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**NEMATICIDAL ACTIVITY of *Aloe vera* EXTRACT/EXUDATES ON  
ROOT-KNOT NEMATODES (*M. incognita*) ASSOCIATED WITH TOMATO  
(*Lycopersicon esculentum*) PLANT GROWTH PARAMETERS.**

**ABSTRACT-** Nematicidal activity of *Aloe vera* plant at different concentration treatments were evaluated to determine its effect on root-knot nematode. The study was conducted in the Federal College of Forestry Jos, Plateau State of Nigeria between March and May, 2017. Nematicidal activity of *Aloe vera* was tested on tomato associated with *M. incognita* using 80mg/ml, 70mg/ml, 60mg/ml, 50mg/ml and 40mg/ml. Three (3) blocks in area of about 300m<sup>2</sup> partitioned into five (5) plots with 1m alley each in-between plots and blocks and each plot was about 50m<sup>2</sup> for one (1) treatment between the tested nematicidal extract. Modified Baermann Funnel Method was used for nematode extractions and 70% ethanol was used for *Aloe vera* analysis. A complete randomized design (CRD) was used and data collected were analyzed using analysis of variances (ANOVA) to determine the significant differences. The results showed that there was a significant different at  $p \leq 0.05$  level in nematode population and improved tomato growth and yield, the highest concentration in reducing the population numbers of the *M. incognita*, improving tomato plant growth parameters is the 80mg/ml and the order of performance are 80mg/ml > 70mg/ml > 60mg/ml > 50mg/ml > 40mg/ml respectively. 80mg/ml treatments on tomato

22 plant height in week one results in (18.00) which was higher in week three (26.00) when  
23 compared with 40mg/ml treatments in week one (8.00) and week three (13.00). Finally,  
24 the results obtained could be an outcome of the nematicidal contents of the extracts in  
25 inhibiting nematodes, *Meloidogyne incognita* proliferation and can be used as a  
26 bio-control agent.

## 27 **CHAPTER ONE**

### 28 **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

#### 29 **1.1 Background of the Study**

30 Tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum*) is an edible red fruit of *Solanum lycopersicum*,  
31 belongs to the nightshade family Solanaceae, one of the most important tropical vegetable  
32 crop widely used throughout the world. In recent years, root-knot nematodes  
33 *Meloidogyne* spp. problem has become a threat to tomato cultivations. Yield loss due to  
34 nematode cause diseases to nearly all plant crops of Economic importance with estimated  
35 losses of US \$125 billion per year World-Wide (Chitwood, 2003). They can cause  
36 significant plant damage ranging from negligible injury to total destruction of plant  
37 materials. Nematodes had long been known to attack crops but had been studied less than  
38 the insects, this is because of their minute nature. Control of root-knot nematodes has  
39 been primarily accomplished through chemical nematicides. However, indiscriminate use  
40 of chemical pesticides causes great threat to human being, animals, vegetation and to the  
41 environment as a whole due to their non target effect, hazardous nature and besides they  
42 are expensive. So with the increasing awareness of possible deleterious effects of the  
43 chemicals, biological controls of plant pathogen have received considerable attention

44 (Gaima *et al.*, 2005). Leaf of *Aloe vera* extracts apply directly to the soil will tend to offer  
45 a more nematode control, environmentally friendly and chemical-free possibilities as  
46 there is an urgent need to replace pesticides with alternative means of control that are less  
47 toxic and more environmentally friendly. Many investigators had managed root-knot  
48 nematodes by using some plant dried powder of certain ornamental plants (Mani *et al.*,  
49 1986; Akhtar and Alam, 1989; Montasser, 1991; Akhtar and Mohmood, 1993) studied the  
50 nematicidal effect chopped pine-apple (*Annanas cosmos*) leaves used as organic  
51 amendment against *Meloidogyne* spp. Some of the plant species and parts antagonistic to  
52 *Meloidogyne* spp. are the leaves and flowers of marigold (*Tagetes* sp).  
53 In this research, activity of the leaf extracts of *Aloe vera* is study as nematicides for the  
54 control of root-knot nematodes, *Meloidogyne incognita* attacking tomato.

## 55 **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

56 Root-knot nematodes are very distinctive because of the galls or swelling produced on  
57 roots and underground portion of stems. These deformations can often completely ruin  
58 crops for sales and consumption. If infested when young, the following will be observed:  
59 stunted growth, more susceptible to draught, stress and show symptoms of nutrients  
60 deficient. Large and small roots may be affected with swelling varying from round shaped  
61 sphere-like galls to elongated spindle from large numbers of individual galls growing  
62 together. Nematode management is generally based upon chemical treatments (Soil  
63 fumigation) but environmental concern and Governmental regulations are now resulting  
64 in a strong interest on nematicides of natural origin.

## 65 **1.3 Aim and Objectives of the Study**

66 **1.3.1 Aim of the study**

67 The aim of this study is to evaluate the efficacy of nematicidal effect of *Aloe vera* on  
68 root-knot nematodes affecting tomatoes

69 **1.3.2 Specific objectives**

70 The specific objectives are;

- 71 i. To extract and identify parasitic nematodes associated with tomato
- 72 ii. To determine the nematicidal effect of *Aloe vera* extract on root-knot nematodes  
73 associated with tomato on plant height, root length, shoot weight, yield and  
74 nematode populations

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76 **1.4 Justification**

77 More than 90% of nematodes including insects have at least one stage of their life-cycle  
78 in soil (Akhurst, 1993). It offers an opportunity for an effective management programme  
79 to be developed. Commonly used nematode control methods include: cultural methods  
80 such as crop rotations and along with chemical pesticide applications. The information to  
81 be generated from this study, if successful will go a long way in providing an alternative  
82 pest control measure that is environmentally friendly and safe. The huge losses caused by  
83 nematodes on tomato will be reduced with ease as peasant farmers can easily access the  
84 plants, it will give the public an opportunity of consuming clean vegetables free from  
85 contamination that will cause harm to health. Integration into already established soil  
86 amendment systems is a potential area for advances in this field, minimal labor costs,  
87 high moisture provisions and flexibility. Finally, this will encourage the need for growing

88 more of *Aloe vera* plants so as to have available plant materials that will be use  
89 continuously for the control of this pest

### 90 **1.5 Scope of the Study**

91 The study is limited to the use of *Aloe vera* plant extract in the control of nematode  
92 associated with tomato, adult form of the root-knot nematodes were extracted from  
93 suspected host plants particularly tomato cultivated in Faringada area of Jos-North.

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## 96 **CHAPTER THREE**

### 97 **3.0 MATERIALS AND METHODS**

#### 98 **3.1 Study Area**

99 The study was carried out in the chemistry laboratory of Federal College of Forestry, Jos.  
100 Jos is a capital city of Plateau State of Nigeria. The Local Government lies in the Guinea  
101 Savannah Belt. The area now designated Jos-North Local Area came into being in  
102 September 1991 when the former Jos Local Government Area split to create Jos-North  
103 and South Local Government respectively. Former Jos-North that was carved covered an  
104 area of 1,695sq.km. The 1991 census indicated that Jos-North is populated by over  
105 450,000 and 2006 census indicates that Jos-North is populated by about 1.000.000.00  
106 people (Population Census, 2006).

#### 107 **3.2 Materials**

108 - The materials that were used for this study are as follows:

109 - Tomato (infested), roots (galled), soil.

- 110 - *Aloe vera* (60g)
- 111 - Seedlings of tomato
- 112 - Funnel
- 113 - Cotton wool
- 114 - Masking tape
- 115 - Test tubes with connecting pipe
- 116 - Beakers
- 117 - Table with perforated holes for connecting pipe attached unto test-tubes
- 118 - Collecting beakers
- 119 - Centrifuge machines
- 120 - Microscope
- 121 - Microscopic slides
- 122 - Teasing pins
- 123 - Petri-dish
- 124 - Cover slips

### 125 **3.3 Sample Collection**

126 Suspected tomato plant was collected from farms around Farigada area of Jos, Plateau  
127 State. Seedlings of tomato grown at Faringada were transplanted and planted in the  
128 nursery.

129 The nematode were extracted and identified in Biology Laboratory, kept at a temperature  
130 suitable for their growth and leaves of *Aloe vera* plant of 60 grams were collected in the  
131 nursery all in Federal College of Forestry, Jos.

132 **3.3.1 Laboratory extraction of nematodes**

133 The infested young plant which showed sign of stunted growth and scanty leaves were  
134 used for the nematode extraction. Large and small roots showing swelling varying from  
135 round shaped sphere-like galls to elongated spindle from large numbers of individual  
136 galls were carefully up-rooted and washed gently to remove the soil directly attaching to  
137 the tomato. Suspected galls on the root were carefully transported to the laboratory where  
138 they were excised and teased with the use of forceps and teasing pins in other to expose  
139 and release the nematode from the root tissues. The extraction of the root-knot Nematodes  
140 from the host plant roots was done using the Modified Baermann Funnel Method  
141 (Southey, 1972). A regular funnel with a piece of rubber tube about 25-30cm long  
142 attached to its stem and in turn connected to the test-tube tightly held together with the aid  
143 of masking tape was constructed. The setup was kept in an upright position using a table  
144 stand with small regular holes and filled with distilled water to the brim of the funnel's  
145 stem. Cotton wools was placed in the funnel to assume the shape of the funnel so that the  
146 water slightly covered the wool before the teased root samples for the extraction to be  
147 place on the wool and then cover with water to prevent the samples from drying. The  
148 set-up was then allowed to stand for 24 hours. The juvenile Nematodes being very active  
149 readily passed through the cotton wool down the funnel stem and were collected at the  
150 bottom of the test-tube. Ten (10) sets of Modified Method were used so as to obtain  
151 enough quantities of the inoculums. The test-tubes were then carefully removed and their  
152 contents were centrifuged at 2000 RPM (Revolution per minute) for five (5) minutes in  
153 other to concentrate the nematode juveniles in the test-tubes which were then taken for

154 examinations, four hundred (400) total number of nematode were estimated in the  
155 test-tubes used.

### 156 **3.3.2 Identification of nematodes**

157 From the centrifuged content in each test-tube of extracted nematode, unto a grease-free  
158 microscopic glass slide, two (2) drops of the sample was added and covered with a cover  
159 slip, then viewed under the electron microscope at low power magnification (x10) and the  
160 presence of nematode was confirmed using the high power magnifying lens (x40).

### 161 **3.3.3 Preparation of the plant material**

162 The leaf extracts was prepare from fresh *Aloe vera* plant and line from healthy living  
163 plants, they were cut vertically. The plants then dried at room temperature and pulverized.

164 The powdered leaves were soaked in 70% ethanol and was left to stand for 72 hours  
165 (3days) and then filtered using a sieve of minute mesh size suitable only to allow the flow  
166 of liquid through them and not the powdered solute reported by (Ogundare, 2007). Water  
167 was allowed to evaporate from the filtrate using hot plates at a temperature of 50°C  
168 suitable for even evaporation while still maintaining the active components within the  
169 filtrates especially the heat labile ones. The resultant powdered extracts were collected  
170 and then used for the nematicidal tests.

171 Different concentrations of the leave Extracts was prepared by dissolving variable  
172 concentration of the extracts in distilled water as follows:

173 i. 0.8g of *Aloe vera* to 10ml of distilled water

174           0.8g in 10ml = 0.08g/ml

175           =80mg/ml



176 ii. 0.7g of *Aloe vera* to 10ml of distilled water

177           0.7g in 10ml = 0.07g/ml

178           = 70mg/ml

179 iii. 0.6g of *Aloe vera* to 10ml of distilled water

180           0.6g in 10ml = 0.06g/ml

181           = 60mg/ml

182 iv. 0.5g of *Aloe vera* to 10ml of distilled water

183           0.5g in 10ml = 0.50mg/ml

184           =50mg/ml

185 v. 0.4g of *Aloe vera* to 10ml of distilled water

186           0.4g in 10ml = 0.04g/ml

187           = 40mg/ml

### 188 **3.3.4 Planting of tomato and determination of nematicidal activity**

189 The seedlings of tomato planted in Faringada, transplanted to nursery of Federal College  
190 of Forestry in six different pots, the soil used was tested using same procedures of  
191 Modified Baermann Funnel Method (Southey, 1972). There were three blocks in area of  
192 about 300m<sup>2</sup> partitioned into five (5) plots with 1m alley each in-between plots and  
193 blocks, this is done to avoid treatments interaction. Each plot was 50m<sup>2</sup> for one treatment  
194 between the tested nematicidal extract. This treatment was added at one rate of  
195 applications, each of the *Aloe vera* plants extract of varied concentrate 80mg/ml, 70mg/ml,  
196 60mg/ml, 50mg/ml, 40mg/ml, control and four hundred (400) total numbers of the  
197 estimated nematode extract were thoroughly mixed with the soil to which the transplanted

198 tomatoes was planted on in the field and covering directly irrigation after three weeks of  
199 transplanting. The growing plant in each plots were then examined at intervals of two  
200 weeks in three replicates. After three months all plants were harvested and data for  
201 nematode population were counted and recorded. The plot to which no isolate of  
202 nematodes and extract was added serve as control.

### 203 **3.4 Experimental Design Layout**

204 The experiment was laid on a complete randomized design (CRD)

### 205 **3.5 Data Measured**

#### 206 **3.5.1 Plant height (cm)**

207 The plant height were obtained by taking measurement (cm) using a measuring tape on  
208 the plant in each plot in the nursery after the introduction of nematode an treatment  
209 applications in the soil of the pot to in which the plant were planted. The data were  
210 recorded in an interval of two (2) weeks in three (3) replicates respectively.

