

Pengaruh Pemeliharaan Jumlah Buah Dan Sistem Pangkas Batang Dan Cabang Terhadap Produksi Benih Semangka (*Citrullus lanatus* L.) Kode 57271 (*The effect of fruit number maintenance and system of branch and stem pruning on the growth and production of watermelon seed (Citrullus lanatus L.) Code 52271*) Supervisor: Dr. Ir. Nantil Bambang Eko S., M.Si.

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ABSTRACT

Watermelon is one of the annual horticulture plant which has high prospect and priority to be developed. To increase the quality and quantity of watermelon seeds, it needs an effort to improve the cultivation system. This research aims to obtain a right the number of fruits maintenance and the system of branches and stems pruning on the growth and production of watermelon seeds code 52271. The research was conducted in the Rowosari land "D" of PT. Benih Citra Asia Jember from September to December 2021. Factorial Randomized Complete Block Design (RCBD) was used for this research with 3 replications. The first factor is the number of fruits maintenance consist of 3 treatments, J1: 1 fruit per plant, J2: 2 fruits per plant and J3: 3 fruits per plant. The second factor is the system of branches and stems pruning, namely P0: without pruning, P1: branches pruning and P3: branches and stems pruning. The data were analyzed using ANNOVA and continued with DMRT level of 5%. The research showed that the interaction of the number of fruit maintenance and the system of branches and stems pruning have significant effect to most all parameters. Interaction of 1 fruit maintenance and brunches pruning have significant effect on the number of pithy seeds/fruit (44,74 seeds). Meanwhile the interaction of 2 fruits maintenance with branches and stems pruning have a high value of the number of pithy seeds/plant (71,82 seeds). The Interaction of 2 fruits maintenance and branches pruning have significant effect on seeds production per hectare (47,18 Kg/Ha).

Key words: *watermelon, the number of fruits maintenance, prune system of branch and stem*