**Potential and prospects of grow lights in crop production**

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**Abstract**

Plants can be manipulated to meet different needs by changing how they respond to different colors of light. Plants primarily use the blue and red regions of the colour spectrum, along with some ultraviolet, for their photosynthetic reaction. The plants will grow taller and their leaves will be lighter in colour if they aren't getting enough regular sunshine. Growing bulbs that provide the precise illumination needed for plants at different growth stages have been made possible by technology. Artificial light can most certainly be used for photosynthesis. However, the rate at which photosynthesis occurs is dependent on the spectral emissions of the light source you plan on using. Utilizing wavelengths to activate specific organic functions is a new area that can be investigated in the world of agricultural applications. One of the most promising directions for future agriculture is the scientific use of light. A fine-tuned management of all vegetation characteristics is now possible thanks to increasingly accurate numerical data on sunshine. Utilizing wavelengths enables cutting-edge crop protection options. In addition to their intensity, spectrum, and energy, LEDs (light emitting diode) are an innovative artificial lighting source for plants, whether used as supplemental or sole source lighting. This is because they allow for the precise modulation of metabolic reactions to increase plant quality and production. LEDs are increasingly widely used in agriculture, mostly for leafy greens, vegetables, herbs, and potted plants. Recent improvements in LED technology have made it feasible to accurately modify a crop's lighting schedule. As a result, there are now opportunities to use plants' ability to adapt during development to raise agricultural yield and quality.

**Keywords-** grow lights; colour spectrum; light emitting diode; photosynthesis; Controlled-environment agriculture

1. **INTRODUCTION**

The ability of light is crucial for plant existence. A plant, or more specifically, its dry weight, is composed of 45% air-derived carbon used in the photosynthetic process. Only light can participate in this process; numerous other elements have an impact on intensity of photosynthesis. Photosynthesis is the primary process used in the synthesis of organic matter, which is directly dependent on agriculture. Utilizing solar energy, airborne carbon dioxide absorption, and oxygen release, plants create organic matter. There are two faces to the sun in agriculture. On the plus side, it promotes plant growth by enabling photosynthesis and giving plants a healthy atmosphere. Overexposure to sunlight exposes plants to water and heat stress that hinders their growth and may be dangerous increasing water use and their ability to survive.

The most important concept to know when growing plants is the law of limiting factors, which affects plant quality. Light is the main component influencing how plants develop. Plants cannot develop to their full capacity or at their fastest rate if they do not receive enough light, regardless of how much water, growth medium, or fertilizer they receive. By altering how they react to different light colours, plants can be made to serve a variety of purposes. Plants primarily use the blue and red regions of the colour spectrum, along with some ultraviolet, for their photosynthetic reaction. The plants will grow taller and their leaves will be lighter in colour if they aren't getting enough regular sunshine. When that occurs, it's time to take action and seek out more light. Growing bulbs that provide the precise illumination needed for plants at different growth stages have been made possible by technology

One of the primary variables influencing the manufacture of specialised metabolites is light. Light influences the cascade response set off by photoreceptors, which in turn influences the expression of genes and the biosynthetic pathways. Improvements have been made thanks to recent improvements in light emitting diode (LED) technology. A number of crops have shown altered metabolite content when given the option to choose particular spectrum light compositions, intensities, and photoperiods. Plants' capacity to react to light is determined by the presence of numerous photoreceptors, which are proteins that can detect variations in light intensity, quality, direction, and photoperiod and produce signals that control a variety of physiological and metabolic reactions in horticulture agricultural applications of artificial lighting. Plants can respond to a wide range of light, from ultraviolet B (UV-B) to far-red wavelengths, by the identification of five kinds of photoreceptors. The primary receptors for red and far-red light spectrum development are phytochromes, which are also known to aid in seed germination and seedling de-etiolation.

1. **LIGHT AND ITS EFFECTS ON PLANT GROWTH**

To produce food, plants collect minerals and nutrients from the earth, as well as water and carbon dioxide through their stomata and roots, respectively. Without light, which is the primary source of energy, the three cannot exist. The sun serves as the primary energy source for the majority of plants because they are grown outside.

