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Evaluating the Effects of Blessing/Biofield Energy Interventions (BEI) on Eggplant's (*Solanum melongena* L.) Growth, Development, and Productivity

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Abstract: Objective: Eggplant is the most important fruit vegetable crop in many countries, including India. In spite of this, its production is hindered by low nutrient availability in soil and cost of production. Therefore, the objective of this study was to improve vegetative growth, phenological development, yield, and soil fertility using spiritual blessing energy (biofield) treatment (SBET), known as the Trivedi Effect®. Methods: Soil physical features were measured using the hand feel method. Mineral components were determined using standard methods. Plant morphological, phenological, and yield-related parameters were measured by experienced scientists. Results: The interaction effect between blessing/biofield energy treatment (BET) with the seeds and lands significantly ($p < 0.001$) impacted the number of fruits per plant, plant height, leaf area, branch number, leaf number, fruit diameter, fresh fruit yield per plant, and total fresh fruit yield. According to the current investigation, number of fruits per plant was recorded significantly ($p \leq 0.001$) higher by 20.75% in the BTEGPG than CONEGPG. The fruit (fresh) yield (ton/ha) was improved by 45.39% in the BTEGPG compared to the CONEGPG. Conclusion: This BET approach effectively supported both the yield and the quality of eggplant fruits.

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

INTRODUCTION

Eggplant is among the most widely grown vegetables worldwide. In 2023, global eggplant production reached a record 60.97 million tonnes, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization [1]. China and India are the top producers, with annual outputs of 28 and 13 million tonnes, respectively (FAO 2015). The crop responds differently to nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium fertilizers depending on local climate conditions [2]. Prabhu et al., (2006) found that increasing nitrogen and phosphorus levels can significantly boost yield per hectare [3]. Besides fertilizers, proper irrigation is also important for higher production. Inalpulat et al. (2014) showed that water shortages can affect photosynthesis, fruit quality, and yield in eggplant [4]. Eggplant is valued as a source of an antioxidants because its skin contains high levels of delphinidin and nasunin, the main anthocyanins with strong antioxidant potential [5]. Its antioxidant properties are also associated with a high phenolic acid content [6]. Farmers are increasingly adopting technology to lower production costs and improve efficiency. With the world population expected to reach 10 billion by 2050,

agriculture faces growing pressure to increase yields and improve productivity in a cost-effectively (FAO, 2017). Alongside conventional farming, another method has been found that can improve eggplant growth, development, and yield. Previous studies by the authors have shown notable results from the Trivedi Effect®, such as better growth and fruit yield in cashew [7], bottle gourd, and okra [8], as well as increased growth, germination rates, plant hormone levels, and antioxidant capacity in cotton [9] and mustard [10]. Spiritual blessing/ biofield energy treatment (SBET), which includes the Trivedi Effect®, is a form of complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) [11]. The Trivedi Effect® refers to a process where a spiritual energy practitioner is believed to direct a special type of universal energy to living and non-living things [12]. This study objective was to observe how SBET (Trivedi Effect®) affects eggplant growth and yield in open fields in India, measuring changes in plant growth, yield, and soil conditions.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Site of Experiment and Prevailing Environmental Factors

This research was carried out on farmland in Bhandarwadi, Sindhudurg, in the Konkan region of Maharashtra, India, from February to June 2025. The site was located between 15° 37’ and 16° 40’ north latitude and 73° 19’ and 74° 13’ east longitude, at 26 meters above sea level. The climate features hot summers and cool winters. Temperature reached 40℃ in April and May, and fall to between 8℃ and 25℃ from December to February. Rainfall was unpredictable, which often causes dry spells and soil moisture shortages during crop growth.

Test Item Information

Eggplant seeds (label number: 442, lot number: NUBBL099, genetic purity: 98%) of the desi black round variety were obtained from Namdeo Umaji Agritech (India) Pvt. Ltd. The seeds were split into two groups: one served as the untreated control, while the other was treated with Blessings/BET (The Trivedi Effect®). The seeds were then cultivated in the selected farmland for analysis of morphological, growth, and yield parameters.

