TẠP CHÍ KHOA HỌC
TRƯỜNG ĐẠI HỌC QUY NHƠN

Ảnh hưởng của liều lượng phân hữu cơ vi sinh đến sinh trưởng, năng suất và chất lượng quả của giống bí đao Mỹ Thọ trồng trên đất sỏi tại Hoài Hương, Hoài Nhơn, Bình Định

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TÓM TẮT

Nghiên cứu nhằm đánh giá ảnh hưởng của liều lượng phân hữu cơ vi sinh (HCVS) đến sinh trưởng, năng suất và chất lượng quả của giống bí đao Mỹ Thọ trồng trên đất sỏi ở phường Hoài Hương, thị xã Hoài Nhơn, tỉnh Bình Định. Thí nghiệm được thiết kế với ba mức bón phân HCVS (400, 500, 600 kg/ha). Đất trồng thí nghiệm có độ pH chua (4,4), chất hữu cơ tổng số, hàm lượng nitơ và kali dễ tiêu ở mức nghèo. Kết quả thí nghiệm cho thấy, bón bổ sung phân HCVS cho giống bí đao Mỹ Thọ với mức 600 kg/ha có tác động tốt đến một số chỉ tiêu hóa sinh, năng suất và chất lượng quả. Hàm lượng chất khô trong quả bí tăng từ 0,15% - 1,48%, hàm lượng vitamin C tăng từ 0,2% - 5,29%, axít hữu cơ tổng số tăng từ 13,97% - 40,53% và độ Brix tăng từ 0,09% - 1,2%. Bón bổ sung phân HCVS đã làm năng suất cao hơn khi so với đối chứng từ 4,72 - 19,9 tấn/ha, lợi nhuận tăng từ 30,8 - 130,3 triệu/ha. Hiệu quả cao nhất ở mức bón 600 kg/ha. Kết quả đạt được của nghiên cứu giúp khuyến nghị người trồng bí đao Mỹ Thọ nói riêng và bí đao nói chung bón bổ sung phân HCVS tạo ra sản phẩm có chất lượng đảm bảo, an toàn cho người sử dụng và cung cấp nguyên liệu cho sản xuất bánh kẹo và nước giải khát.

Từ khóa: *Bí đao Mỹ Thọ, chỉ tiêu hóa sinh, năng suất, chất lượng, phân HCVS.*

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Effect of micro-organic fertilizers on some growth norms, yield and fruit quality of My Tho gourd variety grown in gravel soil of Hoai Huong, Hoai Nhon, Binh Dinh province

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ABSTRACT

The study was carried out to evaluate the effect of micro-organic fertilizer (MOF) on growth, yield and quality of My Tho gourd variety grown in gravel soil of Hoai Huong commune, Hoai Nhon district, Binh Dinh province. This study used MOF at dosages of 400, 500 and 600 kg.ha^{-1}. Experimental soil was analyzed in terms of pH (4,4), total organic matter, content of available nitrogen, and potassium at low level. The biochemical norms such as chlorophyll content, total nitrogen, protein, total sugar, and vitamin C were determined. The research results showed that the application of MOF at dosages of 400, 500, 600 kg.ha^{-1} increased some biochemical norms, productivity and fruit quality. Dry matter content in fruit increased from 0.15% to 1.48%, vitamin C increased from 0.20% to 5.29%, protein increased from 0.74% to 1.38%, total organic acids increased from 13.97% to 40.53% and Brix increased from 0.09% to 1.20%. The adding of MOF increased fruit productivity from 4.72 - 19.09 tons. ha^{-1} and the profit increased from 30.840 to 130.33 million VND, which was higher than that of the control without applying MOF. The best effect is at dosage of 600 kg.ha^{-1}. The research results recommend that gourd growers should use MOF to produce quality and safe products for consumers, and provide a raw material source for the food and beverage industry.