1. ***Essential for direct growth***

The fact that plants always grow toward the light is not a coincidence. The plant hormone auxin is released on the stems when they are exposed to light, encouraging them to grow in that direction. A plant's stems will bend in nearly any direction in quest of light if you deny it direct light. For direct growth, plants require light; otherwise, their stems would deteriorate. Food is stored in various ways by different plants. Some plants store their nourishment in the stems, some in the roots, and yet others on the leaves. Light is essential for the storage process to be successful, especially where the storage is in the stems. Sugarcane and cacti are two examples of plants that store food in their stems.

1. ***Seasonal effects***

Some plants have a seasonal nature. They depend on the seasons to blossom, set seeds, or fertilize. Plants bloom in the majority of four-season countries in the spring and summer that is the time when the plants bloom and produce their fruits. The majority of plants are dormant and only exist to store energy in other seasons when there is insufficient sunlight. Some plants occasionally lose their leaves, look dry, and then come back to life in the spring.

1. ***Light Exposure***

Photosynthesis cannot occur when plants are not exposed to light, which means they cannot create enough food and energy to be healthy or grow at all. Checking whether the plants are classified as low-light, medium-light, or high-light is necessary because the needs of plants in terms of light differ. They simply require a minimum of 4 hours of light exposure for low-light plants. High-light plants require between 12 and 16 hours of light exposure, whereas medium-light plants require at least 8 hours. It is also essential to arrange a schedule for light exposure so that plants can adapt to photosynthesis and its opposite, respiration, without difficulty. Below is a list of various lighting elements that have an impact on plant growth:

1. ***Intensity***

More photosynthesis will occur if the light is stronger. Moreover, plants will grow larger as photosynthesis increases. By shortening or lengthening the distance between the plants and the light source, a grow tent's light intensity can be changed. This is a challenge because certain grow lights create heat that may be detrimental to plants. But not all; some brands have efficient cooling systems that guarantee little to no heat is released [1].

1. ***Duration***

While some plant species can only flower when exposed to brief periods of light, others can only do so when exposed to long durations of light. Photoperiodism is the name for this occurrence. Chrysanthemum and strawberries are among the first group of plants, also referred to as short-day plants. Radishes and spinach are examples of the latter, also referred to as long-day plants. Photoperiodism has little impact on day-neutral plants like tomatoes and cucumbers. Short-day plants can avoid flowering and bolting if they are briefly exposed to light at night. Conversely, the same exposure will encourage flowering in long-day plants.

The rate of growth is higher when plants are exposed to light for longer periods of time. The key factor that contributes to indoor gardening's higher yields is that grow lights can be adjusted to enhance sunlight hours, whereas the sun cannot.

1. ***Light spectrum***

Light is more of an energy type that propagates as electromagnetic waves. An entire light spectrum consists of 12 bands with various types of light. All of these light spectrums are necessary for plant growth, but red, blue, and violet light are particularly important. The longest of all the light spectrums, red light lacks energy. It made its way through thick canopies and even slightly warmed the earth. This is the light that encourages plants to grow and flower. Plants with insufficient red light experience delayed flowering. The vegetative phase of growth requires blue spectrum light. Plants that receive insufficiently or no blue light are prone to turn yellow. This is due to the straightforward fact that blue light aids in the production of chlorophyll when magnesium is present.

Plants’ reactions to various colors of the light spectrum can be used to manipulate plants to satisfy different needs, including the following:

* **Ultraviole**t radiation can be used to shorten the internodes.
* **Blue light** can be used to stimulate vegetative growth and prevent shorter-day plants from flowering during their propagation stages.
* **Red light** can be used to induce flowering and lengthen the internodes to produce plants with longer stems and bigger flowers. Roses are an example.
* **Far-red** radiation can be used to control the photoperiodism of plants

According to [NASA researchers](https://www.nasa.gov/centers/goddard/news/topstory/2007/spectrum_plants.html), this spectrum doesn’t really have much effect on the growth of your plants. A lot actually debate on this, but some researchers actually found that plants exhibit less growth if they are only exposed to this color without the blue and red spectrums. **Each one of these colors has a different effect on plants.**

* **Violet –**violet gives better color, taste, and makes them smell better
* **Blue –** plants grow faster.
* **Green –**to create chlorophyll for the production of food to survive.
* **Yellow –** this color is useful, but not as much as blue and red light
* **Red –** to create more leaves. Combination with blue, it will produce larger crops.