Study Design and Plots Specification

The study used a Randomized Complete Block Design (RCBD) with two groups: an untreated control group (CONEGPG) and a Blessing/biofield treatment group (BTEGPG), each with three replications. The area was divided into two sections, one for the control and other for the treatment plots. Each block included both plot types, and there were three blocks in total. Plots were randomly assigned within each block. There were six plots, each measuring 3.5 m by 2.5 m. Plant spacing was 0.5 m by 0.5 m, with 0.5 m between replications and 50 cm between plots. The total experimental area was 60.0 m^2, and each plot was 8.75 m^2. The site was cleaned and fertilizer (50:100:50 kg NPK ha^{-1}) was applied before planting.

Spiritual Blessing/Biofield Energy Treatment Strategy

The control group of seeds and plots, called the untreated or control eggplant group (CONEGPG), did not receive any treatment. The blessing/biofield energy treated eggplant

group (BTEGPG) of seeds and land received blessings (BET) *via* remote/distance mode of web-conference platform from Florida, USA, for about four minutes from a spiritual biofield energy healing practitioner, Ms. Alice Branton with more than 12 years of experience. This was done the day before planting. The practitioner delivered the BET/blessing by transmitting divine energy to the seeds and land remotely. The blessing included prayers and holding hands over the seeds and land from remotely, at a temperature of 28 ± 2°C and relative humidity of 65 ± 5%. During this time, the healer focused on channeling divine energy to the treated seeds and land.

Soil Analysis

The study area had sandy loam soil, which was light, drains well, and has low fertility. Before starting the experiment, topsoil samples were collected from each plot to a depth of 30 cm using a five-point sampling method. The samples from each plot were mixed, and 1 kg was taken, air-dried, passed through a 2-mm sieve, and stored at 4°C. The physical and chemical properties were then measured. Soil texture was identified by hand feeling [13]. Soil pH was measured in a 1:2 soil-water mixture using a digital pH meter.

Plantation of Seeds and its Management

Seeds were sown directly in the plots. For the first 10 days, the soil was kept moist by hand. After that, drip irrigation was used with self-compensating emitters placed 0.5 meters apart, each delivering water at 3 liters per hour. Both the control and treatment plots received 50:100:50 kg NPK per hectare using urea, single super phosphate (SSP), and muriate of potash (MOP). All of the SSP, MOP, and half of the urea were applied to the soil before planting, and the rest of the urea was added 21 days after sowing. Hamla 550 insecticide (Gharda Chemicals Limited, India) was sprayed at a rate of 2 mL per liter on days 21 and 49 after sowing. To measure growth and yield, five plants were chosen at random from each plot 80 days after sowing.

Morphological Features

We looked at several qualitative traits, including plant habit, branching, spreading, stem and leaf color, leaf blade length and width, lobing, hairs, tip angle, flower color and size, fruit color, shape, apex, seed color, size, and seediness. We also measured quantitative traits such as plant height, number of branches per plant, stem diameter, number of leaves per plant, leaf length and width, days to 50% flowering, fruit length, and fruit diameter.

Phenological and Yield Traits

Eggplant fruits were harvested at physiological maturity. Their size was measured in centimeters, and their weight was recorded with a weighing balance. Yield per net plot in kilograms was converted to tonnes per hectare using a conversion factor. For growth and yield measurements, five plants were randomly chosen from each plot 80 days after sowing.

Statistical Analysis

Data are presented as mean ± SEM. Student's *t*-test was performed in SigmaPlot (v14.0) to compare two independent groups. Statistical significance was defined as $p < 0.05$.

RESULTS

Soil Analysis

The physicochemical features of sandy loamy soil were evaluated. Water-holding capacity (WHC) was higher in the BTEGPG than in the CONEGPG. It was observed that levels of ion exchangeable cations, such as calcium, magnesium, and sodium were improved in the BTEGPG compared to the CONEGPG (Data not shown).

