

Original Research Article

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Effect of Integrated Nutrient Management on Growth and Development Stages of Rice under Rice–Wheat Ecosystem

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ABSTRACT

A field experiment was conducted during 2010-11 and 2011-12 on agricultural farm of Institute of agricultural Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi to evaluate the effect of Integrated Nutrient Sources and chemical fertilizers on growth and development of rice under rice- wheat cropping system. The experimental finding indicated that the growth attributes viz: plant height (cm), number of tillers hill-1, numbers of green leaf hill-1, Dry matter g hill-1, LAI, and chlorophyll content was markedly decline with curtailment in level of chemical fertilizer from 100%RDF to both rice and wheat (T₅) to control (T₁). All the Growth attributing character recorded highest value in T₆ where 50% RDF + 50% N through FYM was applied to rice accompanied with 100% RDF to wheat plots but it remained statistically comparable t, T₇ T₁₀, T₅ followed by T₁₁, T₈, and T₉ most of the stages during both the years of observation. The minimum value was observed in T₁ (Control) and found inferior from Farmer's practice (T₁₂). However, decreasing in level of inorganic sources from 100% RDF to both rice and wheat (T₅) and to Control (T₁) delays the flowering and maturity. In INM sources T₆ took minimum days to flowering and maturity followed by T₇, T₁₀, T₁₁, T₈, and T₉ and maximum by T₁ (control).

Keywords

Nutrient management, Rice – Wheat Ecosystem.

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Introduction

The rice - wheat is the most dominant cropping system in Asian subtropical countries viz. China, India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Pakistan, where it is practiced in about 24 million hectares (Mahajan and Gupta, 2009).

In India too rice-wheat cropping system (RWCS) is most widely adopted system, covering over 10.5 million ha – mostly in the Indo Gangetic Plains. Among cereals, rice and wheat are the most important crops, which account for about 60 per cent of

world's human energy requirement. In India, total area under rice is 43.13 million hectares and that of wheat is 29.57 million hectares with production of 100.45 and 90.38 million tonnes of respectively. However, the productivity of both rice and wheat is low i.e. 2,323 and 3056 kg/ha, respectively (GOI, 2015).

The rice–wheat production system provides staple grain for more than 400 million people. During the Green Revolution era in the 1960s, enhanced production resulted from increases

in both rice–wheat area and system productivity. But little additional land is now available and traditional farmlands are increasingly lost to urbanization. In addition, of this rapid increasing population create huge demand in upcoming decades.

Therefore, future demand for food will have to be met mainly through increases in production per unit of harvested area (Ladha *et al.*, 2003). The combination of poor soil fertility and inadequate, unbalanced, and inefficient use of fertilizers contributes much to this problem (Yadav *et al.*, 2000; Dwivedi *et al.*, 2001).

The imbalanced use of fertilizer has disturbed the natural equilibrium of the nutrient elements operating in the soils is being mostly applied for a long period. The studies have shown that the sustainability of this important system could only be achieved through integrated use of chemical and organic sources in a balanced manner.

Materials and Methods

Looking at the importance of rice – wheat system under irrigated ecosystem of Varanasi region, declining factor productivity and soil health, it is imperative to study the integrated use of chemical fertilizers and organic sources in rice- wheat system on long term basis. Therefore, with these facts in view present study conducted during 2010-11 and 2011-12. The geographical situation of the experiment lies in the Northern Gangetic Alluvial plain at 25°18' North latitudes, 83°03' East longitude and at an altitude of 128.93 meters above the mean sea level.