#### 211 **3.5.2 Root length (cm)**

212 The root length was obtained by taking measurement (cm) of the root plant using  
213 measuring tape on the plant in each plot in the field. The data obtained were recorded in  
214 an interval of two (2) weeks in three (3) replicates respectively.

#### 215 **3.5.3 Shoot weight (g)**

216 The shoot weight was obtained using the weighing balance in which the shoot was  
217 un-plucked and weighed. The data obtained were recorded in an interval of two (2) weeks  
218 in three (3) replicates.

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#### 221 **3.5.4 Yield of plant**

222 The plant yield was obtained by viable counting the number of successful plant grown  
223 within each plots in the field. Data obtained were recorded in an interval of two (2) weeks  
224 in three (3) replicates.

#### 225 **3.5.5 Final nematode population**

226 The final population of nematodes present was obtained and assessed by further  
227 extractions of nematodes in each plots, soil and ensuring viable counting to be certain on  
228 the estimated numbers of nematode present in each plots.

#### 229 **3.6 Data Analysis**

230 Data collected were analyzed using analysis of variance, ANOVA to determine the  
231 significant difference between the concentrations of the *Aloe vera* plant extract and mean  
232 separation were made using Duncan multiple ratio test, DMRT.

### 233 **CHAPTER FOUR**

## 234 **4.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### 235 **4.1 Results**

#### 236 **4.1.1 Identification of nematode**

237 The results in Table 1 show the characteristics features for the identification of both the  
238 juvenile and adult (male and female) root-knot nematodes, *Meloidogyne incognita* when  
239 viewed under the electron microscope.

240

241 **Table 1: Identification of nematodes**

| Nematode              | Features of nematode seen on microscope   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Juvenile              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Head not offset with truncated cone shape when viewed laterally.</li> <li>- Stylet knob is prominent and rounded.</li> </ul>   |
| Adult male nematode   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The head is not offset with a high truncate cone shape.</li> <li>- The head cap is clearly annulated.</li> <li>- The head cap is with stepped outline in lateral view.</li> <li>- Annule number behind head cap very variable usually 1-3 on sub-lateral head sector.</li> <li>- Conus of stylet longer than shaft.</li> <li>- Stylet knob is prominent usually of greater width than length with flat concave or toothed anterior.</li> </ul> |
| female Adult nematode | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The body is spherical with projecting neck.</li> <li>- Head with 2 or 3 annule behind the head cap.</li> <li>- The cuticle thickening at base of relaxed stylet.</li> <li>- Stylet knobs are drawn out laterally.</li> <li>- Dorsal arch is high and rounded.</li> </ul>   |

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252 **4.1.2 Nematicidal effect of Aloe vera extract on tomato plant height for week 1 to**

253 **3**

254 The results in Table 2 show the highest mean value with sample treated with 80mg/ml  
255 resulted in taller plant height and the observed difference was far more than the rest of the  
256 treatments. The performance was taller at week 1 (18.00) when compared to the rest and  
257 also resulted in taller plant height in week 3 (26.00). The order of performance on mean at  
258 week 3 for the treatments are: 80mg/ml (26.00) > 70mg/ml (24.00) > 60mg/ml (19.00) >  
259 50mg/ml (17.00) > 40mg/ml (13.00) control (12.00).

260 **Table 2: Nematicidal effect of Aloe vera extract on tomato plant height for week 1 to**

261 **3**

| Treatment<br>(mg/ml) | Plant height (cm)        |                          |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
|                      | Week 1                   | Week 2                   | Week 3                   |
| <b>80</b>            | <b>18.00<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>21.00<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>26.00<sup>a</sup></b> |
| <b>70</b>            | 13.00 <sup>b</sup>       | 20.00 <sup>a</sup>       | 24.00 <sup>a</sup>       |
| <b>60</b>            | 12.00 <sup>b</sup>       | 17.00 <sup>b</sup>       | 19.00 <sup>b</sup>       |
| <b>50</b>            | 10.00 <sup>bc</sup>      | 15.33 <sup>b</sup>       | 17.00 <sup>bc</sup>      |
| <b>40</b>            | 8.00 <sup>c</sup>        | 11.00 <sup>c</sup>       | 13.00 <sup>cd</sup>      |
| <b>Control</b>       | 7.00 <sup>c</sup>        | 10.00 <sup>c</sup>       | 12.00 <sup>e</sup>       |
| <b>SE±</b>           | <b>1.00</b>              | <b>0.79</b>              | <b>1.41</b>              |

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263 Mean followed by the same superscript in a column are not significantly different from  
264 each other.

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274 **4.1.3 Nematicidal effect of Aloe vera extract on tomato root length for week 1 to 3**

275 The results in Table 3 show the highest mean value with sample treated with 80mg/ml  
 276 resulted in longer tomato root length. The performance was longer at week 1 (9.00) when  
 277 compared to the rest and also resulted in longer root length in week 3 (12.00). The order  
 278 of performance on mean at week 3 for the treatments are: 80mg/ml (12.00) > 70mg/ml  
 279 (10.00) > 60mg/ml (8.00) > 50mg/ml (7.00) > 40mg/ml (5.00) control (4.00).

281 **Table 3: Nematicidal effect of Aloe vera extract on tomato root length for week 1 to 3**

| Treatment<br>(mg/ml) | Root length (cm)        |                          |                          |
|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
|                      | Week 1                  | Week 2                   | Week 3                   |
| <b>80</b>            | <b>9.00<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>11.00<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>12.00<sup>a</sup></b> |
| <b>70</b>            | 5.00 <sup>b</sup>       | 8.00 <sup>b</sup>        | 10.00 <sup>ab</sup>      |
| <b>60</b>            | 4.00 <sup>bc</sup>      | 5.00 <sup>c</sup>        | 8.00 <sup>bc</sup>       |
| <b>50</b>            | 2.00 <sup>cd</sup>      | 4.00 <sup>cd</sup>       | 7.00 <sup>bcd</sup>      |
| <b>40</b>            | 2.00 <sup>cd</sup>      | 3.00 <sup>cd</sup>       | 5.00 <sup>cd</sup>       |
| <b>Control</b>       | 1.27 <sup>d</sup>       | 2.00 <sup>d</sup>        | 4.00 <sup>d</sup>        |
| <b>SE±</b>           | <b>0.67</b>             | <b>0.82</b>              | <b>0.94</b>              |

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 283 Mean followed by the same superscript in a column are not significantly different from  
 284 each other.

294 **4.1.4 Nematicidal effect of Aloe vera extract on tomato shoot weight for week 1 to**  
 295 **3**

296 The results in Table 4 show the highest mean value with sample treated with 80mg/ml  
 297 resulted in higher tomato shoot weight. The performance was high at week 1 (0.40) when  
 298 compared to the rest and also resulted in higher shoot weight in week 3 (0.80). The order

299 of performance on mean at week 3 for the treatments are: 80mg/ml (0.80) > 70mg/ml  
 300 (0.60) > 60mg/ml (0.40) there was significant differences except in 50mg/ml (0.30) which  
 301 did not differ from 40mg/ml (0.30) and control (0.30) in week 1,2 and 3, although at week  
 302 1, 60mg/ml did not differ from the others and at week 2, 50mg/ml (0.22) differs from  
 303 40mg/ml and control (0.11)

304 **Table 4:Nematicidal effect of Aloe vera extract on tomato shoot weight for week 1 to**  
 305 **3**

| Treatment<br>(mg/ml) | Shoot weight (g)        |                         |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
|                      | Week 1                  | Week 2                  | Week 3                  |
| <b>80</b>            | <b>0.40<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>0.70<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>0.80<sup>a</sup></b> |
| <b>70</b>            | 0.21 <sup>b</sup>       | 0.50 <sup>b</sup>       | 0.60 <sup>b</sup>       |
| <b>60</b>            | 0.11 <sup>c</sup>       | 0.22 <sup>c</sup>       | 0.40 <sup>c</sup>       |
| <b>50</b>            | 0.11 <sup>c</sup>       | 0.21 <sup>c</sup>       | 0.30 <sup>c</sup>       |
| <b>40</b>            | 0.11 <sup>c</sup>       | 0.11 <sup>c</sup>       | 0.30 <sup>c</sup>       |
| <b>Control</b>       | 0.11 <sup>c</sup>       | 0.11 <sup>c</sup>       | 0.30 <sup>c</sup>       |
| <b>SE±</b>           | <b>0.02</b>             | <b>0.34</b>             | <b>0.06</b>             |

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 307 Mean followed by the same superscript in a column are not significantly different from  
 308 each other.

316 **4.1.5 Nematicidal effect of Aloe vera extract on tomato yield for week 1 to 3**

317 The results in Table 5 show that there is a significant difference in yield for both weeks 1,  
 318 2 and 3. Although, there was no significant differences between concentration of 80mg/ml  
 319 (6.00) when compared to control (6.00) and between concentration of 70mg/ml and  
 320 60mg/ml (4.00) and there was differences at 50mg/ml (3.00) and 40mg/ml (2.00).

321 **Table 5: Nematicidal effect of Aloe vera extract on tomato yield for week 1 to 3**

| Treatment<br>(mg/ml) | Yield                   |                         |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
|                      | Week 1                  | Week 2                  | Week 3                  |
| <b>80</b>            | <b>6.00<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>6.00<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>6.00<sup>a</sup></b> |
| <b>70</b>            | 4.00 <sup>ab</sup>      | 4.00 <sup>ab</sup>      | 4.00 <sup>ab</sup>      |
| <b>60</b>            | 4.00 <sup>ab</sup>      | 4.00 <sup>ab</sup>      | 4.00 <sup>ab</sup>      |
| <b>50</b>            | 3.00 <sup>ab</sup>      | 3.00 <sup>ab</sup>      | 3.00 <sup>ab</sup>      |
| <b>40</b>            | 2.00 <sup>b</sup>       | 2.00 <sup>b</sup>       | 2.00 <sup>b</sup>       |
| <b>Control</b>       | 6.00 <sup>a</sup>       | 6.00 <sup>a</sup>       | 6.00 <sup>a</sup>       |
| <b>SE±</b>           | <b>1.00</b>             | <b>1.00</b>             | <b>1.00</b>             |

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323 Mean followed by the same superscript in a column are not significantly different from  
 324 each other.

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342 **4.1.6 Nematicidal effect of Aloe vera extract on tomato nematode population for**  
 343 **week 1 to 3**

344 The results in Table 6 show the highest mean value of mortality rate of nematode

345 population with sample treated with 80mg/ml, control and the observed difference was far

346 more than the rest of the treatments. The order of performance on mean are: 80mg/ml,

347 control (0.14) < 70mg/ml (40.00) < 60mg/ml (108.00) < 50mg/ml (150.00) < 40mg/ml

348 (300.00).



349 **Table 6: Nematicidal effect of Aloe vera extract on tomato nematode population for**  
 350 **weeks 1 to 3**

| Treatment<br>(mg/ml) | Treatment at weeks 1 to 3 |                     |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
|                      | Week 1                    | Week 2              | Week 3              |
| <b>80</b>            | 120.00 <sup>c</sup>       | 60.00 <sup>e</sup>  | 0.14 <sup>e</sup>   |
| <b>70</b>            | 150.00 <sup>c</sup>       | 120.00 <sup>d</sup> | 40.00 <sup>d</sup>  |
| <b>60</b>            | 250.00 <sup>b</sup>       | 150.00 <sup>c</sup> | 108.00 <sup>c</sup> |
| <b>50</b>            | 300.00 <sup>b</sup>       | 288.00 <sup>b</sup> | 150.00 <sup>b</sup> |
| <b>40</b>            | 401.00 <sup>a</sup>       | 350.00 <sup>a</sup> | 300.00 <sup>a</sup> |
| <b>Control</b>       | 0.14 <sup>d</sup>         | 0.14 <sup>f</sup>   | 0.14 <sup>e</sup>   |
| <b>SE±</b>           | <b>20.00</b>              | <b>9.04</b>         | <b>7.27</b>         |

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 352 Mean followed by the same superscript in a column are not significantly different from  
 353 each other.

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360 **4.2 Discussion**

361 Tomato plants are highly susceptible to *Meloidogyne incognita* as indicated by the final  
 362 nematode population and plant growth, this results indicate that extracts of *Aloe vera* is  
 363 effective in the reducing *Meloidogyne incognita* in the soil and improving plant growth.  
 364 *Meloidogyne incognita* from this result having distinctive features such as head not offset  
 365 with truncated cone shape, stylet knob prominent and round, conus of stylet longer than

366 shaft. Similar report been made by Orton Williams (1973). *M. incognita* identification  
367 that the body is spherical with projecting neck, in lateral view, stylet knob are drawn out,  
368 the head is clearly annulated, conus of stylet is longer than shaft. The extent of nematode  
369 population reduction was dependent on the rate of application of different concentration  
370 of the extracts and time of exposure, inhibition of of *M.incognita* reproduction resulted in  
371 significant improvement in the tomato growth parameters and yield, a similar report by  
372 (Alam, 1991; Ramesh *et al.*, 2008) that plant powder treated plant showed increased plant  
373 growth parameters and yield and may be due to an additive effect of nutrients produced  
374 were increased soil fertility by the decomposed materials. Similar results have been  
375 reported by other research workers of different botanicals on different agricultural crops  
376 such as (Agbenin, 2004, Egunjobi and Onayemi, 1981, Agbenin *et al.*, 2002, Bello *et al.*,  
377 2002, Rotimi and Mocu, 2002, Sukul, 1992, Sukul *et al.*, 1974, Fotoki and Oyedumale,  
378 1996, Akhtar, 2008, Sasanelli and Addabbo, 1993, Akhtar and Malik, 2000). It was also  
379 earlier reported by Adegbite (2003), Adegbite and Adesiyan (2005), Ranjitsingh *et*  
380 *al.*,(2009) and Umar (2013) that botanical extract that contained alkaloids, saponins and  
381 flavonoids either singly or in combination inhibited of *Meloidogyne* spp. In a related work  
382 Ferreira *et al.*, (2013) reported that aqueous extracts of *zinnia peruviana* and *Wedelia*  
383 species inhibited *Meloidogyne incognita* when compare to the control when compare to  
384 control by 92.72% and 97.48% respectively. Khan *et al.*, (2008) reported that extracts of  
385 some plants such as onion, garlic, tobacco, cloves and chill were effective against *M.*  
386 *incognita* larvae and caused mortality of juveniles between 82-100%. The ready  
387 availability of the organic materials used in this study, its effects on nematode population,

388 plant growth and yield suggest the need for additional studies in the field to evaluate the  
389 efficacy and economics for its use in nematode management. The responses to pesticide  
390 treatment were not compared directly with the results attained from extract of *Aloe vera*  
391 plant tested, because this material was recorded as promising, gave more attention to  
392 non-chemical methods for the control of nematode problems by safe economic and less  
393 dangerous method as well as environmentally safe.