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: germination and seedling, leaf growth, flowering, pod/fruit formation, and harvesting stages.

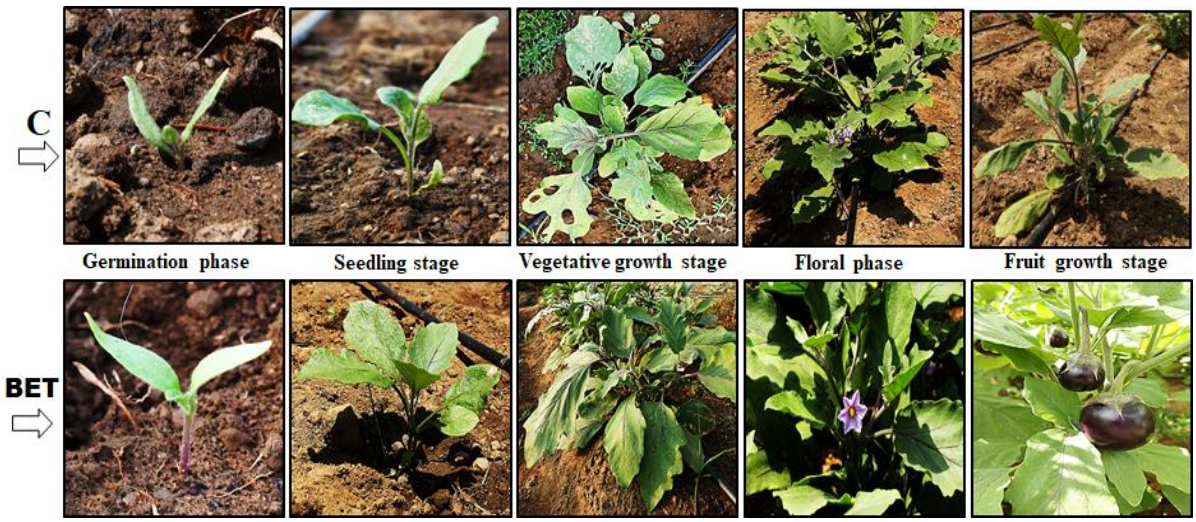

Figure 1: Sample images illustrate changes in vegetative growth characteristics of eggplant at different stages. C: Control group; BET: Blessing/biofield energy treatment group.

The BTEGPG group had a very broad plant spread, while the CONEGPG group was broad. Plant branching was intermediate in CONEGPG and strong in BTEGPG. Stem length and diameter were large in BTEGPG and medium in CONEGPG. BTEGPG had dark green stems and dark greenish violet leaf blades, while CONEGPG had green stems and greenish violet leaf blades. Leaf blade length and width were medium in CONEGPG and long and wide in BTEGPG. The leaf veins were greenish purple in CONEGPG and intense purple in BTEGPG. Leaf blade lobing was strong in BTEGPG and intermediate in CONEGPG. The petiole was purple in BTEGPG and greenish purple in CONEGPG. BTEGPG plants had many leaf hairs,

while CONEGPG had only a few. Leaf spines were prominent in BTEGPG but measly in CONEGPG. The flowers of CONEGPG were light purple, while those of BTEGPG were purple. Flower size was medium in BTEGPG and small in CONEGPG. BTEGPG petals were pale purple, and CONEGPG petals were white. BTEGPG flowered early (38-40 days), while CONEGPG flowered later after sowing. The fruit calyx was short in BTEGPG and very short in CONEGPG. A few fruit calyx prickles appeared in BTEGPG, but none were seen in CONEGPG. The fruit calyx was green in CONEGPG and had greenish purple spots in BTEGPG. BTEGPG eggplant fruits were deep purple, while CONEGPG fruits were purple. Seeds were pale brown in CONEGPG and brown in BTEGPG. Seediness was medium in CONEGPG and high in BTEGPG. Fruit weight was medium in BTEGPG and light in CONEGPG. The fruit flesh was very compact in BTEGPG and compact in CONEGPG. Raw fruit flesh from BTEGPG was mildly sweet and soft, while CONEGPG was mildly bitter and spongy. Seed size was intermediate in BTEGPG and small in CONEGPG. Plant growth habit, leaf blade tip angle, fruit shape, fruit apex shape, fruit peduncle length, and fruit curvature were similar in both groups (**Table 1**).

