

Original Research Article

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Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) on Nutrient Availability, Uptake and Yield of Tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum* Mill.) cv. “Gujrat Tomato-2”

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ABSTRACT

Keywords

INM, Nutrient Availability, Uptake and Yield of Tomato, Zinc Sulphate, Ferrous Sulphate.

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A field experiment was carried out to study the “Integrated nutrient management (INM) on availability of nutrients in soil, nutrient uptake and yield of tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum* Mill.) cv. Gujarat Tomato-2” during *rabi* season of 2011-12 and 2012-13 at the Regional Horticultural Research Station, Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari, Gujarat, India. The experiment was conducted on fixed plot site with a set of twelve treatments. Among different INM treatments, FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + 100 % RDF had significantly the highest available N (255, 259 and 257 kg ha⁻¹), P₂O₅ (63.5, 61.9 and 62.7 kg ha⁻¹), K₂O (327, 322 and 325 kg ha⁻¹) nutrient in soil after harvest, N (1.54, 1.56 and 1.55 %), P₂O₅ (0.49, 0.50 and 0.50 %), K₂O (1.30, 1.33 and 1.32 %) nutrient content in tomato plant, total nutrient uptake N (136, 145 and 140 kg ha⁻¹), P (45.2, 49.8 and 47.5 kg ha⁻¹), K (66, 76 and 71 kg ha⁻¹), fruit yield plant⁻¹ (1.49, 1.58 and 1.54 kg) and fruit yield plot⁻¹ (29.86, 31.56 and 30.71 kg) during 2011-12, 2012-13 and pooled analysis. So far nutrients uptake was concerned, remarkable increase in values of total uptake of nutrients viz., N, P and K by tomato in the treatment combination of 100 % RDF + FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ (T₁). Different INM treatments had non-significant effects on N, P and K contents.

Introduction

Tomato is one of the most common, leading, widely consumed, popular, staple, day neutral, self pollinated, annual and economically important solanaceous fruit vegetable crop. Its fruits are very popular among people of all social strata and consumed in variety of ways. It is equally liked by both poor and rich and is quite high in nutritive value. Apart from this, it also embodies certain Ayurvedic medicinal properties.

With the increasing population, the cultivable land resource is shrinking day to day. To meet the food, fiber, fuel, fodder and other needs of the growing population, the productivity of agricultural land and soil health needs to be improved.

The ocular evidence is that the nutrient management produces more food than nutrient levels. Therefore, it is obligatory to manage the nutrients in such a way that one

can harvest good yield without deteriorating soil health. Scientific management of these sources is very an important for maintaining the soil productivity, to enhance fertilizer use efficiency and secure optimum vegetable production without harming the environment. Besides sustainable agricultural production, all round improvement in physical, chemical and biological make up of soils is the main aim of INM (Chadha, 2002).

Information on the conjoint use of organic manures, chemical fertilizers and micronutrients in tomato under the Indian conditions in general and the South Gujarat conditions in particular is very limited. Looking to the importance, future scope and a heavy demand of tomato by all class of consumers and also keeping in view of reducing the dose of N, P and K, a field trial was conducted.

Materials and Methods

The experiment entitled “Integrated nutrient management (INM) for tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum* Mill.) cv. Gujarat Tomato-2” was carried out during the winter (*rabi*) season of 2011-12 and 2012-13 at the Regional Horticultural Research Station (RHRS) of the Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari, Gujarat, India. The experiment was conducted on fixed plot site with a set of twelve treatments viz., T₁ (FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + 100 % RDF) (75: 37.5: 62.5 NPK kg ha⁻¹), T₂ (Farm Yard Manure (FYM) 20 t ha⁻¹), T₃ (Neem cake (NC) 5 t ha⁻¹), T₄ (Vermicompost (VC) 5 t ha⁻¹), T₅ (75 % RDF + Farm Yard Manure 20 t ha⁻¹), T₆ (75 % RDF + Neem cake 5 t ha⁻¹), T₇ (75 % RDF + Vermicompost 5 t ha⁻¹), T₈ (50 % RDF + Farm Yard Manure 20 t ha⁻¹), T₉ (50 % RDF + Neem cake 5 t ha⁻¹), T₁₀ (50 % RDF + Vermicompost 5 t ha⁻¹), T₁₁ (100 % RDF + ZnSO₄ @ 25 kg ha⁻¹) and T₁₂ (100 % RDF + FeSO₄ @ 50 kg ha⁻¹). The experiment was evaluated in Randomized Block Design