## 394 **CHAPTER FIVE**

### 395 **5.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION**

#### 396 **5.1 Summary**

397 The effect of different concentrations of *Aloe vera* plants extract as alternative  
398 management method for the control of root-knot nematode *Meloidogyne incognita* on  
399 tomato, tomato being one of the most important tropical vegetable crop widely used  
400 throughout the world. In recent years, root-knot nematodes *Meloidogyne* spp. problem has  
401 become a threat to tomato cultivation. Yield loss due to nematode, cause diseases to  
402 nearly all plant crops of Economic importance with estimated losses of US \$125 billion  
403 per year World-Wide. Control of root-knot nematodes has been primarily accomplished  
404 through chemical nematicides. However, indiscriminate use of chemical pesticides causes  
405 great threat to human being, animal, vegetation and to the environment. So with the  
406 increasing awareness of possible deleterious effects of the chemicals, biological controls  
407 of plant pathogen have received considerable attention. Some of the plant species and  
408 parts antagonistic to *Meloidogyne* spp. are the leaves and flowers of marigold (*Tagetes* sp).  
409 In this research, activity of the leaf extracts of *Aloe vera* is study as nematicides for the

410 control of root-knot nematodes. The results showed that, all the tested treatment led to a  
411 significantly ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) reduction in nematode population and improved tomato growth and  
412 yield. Hence, having nematicidal activity on both the juvenile and adult root-knot  
413 nematode, the nematicidal increased with increase in concentration of the extracts and  
414 time of exposure to the extracts. Final death of nematode population recorded was highest  
415 when exposed to the highest concentration of *Aloe vera*. The highest concentration being  
416 80mg/ml (0.14) followed by 70mg/ml (40.00) concentration and so on, this indicates that  
417 the higher the concentration of the extract, the higher the number of nematodes that  
418 would be killed

## 419 **5.2 Conclusion**

420 The results obtained could be an outcome of the nematicidal content of the extracts which  
421 killed nematodes, the effect of the different extracts of the botanical on the performance  
422 of tomato was significantly different at 5% level of probability. Tomato crop treated with  
423 different concentration recorded taller plant, longer root, higher shoot weight, high yield  
424 and higher mortality rate of nematode recovered from soil. The treated plant recorded  
425 better growth parameters and fewer nematodes due to the nematicidal or nemostatic effect  
426 of the different concentrations of extract. It was reported that extracts of plant containing  
427 tannins, alkaloids and flavonoids were effective against root-knot nematodes both *in-vivo*  
428 and *in-vitro* (Adegbite and Adesiyani, 2005, Anuja and Satyawati, 2007 and Umar, 2013.  
429 The result of the study indicated that 80mg/ml was more effective against *M. incognita*  
430 and hence improved tomato growth and yield. Although, others treatment were also able  
431 to reduced nematode population and were not as effective as the 80mg/ml.

432 **5.3 Recommendation**

433 As these results have demonstrated the nematicidal property of *Aloe vera* extract in  
434 reducing *Meloidogyne incognita* attacking tomato, it is recommended that:

- 435 1. Further investigations are necessary to evaluate economic aspects of this  
436 botanicals before recommendation to tomato farmers
- 437 2. To determine the most appropriate rate and concentrations of the extracts and it  
438 feasibility for use in the large field
- 439 3. Further study are to be carried out on the effectiveness of the powdered form of  
440 this botanical spray directly on the field against *M. incognita* and *M. javanica* and  
441 other *Meloidogyne* spp. attacking tomato before making final recommendation to  
442 tomato farmer as they may not know the effect of different nematode attacks on  
443 tomato.
- 444 4. For further work, the actual active ingredient should be identify and purify
- 445 5. Species of *Aloe* should also be assessed for their nematicidal or nematostatic  
446 effect of root-knot nematodes.

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638

639

640

## APPENDICES

641

### Appendix i

642

643 **TABLE 7: PLANT HEIGHT AT WEEK ONE**

| Source    | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F      | Sig.   | LSD  |
|-----------|----------------|----|-------------|--------|--------|------|
| Treatment | 238.000        | 5  | 47.600      | 15.867 | 0.000* | 2.52 |
| Error     | 36.000         | 12 | 3.000       |        |        |      |
| Total     | 274.000        | 17 |             |        |        |      |

644 \* Significant

645

646 **TABLE 8: PLANT HEIGHT AT WEEK TWO**

| Source    | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F      | Sig.   | LSD  |
|-----------|----------------|----|-------------|--------|--------|------|
| Treatment | 308.944        | 5  | 61.789      | 33.180 | 0.000* | 1.99 |
| Error     | 22.347         | 12 | 1.862       |        |        |      |
| Total     | 331.291        | 17 |             |        |        |      |

647 \* Significant

648

649 **TABLE 9: PLANT HEIGHT AT WEEK THREE**

| Source    | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F      | Sig.   | LSD  |
|-----------|----------------|----|-------------|--------|--------|------|
| Treatment | 484.500        | 5  | 96.900      | 16.150 | 0.000* | 3.56 |
| Error     | 72.000         | 12 | 6.000       |        |        |      |
| Total     | 556.500        | 17 |             |        |        |      |

650 \* Significant

651

652 **TABLE 10: ROOT LENGTH AT WEEK ONE**

| Source | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F | Sig. | LSD |
|--------|----------------|----|-------------|---|------|-----|
|--------|----------------|----|-------------|---|------|-----|

|           |         |    |        |        |        |      |
|-----------|---------|----|--------|--------|--------|------|
| Treatment | 124.144 | 5  | 24.829 | 18.475 | 0.000* | 1.69 |
| Error     | 16.127  | 12 | 1.344  |        |        |      |
| Total     | 140.271 | 17 |        |        |        |      |

653 \* Significant

654

655 **TABLE 11: ROOT LENGTH AT WEEK TWO**

| Source    | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F      | Sig.   | LSD  |
|-----------|----------------|----|-------------|--------|--------|------|
| Treatment | 172.500        | 5  | 34.500      | 17.250 | 0.000* | 2.06 |
| Error     | 24.000         | 12 | 2.000       |        |        |      |
| Total     | 196.500        | 17 |             |        |        |      |

656 \* Significant

657

658

659 **TABLE 12: ROOT LENGTH AT WEEK THREE**

| Source    | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F      | Sig.   | LSD   |
|-----------|----------------|----|-------------|--------|--------|-------|
| Treatment | 136.000        | 5  | 27.200      | 10.200 | 0.001* | 75.14 |
| Error     | 32.000         | 12 | 2.667       |        |        |       |
| Total     | 168.000        | 17 |             |        |        |       |

660 \* Significant

661

662 **TABLE 13: SHOOT WEIGHT AT WEEK ONE**

| Source    | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F      | Sig.   | LSD  |
|-----------|----------------|----|-------------|--------|--------|------|
| Treatment | 0.208          | 5  | 0.042       | 23.731 | 0.000* | 0.07 |
| Error     | 0.021          | 12 | 0.002       |        |        |      |
| Total     | 0.229          | 17 |             |        |        |      |

663 \* Significant

664

665 **TABLE 14: SHOOT WEIGHT AT WEEK TWO**

666

| Source          | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F      | Sig.   | LSD  |
|-----------------|----------------|----|-------------|--------|--------|------|
| Treatment       | 0.855          | 5  | 0.171       | 47.931 | 0.000* | 0.09 |
| Error           | 0.043          | 12 | 0.004       |        |        |      |
| Corrected Total | 0.898          | 17 |             |        |        |      |

667 \* Significant

668

669 **TABLE 15: SHOOT WEIGHT AT WEEK THREE**

| Source | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F | Sig. | LSD |
|--------|----------------|----|-------------|---|------|-----|
|--------|----------------|----|-------------|---|------|-----|

|           |       |    |       |        |        |      |
|-----------|-------|----|-------|--------|--------|------|
| Treatment | 0.645 | 5  | 0.129 | 12.900 | 0.000* | 0.15 |
| Error     | 0.120 | 12 | 0.010 |        |        |      |
| Total     | 0.765 | 17 |       |        |        |      |

670 \* Significant

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672

673 **TABLE 16: YIELD AT WEEK ONE**

| Source    | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F     | Sig.   | LSD  |
|-----------|----------------|----|-------------|-------|--------|------|
| Treatment | 38.500         | 5  | 7.700       | 2.567 | 0.000* | 0.12 |
| Error     | 36.000         | 12 | 3.000       |       |        |      |
| Total     | 74.500         | 17 |             |       |        |      |

674 \* Significant

675 **TABLE 17: YIELD AT WEEK TWO**

676

| Source    | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F     | Sig.   | LSD  |
|-----------|----------------|----|-------------|-------|--------|------|
| Treatment | 38.500         | 5  | 7.700       | 2.567 | 0.000* | 0.12 |
| Error     | 36.000         | 12 | 3.000       |       |        |      |
| Total     | 74.500         | 17 |             |       |        |      |

677 \* Significant

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679 **TABLE 18: YIELD AT WEEK THREE**

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| Source    | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F     | Sig.   | LSD  |
|-----------|----------------|----|-------------|-------|--------|------|
| Treatment | 38.500         | 5  | 7.700       | 2.567 | 0.000* | 0.12 |
| Error     | 36.000         | 12 | 3.000       |       |        |      |
| Total     | 74.500         | 17 |             |       |        |      |

681 \* Significant

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683 **TABLE 19: NEMATODE POPULATION AT WEEK ONE**

684

| Source    | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F      | Sig.   | LSD   |
|-----------|----------------|----|-------------|--------|--------|-------|
| Treatment | 305015.677     | 5  | 61003.135   | 50.829 | 0.000* | 50.41 |
| Error     | 14402.006      | 12 | 1200.167    |        |        |       |
| Total     | 319417.683     | 17 |             |        |        |       |

685 \* Significant

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687 **TABLE 20: NEMATODE POPULATION AT WEEK TWO**

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| Source    | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F       | Sig.   | LSD   |
|-----------|----------------|----|-------------|---------|--------|-------|
| Treatment | 269187.753     | 5  | 53837.551   | 219.446 | 0.000* | 22.79 |
| Error     | 2944.006       | 12 | 245.334     |         |        |       |
| Total     | 272131.759     | 17 |             |         |        |       |

689 \* Significant

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691 **TABLE 21: NEMATODE POPULATION AT WEEK THREE**

| Source    | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F       | Sig.   | LSD   |
|-----------|----------------|----|-------------|---------|--------|-------|
| Treatment | 198326.621     | 5  | 39665.324   | 249.990 | 0.000* | 18.33 |
| Error     | 1904.012       | 12 | 158.668     |         |        |       |
| Total     | 200230.634     | 17 |             |         |        |       |