The experimental soil is sandy loam in texture with varying pH 7.72 to 7.78, bulk density 1.39 to 1.56 g cc⁻¹ as well as 146 to 221, 10.5 to 20.84 and 152 to 206 kg ha⁻¹ N, P, and K, respectively. There were 12 treatments

comprising 5 purely inorganic viz. 50% RDF to both rice and wheat (T₂), 50% RDF to rice and 100% RDF to Wheat (T₃), 75% RDF to both rice and wheat (T₄), 100% RDF (120kg N + 60kg P₂O₅ + 60 kg K₂O ha⁻¹) both rice and wheat (T₅) and farmer's practice with (80kg N + 40kg P₂O₅ + 20 kg K₂O ha⁻¹) (T₁₂) to both rice and wheat. Six treatment are integrated integration of inorganic and organic sources *i.e.* (T₆) 50% RDF + 50% N through FYM to rice and 100% RDF to wheat, (T₇) 75% RDF + 25% N through FYM for rice and 75% RDF to wheat, (T₈) 50% RDF + 50% N through crop residue to rice and 100% RDF to wheat, (T₉) 75% RDF + 25% N through crop residue to rice and 75% RDF to wheat, (T₁₀) 50% RDF + 50% N through green leaf manuring to rice and 100% RDF to wheat, (T₁₁) 75% RDF + 25% N through green leaf manuring to rice and 75% RDF to wheat, along with one control having no nutrient nutrition application in either of the season (T₁). Rice variety HUR-105 and wheat variety HUW-234 were selected for the study. The treatments (12) were arranged in randomized block design with 4 replications. Plot size was kept 11 x 6 m² (gross) and 10 x 5 m² (net) with 1 m plot border.

The observations on growth characters *viz.* plant height, LAI and SPAD value, dry matter accumulation, number of green leaves and number of tillers per hill for rice were recorded at 30, 60, 90 DAT and at harvest, and

Growth of rice

Plant height (cm)

It is apparent from table 1 that plant height increased progressively upto maturity stage. Plant height declined markedly with the curtailment of fertilizer doses from 100% RDF to both rice and wheat (T₅) to control at all the stages of observation. Being at par with

T₄ (75% RDF to both rice and wheat), T₅ recorded significantly higher plant height than lower doses of inorganic nutrient application (T₁₂, T₃, T₂, and T₁). The plant height was highest in T₆ (50% RDF through fertilizers + 50% N through FYM to rice and 100% NPK through fertilizers to wheat) at all the stages of observation during both the years. Though, it did not show significant differences over 75% RDF + 25% N through FYM to rice and 75% RDF to wheat (T₇), 50% RDF + 50% N through GM to rice and 100% RDF to wheat (T₁₀), 75% RDF + 25% N through GM to rice and 75% RDF to wheat (T₁₁) and 100% RDF to both rice and wheat (T₅) but produced significantly taller plants than (50% RDF + 50% N through wheat straw to rice and 100% RDF to wheat (T₈) and 75% RDF + 25% N through wheat straw to rice and 75% RDF to wheat (T₉) at most of the stages during both the years.

Number of tillers hill⁻¹

The number of tillers hill⁻¹ increased upto 60 DAT and thereafter showed a declining trend till maturity. Increasing levels of fertilizer application upto 100 % RDF to both the crops in sequence (T₅), showed marked improvement in number of tillers hill⁻¹ at all stages during both the years. Though, T₅ remained par with T₄ (75% RDF to both rice and wheat) both produced significantly more number of tillers hill⁻¹ than other treatments involving inorganic sources of nutrients and control (Table 2). Highest number of tillers hill⁻¹ were recorded under T₆ (50% RDF + 50% N through FYM to rice accompanied with 100% RDF to wheat) at all the stages during both the years. However, it did not differ significantly T₇ (75% RDF + 25% N through FYM to rice and 75% RDF to wheat) and T₁₀ (50% RDF + 50% N through green manure to rice and 100% RDF to wheat). Farmer's practice of fertilizer application (T₁₂) also recorded insignificantly higher in

number of tillers hill⁻¹ over the control (T₁) at maturity during both the years.