Keywords: *My Tho gourd variety, biochemical norms, yield, quality, micro-organic fertilizer.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Among vegetables, gourd (*Benincasa hispida*) which belongs to the family *Cucurbitaceae*, also known as long green squash, lemon squash, etc., is a relatively common crop. For a long time, gourd fruit has been used as food for family meals such as soup and stir-fry. In addition, gourd is also a source of raw materials for the production of cakes, jams, candies and soft drinks, with a high export value.[1,13] Gourd has the ability to grow, develop well, adapt widely, tolerate pests and diseases very well. Pumpkin cultivation supplies little or no pesticides, so gourd is considered a clean and safe product for human health. The pericarp of gourd is thick and hard, so it is easy to be preserved for a long time, and to be transported easily. In addition, pumpkin also is material to supply for companies and factories to process and create products from gourd. Pumpkin is also a vegetable to

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be kept in reserve for the next season, which is very convenient for the people living in regions lacking vegetables.

Pumpkin has a very rich nutrient content, and it is used to make very delicious foods, so gourd is widely grown in Vienam. The product and yield of gourd depends on varieties, agrochemical conditions, soil, weather and cultivated techniques. However, fertilizers play an important role in long term planting, increasing yield, increasing resistance to pests and diseases for gourd plants and increasing nutrients for the soil. Nevertheless, using unbalanced and unsuitable chemical fertilizer will depress the growth and development of crops in general and of gourds in particular, and it also degrades the planted soil.

Many different gourd varieties have been grown in Binh Dinh, but the My Tho gourd variety is considered a local gourd variety with an average fruit weight of 40-60 kg per fruit. The skin of the young fruit has a green banana color, but when it is old, the rind turns dark green. The flesh of the fruit is thick, fragrant and delicious, but it has not been widely planted by the farmers.

In order to increase the yield of gourd, in addition to choosing good varieties, high yield, and cultivated area, the supply of reasonable fertilizer also plays an important role in improving yield and output. Currently, farmers in My Tho mainly use chemical fertilizers, and rarely use micro-organic fertilizer (MOF). The Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology of the South Central Coast implemented the project "Exploiting and developing the genetic resources of pumpkin in the South Central Coast" (2011 - 2012) in order to restore, develop and build cultivation techniques of large-fruited gourd variety in the South Central Coast region.[7] However, the project only studies NPK fertilizer levels combined with manure.

As mentioned above, the use of microbial organic fertilizers is essential. MOF not only fully adds nutrients to plants, but also helps the soil retain moisture, stay fresh, retain water and help plant roots be healthy. In addition, MOF also helps the micro-organism in the soil to thrive, helping plants to better absorb nutrients.

Currently, there is no research on MOF for My Tho gourd in Binh Dinh province. Therefore, studying the effect of MOF on growth, fruit yield and quality of My Tho gourd variety grown on gravel soils in Hoai Huong, Hoai Nhon is necessary and it will contribute to prove the technical process for growers to produce clean products for users in the local and near regions.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1. Experimental materials

The research was conducted on My Tho gourd variety, which has a growth period of 5 to 6 months and an the average fruit weight of 45 to 60 kg. The seeds were taken from Chanh Trach village, My Tho commune, Phu My district, Binh Dinh province.

The microbial organic fertilizer used is Song Gianh fertilizer. Ingredients include: organic matter (15%), humic acid (2.5%); effective P_2O_5 (1.5%); Ca, Mg, S (0.3% - 1.0%); microbial composition: *Bacillus* 1×10^6 CFU/g; *Azotobacter:* 1×10^6 CFU/g; *Aspergillus* sp: 1×10^6 CFU/g.

2.2. Experimental methods

The experiment was carried out in the winter - spring 2020 - 2021 crop in Hoai Huong commune, in Hoai Nhon town of Binh Dinh province, including four treatments (Treat.) with different dosages of MOF. Basal fertilizes (BF_S) consist of 2 tons of manure + 500 kg of lime + 100 kg of NPK 16:8:16 per hectare.

