilizers for two seasons in 3 weeks of sowing application of sulfur and (JSC) obtained the highest values. This evaluated that groundnut responded well to application of organic and inorganic fertilizes. This was in line with [9].

The results of leaf area index presented in Table 2, there were significant difference in first season between cultivars, fertilizers and interaction among cultivars and fertilizers.V2, F4 (super phosphate) and the interaction of V2×F4 gave the highest values. While the second season the significant differences were noticed only among the interaction of cultivars and fertilizers and V1×XF4 showed the highest values.

Tables 3a-3b showed the results of effect of JSC and different fertilizers on plant height of two groundnut cultivars for three harvesting periods. The results indicated non significant differences between cultivars except in third harvest of second season and V1 (Sodri) gave the highest value. Among fertilizers treatments all of them revealed highly significant difference except the first harvest of second season. In general, F4 (super phosphate fertilizers) showed the highest records in first harvest of first season and second harvest of second season also with control in second and third harvest of first season, but in second season third harvest F2(JSC) showed the highest value. The interaction of cultivars with fertilizers showed significant difference for all parameters and F4 and F1 obtained the highest values except in the third harvest of second season F2 gave the higher value.

Table 1a. Effect of Jatropha seed cake and different fertilizers on germination % of two groundnut cultivars season 2011/12

	3 WS			5WS		
	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means
F1(Control)	70.0b	69.0b	69.5ab	77.5bc	81.3b	79.4a
F2(Jatropha)	65.0bc	64.6bc	64.8ab	71.3c	76.8bc	74.1a
F3(Sulfur)	82.9a	58.7c	70.8a	89.2a	69.5c	79.4a
F4(Super ph.)	66.7bc	63.8bc	65.2ab	75.2bc	71.7c	73.4a
F5(Amonium sulphate)	69.6b	49.6d	59.6b	70.6c	72.8bc	71.7a
Means	70.8a	61.1a		76.8 a	74.4a	75.6
CV%			21.5			18.9
LSD V			7.8			7.8
LSD F			10.2			10.2
LSD V*F			62.7			54.1

Table 1b. Effect of Jatropha seed cake and different fertilizers on germination % of two groundnut cultivars season 2012/13

	3 WS			5WS		
	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means
F1(Control)	45.8c	60.3b	53.1b	36.3c	50.4ab	43.4a
F2(Jatropha)	54.6b	60.4b	59.5a	46.9b	50.7ab	48.8a
F3(Sulfur)	41.9c	65.4b	53.7b	31.7c	50.5ab	41.1a
F4(Super ph.)	46.1c	68.9a	57.5ab	37.2c	56.8a	47.0a
F5(Amonium sulphate)	57.5b	57.5b	57.5ab	46.4b	46.4b	46.4a
Means	49.9a	62.5a		39.7a	51.0a	
CV%			31%			34.6%
LSD V			4.86			11.30
LSD F			9.63			8.57
LSD V*F			26.7			15.00

Table 2. Effect of Jatropha seed cake (JSC) and different fertilizers on leaf area index of two groundnut cultivars seasons 2011/12-2012/13

	2011/12			2012/13		
	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means
F1(Control)	29.2efg	30.6def	29.9b	34.7b	29.3de	31.9a
F2(Jatropha)	32.3cd	32.6cd	32.5ab	38.1a	28.7e	33.4a
F3(Sulfur)	35.2ab	30.6def	33.4a	36.2ab	31.7cd	33.9a
F4(Super ph.)	27.89	36.4a	32.1ab	34.0bc	28.8e	31.4a
F5(Amonium sulphate)	28.4fg	33.8bc	31.1ab	34.4b	30.3de	32.3a
Means	30.6b	32.9a		35.5a	29.7a	
CV%	13.2			14.1		
LSD V			1.5			2.5
LSD F			2.3			3.3
LSD V*F			3.0			13.7

The results showed the effect of JSC and different fertilizers on number of primary branches of two groundnut cultivars seasons 2011/12-2012/13. It was presented in Table 4a-4b for two seasons respectively. The results obtained that there were no significant differences between cultivars for three different harvesting time except in season two second harvest and V1 (Sodri) gave higher record than V2 (Gebish). Among fertilizers in the first season the results showed that F2 (JSC) in first and third harvest and F4 (Super phosphate) gave the highest values with significant differences. Meanwhile, second season showed slight difference in first and second harvest and no significant difference in third harvest for fertilizers treatment. The results of interaction of cultivars with fertilizers showed that F2 for two cultivar in first harvest and V1F4 second harvest and V2 F2 for thirds harvest had the highest values with significant difference. The interaction in season two showed results similar to results of fertilizers with difference in V1 which gave the biggest values in first and second harvest, but thirds harvest gave significant difference in V1F4.