The most important variable affecting plant growth is light exposure, and it is therefore important to measure the amount of light plants receive. **Ensuring enough light for plants** through:

1. **Daily light integral (DLI):** The DLI is a measure of the total daily light input that plants receive, which is measured in millimeters per day. The length and intensity of light exposure are other factors that affect DLI (number of sunlight hours). The DLI modification could shorten the time needed for cuttings and seedlings to take root and improve crop quality while using less energy
2. **Photomorphogenesis: It** determines the development of plants from seed to flowering. This depends on different photo pigments to detect and react to light colours, which include all the colours of the rainbow that we experience as reflected light and range from ultraviolet to near-infrared.
3. **Increasing light increases yield**

According to a general rule of thumb, 1% additional light will result in a corresponding proportion increase in plant growth and 1% more yield.

1. **Winter growing**

Because there are fewer sunlight hours in winter than in summer, growers often heat their greenhouses during winter in their efforts to maintain summer yields.

1. **SYMPTOMS OF LACK OF LIGHT IN PLANTS**
* ***Abnormal growth*:** plant seeks to move to an area with more light when it realizes it is too dark. In order to outgrow shade-givers, the orientation is typically then as high up as possible. The term "abnormal growth" describes this phenomenon.
* ***Loss of buds and leaves*:** plant may experience irregular growth in addition to just losing its buds and/or leaves. The leaves initially turn yellow before just dropping off. Some even understand the basics of photosynthesis.
* **When plants aren't exposed to adequate light for a long time, they start to exhibit symptoms including coloured changes in the leaves and a stem that is "leggy."**
* ***Yellow Spots***: Since the plant is not receiving enough light to create more chlorophyll, this is caused by a lack of it.
* ***Plant’s Growth*:** **Plants aren't growing as tall as they ought to be.**
* **Extended Internodes**: This determines the distance between the leaves, and your plants' leaf gaps will be wider.
* ***Small Leaf size:* The leaves won't develop as they should because they aren't producing energy and food.**
* ***Leaning*:** Since plants struggle to acquire enough light, they have a tendency to search for what they need, which is why you'll observe that the plant will expand and lean in the direction of the light. But because it will appear to be struggling to bend toward the light, it won't appear to be developing healthily.
1. **GROW LIGHT**

An artificial light source that successfully promotes a plant's development is known as a plant grow light. To support the plant's capacity for photosynthesis, the grow light must create an adequate light balance of blue and red wavelengths. Grow lights either aim to offer a spectrum of light that is comparable to that of the sun or one that is more suited to the requirements of the plants being grown. With adjusting colour, temperature, and spectrum outputs from the grow light as well as varying the intensity of the lights, outdoor circumstances are imitated. The type of plant being grown, the stage of growth (such as the germination/vegetative phase or the flowering/fruiting phase), the photoperiod needed by the plants, specific spectrum ranges, and luminous efficacy will all vary for usage with particular plants and times of day, and colour temperature.

**Horticulture, indoor gardening, plant propagation, and food production, including indoor hydroponics and aquatic plants, all make use of grow lights. Grow lights can be utilised in homes even though they are often only used in commercial settings. Grow lights can be used, for instance, to provide more hours of light for plant development during the winter. Fruits and vegetables can also be grown indoors with its assistance. Direct sunshine can be entirely replaced by grow lights in large-scale indoor farming operations. However, grow lights don't necessarily need to precisely replicate sunshine. They can perform better than sunlight in many applications.**

***Types of Grow Lights***

There are three basic types of grow lights available for indoor urban farming: fluorescent grow lights, HPS or HID grow lights, and LED grow lights [2].

* 1. ***Fluorescent Grow Lights.***

**Indoor herb and vegetable growth uses fluorescent grow lights. Fluorescent tubes and compact fluorescent lights are two examples of them (CFLs). There are numerous different intensities of fluorescent tubes. In comparison to incandescent bulbs, the standard bulbs that have been used to light homes for decades, they are more durable and energy efficient. Due to their extreme thinness, fluorescent lights are perfect for confined locations. On the other hand, CFLs are becoming more frequently used in homes rather than solely for indoor urban farming. CFLs last six to eight times longer than conventional incandescent bulbs while using just 20 to 30 percent of the energy. They are unquestionably the least expensive of the three main categories of grow lights. CFL bulbs have the benefit of not producing excessive heat, which enables farmers to keep the lights near the plants. It is also incredibly energy-efficient thanks to this low heat function.**

* 1. ***HPS Grow Lights*:**

The popularity of high-pressure sodium (HPS) lights has increased to the point that they are replacing fluorescent tubes and bulbs. Commercial and seasoned indoor growers use these lights more frequently, and the technology behind them is well-established and has been around for more than 75 years. HPS has a heat production issue since it generates a lot of heat. As a result, you need to keep the lights well away from the plants. It costs a lot of money to set them up and keep them running. HPS is therefore not advised for small growers.