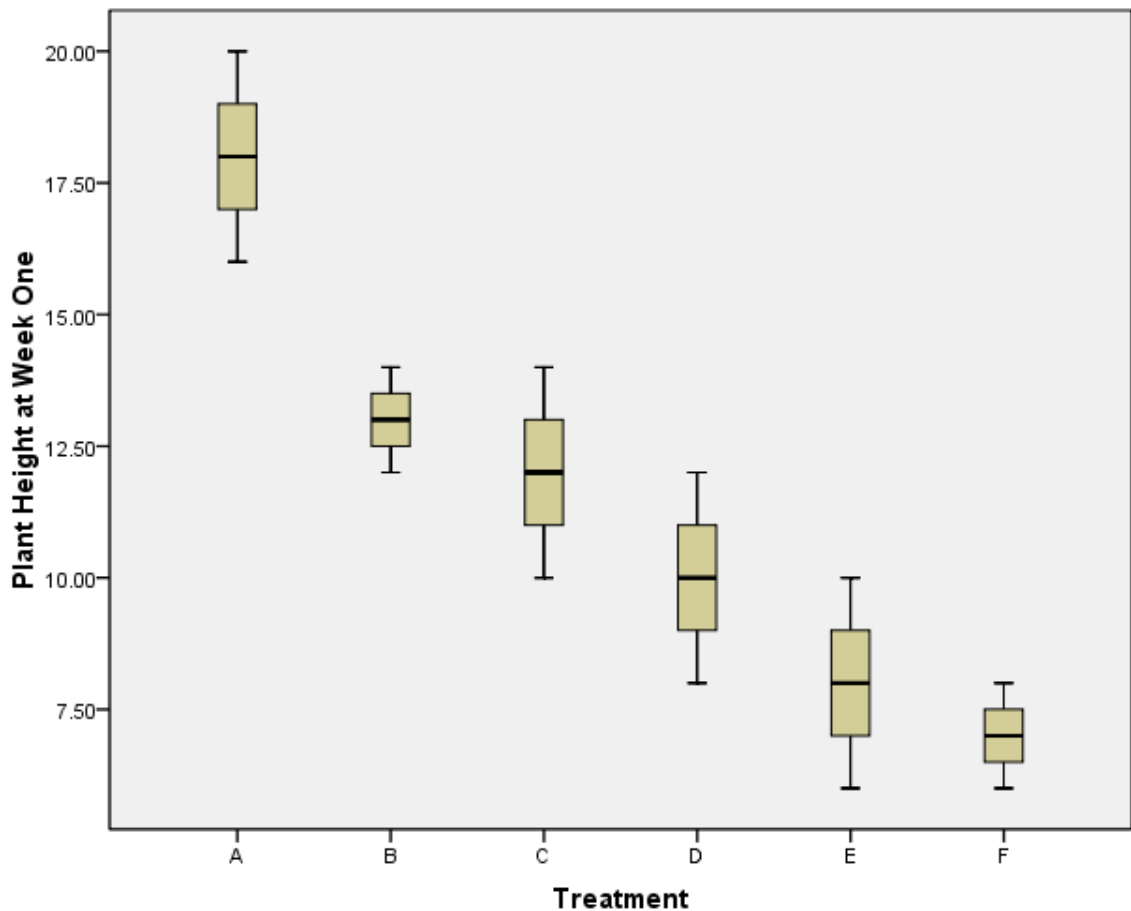
692 \* Significant

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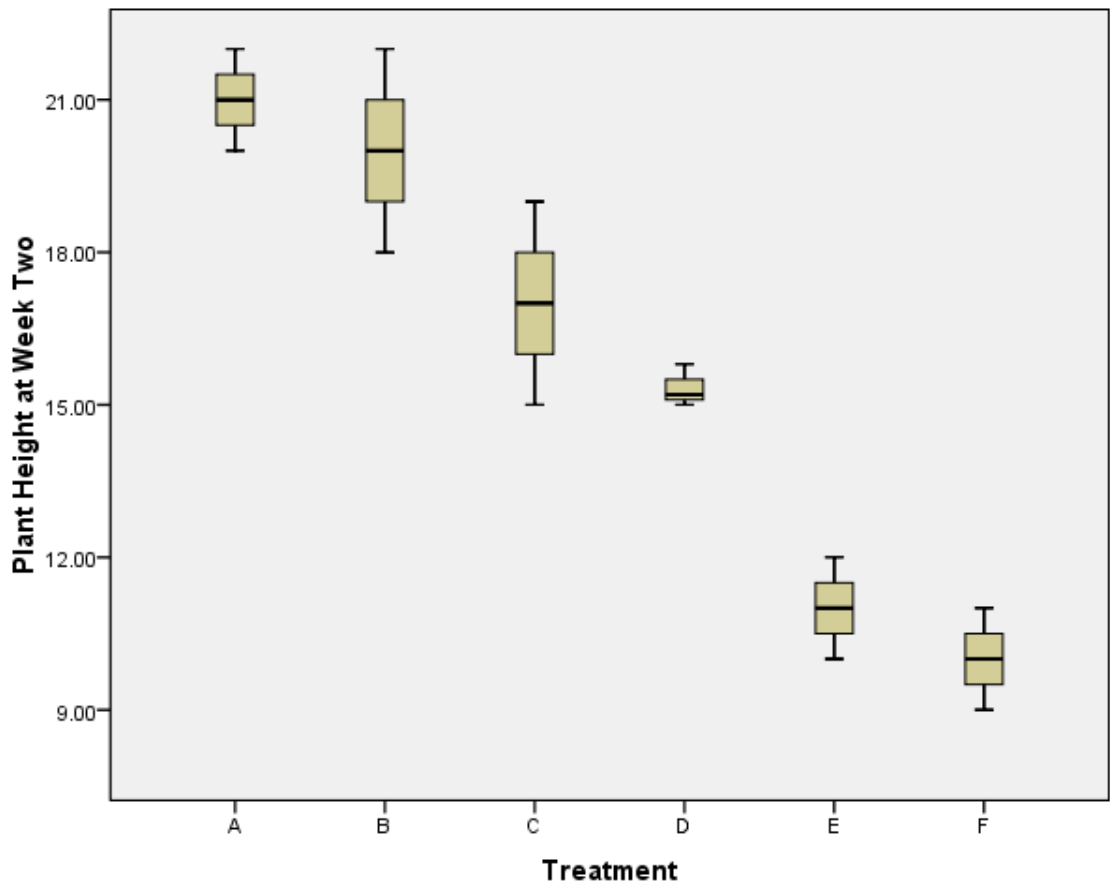
**Appendix ii**



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**Fig 1: Effects of Treatment on Plant Height at Week One**

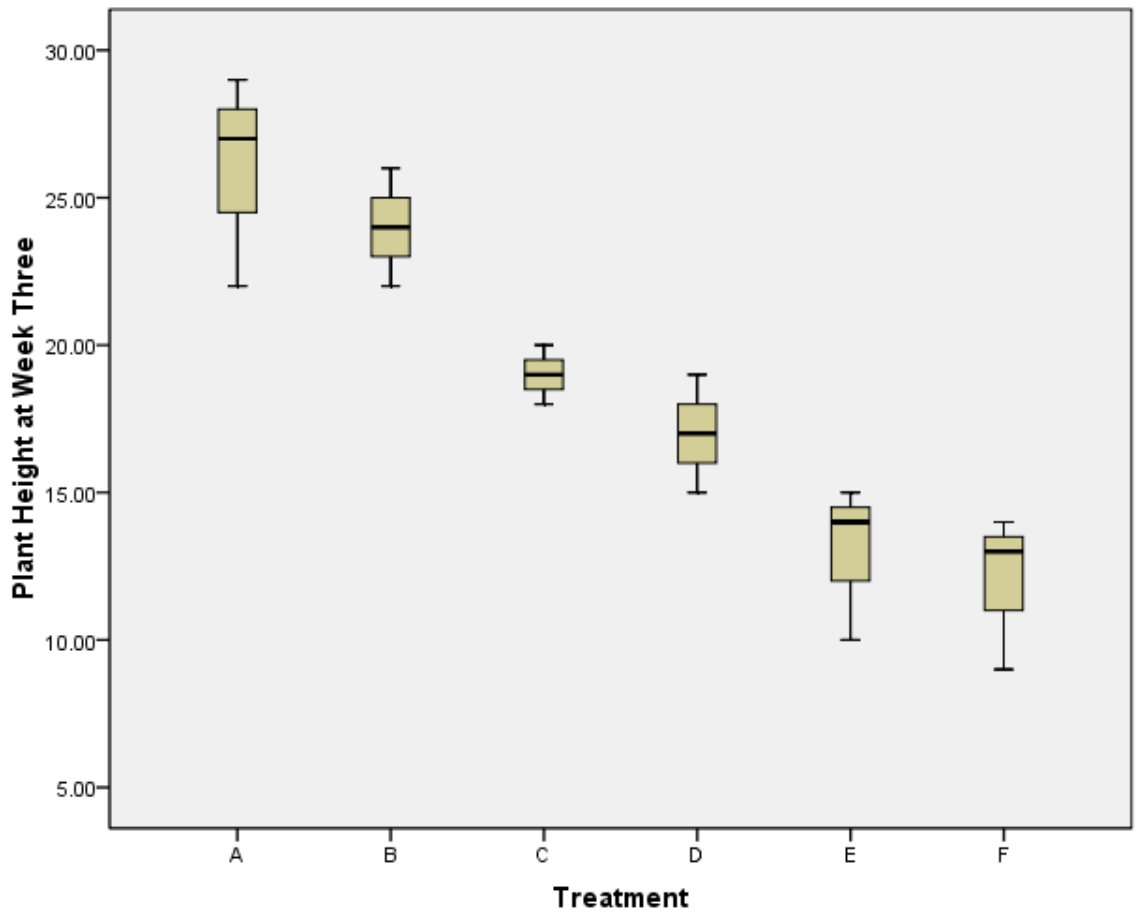


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**Fig 2: Effects of Treatment on Plant Height at Week Two**

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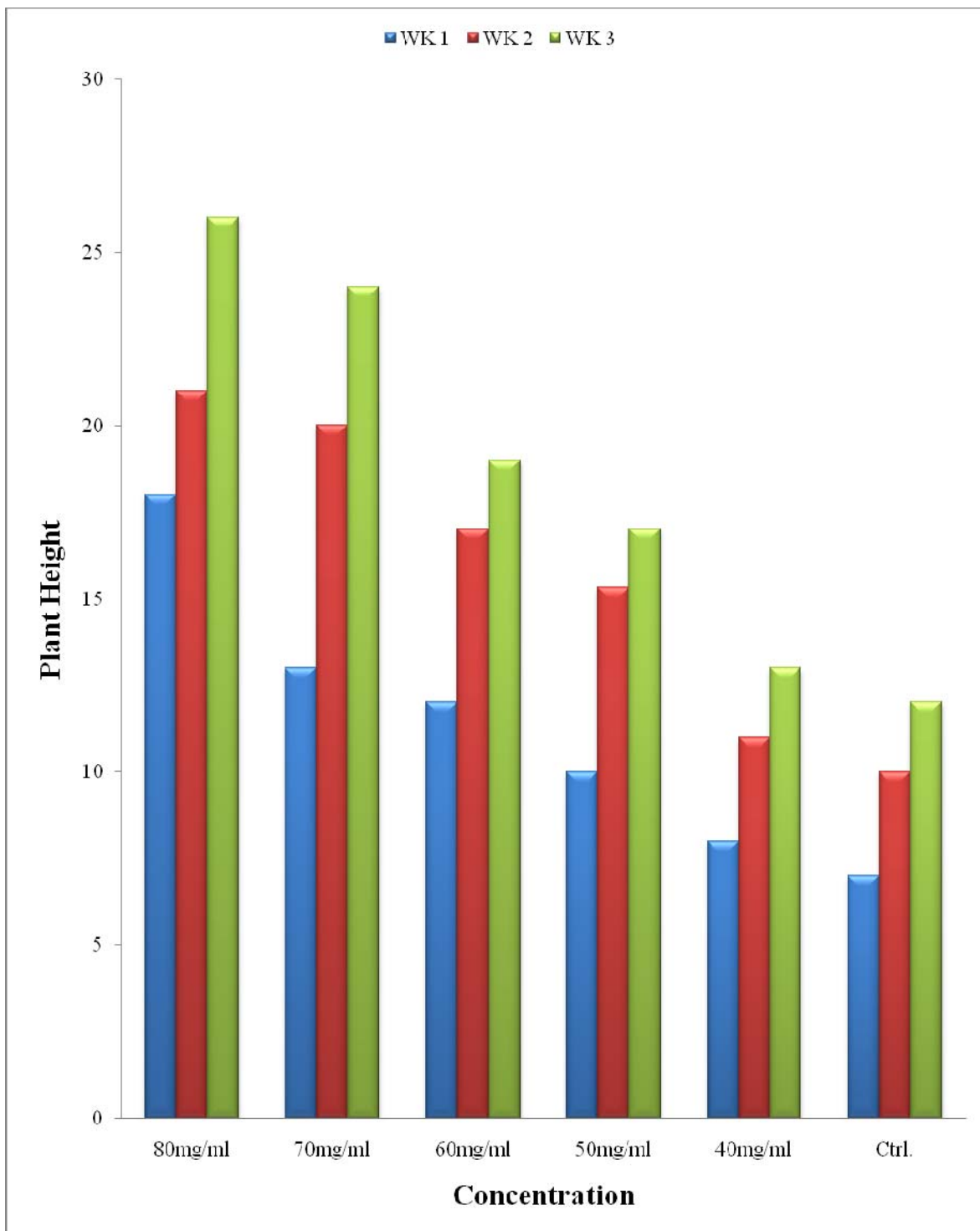


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**Fig 3: Effects of Treatment on Plant Height at Week Three**

