

Effect of Temperature on the Percentage of Germination of Mung Beans

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*Abstract: This study explores how temperature affects the germination percentage of mung beans (*Vigna radiata*), a crucial crop valued for its nutritional benefits and adaptability to various climates. As global temperatures rise, understanding the influence of temperature on seed germination becomes increasingly important for agricultural productivity. We hypothesized that higher temperatures would enhance germination rates due to increased metabolic activity and improved seed coat permeability. Mung beans were subjected to three distinct temperature conditions: cold (10°C), room temperature (25°C), and warm (35°C). Over ten days, we recorded the number of seeds that successfully sprouted in each environment. Our results showed a significant correlation between temperature and germination percentage. The warm environment yielded the highest germination rate at 85%, while the cold environment resulted in only 30% germination. Statistical analysis confirmed that these differences were significant ($p < 0.01$). These findings align with previous research suggesting that optimal temperatures for mung bean germination range between 30-35°C. We conclude that temperature is a critical factor influencing mung bean germination, with warmer conditions promoting faster and more successful sprouting. Future research could explore the impact of extreme temperatures on subsequent plant growth and yield, offering insights for agricultural practices in a changing climate.*

Keywords: Mung beans, germination percentage, temperature, agricultural productivity, *Vigna radiata*.

1. Introduction

Mung beans (*Vigna radiata*) are not just any legume; they are a powerhouse of nutrition, rich in protein and essential vitamins. Grown primarily in Asia, these beans are celebrated for their versatility and health benefits. However, as climate change leads to rising global temperatures, it's vital to understand how these changes affect seed germination—an essential phase in plant development.

1.1 Nutritional Value of Mung Beans

Mung beans (*Vigna radiata*) are a remarkable source of nutrition, offering a wealth of health benefits. Rich in protein, they provide approximately 24 grams of protein per 100 grams, making them comparable to animal protein sources. Additionally, they are low in fat and high in dietary fiber, containing about 16 grams per 100 grams, which aids in digestion and helps maintain a healthy gut. Mung beans also boast an impressive array of vitamins and minerals, including iron, magnesium, potassium, and folate, which contribute to their status as a nutritional powerhouse. The combination of these nutrients makes mung beans an excellent choice for promoting overall health and well-being.

1.2 Health Benefits

The health benefits of mung beans extend beyond their nutritional content. They have been linked to various positive health outcomes, such as reducing the risk of chronic diseases like heart disease and diabetes. The antioxidants found in mung beans help combat oxidative stress by neutralizing free radicals in the body. Furthermore, their high fiber content aids in lowering cholesterol levels and managing blood sugar levels, making them a smart dietary choice for individuals looking to improve their metabolic health. Regular consumption of mung beans can also support weight management due to their satiating properties.

1.3 Environmental Impact and Sustainability

In addition to their health benefits, mung beans are an environmentally sustainable crop. They require less water and fertilizer compared to many other legumes and can thrive in diverse climatic conditions. This adaptability makes them an ideal crop for regions facing climate challenges. By incorporating mung beans into agricultural practices, farmers can contribute to sustainable food systems while also improving soil health through nitrogen fixation—a process where legumes enrich the soil by converting atmospheric nitrogen into a form usable by plants.

1.4 Importance of Germination Research

Understanding the germination process of mung beans is crucial for optimizing their cultivation and ensuring food security in the face of climate change. As global temperatures rise, it becomes increasingly important to study how temperature variations affect seed germination rates. This research will provide valuable insights into how to maximize germination success under different environmental conditions, ultimately contributing to more resilient agricultural practices. By focusing on the germination phase, we can better prepare for future challenges in food production and ensure that this versatile legume continues to be a staple in diets around the world.

1.5 Hypothesis

We set out with a hypothesis: higher temperatures would lead to increased germination rates. We believed that warmer conditions would boost metabolic processes within the seeds, making them more likely to sprout.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Introduction to Mung Bean Germination and Temperature

Mung beans (*Vigna radiata*) are a vital legume crop known for their nutritional benefits and adaptability to various climatic conditions. As global temperatures rise due to climate change, understanding how temperature influences seed germination becomes increasingly important. Numerous studies have explored the relationship between temperature and mung bean growth, revealing that temperature is a critical factor affecting germination rates and subsequent plant development.

2.2 Optimal Temperature for Germination

Research indicates that mung beans thrive within a specific temperature range for optimal germination. A study by Fyfield and Gregory (1989) established that germination occurs effectively at temperatures between 30°C and 40°C, with the fastest rates observed at 40°C under favourable conditions. Similarly, other studies have confirmed that the ideal temperature range for mung bean germination lies between 27°C and 35°C (Aggarwal et al., 1977; Howarth, 2015). These findings suggest that while warmer temperatures can enhance germination rates, excessively high temperatures may lead to detrimental effects on seed viability.