Table 1: The impact of blessings (biofield) energy treatment (BET) on the quality of eggplant vegetative growth 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 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	A few	Many
Leaf spines	Measly	Prominent
Flower color	Light purple	Purple
Flower size	Small	Medium
Petal colour	White	Pale purple
Flowering time (DAS)	40-45	38-40
Fruit shape	Oval	Oval
Fruit colour	Purple	Deep purple
Fruit apex shape	Rounded	Rounded
Fruit calyx length	Very short	Short
Fruit calyx prickles	None	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	Mildly sweet and soft

Seed colour	Pale brown	Brown
Seed size	Small (< 2 mm)	Intermediate (> 3 mm)
Seediness (Number of seeds/fruit)	Medium	High

Phenology and Yield

The phenological traits and yield-related parameters of eggplant are shown in **Table 2.** The percentage of germination was significantly ($p \leq 0.001$) higher (16.41%) in the BTEGPG compared to the CONEGPG. The plant height was significantly ($p \leq 0.001$) increased by 16.41% at harvesting stage in the BTEGPG compared to the CONEGPG. Plant spread was significantly ($p \leq 0.001$) higher (39.10%) in the BTEGPG than CONEGPG. Number of branches per plant was observed significantly ($p \leq 0.001$) higher by 56.30% in the BTEGPG compared to the CONEGPG. Stem diameter was significantly ($p \leq 0.001$) increased by 37.97% in the BTEGPG compared to the CONEGPG. Number of leaves per plant was significantly ($p \leq 0.001$) higher (20.63%) in the BTEGPG compared to the CONEGPG. Leaf blade length and width were significantly higher by 30.05% ($p \leq 0.01$) and 45.18% ($p \leq 0.001$), respectively, in the BTEGPG compared to the CONEGPG. The maximum days to 50% flowering were significantly ($p \leq 0.001$) lowered in the BTEGPG followed by CONEGPG. Fruit pedicel length was significantly ($p \leq 0.001$) increased by 48.46% in the BTEGPG compared to the CONEGPG. Fruit length and width were significantly higher in the BTEGPG by 25.19% ($p \leq 0.001$) and 33.48% ($p \leq 0.001$), respectively, compared to the CONEGPG. Sum of 100 seeds weight was significantly ($p \leq 0.001$) higher (64.86%) in the BTEGPG compared to the CONEGPG. Number of fruits per plant was recorded significantly ($p \leq 0.001$) higher by 20.75% in the BTEGPG than CONEGPG. The fruit (fresh) yield (ton/ha) was improved by 45.39% in the BTEGPG compared to the CONEGPG (**Table 2**). Other phenological traits were non-significantly improved in the BTEGPG compared to the CONEGPG.

Table 2: Quantitative evaluation of phenological and yield traits in eggplant following biofield energy treatment (BET)

Vegetative trait	**Control group (CONEGPG)**	**Treated group (BTEGPG)**
Days to germination	7-10	7-8
Germination percentage	84.10 ± 0.67	97.90 ± 0.18***
Plant height (cm)	67.54 ± 1.21	78.62 ± 1.33***
Plant spread (cm)	43.27 ± 1.10	60.19 ± 1.61***
Number of branches/plant	8.97 ± 0.64	14.02 ± 0.22***
Stem diameter (cm)	1.58 ± 0.01	2.18 ± 0.02***
Number of leaves per plant	68.31 ± 0.34	82.40 ± 0.55***
Leaf blade length (cm)	12.38 ± 0.78	16.10 ± 0.28**
Leaf blade width (cm)	8.30 ± 0.05	12.05 ± 0.04***
Days to first flowering	45.63 ± 1.49	43.02 ± 1.58
Days to 50% flowering	72.34 ± 0.27	65.37 ± 0.24***
Days to first fruiting	56.38 ± 1.37	52.77 ± 1.02
Days to 50% fruiting	76.19 ± 4.38	72.68 ± 0.25
Fruit pedicel length (cm)	2.27 ± 0.02	3.37 ± 0.03***
Days to first harvest	77.01 ± 1.36	74.66 ± 1.50
Fruit (fresh) weight (g)	74.81 ± 1.25	101.46 ± 1.08