(RBD) (Panse and Sukhatme, 1986). Entire quantity of well rotten bulky organic manures (FYM, NC and VC) was manually applied and thoroughly incorporated into the respective plots as per the treatments before one month of transplanting. Twenty four days old, stocky and healthy seedlings of 15 cm height with 3 to 4 leaves, free from any insect pest and disease and true to type seedlings of ‘GT-2’ cultivar of tomato were selected and transplanted in the experimental field after dipping their roots in Imidachloprid solution for 15 minutes during both the years of winter seasons at 60 cm x 60 cm apart in the late afternoon.

Results and Discussion

Available Nutrient

Data related to available N, P₂O₅ and K₂O in soil after harvesting as influenced by different INM treatments are given in Table 2. Focusing on the research results of first year trial (2011-12), T₁ (FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + 100 % RDF) recorded the highest available ‘N’ i.e.; 255 kg ha⁻¹ which was at par with T₅ and T₈. The lowest status of available ‘N’ in soil (161 kg ha⁻¹) was noticed under treatment T₄ (VC 5 t ha⁻¹). During the second year, significantly the maximum available ‘N’ (259 kg ha⁻¹) in the treatment T₁ (FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + 100 % RDF) and was at par with T₅ (75 % RDF + FYM 20 t ha⁻¹). However, the lowest values of 169 kg ha⁻¹ for available ‘N’ was recorded under the treatment T₄ (VC 5 t ha⁻¹).

There was a significant effect the INM treatments on available ‘P₂O₅’ in both the years. Mean data of year 2011-12, clearly indicated that the available ‘P₂O₅’ varied from 32.3 to 63.5 kg ha⁻¹. Treatment T₁ registered significantly the maximum available ‘P₂O₅’ (63.5 kg ha⁻¹). In the year 2012-13, the combined application of FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + 100% RDF (T₁) showed highest available

'P₂O₅' (61.9 kg ha⁻¹). Treatment T₁₂ recorded the lowest available 'P₂O₅' (31.0 kg ha⁻¹).

The data presented revealed a significant effect of INM treatments on 'K₂O' during both the years. The values pertaining to available 'K₂O' varied from 273 to 327 kg ha⁻¹ during 2011-12. The maximum value (327 kg ha⁻¹) was recorded under the treatment of FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + 100 % RDF (T₁) and was at par with T₅ and T₈. Second year results (2012-13), the values were found between 270 to 322 kg ha⁻¹. Significantly higher available 'K₂O' (322 kg ha⁻¹) was noticed under the treatment of T₁ having combination of FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + 100 % and was at par with RDF 75 % RDF + FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ (T₅) and RDF 50 % RDF + FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ (T₈).

The higher available N, P₂O₅ and K₂O in soil after harvest may be due to residual effect of applied nutrients, favourable effect of integrated nutrient management in extracting the various nutrients from soil by crop, greater mineralization of FYM due to synergistic effect of dual inoculation of nitrogen fixer and phosphobacteria (Subbiah, 1992).

Nutrient Content

The results of both the years as on N, P and K content in tomato fruit as well as in plant are given in Table 3 and 4. The content of nutrients viz., N, P and K in tomato fruit as well as plant were not significantly affected by any of the INM treatments during both the year.

