

Original Research Article

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Influence of INM on Nutrient Uptake, Bio-chemical Properties of Soil and Yield Attributes of Paddy (*Oryza sativa* L.) under Hill Zone of Karnataka

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ABSTRACT

A field experiment was conducted at Zonal Agricultural and Horticultural Research Station, Mudigere, Chikkamagaluru district, Karnataka to investigate the integrated nutrient management in paddy under hilly zone of Karnataka during *kharif* season of 2018. The experiment was laid out in Randomized Complete Block Design consisting of ten treatments and replicated thrice. The result revealed that application of 100% RDF + Glyricidia (50%) + Eupatorium (50%) + PGPR (T9) recorded significantly higher total nutrient uptake of NPK (110.81, 48.47 and 61.55 kg ha⁻¹, respectively), yield attributing characters like number of productive tillers per hill (18.41), panicle length (22.29 cm), panicle weight (4.13 g panicle⁻¹) and number of filled grains per panicle (128) as compared to recommended dose of fertilizers alone. Significantly higher 1000 grain weight (25.36g), grain yield (5843 kg ha⁻¹) and straw yield (7477 kg ha⁻¹) was recorded with application of 100% RDF + Glyricidia (50%) + Eupatorium (50%) + PGPR (T9) over other treatments. Combined application of 100 per cent recommended dose of fertilizers + glyricidia (50%) + eupatorium (50%) + PGPR treatment found significantly higher bacteria, fungi and actinomycetes population (31.78 cfu × 10⁵ g⁻¹ of soil, 40.75 cfu × 10³ g⁻¹ and 15.11 cfu × 10⁴ g⁻¹ of soil, respectively) and it was followed by 100 per cent recommended dose of fertilizers + glyricidia (50%) + eupatorium (50%) (29.50 cfu × 10³ g⁻¹, 39.82 cfu × 10³ g⁻¹ and 14.70 cfu × 10⁴ g⁻¹ of soil, respectively).

Keywords

Nutrient uptake, Bio-chemical properties, Soil, Yield attributes, Paddy

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Introduction

Rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) is an important and extensively cultivated food crop which feeds more than half of the world's population. It is second most widely consumed cereal in the world next to wheat. It is the staple food for two thirds of the world's population. In Asia alone, more than 2 billion people obtain 60 to

70 per cent of their energy intake from rice and its derivatives. India has the largest area among rice growing countries and it stands second in production next to China (Udhyakumar and Ramasamy, 2016). It produces 104.31 million tons of rice in an area of 44.38 million hectares (Agriculture Statistical year book, India 2017). The country has to produce about 130 million tons

of rice by 2025 to meet the food requirement of the growing population (Hugar *et al.*, 2009).

Imbalanced nutrient management under intensive cropping system and decreased soil organic matter are the key factors responsible for decline in soil quality parameters (Kang *et al.*, 2005) such as deterioration of the physical, chemical and biological health of soils, and declined factor productivity, due to much higher annual removal of nutrients by crops and cropping systems than the amount added through fertilizers and resulted negative nutrient balance. Inorganic fertilizer is not a complete substitute for organic matter and vice-versa and their role is complementary to each other.

The increasing cost of chemical input, pollution, soil health and sustainability of the production system had generated interest in the integrated nutrient management. The integrated nutrient supply system is the most logical concept for managing long-term soil fertility and productivity (Ramesh *et al.*, 2009). Use of chemical fertilizers and organic manures has been found promising in arresting the decline trend in soil-health and productivity through the correction of marginal deficiencies of some secondary and micro-nutrients, micro-flora and fauna and their beneficial influence on physical and biological properties of soil. Integrated nutrient management system can bring about equilibrium between degenerative and restorative activities in the soil eco-system (Upadhyay *et al.*, 2011).

Green manuring has twin benefits of soil quality and fertility enhancement while meeting a part of nutrient needs of crop. Organic manures provide regulate supply of N by releasing it slowly resulting in increased yield of rice and nutrient use efficiency (Sharma 2002). Integrated use of inorganic

fertilizers, organic manures, green manures and crop residue are the only alternatives which may help in improving soil health and sustained productivity. Use of organic manures, green manures, crop residues along with inorganic fertilizers not only reduces the demand of inorganic fertilizers but also increases the efficiency of applied nutrients due to their favorable effect on physical, chemical and biological properties of soil (Pandey *et al.*, 2007), as organic manure provide a good substrates for the growth of microorganism and maintain a favorable nutrient supply to crop and achieve sustainable crop production.