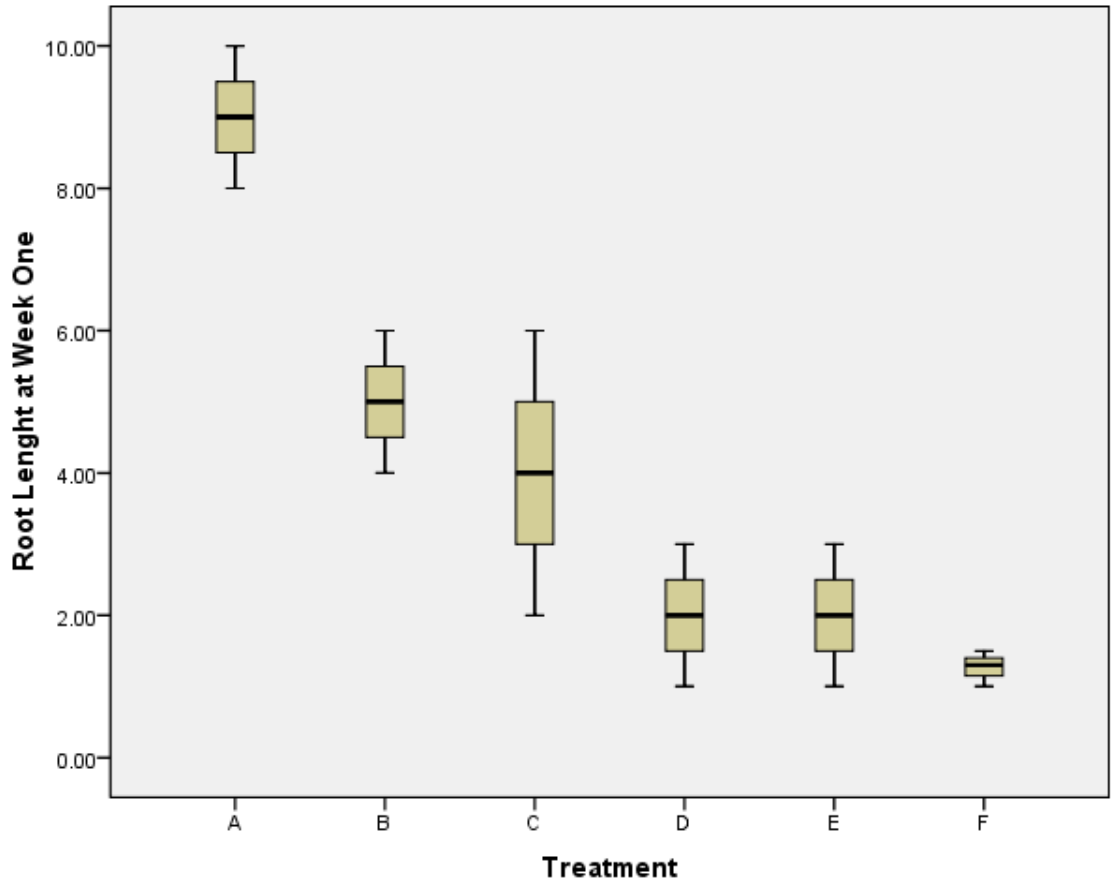


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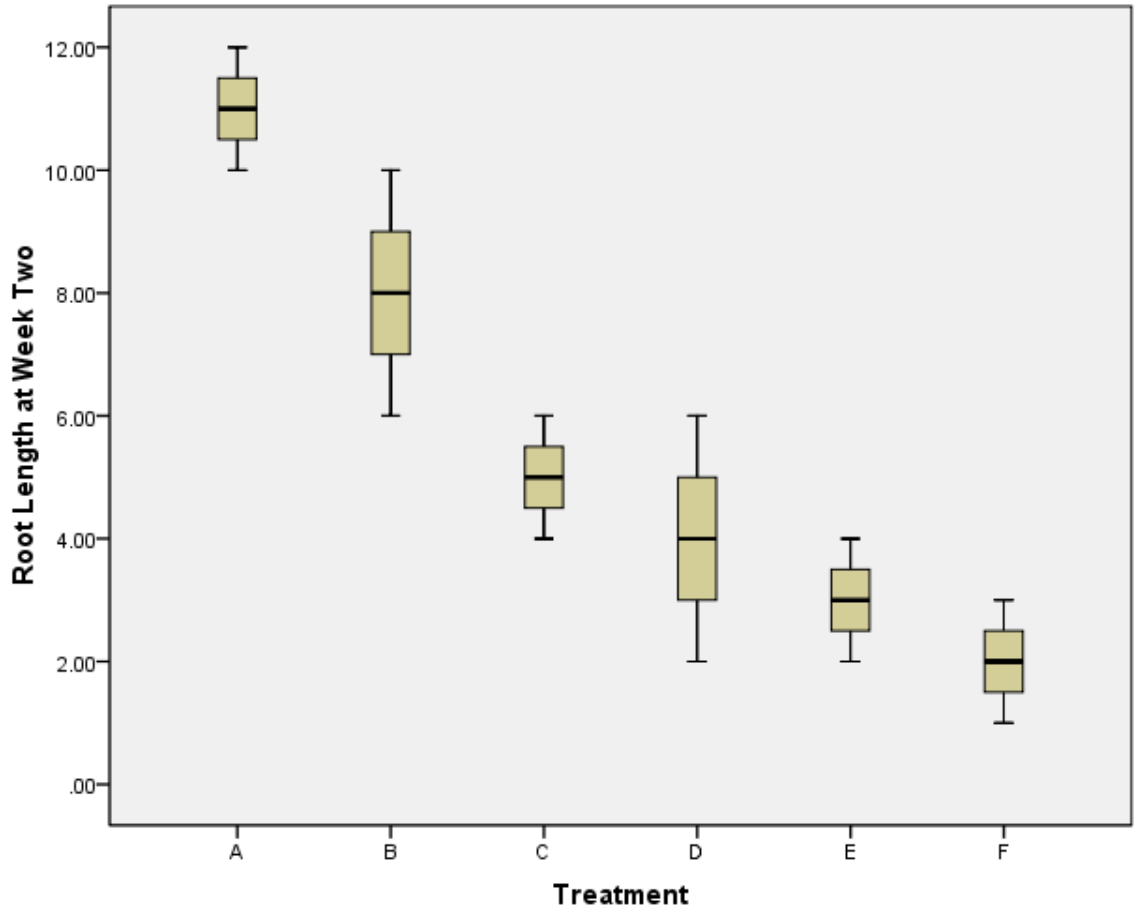
744 **Fig 4: Effect of Treatment on Plant Height at Different Week Intervals**  
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747 **Fig 5: Effects of Treatment on Root Length at Week One**

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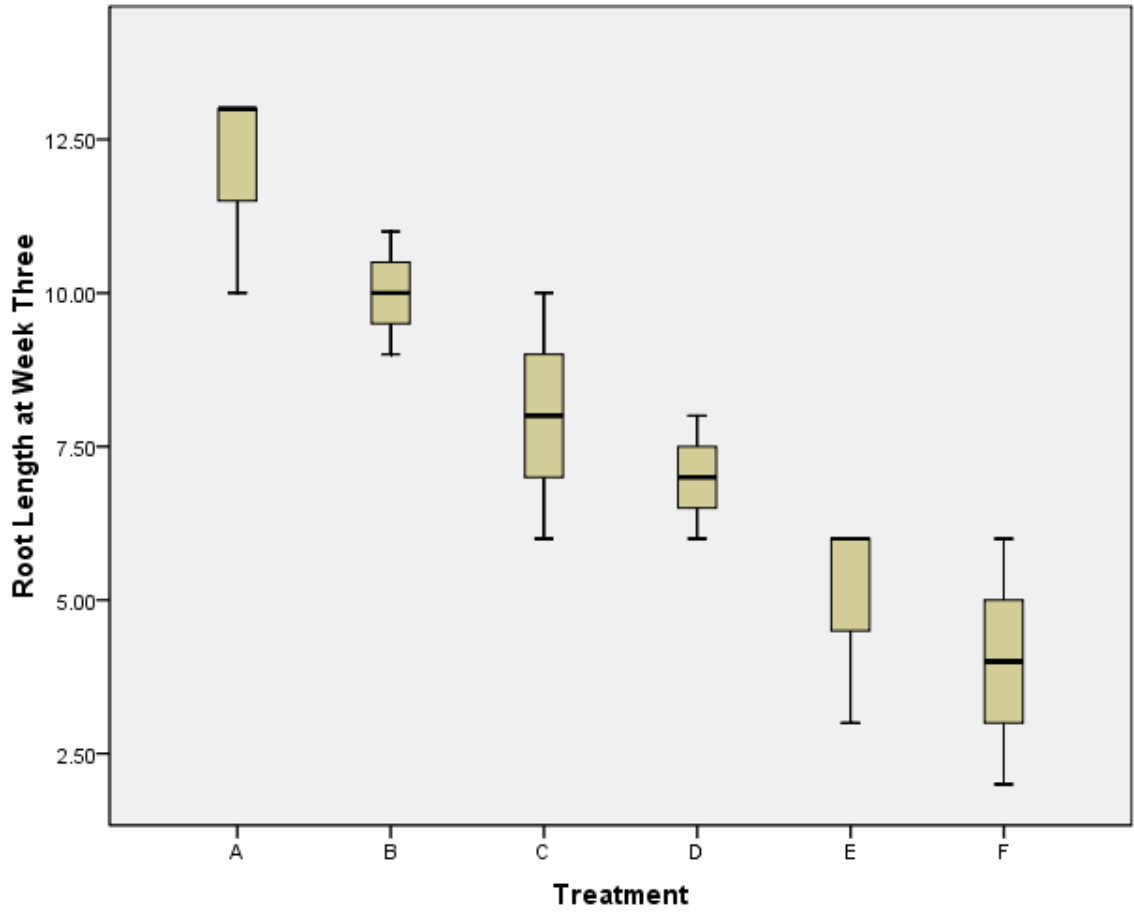
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**Fig 6: Effects of Treatment on Root Length at Week Two**

UNDER REVIEW



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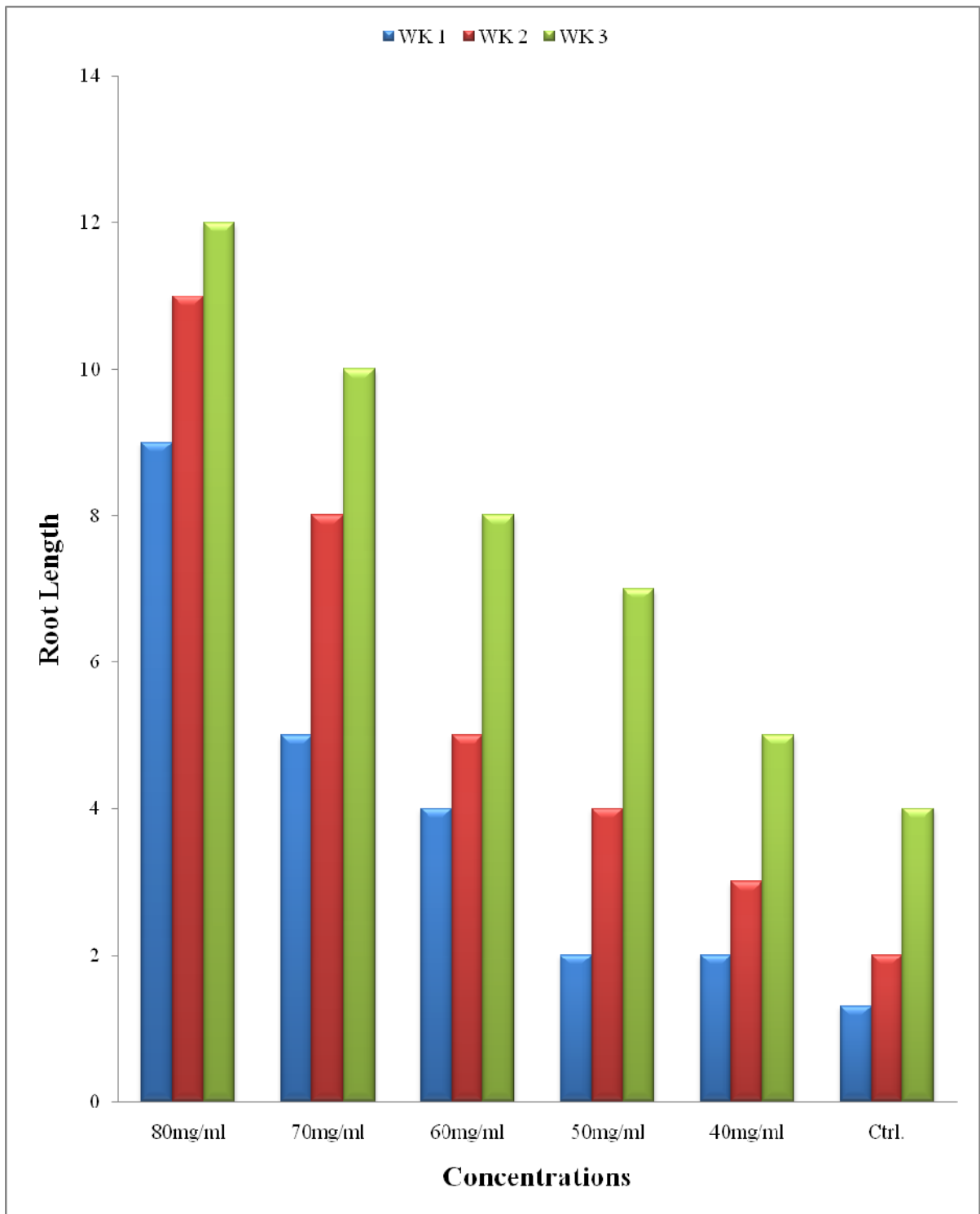
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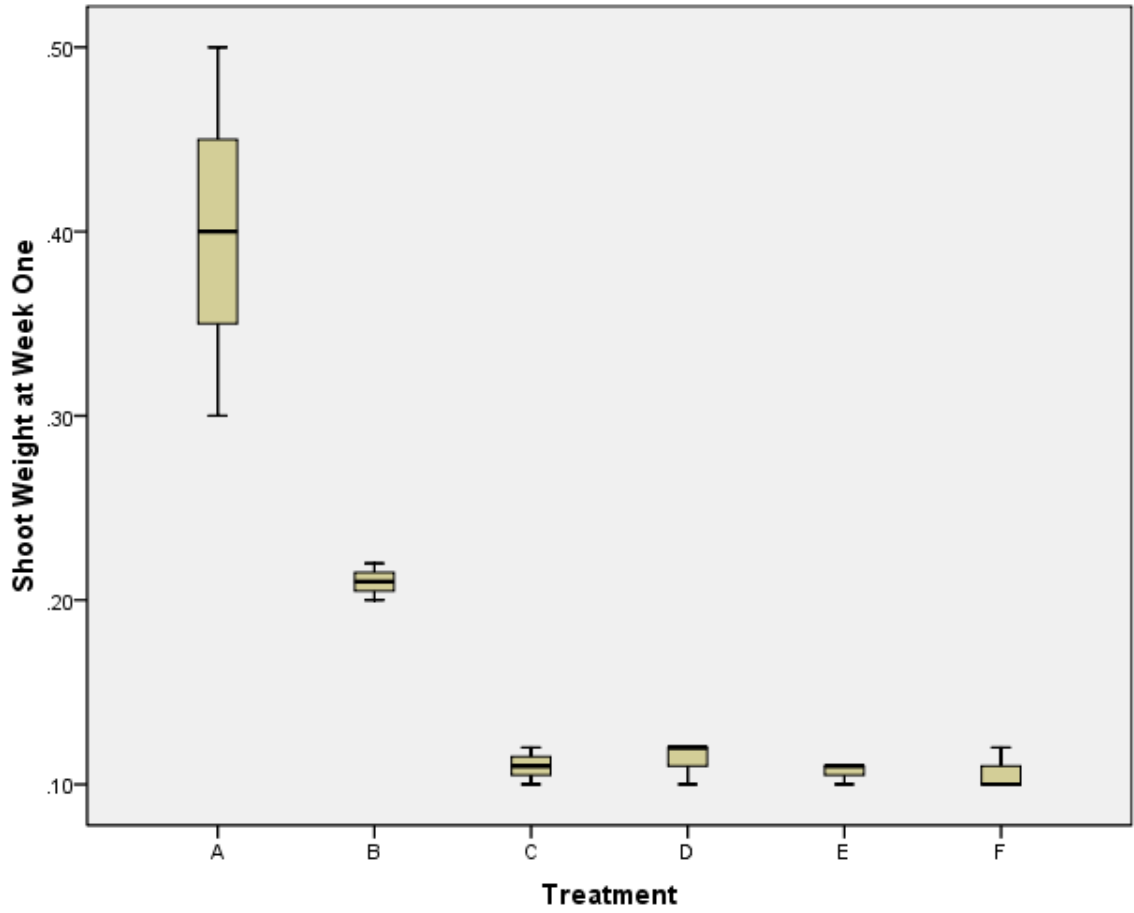
**Fig 7: Effects of Treatment on Root Length at Week Three**

