

**Table 1.** Light intensity, organic C and total N of soil under different competition treatments in 4 m and 8 m alley-size in central India.

Distance from neighbour (m)	Light intensity (foot-candle)				Organic C (g 100 g <sup>-1</sup> )				Total N (g 100 g <sup>-1</sup> )				C/N ratio		
	Crop + Hedge neighbour	Crop + Shrub neighbour	Sole crop	Crop + Hedge neighbour	Crop + Shrub neighbour	Sole crop	Crop + Hedge neighbour	Crop + Shrub neighbour	Sole crop	Crop + Hedge neighbour	Crop + Shrub neighbour	Sole crop	Crop + Hedge neighbour	Crop + Shrub neighbour	Sole crop
<b>4 m Alley</b>															
0.5	a2113a	b349b	a2136a	a0.81a	a0.83a	b0.68a	a0.080a	b0.088a	c0.053a	a10.16a	a9.56a	b12.95a			
1	a2114a	b390b	a2147a	a0.80a	a0.81a	b0.67a	a0.071a	b0.075b	c0.053a	a11.32b	a10.80b	b12.66a			
2	a2121a	b403b	a2162a	a0.75b	a0.75b	b0.67a	a0.063c	b0.068c	c0.052a	a11.93b	a11.03b	b13.08a			
<b>8 m Alley</b>															
0.5	a2153a	b397b	a2148a	a0.82a	b0.83a	b0.67a	a0.082a	b0.086a	c0.053a	a10.05a	a9.71a	b12.67a			
1	a2155a	b435b	a2150a	a0.80a	a0.78ab	b0.68a	a0.074b	b0.078b	c0.055a	a10.79a	a10.00a	b12.60a			
2	a2162a	b1705b	a2165a	a0.77a	b0.73bc	c0.68a	a0.062c	a0.065c	c0.052a	a12.46b	b11.25b	c13.23a			
3	a2154a	a2171c	a2175a	a0.65b	b0.70c	c0.67a	a0.054d	a0.056c	b0.053a	a12.39b	a12.50c	a12.73a			
4	a2160a	a2193c	a2180a	a0.64b	a0.65c	a0.67a	a0.052d	a0.053d	a0.053a	a12.37b	a12.26c	a12.65a			

Values in a column for a parameter suffixed with different superscripts are significantly different at P<0.05. Values in a row for a parameter prefixed with different superscripts are significantly different at P<0.05.

**Table 3.** Grain yield, density, above-ground biomass and harvest index of *Linum usitatissimum* under different competition treatments in 4 m and 8 m alley-size in central India.

Distance from neighbour (m)	Grain yield (g m <sup>-2</sup> )			Density (tiller m <sup>-2</sup> )			Above-ground biomass (g m <sup>-2</sup> )			Harvest index		
	Crop + Hedge neighbour	Crop + Shrub neighbour	Sole crop	Crop + Hedge neighbour	Crop + Shrub neighbour	Sole crop	Crop + Hedge neighbour	Crop + Shrub neighbour	Sole crop	Crop + Hedge neighbour	Crop + Shrub neighbour	Sole crop
<b>4 m Alley</b>												
0.5	a17.35a	b0.83a	c42.0a	a172a	b48a	c400a	a77a	b15a	c148a	a0.19a	b0.05a	a0.22a
1	a32.53b	b1.53b	c40.5a	a270b	b74b	c398a	a105b	b35b	c163a	a0.23b	b0.05a	a0.20a
2	a41.46a	b2.73c	a39.5a	a321c	a101c	c402a	a112b	b47c	c156a	a0.27c	a0.06a	a0.20a
<b>8 m Alley</b>												
0.5	a24.5a	b1.7a	c47.2a	a258a	b74a	c456a	a105a	b28a	c145a	a0.19a	b0.06a	c0.24a
1	a35.6b	b3.3b	c48.8a	a330b	b130b	c455a	a127b	b44b	c145a	a0.22b	b0.07a	c0.25a
2	a44.5c	b5.8c	a48.7a	a424c	b198c	a456a	a137c	b54c	a143a	a0.24c	b0.09c	a0.25a
3	a47.8d	b7.3d	a49.0a	a462c	b284d	a458a	a144d	b66d	a145a	a0.25d	b0.09c	a0.25a
4	a49.6d	b8.7c	a49.3a	a455c	b295d	a458a	a147d	b70c	a148a	a0.25d	b0.11d	a0.25a

Values in a column for a parameter suffixed with different superscripts are significantly different at P<0.05. Values in a row for a parameter prefixed with different superscripts are significantly different at P<0.05.

**Table 4.** Growth rate, above-ground biomass/bellow-ground biomass (AB/BB) ratio of *Linum usitatissimum*, neighbour root/crop root ratio and intensity of competition under different competition treatments in 4 m and 8 m alley-size in central India.

Distance from neighbour (m)	Growth rate (g m <sup>-2</sup> day <sup>-1</sup> )				AB/BB ratio				Neighbour root/crop root ratio				Intensity of competition			
	Crop + Hedge neighbour	Crop + Shrub neighbour	Sole crop	Crop + Hedge neighbour	Crop + Shrub neighbour	Sole crop	Crop + Hedge neighbour	Crop + Shrub neighbour	Sole crop	Crop + Hedge neighbour	Crop + Shrub neighbour	Sole crop	Crop + Hedge neighbour	Crop + Shrub neighbour	Sole crop	
<b>4 m Alley</b>																
0.5	a2.07a	b0.42a	c4.00a	a3.85a	b2.22a	c5.60a	a2.21a	b5.12a	c0a	a0.48a	b0.90a	c0a	a0.48a	b0.90a	c0a	
1	a2.84bc	b0.94ab	c4.40a	a4.48b	b3.25b	c6.53a	a0.23b	a0.50b	c0a	a0.35b	b0.70b	c0a	a0.35b	b0.70b	c0a	
2	a3.03c	b1.26bc	c4.22a	a4.72b	a3.88c	c5.97a	a0.05b	a0.11b	c0a	a0.28b	b0.70b	c0a	a0.28b	b0.70b	c0a	
<b>8 m Alley</b>																
0.5	a2.84a	b0.75a	c3.92a	a4.12a	b2.17a	c4.96a	a1.27a	b3.09a	c0a	a0.25a	b0.81a	c0a	a0.25a	b0.81a	c0a	
1	a3.44b	b1.20b	c3.90a	a4.59bc	b3.37b	a4.92a	a0.24b	a0.48b	c0a	a0.12b	b0.69b	c0a	a0.12b	b0.69b	c0a	
2	a3.70c	b1.47c	a3.87a	a4.69c	b3.81c	a4.93a	a0.05c	a0.10c	c0a	a0.06c	b0.62c	c0a	a0.06c	b0.62c	c0a	
3	a3.89d	b1.79d	a3.95a	a4.65c	b3.94c	a4.60a	a0.02c	a0.01c	c0a	a0.03d	b0.55d	c0a	a0.03d	b0.55d	c0a	
4	a3.96d	b1.89 <sup>e</sup>	a4.00a	a4.30ac	b4.03c	a4.58a	a0.005c	a0.004c	c0a	a0.04d	b0.52 <sup>e</sup>	c0a	a0.04d	b0.52 <sup>e</sup>	c0a	

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