In hilly and coastal zone of Karnataka, Eupatorium (*Chromolaena odorata* L.) is a problematic weed (Mogali, 1982) found in abundance all along roadside, on field bunds, wastelands and degraded forests (Doddamani, 1992). Its spread in to cultivated areas created a problem for plantation and food crops. Favorable effect of eupatorium green manure on growth and yield of rice has been reported by several workers (Thakur and Singh, 1987 and Angadi *et al.*, 1997). Its use as green manure in rice before seed setting could be a possible way to check its spread in unwanted areas (Anwarulla, 1996). Among the green manures, *Glyricidia sepium* is fast growing and best known multipurpose trees in many parts of the world. It improves mobilization of native soil nutrients in the soil due to production of carbon dioxide and organic acids during decomposition of the plant material, adds valuable nutrients such as N, P, K, Ca and Mg to the soil. *Glyricidia* plants grown on 700 m long bunds can provide about 30 kg N ha⁻¹ year⁻¹ under rain fed systems (Wani *et al.*, 2009). Application of green manures imparts resilience to soil against moisture stress, improves soil quality and reduces soil erosion and pollution besides helping to minimize use of chemical fertilizers. It reduces the nitrogen oxide (N₂O)

and CO₂ emissions into atmosphere and contributes overall reduction in green house gases (GHGs) and has far reaching benefits in the climate change scenario (Wani *et al.*, 2003).

Materials and Methods

A field experiment was conducted during *kharif* season of 2018 at Zonal Agricultural and Horticultural Research Station, Mudigere, Chikkamagaluru district, Karnataka, to study the integrated nutrient management in paddy. The experimental site is located at 13° 7' North latitude and 74° 37' East longitude with an altitude of 980 m above mean sea level. The soil of the experimental site was sandy loam in texture and pH was acidic (6.15), with normal salt load (EC 0.053 d Sm⁻¹). The organic carbon content was low (4.7 g kg⁻¹). The soil was medium in available nitrogen (325.00 kg ha⁻¹), high in available phosphorus (62.01 kg ha⁻¹) and medium in available potassium (102.27 kg ha⁻¹). KHP-13 a popular variety was transplanted in July with a spacing of 20 cm x 10 cm. The experiment was laid out in Randomized Complete Block Design consisting of ten treatments and replicated thrice. The treatment combination includes T₁- 100 % RDF, T₂- 100 % RDF + FYM, T₃- 100 % RDF + Glyricidia equivalent to FYM, T₄- 100 % RDF + Eupatorium equivalent to FYM, T₅- 100 % RDF + FYM + PGPR, T₆- 100 % RDF + Glyricidia + PGPR, T₇- 100 % RDF + Eupatorium+ PGPR, T₈- 100 % RDF + PGPR, T₉- 100 % RDF + Glyricidia (50%) + Eupatorium (50%) + PGPR and T₁₀- 100 % RDF + Glyricidia (50%) + Eupatorium (50%). The organic manures were incorporated in soil 25 days before transplanting of paddy. Yield (biological and economical) was recorded from individual plots at harvest and expressed in kg ha⁻¹ Standard statistical methods were used for comparing the treatment means.

Results and Discussion

Uptake of nutrients by paddy

The data on total uptake of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium by paddy crop as influenced by integrated nutrient management are presented in Table 1.

Total uptake of nitrogen (kg ha⁻¹)

Results pertaining to the total uptake of nitrogen at harvest were found significant. Higher nitrogen uptake (110.81 kg ha⁻¹) was observed in the 100 per cent RDF + glyricidia (50 %) + eupatorium (50 %) + PGPR (T₉) followed by T₅-100 % RDF + FYM + PGPR (108.21). Whereas lowest was recorded in T₁ -100 per cent RDF (79.04 kg ha⁻¹) treatment.

Higher nitrogen uptake with the application of inorganic fertilizer might be due to higher nitrogen concentration through addition of green manures along with higher biomass production. The results were in confirming with the findings of (Banik *et al.*, 2006), Singh (2006), Pandey *et al.*, (2007) and (Macedo, 2008).

Total uptake of phosphorus (kg ha⁻¹)

The trend of total phosphorus uptake followed similar pattern as that of nitrogen uptake. Significantly higher total phosphorus uptake (48.47 kg ha⁻¹) was observed in 100 per cent RDF + glyricidia (50 %) + eupatorium (50 %) + PGPR (T₉) followed by T₅-100 % RDF + FYM + PGPR (46.27 kg ha⁻¹). Whereas lowest was recorded in T₁ -100 per cent RDF (29.99 kg ha⁻¹).