Number of green leaves hill⁻¹

The data presented in table 3 revealed that the number of green leaves hill⁻¹ increased upto 60 DAT and thereafter decreased at 90 DAT. Increasing levels of fertilizer application upto 100 % RDF to both the crops in sequence (T₅), showed marked increase in number of green leaves hill⁻¹ at all stages during both the year (Table 3). Nevertheless, T₅ did not differ statistically with T₄ (75% RDF to both rice and wheat). Highest number of green leaves hill⁻¹ were recorded under T₆ (50% RDF + 50% N through FYM to rice accompanied with 100% RDF to wheat) at all the stages during both the years. However, it did not differ significantly with T₇ (75% RDF + 25% N through FYM to rice and 75% RDF to wheat), T₁₀ (50% RDF + 50% N through green manure to rice and 100% RDF to wheat) and T₁₁ (75% RDF + 25% N through green manure to rice and 75% RDF to wheat). Farmer's practice (T₁₂) also produced higher in number of green leaves hill⁻¹ over T₂ (50% RDF to both rice and wheat) and control (T₁) and the difference were significant at maturity during both the years.

Dry matter accumulation

It is apparent from table 4 that dry matter accumulation increased progressively upto maturity stage. Marked declined in dry matter production was observed with decreasing levels of fertilizer application from T₅ (100% RDF to both rice and wheat) to T₁ (control) during both the years. Being comparable to T₄ (75% RDF to both rice and wheat) T₅ produced significantly higher dry matter hill⁻¹ than other treatments of inorganic nutrient sources except farmer's practice at taller stages. The higher dry matter accumulation was recorded under T₆ (50% RDF + 50% N

through FYM to rice and 100% RDF to wheat) significantly, though, it remained at par to T₇ (75% RDF + 25% N through FYM to rice and 75% RDF to wheat), T₁₀ (50% RDF + 50% N through green manure to rice and 100% RDF to wheat) and T₁₁ (75% RDF + 25% N through green manure to rice and 75% RDF to wheat) produced significantly superior to other treatments at all the stages during both the years.

Farmer's practice of fertilizer application (T₁₂) was significantly superior to control (T₁) and inferior to most of the treatments during both the years.

SPAD value

As number the number of green leaf hill⁻¹ the chlorophyll content in terms of SPAD also increased upto 60 DAT and thereafter decreased at 90 DAT.

Decreasing levels of fertilizer application from T₅ (100 % RDF both rice and wheat) to T₁ (control) decreased SPAD value in leaves (Table 5). However, there was no significant difference between T₅ and T₄ (75% RDF both to rice and wheat) at any of the stages in during two years of experimentation.

Highest SPAD vale was recorded under T₆ (50% RDF + 50% N through FYM to rice accompanied with 100% RDF to wheat) at all the stages during both the years.

Nevertheless, it did not differ significantly with T₇ (75% RDF + 25% N through FYM to rice and 75% RDF to wheat), T₁₀ (50% RDF + 50% N through green manure to rice and 100% RDF to wheat) and T₁₁ (75% RDF + 25% N through green manure to rice and 75% RDF to wheat). Farmer's practice of fertilizer application (T₁₂) was significantly superior to control (T₁) and inferior to most of the treatments during both the years.

Leaf area index

Leaf area index as influenced by various inorganic and organic sources of nutrient application at different growth stages are presented in table 6. Perusal of the data revealed that leaf area index was markedly affected by different treatments at 30, 60 and 90 DAT during both the years. Leaf area index increased upto 60 DAT and declined at 90 DAT.

Decreasing doses of inorganic nutrient application from T₅ (100% RDF to both rice and wheat) to T₁ (control) resulted in corresponding decrease in leaf are index at 30, 60 and 90 DAT during both the years. Nevertheless, T₅ remained comparable to T₄ (75% RDF to both rice and wheat) at almost all the stages of observation.

Maximum leaf area index was recorded under T₆ (50% RDF + 50% N through FYM to rice accompanied with 100% RDF to wheat) and being at par with T₇ (75% RDF + 25% N through FYM to rice and 75% RDF to wheat), it recorded markedly higher LAI than other treatments.

However, it did not differ significantly to T₅, T₁₀ and T₁₁ at 30 DAT and T₁₀ and T₁₁ at 60 DAT. Farmer's practice of fertilizer application (T₁₂) was significantly superior to control (T₁) and inferior to most of the treatments during both the years.

Development stages

Day to 50% panicle emergence

It is apparent from the Data present in table 7 that the number of days taken for 50% panicle emergence after transplanting was significantly influenced under different treatments.