Treatment 1: BFs + 400 kg MOF.ha^{-1}

Treatment 2: BFs + 500 kg MOF.ha^{-1}

Treatment 3: BFs + 600 kg MOF.ha^{-1}

Treatment 4 (control): BFs + 0 kg MOF.ha^{-1}

The area of each experimental plot was 15 m^2, replicated three times, and the total area was 180 m^2. The experiment was laid out as a randomized complete block design (RCBD). The size of a hole was 60 cm in width and

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40 cm in height. The distance between plants was 25 cm, planting 15 plants per plot.

Holes were dug and plants were fertilized with 100% basal fertilizers + 50% MOF + 20% NPK according to each treatment, mixing well with soil, covering with soil in 7 days before planting.

The first additional fertilizer was applied when the plant height reached 20 - 35 cm with 30% MOF + 30% NPK fertilizer, combined with soil cultivation. The second additional fertilizer was applied when the length of stem reached 100 - 150 cm with 20% MOF + 30% NPK. The third additional fertilizer was applied when the plant was flowering and forming fruit with 20% NPK.

Indicators and measures

Humus content was analyzed according to Walkley - Black method, exchanged acidity according to Daikuhara - Cononova method, available nitrogen according to Chiurin and potassium contents according to and Kiecxanov method.[6]

The total growing time (days) was determined from sowing to 80% of plants harvested .

The height of the main stem (cm) was determined by using a ruler to measure from base to apex when the plant had 5 actual leaves and was flowering.

The dry matter content (%) was measured by drying at 105 ^{o}C and reweighing until constant mass. Total organic acid content (mg.100g^{-1} fresh matter) was analyzed according to Ecmacov method.[6]

The brix degree (%) or total dissolved organic matter content was determined using a handle Brix refractometer.

The Vitamin C content (mg.100g^{-1} fresh weight) was determined by using Iodine solution to titrate.[3]

The total starch content (% fresh matter) was determined by starch hydrolysis and quantification of reducing sugars according to Bertrand[3] method.

The chlorophyll content (mg.g^{-1} fresh leaves) was analyzed by spectrophotometric method.[3]

The content of water and dry matter in leaves was determined by drying at 105 °C before flowering and after fruit set.[3] The total nitrogen content (%) was determined by the method of Micro Kjeldahl.[6]

Theoretical yield (tons per ha) = Number of plants.m$^{2-1}$ x fruit weight (kg) x number of fruits per each plant x 10. Actual yield (tons per ha) = Weigh the total fruit mass per experimental treatment (kg), then converting it to tons per ha.

The obtained data were statistically processed by MS software, Excel 2010 and Statistix version 8.0. Differences between mean values were calculated using the LSD test method at the significance level of 0.05.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Agrochemical norms of experimental soil before and after planting

Table 1. Some agrochemical norms of experimental soil before and after planting

Norms	Soil before planting	Soil after planting			
		Treat.1	Treat.2	Treat.3	Treat.4 (control)
Humus content (% dry weight)	0.78	1.46	1.93	2.65	1.69
pH (KCl)	4.40	5.20	5.40	5.75	5.10
available nitrogen content (mg.100g^{-1} dr.w.)	1.02	1.14	1.61	1.14	0.88
Available potassium content (mg.100g^{-1} dr.w.)	7.11	25.43	12.29	12.05	14.82
Exchange acidity (meq.100g^{-1})	0.18	0.12	0.1	0.1	0.1

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The content of substances in the soil before and after the experiment did not change. Specifically, before planting, the soil had not been fertilized with microbial organic fertilizer, the humus content in the soil accounted for 0.78% of dry matter, belonging to the group of very poor humus soils. The content of easily digestible nitrogen and potassium in the soil was 1.02 mg.100g^{-1} dry weight and 7.11 mg.100g^{-1} of K_2O, respectively, the pH value was 4.40. After planting, all three experimental treatments increased compared to the control, reaching from 1.46 to 2.56%, available nitrogen content increased from 0.12 to 0.59 mg.100g^{-1}, easily digestible potassium content increased from 4.94 to 18.32 mg.100g^{-1} dry matter compared to the soil before planting.