* 1. ***LED Grow Lights*:**

Small, effective lights called Light Emitting Diodes (LED) are used to alter the light spectrum. To emit more than one wavelength at once, they are often utilized in a panel. LEDs are therefore beneficial for all growth phases. LEDs are one-color light sources. However, they are the only lighting sources created to deliver the proper spectrum for your plants' growth. They can emit a lot of light while consuming relatively little electricity, which helps them conserve energy. As a result, you ultimately save money.

**Too much heat could be dangerous since it could burn the leaves. Generally, LED lights don't produce a lot of heat. Even some models have a self-cooling mechanism. Additionally, LED lights are a low-heat artificial light source. Because the LED technology is adaptable, each bulb is unique. You may obtain the various colour wavelengths that plants prefer to use here. In some instances, LED lighting can help plants grow quicker and healthier than they would under sunshine.**

1. **BEST FITS BASED ON FARMING OR FARMER TYPE:**

Artificial illumination should provide plants the energy and knowledge they need to grow. To accomplish the continuous photosynthetic photon fluence required for high productivity, fluorescent lamps, particularly those with enhanced blue and red spectra (i.e., cool fluorescent white lamps), are extensively utilized in growth chambers. Fluorescent light's spectrum and intensity, however, are not long-term constants. Typically employed in greenhouses and plant growth chambers, high intensity discharge (HID) lamps like metal halide and high-pressure sodium have comparatively high fluence (max. 200 lumens per watt) and high photosynthetically active radiations (PARs) efficiency (max. 40%).

LED lighting systems have the highest PAR efficiency (80–100%) of all artificial lighting systems. Due to their narrow-bandwidth light spectrum, LEDs generating blue, green, yellow, orange, red, and far-red light are readily available and can be paired to produce either high fluence (over full sunlight, if needed), or specific light wavelength characteristics. LEDs can be utilized in pulsed lighting and positioned close to the leaves in inter-lighting and intra-canopy irradiation thanks to their high efficiency, low operating temperature, and small size. They are perfect for year-round use greenhouses due to their extended life expectancy and simplicity of control. It's expected that LED technology would revolutionize controlled growing conditions and replace fluorescent and HID lighting in horticultural systems.

* ***Indoor farming****:* The best fit is CFL. CFL is ideal for usage in all the phases of plant development and is widely accessible in a variety of wavelengths. The fact that CFLs produce less heat is also beneficial for small farmers.
* ***Grow foods in large scale***: Given that these are the most energy efficient, LEDs can be a good long-term investment. Utilizing LEDs can result in energy savings of up to 70%. LED grow lights are far superior to natural light for plants in many ways.

**Here are a few types of plants that grow well under lights:**

* **Vegetables:** Lettuce, radishes, peppers, kale, chard, carrots, onions, tomatoes, and bush beans.
* **Herbs**: Chive, catmint, cilantro, basil, parsley, oregano, lavender, and rosemary.
* **Flowers:** Geraniums, petunia, candytuft, roses, alyssum, and daisies.
* **Fruit:** Citrus, strawberries, blueberries, and apples.
* **Houseplants:** African violet, croton, aluminum plant, cast iron plant, asparagus ferns, orchids, and spider plant.
* **Succulents:** Jade, aloe vera, panda plant, zebra plant, flaming Katy, and burros’ tail.