It was recorded earliest in T₆ (50% RDF + 50% N through FYM) to rice + 100% RDF to wheat), whereas, control (T₁) take maximum period.

Though, T₆ remained comparable to T₇, T₁₀ and T₅ attained 50% panicle emergence in significantly less period than T₁, T₂ and T₁₂ during both the years.

Days to maturity

The maturity of rice was also significantly affected by fertilizer levels and integrated nutrient management treatments. Application of fertilizer significantly hastened the crop maturity during both the years (Table 7).

Days taken to maturity after transplanting was lowest in treatment where 50% RDF was applied through fertilizers + 50% N through FYM to rice and 100% RDF to wheat (T₆) but it could show significant superiority only over T₁, T₂ and T₁₂ during both the years and over T₃ during 2011 in reducing the maturity period. Crop maturity was significantly prolonged when no fertilizer and manure were applied (T₁).

Results and Discussion

Data on growth of rice at periodic intervals revealed that as compared to control and application of nutrients through inorganic fertilizers the INM treatments progressively improved all the growth parameters.

Organic manure application release nutrients slowly and gave favourable conditions to plant that is associated to Vigorous growth and higher growth rate.

The plant height in both the crops during both the years continued to increase with age and there was no further increase as crop proceeded towards maturity, while dry matter accumulation increased upto maturity because

of accumulation of photosynthates in sink. Number of tillers in both the crops was increased only upto 90 days of transplanting /sowing and number of leaves, chlorophyll content and leaf area index increased only upto 60 days after transplanting / sowing, thereafter, there was no increase in tillers, leaves, chlorophyll and leaf area index upto maturity.

Addition of different organic materials like Sesbania green manure, FYM and compost enhanced the organic matter percentage of the soil that played a key role for improving soil fertility and crop growth.

The increase in organic matter content of soil improved the physical properties of the soil. The betterment in physical properties of soil reduced the soil pH as various acid and acid forming compounds were released with the addition of organic materials.

The reduction in soil pH increased the availability of plant nutrients and resultantly more uptake of various nutrients by the plants occurred. The increased uptake of nutrients by rice improved metabolic activities in the plants.. As a result of all above processes growth of rice was positively affected. (Mehdi *et al.*, 2011)

The soil organic matter is measured to be the panacea for plant life by high calibre of being a source of almost all the essential macro and micronutrients.

The organic manures good provider of N, P, K and also added other essential macro and micronutrients for plant growth. In association with soil micro-organisms, organic manures are also help in synthesis of certain phytohormones and vitamins which promote the growth and development of crops (Sharma, 1983).

Table.1 Effect of Integrated Nutrient Management on plant height (cm) of rice

Treatments		30 DAT		60 DAT		90 DAT		At Harvest	
		2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
T ₁ Control*	Control	38.70	39.65	60.86	62.96	73.80	75.61	75.50	76.60
T ₂ 50% RF	50% RF	39.60	40.57	67.89	70.23	76.75	78.63	82.50	83.70
T ₃ 50% RF	100% RF	40.50	41.49	70.50	72.93	79.90	81.86	84.99	86.22
T ₄ 75% RF	75% RF	46.70	47.84	78.95	81.67	86.58	88.70	92.01	93.35
T ₅ 100% RF	100% RF	47.50	49.14	82.04	85.69	92.05	95.23	96.21	98.57
T ₆ 50% RF + 50% N through FYM	100% RF	50.45	52.19	86.88	90.75	100.03	103.48	107.38	110.01
T ₇ 75% RF + 25% N through FYM	75% RF	48.65	50.33	83.65	87.37	96.30	99.62	105.77	108.36
T ₈ 50% RF + 50% N through CR	100% RF	41.78	42.80	72.47	74.97	80.35	82.32	85.08	86.31
T ₉ 75% RF + 25% N through CR	75% RF	47.10	48.25	79.90	82.66	87.80	89.95	93.44	94.80
T ₁₀ 50% RF + 50% N through GM	100% RF	47.90	49.55	83.06	86.76	95.35	98.64	100.44	102.90
T ₁₁ 75% RF + 25% N through GM	75% RF	47.45	49.09	82.11	85.76	94.85	98.12	99.60	102.04
T ₁₂ Farmer's practice**		41.35	42.37	70.68	73.12	78.88	80.81	82.82	84.02
SEM+		1.64	1.92	2.92	3.32	3.18	3.74	3.76	3.93
CD at 5%		4.73	5.53	8.40	9.56	9.14	10.75	10.81	11.32