Nutrient uptake

Response of different INM treatments on total uptake of nutrients by tomato is furnished in Table 5. The total uptake of nutrients viz., N, P and K by tomato plant was significantly influenced by the different INM treatments. The significantly higher values of total uptake

of N (136 kg ha⁻¹ and 145 kg ha⁻¹), P (45.2 kg ha⁻¹ and 49.8 kg ha⁻¹) and K (66 kg ha⁻¹ and 76 kg ha⁻¹) by tomato were observed with the application of 100 % RDF + FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ (T₁). In general, the lower values, pertaining to total uptake of these nutrients, were recorded with the treatments receiving only organic manures (T₂, T₃ and T₄).

The results suggest that the total uptake pattern of nutrients was governed by fruit yield and dry matter production of fruit as well as plant rather than the content of these elements in respective plant parts. Secondly, it could be owing to adequate availability of nutrients for better growth and thereby ultimately resulting in an increased uptake values (Jose *et al.*, 1988). In general, therefore, the efficacy of the inorganic fertilizers was found to be pronounced when they are combined with organic manures (Schuphan, 1974). The higher total content and uptake of plant macro (N, P and K) and micro-nutrients (Zn and Fe) by tomato crop might be obtained due to higher accumulation of all the above nutrients in soil by the application of large amount of chemical fertilizers as well as organic manures. The results are in agreement with those of Patel (2012), Patil (2013) and Mourao *et al.*, (2014).

Yield

The effect due to various INM treatments on fruit yield per plant and fruit yield per plot are presented in Table 6. Both this character showed significant differences due to different INM treatment in both the years. The first year (2011-12) data indicated that the fruit yield per plant varied from 0.93 to 1.49. Significantly maximum fruit yield per plant (1.49 kg) was recorded with the combined application of FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + 100 % RDF (T₁) and was statistically at par with the treatments T₅, T₆ and T₁₂.

Table.1 Physico- chemical properties of experimental site

Particulars	Initial value	Method employed	Reference
Coarse sand (%)	1.75	International pipette method (USDA)	Piper,1966
Fine sand (%)	9.19		
Silt (%)	22.94		
Clay (%)	63.71		
Soil pH (1:2.5 soil: water ratio)	7.6	Potentiometric	Jackson (1973)
Electrical Conductivity (1:2.5 soil: water ratio) dS m ⁻¹ at 25° C	0.45	Conductometric	Jackson (1973)
Organic carbon (%)	0.60	Wet-Oxidation	Jackson (1973)
Available 'N' (kg ha ⁻¹)	231	Alkaline Permanganate Oxidation	Subbiah and Asija (1956)
Available 'P ₂ O ₅ ' (kg ha ⁻¹)	33.4	Spectro photometric (Extraction with 0.5 M NaHCO ₃ , pH of 8.5)	Olsen <i>et al.</i> (1954)
Available 'K ₂ O' (kg ha ⁻¹)	276	Flame photometric (Extraction with N NH ₄ OAc of pH 7.0)	Jackson (1973)

Table.2 Effect of Integrated Nutrient Management on nutrient availability after harvest in soil of tomato cv. “Gujarat Tomato-2”

Treatments	Available nutrients (kg ha ⁻¹)								
	N			P ₂ O ₅			K ₂ O		
	2011-12	2012-13	Pooled	2011-12	2012-13	Pooled	2011-12	2012-13	Pooled
T₁ : FYM 20 t ha ⁻¹ + 100 % RDF (75: 37.5: 62.5 NPK kg ha ⁻¹)	255	259	257	63.5	61.9	62.7	327	322	325
T₂ : Farm Yard Manure 20 t ha ⁻¹	223	252	237	39.1	36.7	37.9	285	279	282
T₃ : Neem cake 5 t ha ⁻¹	193	211	202	32.3	31.3	31.8	273	270	271
T₄ : Vermicompost 5 t ha ⁻¹	161	169	165	37.0	36.3	36.7	274	272	273
T₅ : 75 % RDF + FYM 20 t ha ⁻¹	246	248	247	60.0	57.1	58.6	315	312	314
T₆ : 75 % RDF + NC 5 t ha ⁻¹	208	239	224	44.7	47.5	46.1	288	281	285
T₇ : 75 % RDF + VC 5 t ha ⁻¹	177	184	181	47.9	45.7	46.8	278	275	277
T₈ : 50 % RDF + FYM 20 t ha ⁻¹	242	177	209	46.0	48.3	47.2	305	300	302
T₉ : 50 % RDF + NC 5 t ha ⁻¹	210	234	222	40.3	44.4	42.4	276	273	275
T₁₀ : 50 % RDF + VC 5 t ha ⁻¹	173	175	174	43.6	43.0	43.3	276	272	274
T₁₁ : 100 % RDF + ZnSO ₄ @ 25 kg ha ⁻¹	168	174	171	34.0	31.7	32.8	287	282	285
T₁₂ : 100 % RDF + FeSO ₄ @ 50 kg ha ⁻¹	167	172	169	33.0	31.0	32.0	289	285	287
S.Em. (±)	6.6	6.2	4.5	2.09	2.47	1.62	9.07	9.93	6.72
C.D. @ 5 %	19.3	18.2	12.9	6.1	7.2	4.6	27	29	19