Table 1: Comparison of Regular LED bulb and Specific LED Grow light

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Advantages** | **Disadvantages** |
| **Specifically Designed LED Grow Lights** | * Contains specific light spectrum wavelengths.
* Supports all stages of growth, especially photosynthesis.
* Uses low energy, but produces great power.
 | * More expensive than normal lights.
* Can be damaging to the human eye.
 |
| **Regular Led Light Bulbs** | * Inexpensive, permitting you to buy tons of bulbs.
* Long-lasting, like actual LED grow lights.
* Energy efficient only when used sparingly.
 | * Contains narrow spectral wavelengths.
* Releases high amounts of heat.
 |

1. **IMPORTANCE AND BENEFITS OF LIGHT EMITTING DIODE GROW LIGHTS**
2. **Photosynthesis**

Red is the [key component for photosynthesis](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/322266750_THE_EFFECTS_OF_RED_BLUE_AND_WHITE_LIGHT_ON_THE_GROWTH_AND_DEVELOPMENT_OF_CANNABIS_SATIVA_L) and stem elongation inhibition. It also signals that there are no other plants above it or competition in light absorption, giving your plants an uninhibited development. The [blue wavelength](http://ursalighting.com/effect-blue-light-plants/) works on the budding, flowering, and expansion of leaves. Thus, it drives the stomatal opening and stem elongation inhibition. Additionally, it is responsible for leaf curvature towards the light, leaf expansion, and photoperiodic flowering. Blue and red are 2 main lights colors recommended for cultivating in a grow space.

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* Blue Lights + Red Lights = Encourage plant to reach the vegetative stage**.** Furthermore, red and blue LED chips are good for photosynthesis, which helps your plants thrive. LED lights are also the cheapest to obtain

Plant growth is constrained by the availability of light, according to studies on the use of LED in incubators and plant growth chambers for urban agriculture. LEDs might deliver a certain kind and amount of light above ground. LEDs have the potential to offer a precise quality and amount of light, surpassing current restrictions on typical plant growth. The study's devices were made with 100% red, 100% blue, 70% red with 30% blue, or 100% white LED lighting. To test the impact, they grew *Mentha piperita, Mentha spicata, Mentha longifolia*, lentil, basil, and four ornamentals to compare the productivity of plants under various LED lights to field and greenhouse environments. The findings demonstrate that, compared to field conditions, 70/30% red-blue LED light boosted Mentha essential oil yield up to four times while also increasing plant photosynthesis and fresh weight. Additionally, compared to greenhouse settings, the red-blue LED incubator resulted in bigger flower buds and shorter days to flowering for potted flowers, as well as superior growth of lentil and basil. Thus, their findings show how LED could enhance the economic properties of different plant species by, most likely, increasing plant metabolism and overcoming obstacles to typical plant growth. [3].

In contrast to white or red light, blue light illumination of chloroplasts under cucumber cultivated in low radiation produced more stacked thylakoid membranes and grana lamellae [4]. Light quality can influence light interception and, as a result, indirectly alter photosynthetic capability at the level of the entire plant through effects on leaf area, leaf orientation, and branching.

1. **Better and faster growth**

LED grow light is better for plant growth. All the factors required for plant growth in a synthetic environment, including light wavelength and time. Thus, enables indoor plants to produce more photosynthesis and, as a result, grow more quickly and effectively. It is preferable than sunlight for the growth of plants. [**Full spectrum LED grow lights**](https://urbanorganicyield.com/best-full-spectrum-led-grow-lights-review/) can make the following colored wavelengths for greatest plant growth.

* **Red Wavelengths:** Fruiting and flowering plants need red wavelengths to complete their life cycles.
* **Blue Wavelengths:** Plants must have blue wavelengths to produce ample foliage. A healthy plant has robust leaves to absorb the energy of the light for maximum growth.

When compared to standard greenhouse conditions, the effects of different LED light qualities, such as 100% red, 100% blue, 70% red + 30% blue, and 100% white, on the growth and photosynthesis, phytochemical contents, and mineral element concentrations in lettuce (*Lactuca sativa* L. cv. "Grizzly"), were studied. It was discovered that a photon flux of 300 mol m-2 s-1 provided for 14 hours by 120 LEDs set on a 60 cm 60 cm When growing under 100% blue and 70% red + 30% blue LEDs, fresh mass per plant was higher than when growing in other environments, such as a greenhouse[5].

Red, green, and blue light-emitting LEDs were used in combination with different light irradiances (50, 100, and 200 mol m-2 s-1), quality (red, green, and blue light-emitting LEDs), and photoperiods (10 h/14 h, 12 h/12 h, and 14 h/10 h light/dark cycles) to study the impact of different LED-based light regimes on growth and performance of passion fruit. The greatest results were seen for plant height, stem diameter, number of leaves, internode distance, and fresh/dry shoot/root weights at 100 mol m-2 s-1 of a 30% red/70% blue LED light combination and 12 h/12 h light/dark cycles and the same LED light will be on for 14 h/10 h. Combination increased the activity of antioxidant enzymes and phenol and flavonoid synthesis. Lower light irradiance (50 mol m2 s1), on the other hand, exhibited detrimental effects on the majority of the parameters. They come to the conclusion that lengthy, high light irradiances with a significant blue light component are necessary for the best performance and biomass generation of passion fruit seedlings [6].



