

FAQs on use of hormones/biofertilizers in mushroom cultivation

Sl. No.	Question	Answer
1.	Does hormones have any role in mushroom production?	Yes, mushrooms respond to hormonal spray treatments. The spray of 0.1% solution of Veradix-2 a commercial formulation of Indole butyric acid at the time of pinhead initiation stage stimulates early pinning, first harvest and mushroom yield of button mushroom
2.	What are precaution of spraying the hormonal spray on mushroom beds	Following under mentioned precautions are essential for using hormonal spray on mushroom beds • Only desired commercial product (Veradix – 2) should be used because over or under spray of hormonal formulation will not give the described results. • The spraying should be done only at the pinning initiation stage nor it will hinder the fructification phenomenon by promoting the vegetative growth of mushroom mycelium. • The desired quantity of product at desired rate should be sprayed.
3.	Does there any role of biofertilizers in mushroom cultivation?	Yes, biofertilizers have role in mushroom cultivation. The mixing of phosphotica biofertilizer (phosphate solubilizing bacteria) @ 0.5% in compost at the time of spawning leads to an enhancement in mushroom yield as well as lesser growth of competitor moulds on compost during spawn run phase.
4.	What are the precautions of using biofertilizers in mushroom cultivation?	Following precaution are needed while using the biofertilizers in mushroom cultivation: • The biofertilizer should not be of expiry date • After purchasing, it should be stored at a cool place preferable in dark • Only required quantity of biofertilizer should be mixed • The purchasing of biofertilizer should be from authentic source
5.	Does there are other groups of microorganisms that has role in mushroom yield stimulation?	Yes, there are several other groups of microorganisms, which have role in button mushroom yield stimulation and important among these is the <i>Alcaligenes faecalis</i> , a natural inhabitant of FYM, which on mixing with the pasteurized casing material @ 0.1% v/w at the time of casing enhances the overall yield of button mushroom.
6.	Can a sterilized casing can yield mushrooms in button mushroom?	Yes, but after a very long time and in very small quantity