Green manuring for increasing efficiency of rock phosphate in soil, decomposition process, which is stimulated when green manure incorporated into the soil, can further increase the P availability by releasing CO₂,

which forms H_2CO_3 in the soil solution, resulting in the dissolution of primary P-containing minerals. Also, organic acids released during decomposition may help dissolving soil mineral P. The results were in line with findings of Tyagi (2003) and Kaushik (2004).

Total uptake of potassium (kg ha^{-1})

Significantly higher total uptake of potassium (62.80 kg ha^{-1}) was recorded due to application of 100 per cent RDF+ eupatorium + PGPR(T₇) followed by T₉-100 per cent RDF + glyricidia (50 %) + eupatorium (50 %) + PGPR (61.55 kg ha^{-1}). Whereas lowest uptake was recorded in T₁-100 per cent RDF treatment (41.87 kg ha^{-1}) and remaining treatments were on par with each other.

This might be due to eupatorium contains higher amount of K, which is in the simple cationic K^+ form. Most soluble inorganic fertilizers and organic manures are virtually interchangeable as sources of K for plant nutrition (Li *et al.*, 2006).

Soil chemical properties after harvest of paddy

Data on soil chemical properties *viz.*, pH, electrical conductivity and organic carbon after harvest of paddy as influenced by integrated nutrient management are presented in Table 2.

Soil pH

There was no significant difference in soil pH was noticed among all the treatments over the control. Numerically higher pH (5.85) was recorded in treatment which received 100 per cent RDF + glyricidia (50 %) + eupatorium (50 %) + PGPR (T₉) followed by T₅-100 per cent RDF + FYM + PGPR (5.84) compared to other treatments and 100 per cent RDF with pH of 5.13.

Electrical conductivity (d Sm^{-1})

No significant differences were found in electrical conductivity of soil due to integrated nutrient management. However, lowest 0.0454 d Sm^{-1} in 100 per cent RDF+ glyricidia + PGPR, whereas highest in 100 per cent RDF + FYM + PGPR (0.1160 d Sm^{-1}).

Organic carbon (%)

Significantly higher organic carbon content (1.17 %) was recorded with 100 % RDF + eupatorium+ PGPR (T₇). The lowest organic carbon content (1.00%) was recorded in 100 per cent recommended dose of fertilizers (T₁).

Available nitrogen, phosphorus (P_2O_5) and potassium (K_2O)

Data on available nitrogen, phosphorus (P_2O_5) and potassium (K_2O) differed significantly due to integrated nutrient management are presented in Table 2.

Available nitrogen

Available nitrogen in soil after harvest of paddy differed significantly due to different treatment combinations. Higher available nitrogen was recorded in T₂ - 100 per cent RDF + FYM ($371.14 \text{ kg ha}^{-1}$) followed by T₈ -100 per cent RDF + PGPR ($361.55 \text{ kg ha}^{-1}$) and T₇ -100 per cent RDF + eupatorium + PGPR ($359.50 \text{ kg ha}^{-1}$). Lower availability values of $345.68 \text{ kg ha}^{-1}$ were recorded in the treatment T₉.

Slow release of nitrogen from FYM might have reduced the N loss from soil since organic carbon in the soil is higher than that from inorganic fertilizer application. Inorganic fertilizers cause immediate release of nutrients, which will be utilized by the crop or may be lost into the environment through

leaching or denitrification process. Similar results were also noted by Tarfa *et al.*, (2006) and Singh and Singh (2008).

Available phosphorus (P₂O₅)

The data revealed that significant influence of treatments on phosphorus availability and was higher in combined application of T6-100 per cent RDF + Glyricidia + PGPR (68.19 kg ha⁻¹), followed by 100 per cent RDF + glyricidia and 100 per cent RDF + FYM + PGPR (67.49 and 66.70 kg ha⁻¹, respectively). Whereas lowest available nitrogen was recorded in 100 per cent RDF treatment (58.12 kg ha⁻¹).

High available soil phosphorus could be attributed to increased solubility of native P by means of organic acids produced during the course of decomposition. Prabhakar *et al.*, (1972) found that application of Glyricidia green manure to soil @ 4.4 Mg ha⁻¹ increased the available P content of the soil significantly over the 100 per cent RDF.

Among all the treatments, the plots receiving 100 per cent organic treatment showed highest amount of available P irrespective of the tillage practices adopted.