The application of MOF has increased the humus content of the planting soil at rich levels because the MOFs contain humic acids and organic matter. In addition, MOF also contains microbial strains of *Bacillus, Azotobacter, Aspergillus* and nutrients such as humus, Ca, P, Mg, S that helped to convert organic matter in the soil into humus, available nitrogen and potassium making plants absorb better. Moreover, it also improved pH, reduced acidity (pH increased from 5.20 - 5.75).

3.2. Some biochemical parameters in gourd leaves before flowering and fruit set

3.2.1. Chlorophyll content in gourd leaves

Results of analysis of chlorophyll content in gourd leaves at the seedling stage before flowering and fruit formation are presented in Table 2.

Table 2. Chlorophyll content in gourd leaves

	Chlorophyll (a+b) before flowering		Chlorophyll (a+b) at fruiting stage	
	(mg.g^{-1} fresh leaves)	% compare with control	(mg.g^{-1} fresh leaves)	% compare withcontrol
Treat.1	2.42^{a}	102.98	3.16^{b}	128.98
Treat.2	2.52^{a}	107.23	3.44^{b}	140.41
Treat.3	2.77^{a}	117.87	4.08^{a}	166.53
Treat.4 (Control)	2.35^{a}	100.00	2.45^{c}	100.00
CV (%)	**14.12**		**8.25**	
LSD$_{0.05}$	**0.71**		**0.54**	

Note: *Mean followed by the same letter isn't significantly different within the columns according to LSD test at a 5% significance level; CV: coefficient variance.*

At the seedling stage, the leaf total chlorophyll content in the experimental treatments ranged from 2.35 to 2.77 mg.g^{-1} fresh weight; the highest is in Treat.3 (2.77 mg.g^{-1}), which increased 17.87% compared with that of the control (2.35 mg.g^{-1}). However, there was not statistically significant difference for the total chlorophyll content between the experimental treatments at the 5% level.

At the stage of fruit formation, the chlorophyll (a + b) content in the gourd leaves in the treatments with MOF was higher than that in the control plants, increasing from 28.98 to 66.53%. In which, at a dosage of 600 kg per ha, the highest value was achieved (4.08 mg.g^{-1} fresh leaves) and the lowest was in the control without treatment of MOF (2.45 mg/g fresh leaves). The difference for chlorophyll content in all treatments with MOFcompared to the control (without MOF) was statistically significant.

3.2.2. Dry matter and water content in gourd leaves

The dry matter content of My Tho gourd leaves in the experimental plants through the two stages before flowering and fruit set is shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Dry matter content in gourd leaves over two stages

	Leaf total water content (%)		Dry matter content (%)	
	Stage before flowering	Fruiting stage	Stage before flowering	Fruiting stage
Treat.1	85.14^{b}	82.22^{ab}	14.86^{b}	17.78^{ab}
Treat.2	84.88^{bc}	81.60^{b}	15.12^{ab}	18.40^{a}
Treat.3	83.45^{c}	80.72^{b}	16.51^{a}	19.28^{a}
Treat.4 (control)	87.53^{a}	84.02^{a}	12.47^{c}	15.98^{b}
CV (%)	**0.91**	**1.18**	**5.29**	**5.43**
LSD$_{0.05}$	**1.56**	**1.93**	**1.6**	**1.9**

Note: *Mean followed by the same letter isn't significantly different within the columns according to LSD test at a 5% significance level; CV: coefficient variance.*

***Pre-flowering period**:* The dry matter content in the leaves of the gourd in the experimental plants ranged from 12.47 to 16.51%, the highest in Treat.3 (16.51%), followed by Treat.2 (15.12%), Treat.1 (14.86%) and the lowest in the control (12.47%). There was a statistically significant difference in the dry matter content in the treatments with MOF compared with the treatment without supply microbial organic fertilizer. Total water content in leaves reached from 83.45 to 87.53%, the control treatment is highest (87.53%) and lowest in Treat.3 (83.45%).