Table.3 Effect of Integrated Nutrient Management on nutrient content in tomato fruit cv. “Gujarat Tomato-2”

Treatments	Nutrient content (%)								
	N			P			K		
	2011-12	2012-13	Pooled	2011-12	2012-13	Pooled	2011-12	2012-13	Pooled
T₁ : FYM 20 t ha ⁻¹ + 100 % RDF (75: 37.5: 62.5 NPK kg ha ⁻¹)	1.54	1.56	1.55	0.49	0.50	0.50	1.30	1.33	1.32
T₂ : Farm Yard Manure 20 t ha ⁻¹	1.45	1.46	1.46	0.44	0.48	0.46	1.25	1.28	1.27
T₃ : Neem cake 5 t ha ⁻¹	1.44	1.47	1.46	0.44	0.44	0.44	1.25	1.26	1.26
T₄ : Vermicompost 5 t ha ⁻¹	1.44	1.47	1.46	0.45	0.43	0.44	1.25	1.27	1.26
T₅ : 75 % RDF + FYM 20 t ha ⁻¹	1.52	1.56	1.54	0.49	0.49	0.49	1.30	1.32	1.31
T₆ : 75 % RDF + NC 5 t ha ⁻¹	1.51	1.55	1.53	0.48	0.49	0.49	1.30	1.32	1.31
T₇ : 75 % RDF + VC 5 t ha ⁻¹	1.51	1.55	1.53	0.48	0.48	0.48	1.29	1.31	1.30
T₈ : 50 % RDF + FYM 20 t ha ⁻¹	1.49	1.53	1.51	0.47	0.48	0.47	1.29	1.30	1.29
T₉ : 50 % RDF + NC 5 t ha ⁻¹	1.49	1.51	1.50	0.46	0.47	0.47	1.27	1.30	1.29
T₁₀ : 50 % RDF + VC 5 t ha ⁻¹	1.48	1.50	1.49	0.46	0.47	0.46	1.29	1.30	1.29
T₁₁ : 100 % RDF + ZnSO ₄ @ 25 kg ha ⁻¹	1.50	1.51	1.51	0.48	0.48	0.48	1.28	1.29	1.29
T₁₂ : 100 % RDF + FeSO ₄ @ 50 kg ha ⁻¹	1.51	1.55	1.53	0.48	0.48	0.48	1.29	1.31	1.30
S.Em. (±)	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.025	0.029	0.019
C.D. @ 5 %	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS

NS- Non significant

Table.4 Effect of Integrated Nutrient Management on nutrient content in tomato plant cv. “Gujarat Tomato-2”