Table.2 Effect of Integrated Nutrient Management on number of tillers hill⁻¹ of rice

Treatments		30 DAT		60 DAT		90 DAT		At Harvest	
		2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
T ₁ Control*	Control	8.63	9.15	10.63	11.11	9.53	9.10	7.92	8.41
T ₂ 50% RF	50% RF	9.19	9.57	11.19	11.66	10.19	10.66	9.10	9.52
T ₃ 50% RF	100% RF	10.75	11.15	12.75	12.82	11.55	11.55	10.35	10.70
T ₄ 75% RF	75% RF	12.44	12.59	15.44	15.22	13.94	13.97	12.87	13.02
T ₅ 100% RF	100% RF	12.50	12.78	15.50	15.52	14.00	14.27	12.92	13.04
T ₆ 50% RF + 50% N through FYM	100% RF	15.47	15.51	19.47	19.49	17.47	17.58	16.13	16.32
T ₇ 75% RF + 25% N through FYM	75% RF	15.13	15.23	19.13	18.86	17.13	16.86	15.81	15.69
T ₈ 50% RF + 50% N through CR	100% RF	11.88	12.25	14.88	15.03	13.38	13.38	12.35	12.56
T ₉ 75% RF + 25% N through CR	75% RF	12.19	12.40	15.19	15.44	13.69	13.69	12.64	12.87
T ₁₀ 50% RF + 50% N through GM	100% RF	14.19	14.43	18.19	18.69	16.19	16.44	14.94	14.60
T ₁₁ 75% RF + 25% N through GM	75% RF	12.63	12.78	15.63	15.84	14.13	14.09	13.04	13.23
T ₁₂ Farmer's practice**		9.44	10.07	11.44	11.59	10.44	10.47	9.44	9.70
SEM+		0.515	0.47	0.643	0.92	0.576	0.80	0.530	0.55
CD at 5%		1.482	1.34	1.849	2.66	1.657	2.29	1.525	1.59

Table.3 Effect of Integrated Nutrient Management on number of green leaves hill⁻¹ of rice

Treatments		30 DAT		60 DAT		90 DAT	
		2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
T ₁ Control*	Control	15.01	15.06	30.30	33.76	17.76	18.17
T ₂ 50% RF	50% RF	16.51	17.02	33.00	36.46	20.16	22.09
T ₃ 50% RF	100% RF	17.23	18.49	34.95	37.42	25.65	26.14
T ₄ 75% RF	75% RF	18.73	20.17	37.76	40.04	27.81	28.94
T ₅ 100% RF	100% RF	19.17	20.58	39.10	41.56	28.63	29.54
T ₆ 50% RF + 50% N through FYM	100% RF	23.50	24.61	47.40	49.86	34.41	35.29
T ₇ 75% RF + 25% N through FYM	75% RF	23.15	23.94	45.05	46.51	32.26	32.99
T ₈ 50% RF + 50% N through CR	100% RF	17.90	18.74	36.10	38.41	25.95	26.51
T ₉ 75% RF + 25% N through CR	75% RF	20.65	22.27	39.15	40.61	28.56	29.39
T ₁₀ 50% RF + 50% N through GM	100% RF	21.85	23.31	41.85	43.31	30.11	31.09
T ₁₁ 75% RF + 25% N through GM	75% RF	21.80	23.14	41.70	43.16	29.61	30.44
T ₁₂ Farmer's practice**		18.24	19.12	37.18	39.61	26.51	27.76
SEM+		0.82	0.86	1.62	1.71	1.16	1.19
CD at 5%		2.35	2.47	4.67	4.93	3.32	3.43