***Fruit formation period**:* The dry matter content in the gourd leaves in the experimental plants fertilized with MOF was higher than that in the control plants. The dry matter content in the leaves ranged from 17.78% to 19.28%. The highest is in Treat.3 (19.28%) and lowest in the control (15.98%).

Similarly, the total water content in leaves also ranged from 80.72% to 84.02%. The lowest is in Treat.3 (80.72%) and the highest in Treat.4 (84.02%). The difference in total water content between Treat.2, Treat.3 and Treat.4 is statistically significant at 5%; between Treat.3 and Treat.1, Treat.2 is not significantly different.

Thus, MOF has increased the total chlorophyll content (Table 2), thereby, increasing the intensity of photosynthesis which leads to an increase in dry matter content in leaves. The results of this study are consistent with the reports of many other authors.[7 - 10]

3.2.3. Total nitrogen content in gourd leaves through two growth and development periods

The effect of HCVS MOF on the total nitrogen content of leaves during the pre-flowering and fruiting stages is indicated in Table 4.

Table 4. Leaf total nitrogen content

	Total nitrogen content in leaves (%)	
	Pre-flowering period	The period of fruit plants
Treat.1	4.66	3.75
Treat.2	4.55	3.75
Treat.3	4.34	3.75
Treat.4 (control)	4.45	4.24

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The data from Table 4 showed that: In the pre-flowering period, the total nitrogen content of leaves in all experimental treatments ranged from 4.34 to 4.66%, and the difference between the experimental treatments is not considerable, only from 0.10 to 0.32%. At the period of fruit formation, the total nitrogen content in leaves is lower than that before flowering, ranging from 3.75 to 4.24%. This is explained that it is possible that at the fruiting stage, nitrogen containing organic substances such as amino acids, proteins, etc., are transported to the fruit for storage, therefore reducing the amount of nitrogen in the leaves.[13,14]

3.3. Growth and development indicators of gourd

The effect of microbial organic fertilizer application on the duration of growth, development, and height of gourd plants in different stages is shown in Table 5.

Table 5. Duration of growth and development of gourd plants

	Time from sowing to stages (days)			
	Sowing seeds to 5 leaves	**Sow seeds to flowering**	**Sowing seeds to fruit formation**	**Total growing duration**
Treat.1	18	53	67	157
Treat.2	16	57	72	162
Treat.3	16	59	77	175
Treat.4 (control)	19	51	64	148

The data in Table 5 indicated that:

The period from sowing to 5 young leaves: The root system of the plant had not yet developed strongly and nutrients from the environment had a great influence on the plant, so the growth rate was almost the same.

At the flowering stage, the addition of MOF had a great impact on the growth time and development of gourd plants. The number of days from seed sowing to flowering in each experimental treatment was different. Specifically, the number of days from planting to flowering in the experimental plants fluctuated from 51 to 59 days. In which, the Treat.4 (control) had the fastest flowering time (51 days), and Treat.3 (supplied 600 kg.ha^{-1}), the slowest flowering time (59 days).

The time from planting to fruiting in Treat.4 was the fastest (64 days), the slowest was in Treat.3, applying 600 kg.ha^{-1} (77 days). The growth in Treat.1 (400 kg.ha^{-1}) and Treat.2 (500 kg.ha^{-1}) reached 67 and 72 days, respectively. Thus, the application of MOFs at different dosages also had different effects on the growth time, flowering and fruit formation of My Tho gourd plants.

The growth duration of gourd in the experimental treatments ranged from 148 to 175 days, in which the period from planting to harvesting the fruit was the shortest (148 days) in Treat.4, next 157 days in Treat.1 (400 kg.ha^{-1}), 162 days in Treat.2 (500 kg.ha^{-1}) and longest growing time (175 days) in Treat.3 (600 kg.ha^{-1}). Thus MOF has provided plants with a lot of organic matter, humus, macronutrient and micronutrient elements which take more time for plants to absorb, so the growth duration is longer.

