Osmopriming of seeds to improve the performance of bitter gourd cv. CO-1

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SUMMARY
To standardize a suitable osmopriming treatment for bitter gourd cv. CO-1 seeds, the seeds were primed with Poly Ethylene Glycol (PEG) 6000 at – 1.1 MPa and –1.5 MPa for 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 days and sown as wet and dry sowing in the laboratory condition. From the results, the superiority of PEG 6000 at –1.5 MPa for 6 days was very much obvious, which recorded the maximum germination, speed of germination, root length, shoot length, vigour index, root biomass, rooting potential and number of days for completion of germination. The above treatment recorded 25.3 per cent higher germination than the control. The comparison between the wet and dry methods of sowing indicated that the seeds sown as wet excelled the dry sown seeds in all the quality parameters.

Key words: Bitter gourd, Seeds, PEG, Osmopriming.