Treatments	Nutrient content (%) in tomato plant cv. “GT-2”								
	N			P			K		
	2011-12	2012-13	Pooled	2011-12	2012-13	Pooled	2011-12	2012-13	Pooled
T₁ : FYM 20 t ha ⁻¹ + 100 % RDF (75: 37.5: 62.5 NPK kg ha ⁻¹)	1.29	1.30	1.30	0.45	0.46	0.45	1.11	1.13	1.12
T₂ : Farm Yard Manure 20 t ha ⁻¹	1.19	1.22	1.20	0.40	0.41	0.41	1.06	1.07	1.06
T₃ : Neem cake 5 t ha ⁻¹	1.19	1.22	1.20	0.39	0.42	0.40	1.05	1.06	1.05
T₄ : Vermicompost 5 t ha ⁻¹	1.18	1.20	1.19	0.39	0.40	0.39	1.06	1.07	1.07
T₅ : 75 % RDF + FYM 20 t ha ⁻¹	1.27	1.30	1.28	0.44	0.45	0.44	1.10	1.11	1.11
T₆ : 75 % RDF + NC 5 t ha ⁻¹	1.27	1.30	1.28	0.43	0.45	0.44	1.09	1.10	1.10
T₇ : 75 % RDF + VC 5 t ha ⁻¹	1.25	1.28	1.26	0.42	0.44	0.43	1.08	1.10	1.09
T₈ : 50 % RDF + FYM 20 t ha ⁻¹	1.24	1.24	1.24	0.42	0.44	0.43	1.08	1.09	1.08
T₉ : 50 % RDF + NC 5 t ha ⁻¹	1.23	1.24	1.23	0.42	0.43	0.42	1.08	1.09	1.08
T₁₀ : 50 % RDF + VC 5 t ha ⁻¹	1.21	1.23	1.22	0.41	0.42	0.42	1.07	1.08	1.08
T₁₁ : 100 % RDF + ZnSO ₄ @ 25 kg ha ⁻¹	1.26	1.27	1.26	0.42	0.44	0.43	1.08	1.09	1.08
T₁₂ : 100 % RDF + FeSO ₄ @ 50 kg ha ⁻¹	1.26	1.28	1.27	0.43	0.44	0.44	1.08	1.08	1.08
S.Em. (±)	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.033	0.028	0.021
C.D. @ 5 %	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS

NS- Non-significant

Table.5 Effect of Integrated Nutrient Management on total nutrient uptake of tomato cv. “Gujarat Tomato-2”

Treatments	Nutrient uptake (kg ha ⁻¹)								
	N			P			K		
	2011-12	2012-13	Pooled	2011-12	2012-13	Pooled	2011-12	2012-13	Pooled
T₁ :FYM 20 t ha ⁻¹ + 100 % RDF (75: 37.5: 62.5 NPK kg ha ⁻¹)	136	145	140	45.2	49.8	47.5	66	76	71
T₂ :Farm Yard Manure 20 t ha ⁻¹	97	104	100	31.9	34.7	33.3	45	49	47
T₃ : Neem cake 5 t ha ⁻¹	94	98	96	30.0	32.4	31.2	43	47	45
T₄ : Vermicompost 5 t ha ⁻¹	88	92	90	28.4	29.6	29.0	41	44	42
T₅ : 75 % RDF + FYM 20 t ha ⁻¹	130	140	135	43.9	47.3	45.6	64	71	67
T₆ : 75 % RDF + NC 5 t ha ⁻¹	127	135	131	42.7	45.3	44.0	62	66	64
T₇ : 75 % RDF + VC 5 t ha ⁻¹	119	125	122	39.4	41.6	40.5	56	60	58
T₈ : 50 % RDF + FYM 20 t ha ⁻¹	113	116	114	37.5	39.7	38.6	53	57	55
T₉ : 50 % RDF + NC 5 t ha ⁻¹	108	114	111	36.2	38.4	37.3	50	55	53
T₁₀ : 50 % RDF + VC 5 t ha ⁻¹	103	109	106	34.4	36.4	35.4	49	53	51
T₁₁ : 100 % RDF + ZnSO ₄ @ 25 kg ha ⁻¹	121	125	123	39.9	42.3	41.1	58	62	60
T₁₂ : 100 % RDF + FeSO ₄ @ 50 kg ha ⁻¹	125	129	127	41.7	43.1	42.4	60	63	61
S.Em. (±)	6.6	4.5	4.0	1.5	2.3	1.4	2.1	3.0	1.8
C.D. @ 5 %	19.3	13.3	11.4	4.5	6.7	3.9	6.2	8.7	5.2