Table.4 Effect of Integrated Nutrient Management on dry matter (g) hill⁻¹ of rice

Treatments		30 DAT		60 DAT		90 DAT		At Harvest	
		2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
T ₁ Control*	Control	8.65	9.04	21.48	24.31	41.59	45.13	47.93	50.97
T ₂ 50% RF	50% RF	9.21	9.67	22.88	25.59	48.26	51.69	55.61	58.85
T ₃ 50% RF	100% RF	10.12	10.87	25.15	28.08	53.09	54.70	61.18	64.98
T ₄ 75% RF	75% RF	11.04	11.75	27.45	29.64	58.29	57.54	67.17	70.67
T ₅ 100% RF	100% RF	11.45	12.17	28.48	30.23	60.11	58.45	69.27	72.56
T ₆ 50% RF + 50% N through FYM	100% RF	12.84	13.90	31.95	34.61	67.99	67.52	77.85	82.12
T ₇ 75% RF + 25% N through FYM	75% RF	12.66	13.52	31.15	34.17	65.67	54.30	75.68	79.63
T ₈ 50% RF + 50% N through CR	100% RF	10.34	11.16	25.70	28.39	56.07	62.39	64.62	68.08
T ₉ 75% RF + 25% N through CR	75% RF	10.75	11.54	26.73	29.41	57.05	60.61	65.74	68.88
T ₁₀ 50% RF + 50% N through GM	100% RF	12.14	13.06	30.20	30.81	62.91	68.14	72.49	76.55
T ₁₁ 75% RF + 25% N through GM	75% RF	11.88	12.42	29.55	32.50	61.47	62.48	70.83	74.50
T ₁₂ Farmer's practice**		9.82	10.63	24.40	27.14	53.73	55.48	61.92	65.05
SEM+		0.46	0.43	1.14	1.44	2.41	3.07	2.74	2.76
CD at 5%		1.32	1.24	3.27	4.16	6.92	8.82	7.88	7.93

Table.5 Effect of Integrated Nutrient Management on chlorophyll content of rice

Treatments		30 DAT		60 DAT		90 DAT	
		2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
T ₁ Control*	Control	24.59	25.51	25.69	26.08	19.65	20.10
T ₂ 50% RF	50% RF	26.05	26.70	27.22	27.41	21.28	21.68
T ₃ 50% RF	100% RF	27.64	28.25	28.89	29.46	23.05	23.47
T ₄ 75% RF	75% RF	31.73	32.48	33.18	33.64	25.54	25.62
T ₅ 100% RF	100% RF	32.34	33.04	33.82	34.35	26.05	26.22
T ₆ 50% RF + 50% N through FYM	100% RF	36.22	37.61	37.89	38.56	29.31	29.78
T ₇ 75% RF + 25% N through FYM	75% RF	33.84	34.92	35.39	36.27	28.23	28.96
T ₈ 50% RF + 50% N through CR	100% RF	28.94	30.27	30.26	30.97	23.84	24.20
T ₉ 75% RF + 25% N through CR	75% RF	30.12	31.61	31.49	32.67	24.71	25.29
T ₁₀ 50% RF + 50% N through GM	100% RF	33.05	34.05	34.56	35.24	27.35	28.21
T ₁₁ 75% RF + 25% N through GM	75% RF	32.69	33.60	34.18	34.98	26.67	27.46
T ₁₂ Farmer's practice**		26.65	30.98	27.85	28.29	21.62	21.86
SEM+		1.27	1.32	1.33	1.30	1.04	1.10
CD at 5%		3.66	3.81	3.83	3.75	2.99	3.17