Numbers of pods/plants were obtained in Table 5a-5b. The results showed non significant differences between cultivars for two seasons in all harvest time. Fertilizer treatment showed no significant differences in first harvest of first season and second and third harvest of second season. In first season super phosphate gave the significant difference among treatments. In second season F5 gave the highest values. [18] study the relationships between nutrient uptake parameters, biomass and pod dry weight and found that they were positive and significant in both seasons. The interaction treatment revealed highly significant difference for three harvests for two seasons. In general third harvest of two seasons had the highest number of pods/plant and V2F4 of third harvest of second season obtained the heaviest numbers of pods/plant which was 18.3 pods/plant. [19] gave the same result and showed that the genotypes obtained an increasing trend in the number of mature pods as harvesting date delayed.

The yield kg/ha of two groundnut cultivars for three harvests were presented in Table 6a-6b for

two seasons. The result showed that yield increased with advanced in harvest time for two seasons, and the yield of third harvest is the best compared with the first and second harvest. This result comes in line with [19] but [20] found that peanut harvest at physiological maturing period gave better result than that at 10 days earlier or later. V2 (Gebish) gave slight big yield compared with V1 (Sodri) with significant difference in first and third harvest of first season and first harvest of second seasons. Among fertilizers treatment in second seasons Tables 6b the results showed that F2 for three harvests gave the highest yield and also for interaction had the same results with variation in cultivars V2F2 gave the highest values. In first season Table 6a, F5 (Amonium sulphate) gave the highest values for three harvest. The interaction of cultivars and fertilizers in this season gave significant difference. The same results among fertilizers treatments were detected [21].

Different concentration of JSC gave the various results on the yield of each vegetable crop. Treatment with the half rate of chemical fertilizer mixed with high rate (10 t/ha) of JSC had proven to provide the best marketable yield of Chinese kale, in which such yield was comparable to that of full rate of chemical fertilizer. In addition, the half rate of chemical fertilizer combined with any rates of JSC (low, medium, and high) gave the most tomato fruit yield. When applied with low rate (2.5 t/ha) of JSC to the sweet potato plot, the outcome showed the highest tuber yield [22]. As mentioned above, fertilizers in form of *Jatropha* Seed Cake, super phosphate, sulfur and ammonium sulphate on different yield and yield gave positive results with significant difference. [6] Concluded that phosphorus rate increased the number of filled pods and seed yield. Also [23] found that application of FYM and S fertilization increased the yield and yield attributed of groundnut. [24] Confirmed that sulfur application increased pod yield of groundnut. On the other hand, [25] found that sulfur application significantly influenced the growth and yield attributed characters, yield and oil content over control regardless of the source and levels of sulfur. In contrast [3] found that sulfur supply only increase the sulfur concentration of the plants without enhancing the yield.

Table 3a. Effect of jatropha seed cake and different fertilizers on plant height of two groundnut cultivars season 2011/12

	First harvest			Second harvest			Third harvest		
	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means
F1(Control)	18.1cd	19.8bc	18.9b	21.3c	23.3b	22.3a	21.3cde	26.1a	23.7a
F2(Jatropha)	20.4b	17.3d	18.8b	19.6def	20.4cde	19.9b	21.9cd	20.3ef	21.1b
F3(Sulfur)	18.7bcd	20.2b	19.4b	19.2ef	22.8b	21.0ab	20.1ef	19.6f	19.9b
F4(Super ph.)	22.3a	23.3a	22.8a	19.5ef	24.7a	22.1a	22.7bc	23.6b	23.2a
F5(Amonium sulphate)	19.5bc	19.8bc	19.7b	18.9f	21.0cd	19.9b	20.7def	19.8ef	20.2b
Means	19.8a	20.1a		19.7 a	22.4a		21.3 a	21.9 a	
CV%			16.4			11.7			12.2
LSD V			1.79			1.35			1.45
LSD F			2.3			1.77			1.89
LSD V*F			3.6			9.4			2.7

Table 3b. Effect of jatropha seed cake and different fertilizers on plant height of two groundnut cultivars season 2011/12