UNDER REVIEW



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**Fig 8: Effect of Treatment on Root Length at Different Week Intervals**



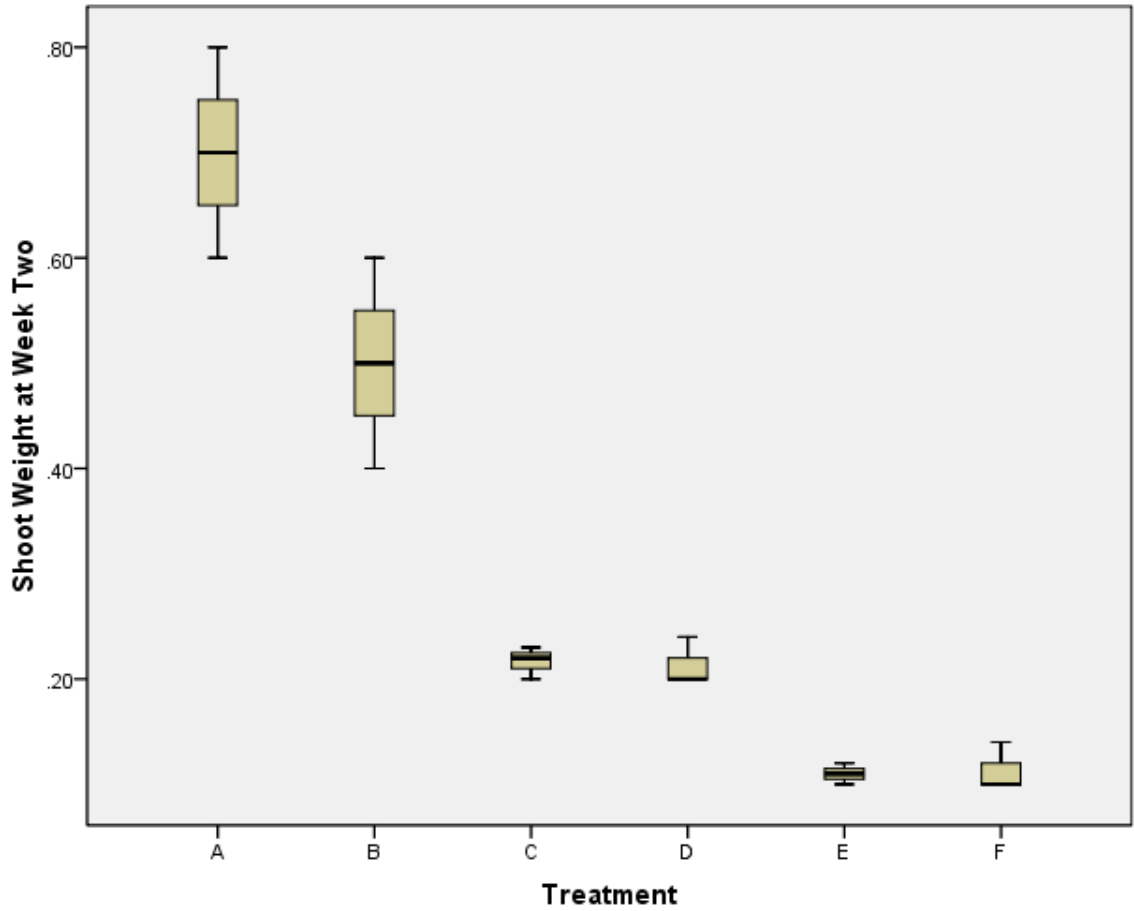
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**Fig 9: Effects of Treatment on Shoot Weight at Week One**

UNDER REVIEW



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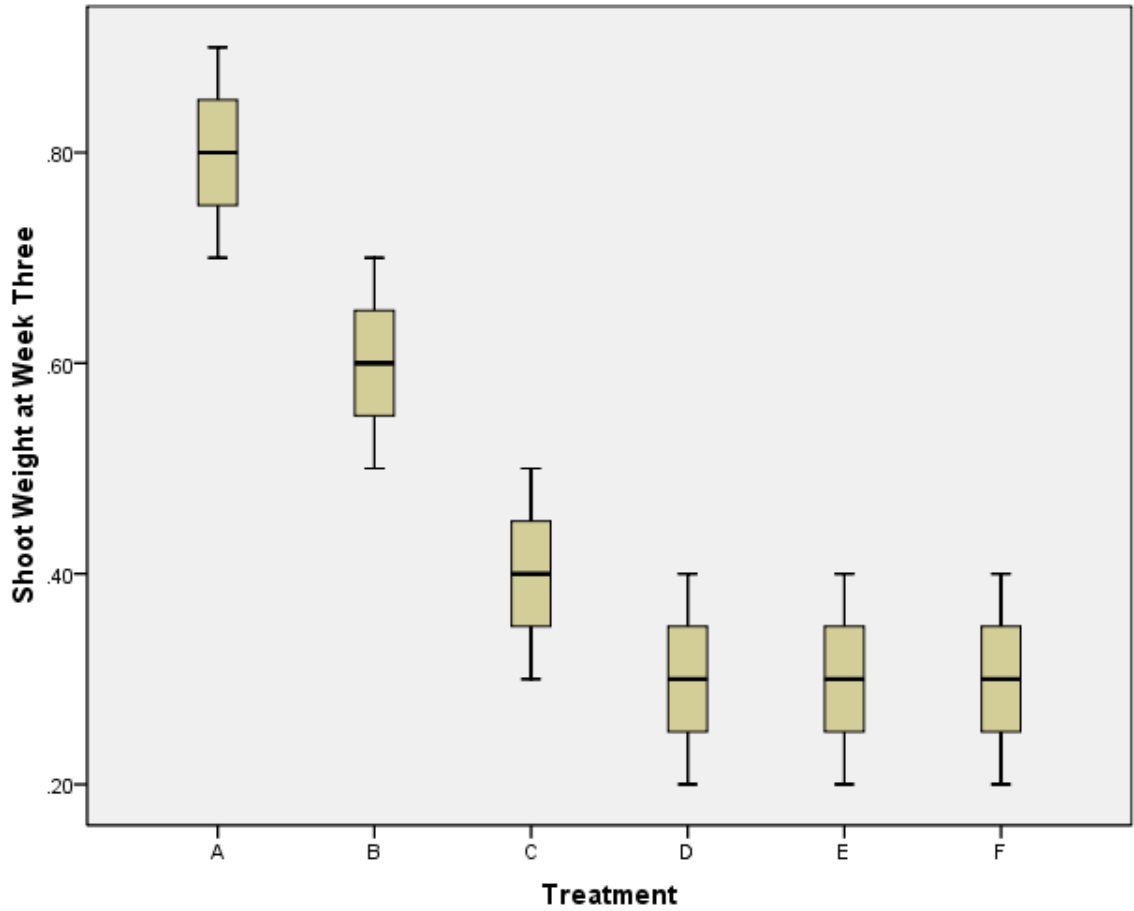
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**Fig 10: Effects of Treatment on Shoot Weight at Week Two**

UNDER REVIEW



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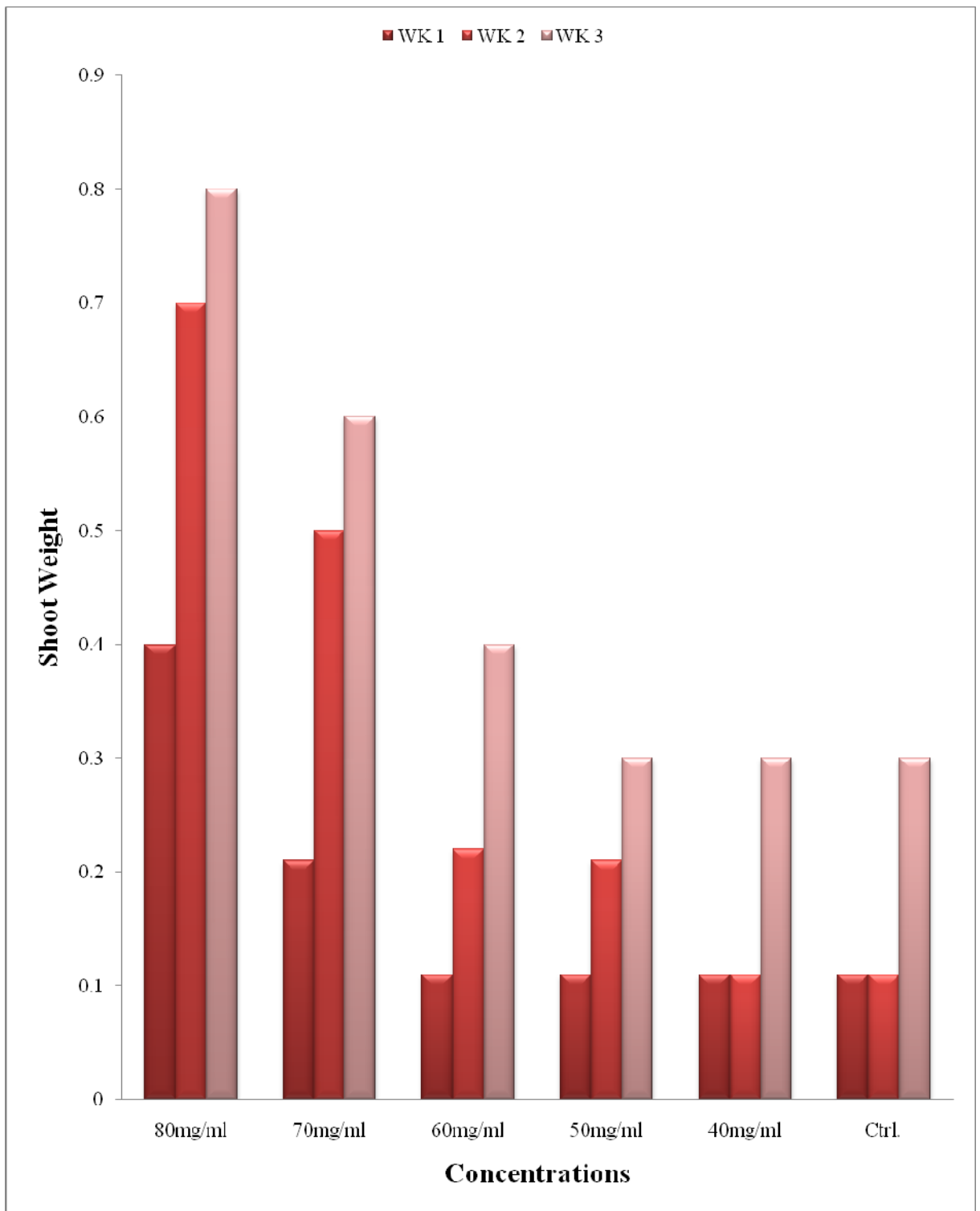
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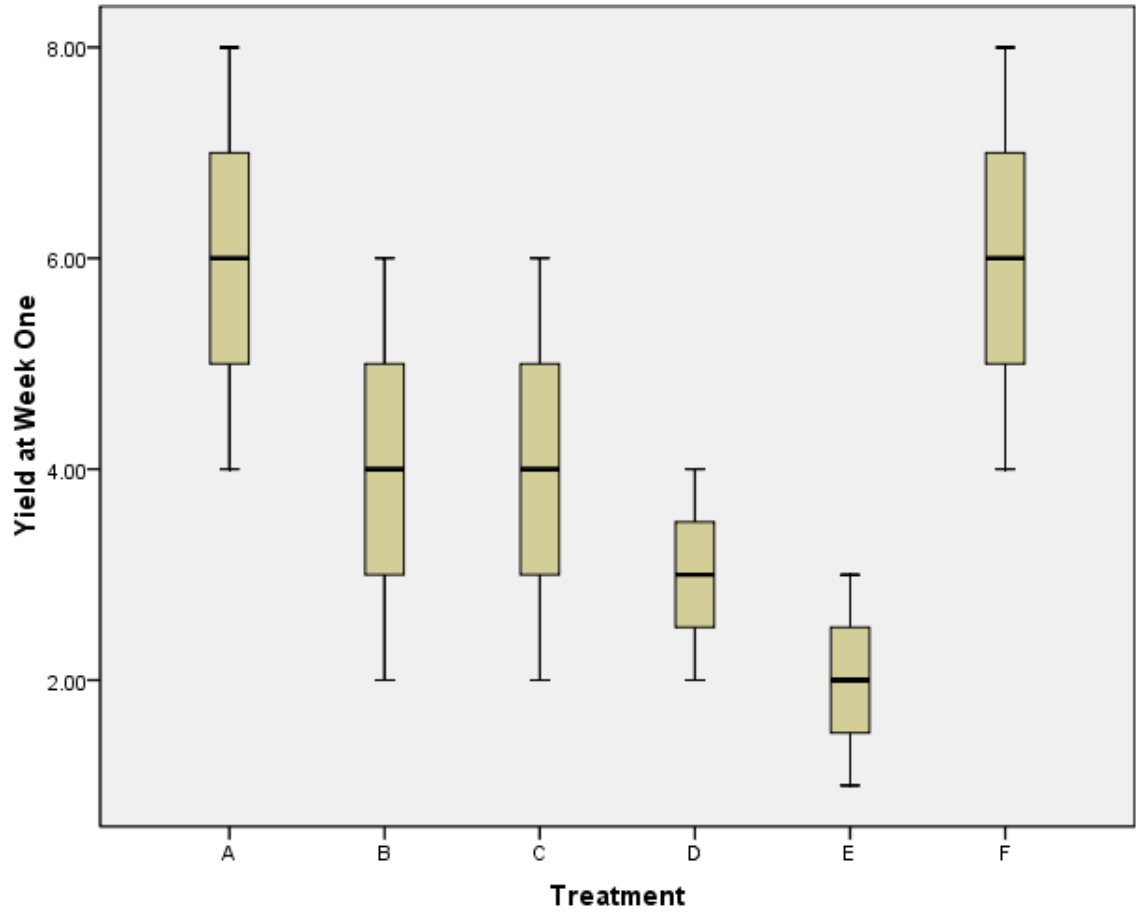
**Fig 11: Effects of Treatment on Shoot Weight at Week Three**