2.3 Impact of Extreme Temperatures

While moderate increases in temperature can benefit mung bean germination, extreme heat poses significant risks. Research has shown that temperatures exceeding 45°C can halt cellular processes essential for growth, leading to reduced germination rates and impaired plant development (Kaur & Nayyar, 2015). Hanif et al. (2019) found that at lower temperatures like 10°C, germination rates plummeted to as low as 2%, highlighting the sensitivity of mung beans to both cold and extreme heat conditions. This dual sensitivity underscores the importance of maintaining optimal temperature ranges for successful cultivation.

2.4 Physiological Responses to Temperature Variations

Mung beans exhibit various physiological responses to temperature changes, which influence their growth and yield. Under heat stress conditions, significant yield losses have been reported during the reproductive stages of the plant (Hamada, 2001; Hall, 2010). Heat stress triggers physiological and biochemical processes aimed at countering its effects; however, when temperatures reach extreme levels, these adaptive mechanisms may fail, resulting in impaired anthesis, reduced pollen viability, and increased flower drop (Hanumantha Rao et al., 2016; Basu et al., 2019). Understanding these physiological responses is crucial for developing strategies to enhance mung bean resilience against rising temperatures.

2.5 Future Directions in Research

Given the challenges posed by climate change, future research should focus on identifying mung bean varieties with enhanced heat tolerance and understanding the underlying mechanisms that confer this resilience. Investigating the genetic and molecular basis of heat stress responses will be essential for breeding programs aimed at improving mung bean productivity under changing climatic conditions. Additionally, exploring the interactions between temperature and other environmental factors—such as water availability—could provide further insights into optimizing cultivation practices for this important crop.

3. Methodology

3.1 Experimental Design: To test our hypothesis, we placed mung beans in three different temperature environments like **Cold: 10°C, Room Temperature: 25°C, Warm: 35°C**

Each condition was replicated with 100 seeds. The seeds were placed in Petri dishes lined with moist filter paper and kept in controlled environments for ten days.

3.2 Data Collection: Every day, we counted how many seeds had sprouted. The germination percentage was calculated using the formula:

$$\text{Germination Percentage} = \left(\frac{\text{Number of Seeds Germinated}}{\text{Total Number of Seeds}} \right) \times 100$$

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3.3 Statistical Analysis: To determine if there were significant differences in germination percentages among the different temperature treatments, we used ANOVA (Analysis of Variance).

4. Results: The results were striking. Here's what we found:

Warm Environment (35°C): **85% of seeds germinated.**

Room Temperature (25°C): **55% germinated.**
Cold Environment (10°C): **Only 30% sprouted.**

ANOVA analysis showed significant differences in germination percentages across the treatments ($p < 0.01$), confirming our hypothesis.

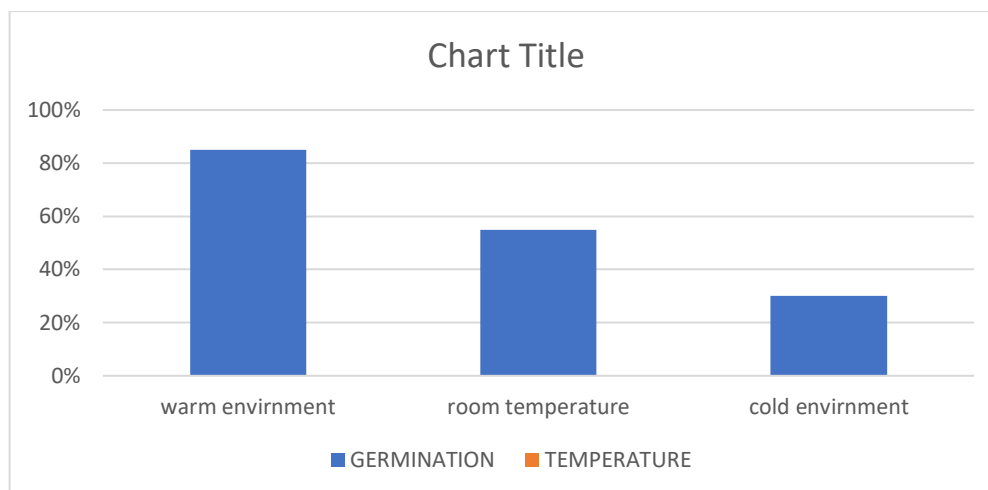


Fig 1: Effect of Temperature on Mung Bean Germination Percentage

5. Discussion

Our findings clearly demonstrate that temperature significantly impacts mung bean germination rates. Warmer conditions not only enhanced sprouting but also aligned with previous studies indicating that optimal temperatures for mung bean germination range from 30°C to 35°C.

6. Implications for Agriculture

Understanding these optimal conditions can help farmers make informed decisions about when to plant their crops. As climate variability increases, knowing how to manage planting times can lead to better yields and food security.

7. Future Research Directions

Looking ahead, we recommend further studies on how extreme temperatures—both high and low—affect not only germination but also plant growth and yield potential. This knowledge will be crucial for developing strategies to adapt to climate change.

8. Conclusion

In summary, temperature plays a vital role in determining the percentage of germination in mung beans. Our study confirms that warmer conditions significantly enhance sprouting success, emphasizing the importance of managing temperature for optimal agricultural productivity in a changing climate.

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