

EFFECT OF RAINFALL ON PEPPER PRODUCTIVITY UNDER DIFFERENT SOIL CONDITIONS

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SUMMARY

The effect of rainfall on the growth and yield of pepper (Piper nigrum L.) was studied for 12 years under the geopedoenvironment of two soils. The mean annual rainfall was 512 cm received in 146 rainy days. The maximum precipitation was received during June and July. January and February were comparatively dry. The maximum and minimum temperature ranged from 36°C in April to 21°C in December. The average humidity was 85%. Under the humid tropical climate, pepper yield is related to the rainfall received in May (responsible for spike formation) and June (responsible for setting of pepper berry) in both the soils.