Table.6 Effect of Integrated Nutrient Management on yield of tomato cv. “Gujarat Tomato-2”

Treatments	Fruit yield per plant (kg)			Fruit yield per plot (kg)		
	2011-12	2012-13	Pooled	2011-12	2012-13	Pooled
T₁ : FYM 20 t ha ⁻¹ + 100 % RDF (75: 37.5: 62.5 NPK kg ha ⁻¹)	1.49	1.58	1.54	29.86	31.56	30.71
T₂ : Farm Yard Manure 20 t ha ⁻¹	0.98	1.04	1.01	19.65	20.82	20.24
T₃ : Neem cake 5 t ha ⁻¹	0.97	1.01	0.99	19.33	20.26	19.79
T₄ : Vermicompost 5 t ha ⁻¹	0.93	0.99	0.96	18.67	19.72	19.19
T₅ : 75 % RDF + FYM 20 t ha ⁻¹	1.47	1.51	1.50	29.31	30.10	29.71
T₆ : 75 % RDF + NC 5 t ha ⁻¹	1.41	1.44	1.43	28.18	28.88	28.53
T₇ : 75 % RDF + VC 5 t ha ⁻¹	1.21	1.28	1.25	24.21	25.69	24.95
T₈ : 50 % RDF + FYM 20 t ha ⁻¹	1.12	1.23	1.17	22.30	24.59	23.44
T₉ : 50 % RDF + NC 5 t ha ⁻¹	1.07	1.17	1.12	21.38	23.35	22.37
T₁₀ : 50 % RDF + VC 5 t ha ⁻¹	1.03	1.13	1.08	20.56	22.53	21.54
T₁₁ : 100 % RDF + ZnSO ₄ @ 25 kg ha ⁻¹	1.26	1.36	1.31	25.43	27.18	26.31
T₁₂ : 100 % RDF + FeSO ₄ @ 50 kg ha ⁻¹	1.32	1.40	1.36	26.32	27.98	27.15
S.Em. (±)	0.07	0.07	0.04	1.47	1.34	0.90
C.D. @ 5 %	0.22	0.20	0.13	4.31	3.93	2.54

The minimum fruit yield per plant (0.93 kg) was noticed in the application of organic manure treatment *i.e.* VC 5 t ha⁻¹ (T₄). The values for this character during second year (2012-13) varied from 0.99 to 1.58. The trend of treatments was found similar to that of the preceding year results.

With respect to first year data, the fruit yield per plot varied from 18.67 to 29.86 kg. Significantly maximum fruit yield (29.86 kg) per plot was achieved in the treatment treated with FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + 100 % RDF (T₁). In second year statistical data, the fruit yield per plot was noticed from 19.72 to 31.56 kg. The data showed that significantly the maximum fruit yield (31.56 kg) per plot was noticed in the treatment T₁ receiving the combination of FYM 20 t ha⁻¹ + 100 % RDF; however it was at par with the treatments like T₅, T₆ and T₁₂. The treatment T₄ consisting only organic manure in the form of VC 5 t ha⁻¹ recorded the lowest fruit yield per plot (19.72 kg).

The yield attributes of tomato is closely associated with growth components. Higher number of fruits and fruit weight may be due to increased growth components of tomato plant at RDF and organic manure along. This might have helped in producing higher amount of carbohydrates which might have translocated from source (leaf) to reproductive parts (sink) resulting in more number of fruits and fruit weight. The increase in the tomato yield may also be attributed to the higher absorption of N, P and K which might have favourably affected the chlorophyll content of leaves resulting increased synthesis of carbohydrates and build up of new cells (Jagadeesha, 2008). The yield and yield attributing characters were better due to plants which were supplied nutrients from chemical fertilizers and organic manures that were readily available to plants in sufficient amount throughout the growth period (Islam *et al.*, 2013).

In conclusion, in the light of the results obtained from this investigation, it can be concluded that the efficacy of the inorganic fertilizers was pronounced when they are combined with organic manures.

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