Table.6 Effect of Integrated Nutrient Management on leaf area index of rice

Treatments		30 DAT		60 DAT		90 DAT	
		2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
T ₁ Control*	Control	1.50	1.57	4.28	4.47	3.08	3.20
T ₂ 50% RF	50% RF	1.53	1.60	4.63	5.15	3.19	3.28
T ₃ 50% RF	100% RF	1.65	1.73	5.32	5.58	3.78	4.01
T ₄ 75% RF	75% RF	1.61	1.69	5.19	5.43	3.62	3.82
T ₅ 100% RF	100% RF	1.70	1.79	5.42	5.65	4.30	4.57
T ₆ 50% RF + 50% N through FYM	100% RF	1.93	2.03	6.20	6.54	4.81	5.14
T ₇ 75% RF + 25% N through FYM	75% RF	1.89	2.00	6.09	6.44	4.69	5.01
T ₈ 50% RF + 50% N through CR	100% RF	1.70	1.79	5.48	5.77	3.94	4.20
T ₉ 75% RF + 25% N through CR	75% RF	1.67	1.74	5.37	5.61	3.86	4.07
T ₁₀ 50% RF + 50% N through GM	100% RF	1.78	1.89	5.73	6.08	4.20	4.51
T ₁₁ 75% RF + 25% N through GM	75% RF	1.74	1.82	5.60	5.87	4.00	4.24
T ₁₂ Farmer's practice**		1.55	1.62	4.99	5.22	3.41	3.40
SEM+		0.07	0.07	0.22	0.22	0.16	0.17
CD at 5%		0.20	0.20	0.65	0.64	0.47	0.48

Table.7 Effect of Integrated Nutrient Management on days to flowering and maturity of rice

Treatments		Days to 50% Flowering DAT		Days to Maturity DAT	
		2010	2011	2010	2011
T₁ Control*	Control	78.25	78.50	105.75	108.00
T₂ 50% RF	50% RF	75.75	76.00	103.75	105.75
T₃ 50% RF	100% RF	72.75	74.25	100.75	103.75
T₄ 75% RF	75% RF	72.50	74.00	100.25	104.00
T₅ 100% RF	100% RF	72.25	72.25	100.25	102.00
T₆ 50% RF + 50% N through FYM	100% RF	71.25	71.50	99.75	100.25
T₇ 75% RF + 25% N through FYM	75% RF	71.25	72.00	99.75	101.25
T₈ 50% RF + 50% N through CR	100% RF	72.75	74.25	100.75	102.50
T₉ 75% RF + 25% N through CR	75% RF	72.50	74.00	100.25	102.75
T₁₀ 50% RF + 50% N through GM	100% RF	71.50	73.00	100.00	101.50
T₁₁ 75% RF + 25% N through GM	75% RF	72.25	73.50	100.00	102.00
T₁₂ Farmer's practice**		74.50	75.00	102.50	104.25
SEM+		0.99	0.67	0.75	1.04
CD at 5%		2.86	1.94	2.15	2.98

Development stages

The number of days taken for heading/flowering and maturity in both the crops were hastened in the plots manured with conjoint application of organics [FYM, green manure (dhaincha) and wheat cut straw] and fertilizers in rice as well as succeeding wheat crop due to the direct and residual effect (Mehta, 2004). This is because conjoint application of organics and chemical fertilizers resulted in early boost of vegetative growth due to better nutrition and thus, the attainment of physiological stages was enhanced. These findings are in agreement with Shah *et al.*, (1998).

The experimental finding indicated that the growth attributes viz: plant height (cm), number of tillers hill⁻¹, numbers of green leaf hill⁻¹, Dry matter g hill⁻¹, LAI, and chlorophyll content was markedly decline with curtailment in level of chemical fertilizer from 100%RDF to both rice and wheat (T₅) to control (T₁). All the Growth attributing character recorded highest value in T₆ where 50% RDF + 50% N through FYM was applied to rice accompanied with 100% RDF to wheat. The minimum value was observed in T₁ (Control). However, decreasing in level of inorganic sources from 100% RDF to both rice and wheat (T₅) to Control (T₁) delay the flowering and maturity. In INM sources T₆ took minimum days to flowering and maturity followed by T₇, T₁₀, T₁₁, T₈, and T₉ and maximum by T₁ (control).

It was concluded from the result of experiment that integrated nutrient supply improved the growth, and development of rice. Substitution of 50 % N through FYM+ 50% RDF to rice accompanied with 100% RDF to wheat was better than N substitution through crop residue and green manuring as well as chemical treatments.

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