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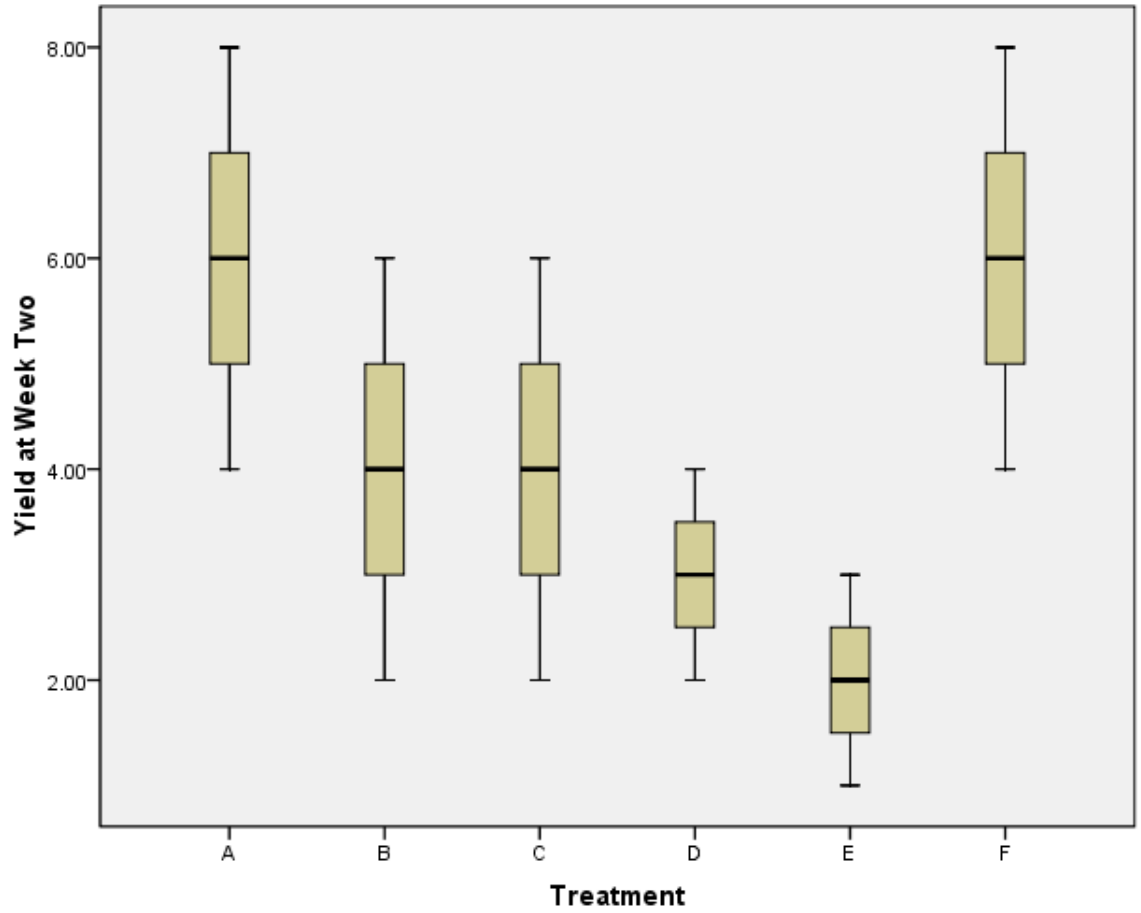
**Fig 12: Effect of Treatment on Shoot Weight at Different Week Intervals**



**Fig 13: Effects of Treatment on Yield at Week One**

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UNDER REVIEW



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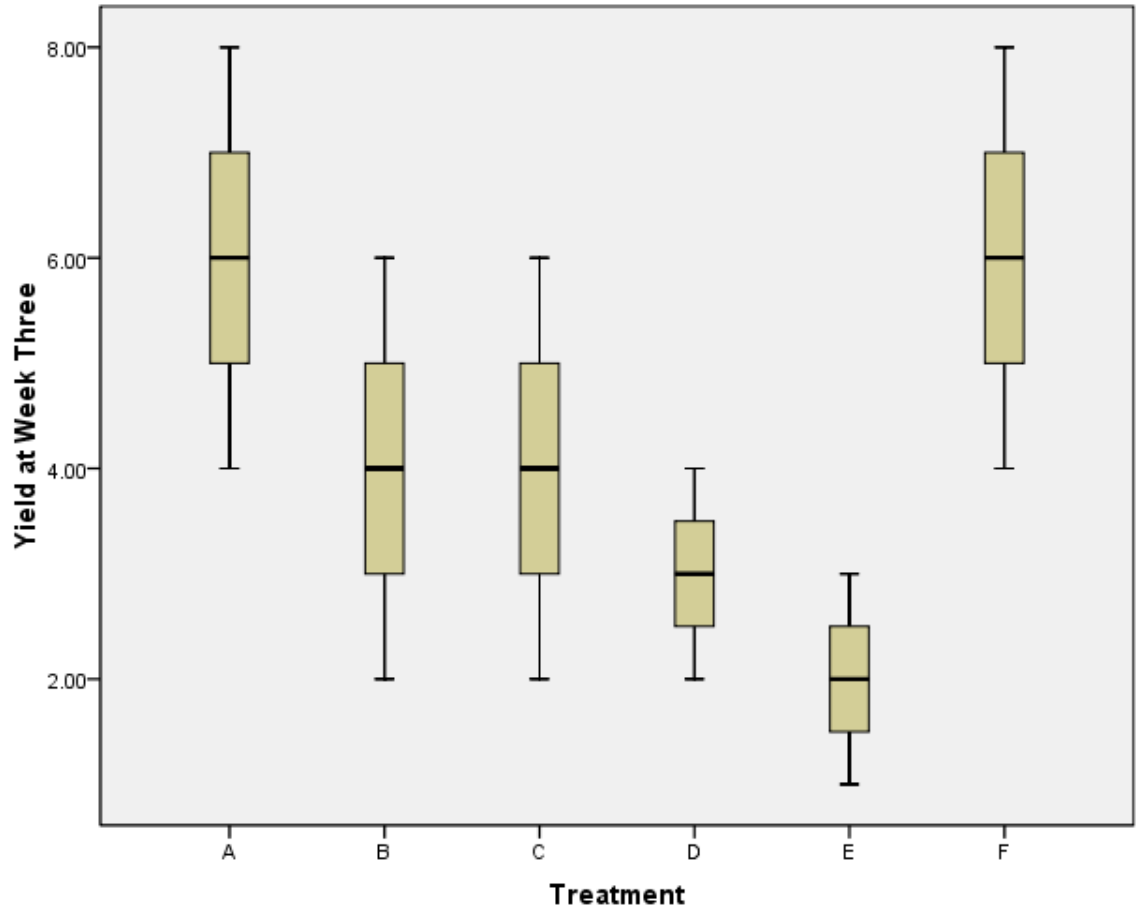
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**Fig 14: Effects of Treatment on Yield at Week Two**



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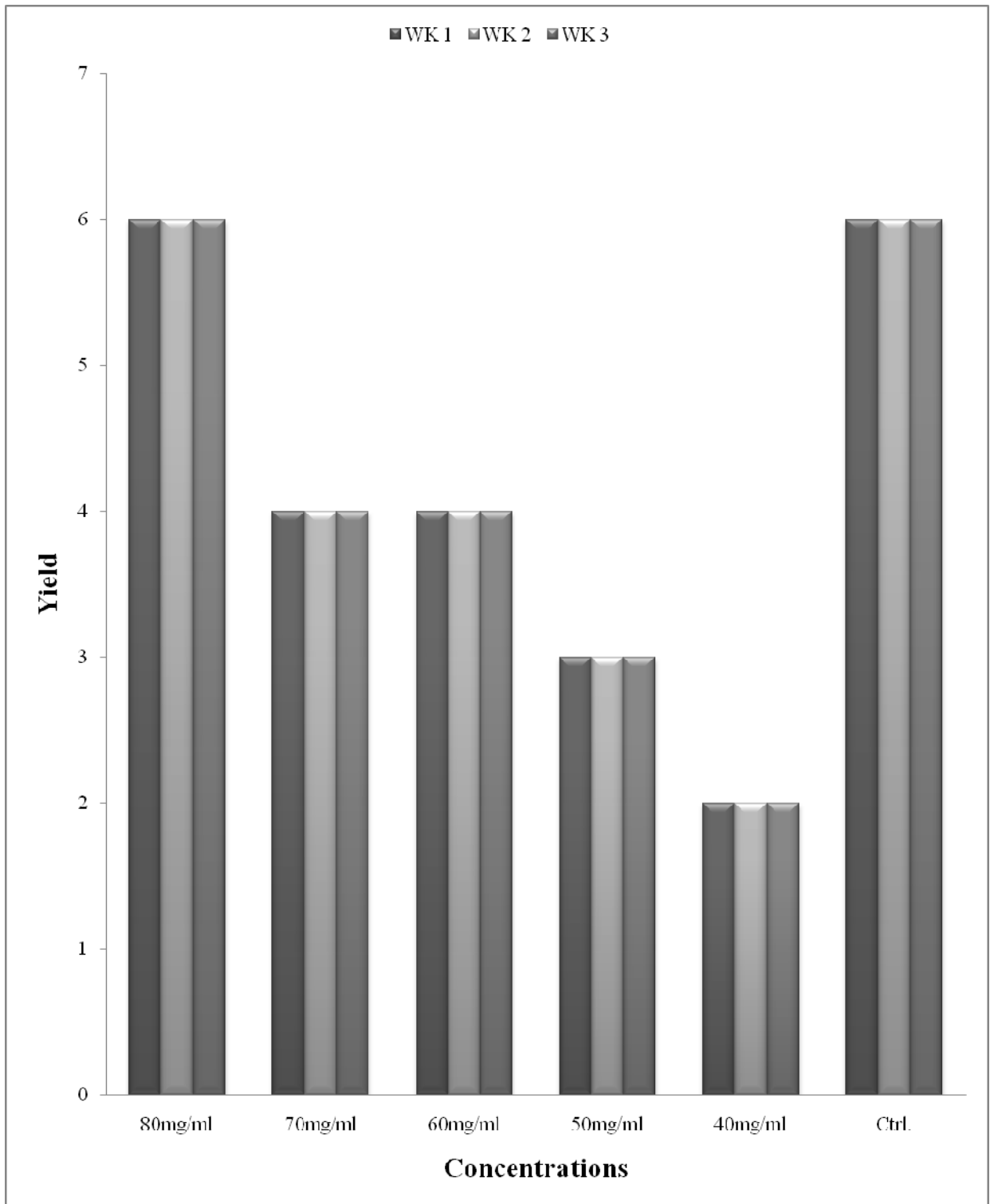
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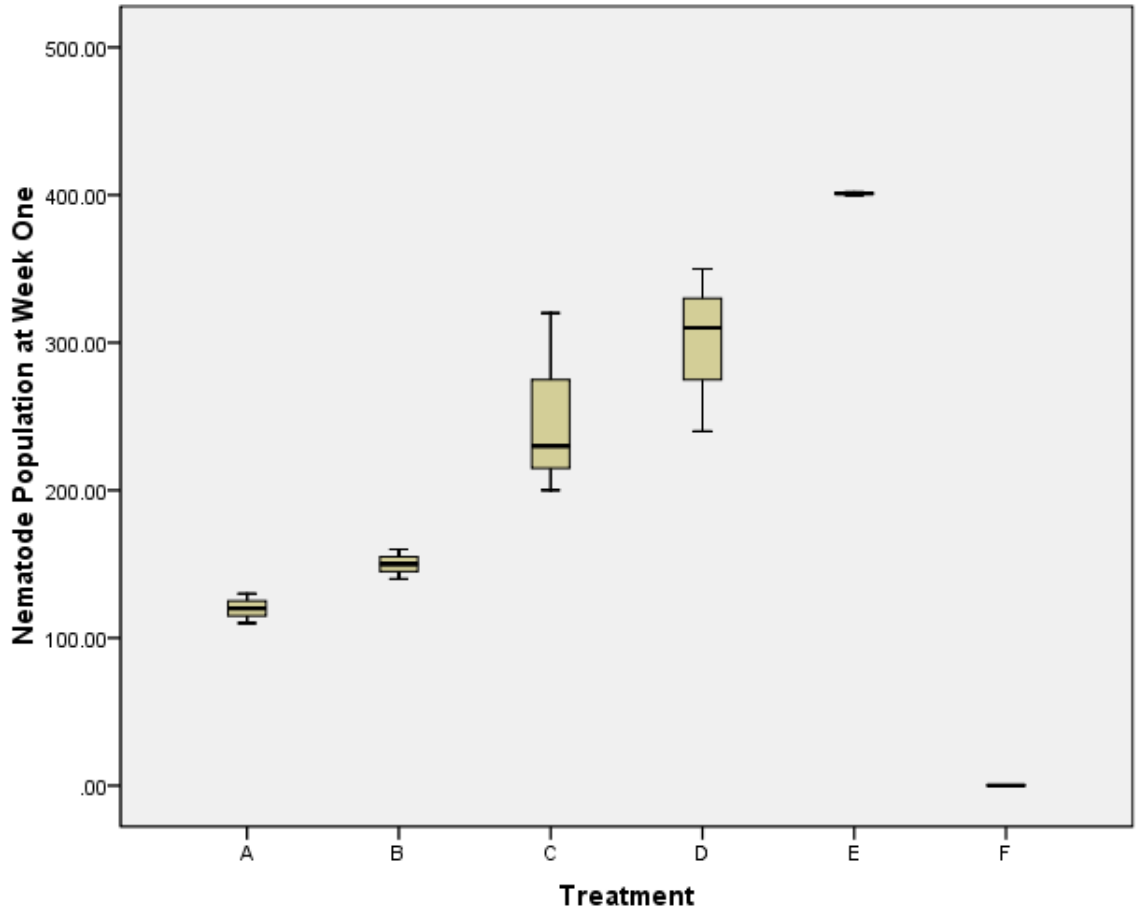
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**Fig 15: Effects of Treatment on Yield at Week Three**