Figure1: Lettuce production using grow light

According to Hikosaka et al. [7], tomato plants with one and two leaves exposed to supplemental LED lighting had photosynthetic rates that were 12% and 28% greater than the control (only top lighting)

Figure 2: LEDs lighting in tomato

1. **Faster Harvest Cycles**

Utilizing LED grow lights for indoor farming has a number of benefits, one of which is the acceleration of plant development. The lights can be utilized continuously, enabling the maximum amount of plant development per season. With this lighting, agricultural yields can be increased annually, increasing profitability. Without using chemicals, it is possible to optimise plant morphology thanks to LEDs' control over the light spectrum. In many species, blue light is known to prevent stem elongation; for example, stem elongation of Chrysanthemum and *Stevia rebaudiana* diminishes as the fraction of blue light increases [8, 9].

LEDs irradiation at 75 μmol m-2 s-1 of blue light and a B/R ratio of <1.0 would suppress spindly growth and promote flowering during tomato seedling growth [10].

1. **Higher yield**

Multiple light spectra can be provided for horticulture production using LED systems. The accumulation of biomass was helped by mixed red/blue light in the cultivation of leafy vegetables as lettuce, radish, and spinach [11]. The most typical crop grown in a vertical farming facility is lettuce. LED grow lights are utilized for multilayer applications to create enormous, bright green heads of lettuce or smaller, deep red heads of lettuce.

Samuoliene et al. [12] reported that additional blue light resulted in larger fruits with higher sugar content in strawberries, blue light was found to increase the oil content in basil leaves compared to white light treatments [13], and red light alone inhibited flowering [14]. Light intensity influences secondary metabolite biosynthesis, with increasing light intensity resulting in increased polyphenol production in herbs [15].

Strawberry plants grown in the plastic green house with supplementary LED lights produced far more strawberries than those grown in the growth chamber with LED lights as the sole light source. When the effects of different LED lights were investigated, it was discovered that when ambient light was supplemented with either blue LED light or a combination of blue and red LED light, a significantly higher production of fruits was achieved in the plastic green house. Furthermore, when ambient light was supplemented with either red LED light or a combination of blue and red LED lights, there was a greater accumulation of organic acids and phytochemicals such as phenolic compounds in the fruits grown in the plastic green house [16].

1. **Better taste and nutrition**

The light treatments also had a significant impact on the phytochemical concentrations and nutritional value of lettuce. Plants grown under 70% red + 30% blue LEDs had higher chlorophyll and carotenoid concentrations than those grown in the greenhouse [5]. Plants grown under 100% blue LEDs had 2.25 times the vitamin C content of those grown in the greenhouse. Plants treated with LED lights also had higher photosynthesis and maximum quantum yield of PSII photochemistry. The use of LED light resulted in higher concentrations of macro- and micronutrients in lettuce, which could be attributed to the direct effect of LED light and lower stress conditions in the growth chambers compared to the green house.

The post-harvest maturation of tomatoes under various light treatments was investigated. Raw tomatoes turned red under all light conditions, but the redness (lycopene content) was highest under LEDs, which also had a far red spectrum. The highest red to far red ratio (R:Fr) in the spectrum (Valoya's AP673L spectrum) produced the best coloration. The firmness of the tomatoes was increased under the previously mentioned spectrum, as measured with a fruit pressure tester. This same light spectrum was previously shown to boost antioxidants in basil. This increase in antioxidant content in consumed produce not only provides numerous health benefits to the consumer, but it also protects the plant from fungal pathogens such as downy mildew. The specific smell enhancement of increased rosmarinic acid content, anti-inflammatory health benefits to the consumer, and pathogen resistance are all quality enhancements caused by proper spectral selection. The higher dry matter content of the leafy greens extends the shelf life. Because drying takes longer when the plant has a higher fibre content and less water, the produce looks fresher for longer periods of time. The total phenolic amount is related to the flavour and smell of the vegetable, and it is also increased by the finely balanced light spectrum.