	First harvest			Second harvest			Third harvest		
	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means
F1(Control)	19.0d	22.5bc	20.8a	18.1d	21.6c	19.9cd	18.8e	24.7bc	21.8ab
F2(Jatropha)	20.5cd	25.9a	23.2a	21.5c	26.1b	23.8ab	21.6d	27.4a	24.5a
F3(Sulfur)	23.1b	22.5bc	22.8a	18.6d	25.9b	22.3bc	18.6e	25.6ab	22.1ab
F4(Super ph.)	20.4cd	24.1ab	22.2a	23.0c	29.6a	26.3a	23.2cd	24.1bc	23.7ab
F5(Amonium sulphate)	21.8bc	21.7bc	21.7a	17.9d	18.8d	18.4d	21.7d	21.7d	21.7b
Means	20.9a	23.3a		19.9a	24.4a		20.8b	24.7a	
CV%			19.2			21.3			16.3
LSD V			0.78			2.52			2.66
LSD F			2.33			3.31			2.03
LSD V*F			3.05			7.60			13.7

Table 4a. Effect of jatropha seed cake and different fertilizers on number of primary branches of two groundnut cultivars season 2011/12

	First harvest			Second harvest			Third harvest		
	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means
F1(Control)	4.5bc	4.1c	4.5bc	4.1d	4.5cd	4.3c	5.0bc	4.8bcd	4.9ab
F2(Jatropha)	5.6a	5.3a	5.6a	4.7c	5.2b	4.9ab	5.1b	5.7a	5.4a
F3(Sulfur)	5.1ab	3.9c	5.1ab	4.7d	5.2b	4.9ab	4.3de	4.9bc	4.6b
F4(Super ph.)	4.5bc	4.2c	4.5bc	5.8a	4.6cd	5.1a	4.9bc	4.5cde	4.7b
F5(Amonium sulphate)	4.5bc	4.5	4.5bc	4.4cd	4.6cd	4.5bc	4.8bcd	4.2c	4.5b
Means	4.8a	4.4a		4.7a	4.8a		4.8a	4.8a	
CV%			24			17			16.5
LSD V			0.61			0.44			0.43
LSD F			0.79			0.58			0.57
LSD V*F			2.5			2.6			1.5

Table 4b. Effect of jatropha seed cake and different fertilizers on number of primary branches of two groundnut cultivars season 2012/13

	First harvest			Second harvest			Third harvest		
	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means
F1(Control)	6.1a	4.7cd	5.4a	6.2a	4.3de	5.3a	5.0bc	4.6cd	4.8a
F2(Jatropha)	5.3b	3.8e	4.6b	4.2e	3.9e	4.0b	5.4abc	5.2bc	5.3a
F3(Sulfur)	4.1de	5.4b	4.8ab	5.3bc	3.8e	4.6ab	5.8ab	5.0bc	5.4a
F4(Super ph.)	4.5cd	5.0bc	4.7ab	4.9cd	5.2bc	5.1a	6.3a	4.0d	5.2a
F5(Amonium sulphate)	6.2a	4.1de	5.2ab	5.7ab	5.0bcd	3.3a	5.8ab	5.1bc	5.5a
Means	5.2a	4.6a		5.3a	4.4b		5.7a	5.7a	
CV%			20.2			24.0			32.5
LSD V			0.71			0.83			0.93
LSD F			0.54			0.63			1.21
LSD V*F			2.20			0.66			2.31

Table 5a. Effect of jatropha seed cake and different fertilizers on number of pods/plant of two groundnut cultivars season 2011/12

	First harvest			Second harvest			Third harvest		
	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means
F1(Control)	5.4cd	8.1a	6.7a	8.0b	05.0d	06.5b	13.1bc	10.9cd	12.0ab
F2(Jatropha)	7.0abcd	7.5ab	7.3a	5.5cd	08.1b	06.8b	10.6cde	12.0cd	11.3b
F3(Sulfur)	5.5cd	5.3cd	5.4a	7.6bc	08.0b	07.8ab	09.6de	15.8b	12.7ab
F4(Super ph.)	5.6bcd	5.0d	5.3a	9.0ab	11.0a	10.0a	22.8a	07.7e	15.2a
F5(Amonium sulphate)	7.1abc	5.3cd	6.2a	8.7ab	07.2bcd	07.9ab	13.4bc	09.3de	11.5ab
Means	6.1a	6.2a		7.8a	7.8a		13.9a	11.2a	
CV%			53.3			51.5			40.7
LSD V			1.80			2.10			2.80
LSD F			1.55			2.20			3.66
LSD V*F			2.37			4.10			7.80