Available potassium (K₂O):

Significantly higher availability of potassium in soil was obtained with application of 100 per cent RDF + eupatorium + PGPR (150.36 kg ha⁻¹), followed by T9 (145.02 kg ha⁻¹) and T4 (137.86 kg ha⁻¹) however lower available potassium observed in T1-100 per cent RDF treatment (115.58 kg ha⁻¹).

This may be attributed to eupatorium accumulate about 40 to 50 per cent of total absorbed K and its recycling would substantially save inorganic fertilizer and help in soil K sustainability (Munir, 2014).

Major benefit obtained from eupatorium was the addition of organic matter to the soil and increased soil microorganisms. The addition of organic matter *i.e.* green manures indicated higher bulk density, nutrient content and water holding capacity. It means that there was higher production of mycorrhizal spores that bound soil particles and increased the compactness of soil with the increment in the soil nutrient contents (Kiran Kumar *et al.*, 2002).

Soil microbial biomass

Data on population of soil microbes' *viz.*, bacteria, fungi and actinomycetes after harvest of paddy as influenced by integrated nutrient management are presented in Table 2 and they differed due to various treatments. Soil microbial population was higher with supplemental addition of organics treatments than the recommended dose of fertilizers (RDF).

Bacteria population (cfu x 10⁵ g⁻¹ of soil)

Combined application of 100 per cent RDF + glyricidia (50 %) + eupatorium (50 %) + PGPR treatment found significantly higher bacterial population (31.78 cfu × 10⁵ g⁻¹ of soil) and it was followed by T10 and T5, (29.50 and 28.85 cfu × 10⁵ g⁻¹ of soil, respectively). Whereas lowest bacterial population were recorded in T1-100 per cent RDF treatment (20.01 cfu × 10⁵ g⁻¹ of soil).

Fungi population (cfu × 10³ g⁻¹ of soil)

Significantly higher population of fungi found in treatment T9 (40.75 cfu × 10³ g⁻¹ of soil), followed by T5-100 per cent RDF + FYM + PGPR and T10-100 per cent RDF + glyricidia (50 %) + eupatorium (50 %) (39.82 and 37.47 cfu × 10³ g⁻¹ of soil, respectively). Whereas lowest fungi population were recorded in T1-100 per cent RDF treatment (23.27 cfu × 10³ g⁻¹ of soil).

Table.1 Uptake of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium by paddy as influenced by integrated nutrient management

Treatments	Nitrogen uptake(kg ha ⁻¹)			Phosphorus uptake (kg ha ⁻¹)			Potassium uptake (kg ha ⁻¹)		
	Grain	Straw	Total	Grain	Straw	Total	Grain	Straw	Total
T₁- 100 % RDF	43.40	35.64	79.04	17.65	12.34	29.99	20.71	21.16	41.87
T₂- 100 % RDF + FYM	48.82	41.14	89.96	19.64	15.26	34.90	24.42	25.89	50.31
T₃- 100 % RDF + glyricidia equivalent to FYM	53.15	45.50	98.65	23.63	16.59	40.22	28.62	29.94	58.56
T₄- 100 % RDF + eupatorium equivalent to FYM	54.36	48.47	102.83	24.42	17.61	42.03	29.26	31.27	60.53
T₅- 100 % RDF + FYM + PGPR	58.70	49.51	108.21	27.87	18.40	46.27	26.75	27.93	54.68
T₆- 100 % RDF + glyricidia+ PGPR	56.04	49.14	105.18	27.63	18.06	45.69	26.97	27.64	54.61
T₇- 100 % RDF + eupatorium+ PGPR	51.28	44.72	96.00	21.90	16.23	38.13	30.59	32.21	62.80
T₈- 100 % RDF + PGPR	47.71	39.16	86.87	18.12	14.36	32.48	24.08	25.07	49.15
T₉- 100 % RDF + glyricidia (50%) + eupatorium (50%) + PGPR	59.46	51.35	110.81	29.26	19.21	48.47	29.80	31.75	61.55
T₁₀- 100 % RDF + glyricidia (50%) + eupatorium (50%)	50.25	43.78	94.03	21.04	15.83	36.87	29.08	31.16	60.24
S. Em±	3.34	2.76	5.70	2.26	1.17	3.19	3.16	3.19	6.18
CD (P=0.05)	9.95	8.20	16.95	6.72	3.48	9.47	9.43	9.50	18.34

