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EFFECT OF ECOZANE BIOFERTILIZER AND NITROGEN ON THE GROWTH AND YIELD OF SOYABEAN, TOMATO, BELL PEPPER AND ITS EFFECT ON RICE VARIETIES

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ABSTRACT

The first set of trials involved three pot experiments carried out at the University of Agriculture, Abeokuta to evaluate the effects of four ecozane biofertilizer and three nitrogen fertilizer levels on the growth and yield of soyabean (*Glycine max (L) Merill*), tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum* Mill) and bell pepper (*Capsicum annum).* Another trial involved the evaluation of the effect of four ecozane biofertilizer levels on the performance of three rice (*Oryza sativa. L*) varieties. Both trials were planted in a 4 x 3 factorial in randomized complete block design replicated three times for each crop. Ecozane biofertilizer improved the growth of tomato and pepper in the presence of nitrogen fertilizer. Ecozane application doubled the fruit yields of tomato and pepper through the production of more fruits per plant. Soyabean yield was either reduced or unaffected by the different ecozane levels. Ecozane resulted in 15% increase in rice yield due to increase in the number of kernels per plant. The results indicate that ecozane application was highly beneficial to tomato and pepper but not so beneficial to soyabean and rice.

Keywords: Biofertilizer, capsicum, varieties, growth, nitrogen, rice, soyabean, tomato, yield.