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**Fig 16: Effect of Treatment on Yield at Different Week Intervals**



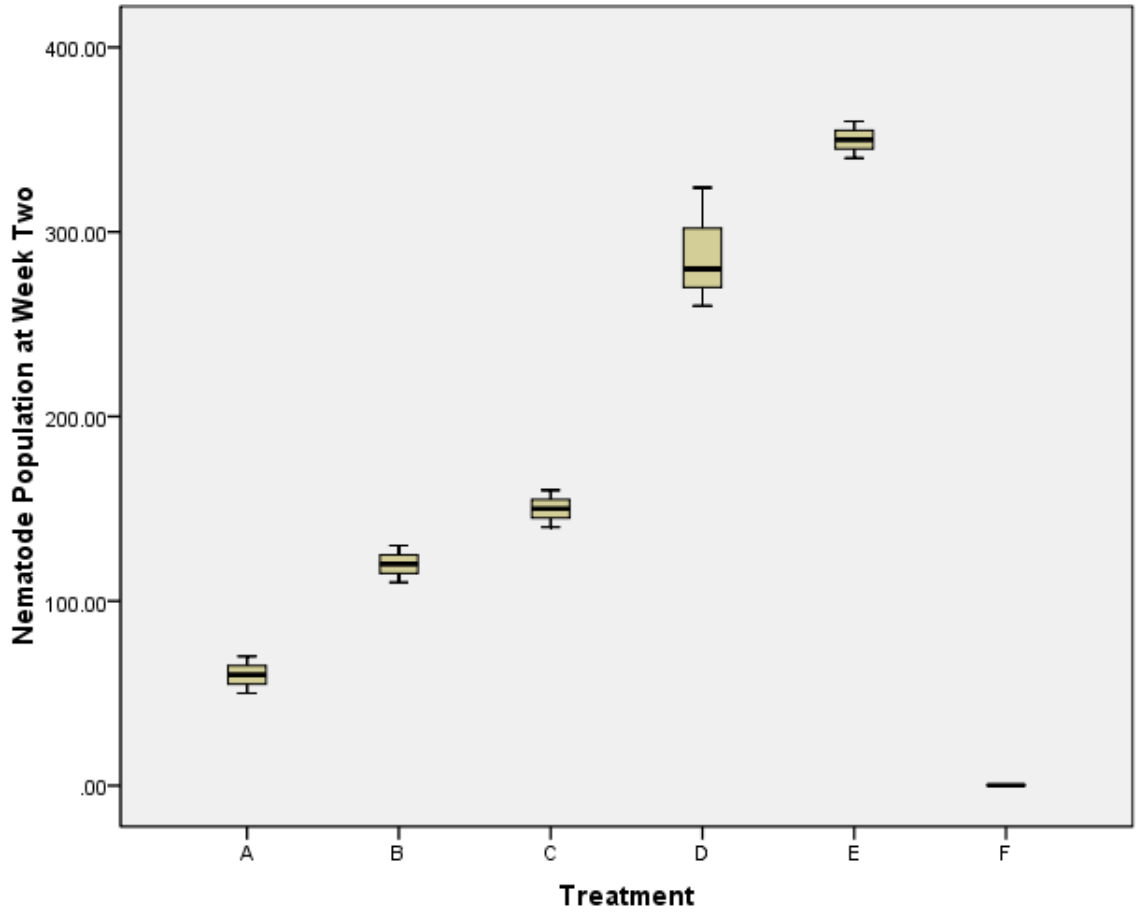
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**Fig 17: Effects of Treatment on Nematode Population at Week One**

UNDER REVIEW

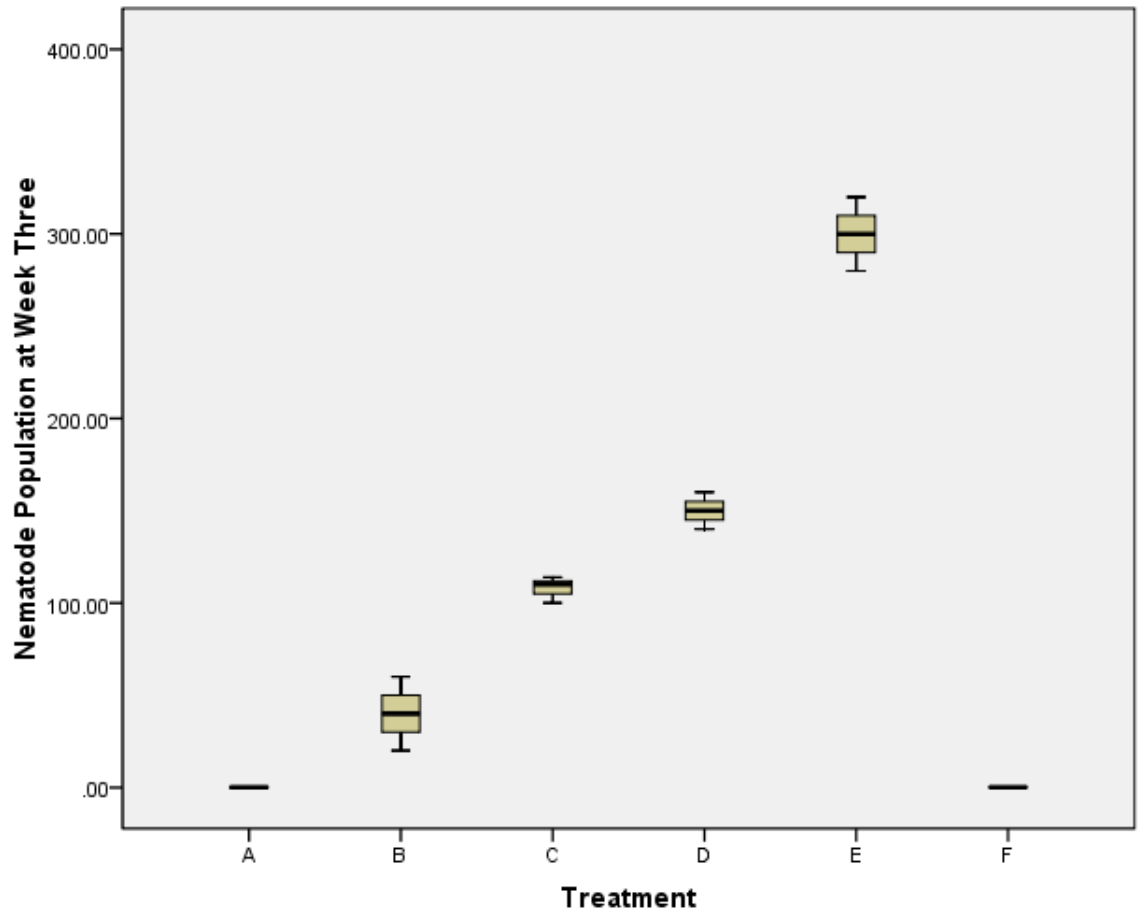


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**Fig 18: Effects of Treatment on Nematode Population at Week Two**

UNDER REVIEW



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**Fig 19: Effects of Treatment on Nematode Population at Week Three**

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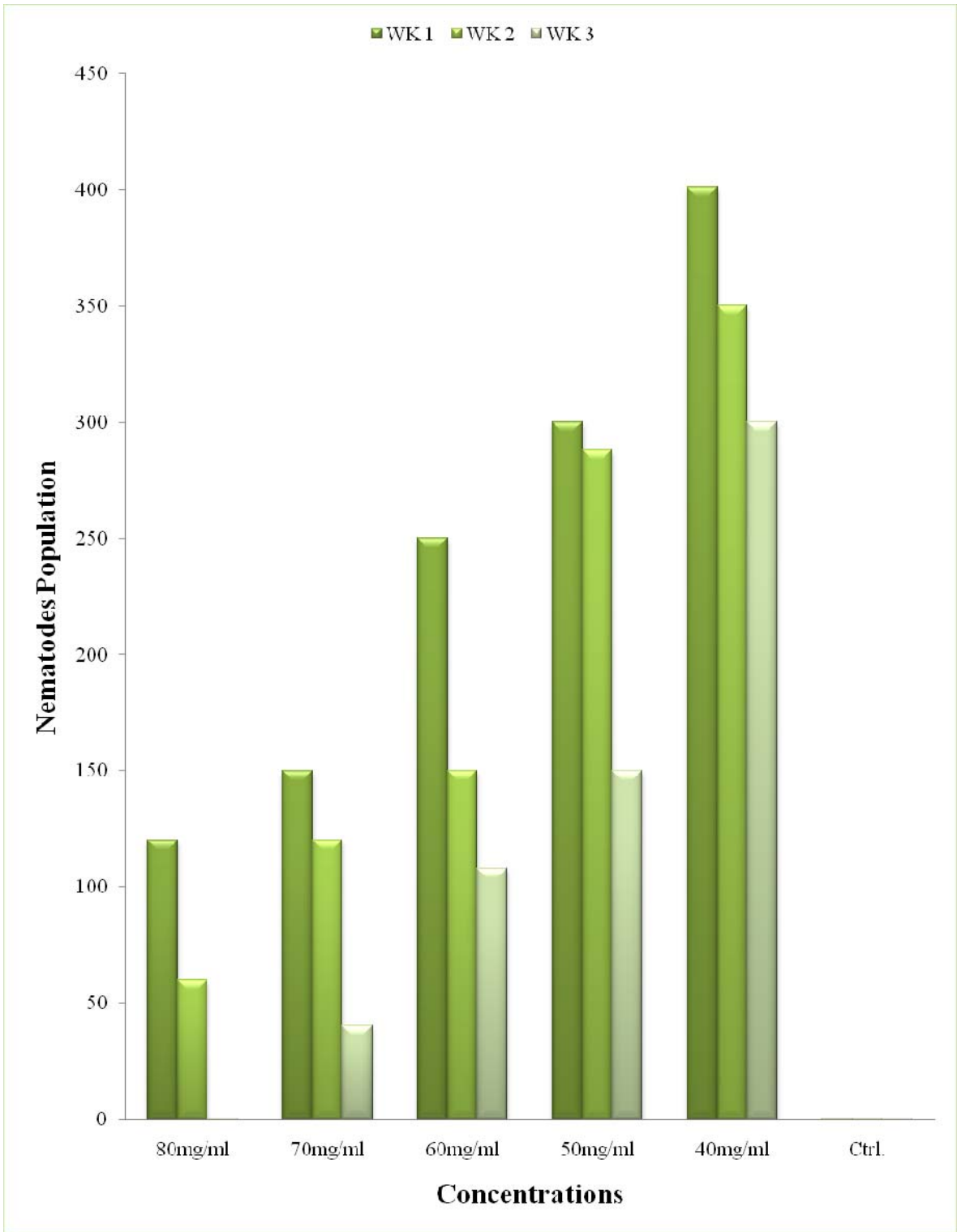
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UNDER REVIEW





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853 **Fig 20: Effect of Treatment on Nematodes Population at Different Week Intervals**

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