Crop duration (days)	117.31 ± 1.97	118.61 ± 1.28
Fruit length (cm)	6.67 ± 0.13	8.35 ± 0.07***
Fruit width (cm)	4.54 ± 0.02	6.06 ± 0.03***
100-seed weight (g)	0.37 ± 0.01	0.61 ± 0.02***
Number of fruits per plant	20.14 ± 0.05	24.32 ± 0.06***
Fruits (fresh) yield per plant (kg/plant)	1.65	2.44
Total fresh fruit yield (kg)	15.68	22.79
Fruit (fresh) yield/sq. m plot (kg/sq. m)	0.60	0.87
Fruit (fresh) yield/hectare (ton/ha)	5.97	8.68

Data represented as mean ± SEM (n = 5); $^{**}p \leq 0.01$ and $^{***}p \leq 0.001$ *vs.* control group (CONEGPG) using Student's *t*-test

DISCUSSION

Reduction in growth and productivity is common response of many crop to either water deficit [14], or lack of sufficient nutrient [15], and negative environment (low pH, insufficient sunlight, too hot and cold stress, poor soil etc.) [16]. The results showed that eggplants plant growth and yield were increased in the presence of blessing (biofield) energy treatment (BET)/(Trivedi Effect®). In the present study, blessings amendments can act to a large extent mainly through increasing soil organic matter content, improving nutrient uptake and maintaining soil moisture that eventually increases the plant growth parameters and yield (**Table 2**). The plant height, which is an indicator of the plant growth and biomass production, was higher in the treatment group than the control. The stem length and plant branching were increased probably due to the role of BET by increasing uptake of phosphorous. Hence, after harvesting phosphorous level was drastically reduced. Hussain et al. reported that increased availability of phosphorous improved root growth and nutrient uptake [17]. The germination time (days) was less in the BTEGPG than CONEGPG, which might be due to soft seed coat and good ability of the seed to adapt to the soil conditions [18].

Several studies reported that an inhibition in growth and yield parameters due to the increase in salinity stress [19-21]. In this study, more availability of absorbable ion exchange cations was observed in the BTEGPG compared to the CONEGPG. That leads to increased plant height, number of branches as well as photosynthetic activity of the BTEGPG. As the number of branches in the BTEGPG was significantly increased consequently, the number of fruits per plant also significantly increased (**Table 2**).

Overall, most of the characters such as plant height, primary branches per plant, plant spread, number of leaves per plant were high and took less number of days for 50% flowering in the BTEGPG compared to the CONEGPG. Other important yield components like number of fruits per plant, fruit weight, and fruit yield per plant were also high in the BTEGPG compared to the CONEGPG.

CONCLUSION

At 80 days after sowing, eggplants subjected to BET have been reported to demonstrate superior qualitative vegetative growth compared to the control group. The blessing treatment improved plant architecture, healthier leaf morphology, and greater overall

vitality. Such enhancements suggest that BET may positively influence physiological processes during the vegetative phase, potentially leading to higher yield and better brinjal fruit quality in subsequent stages. As a result, utilizing the BET-Trivedi Effect® may offer an affordable solution for eggplant cultivation moving forward.

Abbreviations

NPK: nitrogen phosphorus potassium; CAM: complementary and alternative medicine; BET: 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 AB, MKT, and DT were employed by Trivedi Global, Inc. VDK, TBG, and NRP 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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