The dose of microbial organic fertilizer affects the main stem length of gourd plants, shown in Table 6.

Table 6. Pumpkin stem length at seedling stage and fruit formation

	Seedling stage		Fruit forming stage	
	Stem length (cm)	% compare with control	Stem length (cm)	% compare with control
Treat.1	11.09[b]	111.79	172.07[b]	108.80
Treat.2	12.25[b]	124.49	174.53[b]	109.63
Treat.3	14.26[a]	144.92	186.40[a]	117.09
Treat.4 (DC)	9.84[c]	100.00	159.20[c]	100.00
CV (%)	**8.01**		**5.76**	
$LSD_{0.05}$	**0.70**		**7.31**	

Note: *Mean followed by the same letter isn't significantly different within the columns according to LSD test at a 5% significance level; CV: coefficient variance.*

Table 6 showed that at the seedling stage, there are 5 leaves; the stem length in the treatments fluctuated from 9.84 to 14.26 cm. The plant height in treatments with MOF is higher than in the control treatment, the highest in Treat.3 (600 kg.ha^{-1}) is 14.26 cm, increasing 44,92% compared to the control. In the period of fruit formation, the length of the gourd stem in the treatments ranged from 159.20 to 186.40 cm. In which, the length in Treat.3 reached the largest (186.40 cm), the difference was statistically significant at 5% compared with the control (159.20 cm). Thus, through the two periods, it was shown that the length of gourd plants in the treatments with MOF was higher than in the control treatment and the difference was statistically significant.

The application of micro organic fertilizers had added nutrients and micro-organisms, helping the process of converting unavailable compounds into available, making the gourd better absorb nutrients. Therefore, plant growth had been improved. When applying MOF at a large dosage, the growth time was prolonged, so the plant height was higher.[2,13,14]

3.4. Some quality indicators of fruit

3.4.1. Total water and dry matter content in fruit

Table 7. Total water and dry matter content

	Total water (%)	Dry matter (%)
Treat.1	95.31[a]	4.69[a]
Treat.2	96.28[a]	3.72[a]
Treat.3	94.95[a]	5.05[a]
Treat.4 (control)	96.43[a]	3.57[a]
CV(%)	**1.13**	**25.42**
$LSD_{0.05}$	**2.16**	**2.16**

Note: *Mean followed by the same letter isn't significantly different within the columns according to LSD test at a 5% significance level; CV: coefficient variance.*

As can be seen in Table 7, the total water content in fruit accounted for up to 94% of fruit weight, fluctuating from 94.95% to 96.43%, in which, the lowest (94.95%) is in Treat.3 and the highest in Treat.4. (96.43%). Similarly, the dry matter content of gourd fruit in the experiment only fluctuated from 3.57 to 5.05). Treatments with MOF, the dry matter content of fruit was higher than that in the control. The dry matter content in Treat.3 was the highest (5.05%), followed by Treat.1 (4.69%) and lowest in Treat.4 (3.57%). Thus, the application of MOF for gourd had a good effect on the accumulation of dry matter in the fruit, of which Treat.3 was the best.[10]

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3.4.2. Total sugar, total organic acid and vitamin C, total soluble organic matter, Brix degree in fruit

For plants, sugar provides energy and is an important building block in cells, tissues and organs. Vitamin C participates in the implementation of redox reactions, necessary for the synthesis of collagen (the intercellular connective substance in the vessel walls, connective tissue, bones, teeth...). Animals cannot synthesize vitamin C; the source of vitamin C in animals is provided from plants.[1,4,5] Organic acids play an important role in amino acid synthesis and other biochemical reactions. Therefore, the content of sugar, organic acids and vitamin C are important indicators to evaluate the quality of vegetables and fruits.[11]

The analyzed data of total sugar, organic acid, soluble organic matter, vitamin C and Brix degree in fruit are shown in Table 8.