Table 5b. Effect of jatropha seed cake and different fertilizers on number of pods/plant of two groundnut cultivars season 2012/13

	First harvest			Second harvest			Third harvest		
	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means
F1(Control)	05.9d	09.1b	07.5bc	12.5bc	15.8a	14.2a	12.4cd	17.9a	15.1a
F2(Jatropha)	07.4bcd	06.8cd	07.1c	11.5c	14.6ab	13.1a	14.4bc	14.4bc	14.4a
F3(Sulfur)	08.4bc	10.9b	09.7ab	11.2c	15.0a	13.1a	11.9cd	14.9b	13.4a
F4(Super ph.)	10.9a	07.8bc	09.3ab	11.9c	15.7a	13.8a	11.9d	18.3a	15.1a
F5(Amonium sulphate)	10.9a	10.9a	10.9a	11.7c	14.3ab	12.9a	15.4b	10.3d	12.9a
Means	8.7a	9.1a		11.8a	15.1a		13.2a	15.2a	
CV%			33.5			26			29.3
LSD V			6.60			2.00			2.27
LSD F			8.89			2.63			2.97
LSD V*F			14.53			7.10			23.9

Table 6a. Effect of jatropha seed cake and different fertilizers on yield (kg/ha) of two groundnut cultivars season 2011/12

	First harvest			Second harvest			Third harvest		
	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means
F1(Control)	250.2 f	445.7de	347.9c	309.3f	695.5cd	0502.4d	0760.5e	1224.0cde	0992.3e
F2(Jatropha)	791.2b	360.3ef	575.8ab	942.3cd	450.8ef	069.60e	2675.3ab	0936.5de	1805.9c
F3(Sulfur)	967.3a	455.7cde	711.5a	1331.5a	705.0de	1018.3b	2710.5ab	1621.8c	2166.2b
F4(Super ph.)	390.7ef	595.0cd	492.8bc	430.0f	895.2cd	0662.6c	1331.0cd	1569.3c	1450.2d
F5(Amonium sulphate)	831.0ab	609.5c	720.3a	1119.5bc	1424.7a	1272.1a	2761.1a	2254.5b	2507.8a
Means	646.1a	493.2b		826.5a	834.2a		2047.7a	1521.2b	
CV%			50.7%			57.3%			49.5%
LSD V			132.0			2216			584.7
LSD F			340.9			572.2			150.0
LSD V*F			157.9			260.3			483.1

Table 6b. Effect of Jatropha Seed Cake and different fertilizers on yield (kg/ha) of two groundnut cultivars season 2011/12

	First harvest			Second harvest			Third harvest		
	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means	V1(Sodri)	V2(Gebish)	Means
F1(Control)	124.7e	126.5e	193.1d	327.3d	0242.8de	285.1c	792.3c	0444.3d	618.3cd
F2(Jatropha)	062.7f	677.5a	370.1a	089.5f	1607.7a	848.6a	191.2e	1721.2a	956.2a
F3(Sulfur)	090.0g	377.2b	193.1d	085.7f	0713.7b	399.7b	142.7e	1340.5b	741.6bc
F4(Super ph.)	242.7a	119.5e	186.8c	162.7ef	0274.0d	218.3c	556.5d	0558.5d	557.5d
F5(Amonium sulphate)	325.0c	196.7d	260.8b	512.7c	0432.5c	472.6b	719.7c	0794.8c	757.3b
Means	152,7a	299.5b		235.6a	654.19a		480.5a	971.9 a	
CV%			38.9%			35.5%			32.6%
LSD V			71.8			666.4			884.2
LSD F			18.5			172.1			228.3
LSD V*F			48.4			86.4			129.4

4. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Groundnut is very important oil seed in the Sudan. The productivity of groundnut depends on proper selection of variety, fertilizer management and other management practices. Currently applications of jatropha seed byproduct as oil diesel remain seed cake waste. This Jatropha Seed Cake can be used as good green manure fertilizers. In this study using Jatropha Seed Cake compared with different inorganic fertilizers; sulfur, superphosphate and ammonium sulphate gave significant difference in growth, yield and yield components of groundnut. On the other hand, delayed harvesting periods gave good results in growth and yield of groundnut. The two cultivars of groundnut obtained similar results without clear variation in their growth. Thus additional studies under more conducive conditions are needed to better understand the role of Jatropha Seed Cake as fertilizer to increase growth and yield of crops.

COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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