1. **Durability and Performance**

With a lifespan of 102,000 hours, LEDs lights are made to last forever. These contemporary lights endure significantly longer than conventional lights, which generate more heat, in large part due to their low working temperature. The system lasts longer because of the reduced wear and tear caused by the lower temperature. Since LEDs lighting is based on solid-state technology, it has a longer lifespan because there are no moving parts. All the light required for growing healthy plants is provided by LED lighting. Using LED lighting instead of conventional lighting systems, which emit damaging light wavelengths, would result in far healthier plants. With the ability to alter the light's wavelength provided by LED lights, growers can facilitate a better photosynthesis process. Since they don't emit heat, these lights also do away with the requirement for installing indoor cooling systems

1. **Energy Efficiency and Environmental Safety**

Cost and energy are significant considerations for any company aiming for sustainability. Compared to conventional lights, LEDs are about 60% more energy efficient. Not only do they produce less heat, but they also deliver more useful light at a lesser price since burning is not required to produce light with LED lighting, there is a significant reduction in energy consumption and heat output. A software-based energy usage tracking system can help you improve energy efficiency even more. Since LED lights are recyclable and do not contain any harmful materials, they are also more environmentally friendly than traditional lights.

1. **FUTURE ADVANCES**

Photosynthesis is essential for food production. Providing enough food in sufficient quantity and quality for nine billion people by 2050 is especially difficult given global climate change constraints. Controlled-environment agriculture (CEA) technologies, such as greenhouses, hydroponics, aquacultures, and aeroponic systems, as well as vertical farming options, provide alternative and complementary sources of crop production, particularly in areas with limited daylight (in northern latitudes) or adverse environmental conditions (droughts, floods, storms, and saline soils), or in areas with limited space, such as cities and space stations.

The benefits of CEA technologies, such as increased crop yield annually (due to shorter culture period under ideal environmental conditions and year-round cultivation), greater growth area per m2 (large plant density, multi-tier cultivation shelves), efficient nutrient and water use, decreased crop losses, and absence of pesticide application, make them effective for crop production. Additionally, these technologies might result in the production of typical, high-quality horticultural goods. Closed and interior plant cultivation, in contrast to outside agriculture, rely on cutting-edge light sources like LEDs that can stimulate plant growth while significantly lowering energy use.

 

Figure 3: Controlled-environment agriculture (CEA) technologies

The use of LEDs also holds great promise for processes that produce oxygen and clean water, for the production of food, drugs, fuels, or colours in algal culture, and for the micropropagation of plants such as strawberry or blooming plants in plant tissue cultures. The efficient use of LED lighting technologies in plant cultivation in enclosed environments may be influenced by research on the effects of LEDs on primary and secondary metabolism of plants, as well as advancements in the dynamic modification of light quantity and quality in different stages of growth.

The lighting industry needs to offer energy-efficient, ecologically sustainable lamps adapted to the changing requirements of consumers. LEDs equipped with driver chips could provide the additional benefits of operational flexibility, efficiency, reliability, controllability and intelligence for greenhouse lighting systems.

Horticultural output in controlled environments and the horticulture industry are both predicted to expand in the near future. Future developments in technology will make it possible to grow crops both on Earth and in space while consuming light energy in a financially advantageous manner. This could contribute to the preservation of outdoor (mainly forest) ecosystems and the feeding of the planet's growing population of people.

**CONCLUSION**

Artificial light gives them the energy they need to grow. From germination to flowering, it ensures proper photosynthesis. LED Grow lights, HPS and CFL lamps are the most popular artificial light sources. A standard full-spectrum light is a good all-around choice for most plants. Red and blue are the most important colours. Plant grow lights can help you extend the growing season in the winter. Plants typically grow better under these lights because the lighting, humidity, temperature, water, and fertiliser create the ideal environment for robust growth.

LED technology advancements have made it possible to create the ideal environment for growing vegetables on a large scale, with shorter growing cycles and higher yields. In fact, LED is quickly becoming the de facto lighting source for creating the most advantageous controlled environment for indoor farming. LED technology advancements have made indoor vegetable cultivation very energy-efficient. However, as LED prices continue to fall, farmers should be able to convert to LED, which offers significant energy cost savings. LED lighting is a solid and dependable option for long-lasting and low-maintenance lighting. Grow lights for agricultural operations must be as powerful as possible while remaining cost effective.

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