Table 8. Total sugar content, vitamin C, total soluble organic matter

CTTN	Total sugar (% fresh matter)	Total organic acids (mg.100g^{-1} fresh weight)	Vitamin C (mg.100g^{-1} fresh weight)	Brix degree (%)
Treat.1	0.11	233.24^{bc}	46.26^{bc}	2.0
Treat.2	0.12	239.88^{b}	49.53^{ab}	2.1
Treat.3	0.28	259.80^{a}	51.35^{a}	2.3
Treat.4 (control)	0.09	219.27^{c}	46.06^{c}	1.1
CV (%)		**3.96**	**3.5**	
LSD$_{0.05}$		**18.84**	**3.38**	

Note: *Mean followed by the same letter isn't significantly different within the columns according to LSD test at a 5% significance level; CV: coefficient variance.*

The total sugar content in the fruit in different samples was not significantly different, ranging from 0.09 to 0.28% of fresh matter. The content of total organic acid in the experimental treatments was significantly different; the highest was in Treat.3 (259.8 mg.100g^{-1}), and the lowest in the control (219.27 mg.100g^{-1}). The difference between organic acid content in fruit in Treat.3 and Treat.2 and that of the control was statistically significant. Organic acid content of fruit in the experiments with MOF were higher than in the control. The content of vitamin C in the fruit in the treatments with micro organic fertilizers were not much different from that in the control treatment, only from 0.20 to 5.29 mg.100g^{-1}of fresh weight, the most in Treat.3 (600 kg.ha^{-1}). The total soluble organic matter content in the fruit ranged from 1.1 to 2.3% of fresh matter, of which the highest in Treat.3 (2.3%) and the lowest in the control (1.1%). Thus, in the experimental plants fertilized with MOF, the total soluble organic matter content accumulated in the fruit was higher than that in the control treatment.

The above results showed that the concentration of nutrients (organic acids, total sugar, vitamin C, total soluble organic matter) accumulated in My Tho gourd fruit in experimental plants with MOF was higher than that in fruit of the control. Thus, the addition of MOF made the gourd plant absorb nutrients better, increasing the metabolic rate,[8,10,11] which led to an increase in the accumulation of organic substances in the fruit. Moreover, among the experiments with different dosages of fertilizers, the nutrients content was higher with the application rate of 600 kg.ha^{-1} compared with that of 400 and 500 kg.ha^{-1}. Thus, the supply of 600 kg.ha^{-1} is suitable for the growth, synthesis and accumulation of nutrients of My Tho gourd.

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3.5. Components of yield of gourd

3.5.1. Number of fruits per plant and average weight of each fruit

Table 9. Number of fruit and average weight of each fruit

	Number of fruits per plant		Average weight of each fruit	
	Number of fruits	% compare withcontrol	Weight (kg)	% compare withcontrol
Treat.1	2.73[b]	157.80	22.10[b]	146.16
Treat.2	3.27[b]	189.02	22.21[b]	146.89
Treat.3	4.73[b]	273.41	28.01[a]	185.25
Treat.4 (control)	1.73[c]	100.00	15.12[c]	100.00
CV (%)	**20.82**		**18.46**	
$LSD_{0.05}$	**0.75**		**3.59**	

Note: *Mean followed by the same letter isn't significantly different within the columns according to LSD test at a 5% significance level; CV: coefficient variance.*

The number of fruits per plant in the experiments obtained from 1.73 to 4.73 fruits, the highest (4.73 fruits) in Treat.3 and the lowest in Treat.4 (1.73). The difference in the number of fruits per plant between the treatments with MOF compared with the control was statistically significant. The average weight of each fruit in the plants ranged from 15.12 to 28.01 kg; the highest in Treat.3 was 28.01 kg and the lowest in Treat.4 was only 15.12 kg. In comparison with the control, the average weight of each fruit in the experimental plants that were fertilized with MOF was higher, in which, the weight of the fruit in the treatment plants increased 12.89 kg (85.25% compared to the control). If this gourd variety was grown in Chach Trach village, My Tho commune of Phu My district, the average fruit weight was about 20-25 kg higher. The cause may be that the gravel soil in Hoai Huong ward, Hoai Nhon town was poor in nutrients and the weather conditions were not as favorable as in My Tho.

The application of MOF with suitable dosage has a positive influence on the growth and development of My Tho gourd, such as increasing chlorophyll, nitrogen and dry matter content, thereby increasing the length, diameter and thickness of fruit. In which, the best results were in Treat.3 with the application of 600 $kg.ha^{-1}$.

3.5.2. Theoretical and actual yield

The yield of gourd under the influence of MOF with different dosages is presented in Table 10.

Table 10. The yield of gourd

	Theoretical yield		Actual yield	
	Ton.ha^{-1}	% compare withcontrol	Ton.ha^{-1}	% compare withcontrol
CT1	156.17[c]	148.9	57.54[c]	186.0
CT2	200.69[b]	191.4	74.60[b]	241.2
CT3	307.99[a]	293.73	115.03[a]	371.9
CT4(DC)	104.86[d]	100	30.93[d]	100
CV (%)	**14.99**		**16.45**	
$LSD_{0.05}$	**10.54**		**4.76**	

Note: *Mean followed by the same letter isn't significantly different within the columns according to LSD test at a 5% significance level; CV: coefficient variance.*

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The theoretical yield of My Tho gourd in the treatments with microbial organic fertilizer was higher than that in the control without microbial organic fertilizer, ranging from 156.17 to 307.99 tons.ha^{-1}. The yield in Treat.3 was the highest (307.99 tons.ha^{-1}) and the lowest yield was in the control (104.86 tons.ha^{-1}). The actual yields of My Tho gourd were from 57.54 to 115.03 tons.ha^{-1}. In which, Treat.3 obtained the highest (115.03 tons.ha^{-1}) and Treat.4 obtained the lowest (57.54 tons.ha^{-1}). In comparison with the control, treatments 1, 2 and 3 with different dosages of microbial organic fertilizer increased 86.0%, 141.24% and 271.9 % respectively. There was a statistically significant difference between treatments with microbial organic fertilizer and with the control.

Thus, the addition of MOF increased the actual yield of My Tho gourd. This is similar to the results of many other studies on the effects of micro organic fertilizers for crop yield.[4,8,11,13]

Table 11. Economic efficiency of micro-organic fertilizer for gour

	Total income (1000 VND per ha)	Total cost (1000 VND per ha)	Profit (1000 VND per ha)	Profit ratio
Treat.1	73.710	34.260	39.450	1.15
Treat.2	103.320	34.810	68.510	1.96
Treat.3	174.300	35.360	138.940	3.92
Treat.4 (control)	40.670	32.060	8.610	0.27

The data from Table 11 shows that the highest profit was in Treat.3 (600 kg.ha^{-1}) which obtained 138,940 thousand VND, profit ratio reaching 3.92 times, followed by Treat.2 obtaining 68,510 thousand VND, and the lowest was in the control (8,610 thousand VND), with a profit ratio of 0.27.

4. CONCLUSION

The application of MOF on My Tho gourd plants at dosages of 400, 500, and 600 kg.ha^{-1} had a good effect on the chlorophyll content and dry matter content in leaves of My Tho gourd. The vitamin C content in the fruit increased from 0.2% to 5.29%, organic acid content increased from 13.97% to 40.53%, the dry matter mass increased from 0.15% to 1.48% and the Brix degree only increased from 0.09% - 1.2%. The average fruit weight increased from 6.08 to 12.89 kg, and the actual yield increased from 26.61 to 84.10 tons.ha^{-1} compared with the control. The highest efficiency was in treatment at dosage of 600 kg.ha-1 during the winter-spring crop 2020 - 2021 in Hoai Huong ward, Hoai Nhon town.

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