Note: RDF @ 75:75:90 kg N: P₂O₅: K₂O ha⁻¹, FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹, Glyricidia @ 7.4 t ha⁻¹, Eupatorium @ 8.10 t ha⁻¹, DAT- Day after transplanting

Table.2 Chemical properties, nutrient status of soil and soil microorganism after harvest of paddy as influenced by integrated nutrient management

Treatments	Chemical properties			Available nutrient			Soil microorganism		
	pH	EC (dSm ⁻¹)	Organic carbon(%)	N	P ₂ O ₅	K ₂ O	Bacteria (cfu x 10 ⁵ g ⁻¹ of soil)	Fungi (cfu x 10 ³ g ⁻¹ of soil)	Actinomycetes (cfu x 10 ⁴ g ⁻¹ of soil)
T₁- 100 % RDF	5.13	0.07	1.00	314.49	58.12	115.58	20.01	23.27	10.10
T₂- 100 % RDF + FYM	5.93	0.08	1.13	371.14	58.45	124.17	26.59	33.52	13.44
T₃- 100 % RDF + glyricidia equivalent to FYM	5.39	0.05	1.04	349.13	67.49	125.26	22.94	32.70	11.60
T₄- 100 % RDF + eupatorium equivalent to FYM	5.46	0.06	1.08	358.21	63.42	137.86	24.55	36.30	12.48
T₅- 100 % RDF + FYM + PGPR	5.84	0.11	1.16	347.60	66.70	124.41	28.85	37.47	13.72
T₆- 100 % RDF + glyricidia+ PGPR	5.27	0.04	1.07	354.76	68.19	125.97	27.54	36.58	12.29
T₇- 100 % RDF + eupatorium+ PGPR	5.68	0.05	1.17	359.50	61.22	150.36	28.72	37.29	12.81
T₈- 100 % RDF + PGPR	5.22	0.07	1.03	361.55	55.87	123.07	21.62	31.50	11.56
T₉- 100 % RDF + glyricidia (50%) + eupatorium (50%) + PGPR	5.85	0.05	1.10	345.68	58.65	145.02	31.78	40.75	15.11
T₁₀- 100 % RDF + glyricidia (50%) + eupatorium (50%)	5.82	0.08	1.09	356.64	61.73	128.26	29.50	39.82	14.70
S. Em±	0.29	0.032	0.04	14.91	2.69	5.61	2.88	4.58	0.92
CD (P=0.05)	NS	NS	0.12	44.36	7.98	16.65	8.55	14.00	2.73

Note: RDF @ 75:75:90 kg N: P₂O₅: K₂O ha⁻¹, FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹, Glyricidia @ 7.4 t ha⁻¹, Eupatorium @ 8.10 t ha⁻¹, DAT- Day after transplanting

Table.3 Yield and yield attributes of paddy (*Oryza sativa* L.) as influenced by integrated nutrient management

Treatments	No. of productive tillers hill ⁻¹	Panicle length (cm)	Panicle weight (g hill ⁻¹)	Total no. of grains panicle ⁻¹	1000 grain weight (g)	Grain yield (kg ha ⁻¹)	Straw yield (kg ha ⁻¹)
T₁- 100 % RDF	12.20	16.49	2.56	103	23.50	4952	6293
T₂- 100 % RDF + FYM	13.32	17.98	3.03	102	24.76	5159	6451
T₃- 100 % RDF + glyricidia equivalent to FYM	14.95	19.16	3.39	103	25.29	5354	6870
T₄- 100 % RDF + eupatorium equivalent to FYM	16.02	20.37	3.58	108	24.99	5527	7094
T₅- 100 % RDF + FYM + PGPR	17.72	21.22	3.95	121	25.80	5652	7295
T₆- 100 % RDF + glyricidia+ PGPR	16.40	20.58	3.81	118	25.15	5565	7144
T₇- 100 % RDF + eupatorium+ PGPR	13.68	18.82	3.22	116	24.83	5289	6807
T₈- 100 % RDF + PGPR	13.18	17.65	2.98	98	23.68	5130	6389
T₉- 100 % RDF + glyricidia (50%) + eupatorium (50%) + PGPR	18.41	22.29	4.13	128	25.36	5843	7477
T₁₀- 100 % RDF + glyricidia (50%) + eupatorium (50%)	13.39	18.66	3.15	106	24.97	5197	6573
S. Em±	1.19	1.02	0.26	4.24	0.92	203	284
CD (P=0.05)	3.55	3.03	0.78	13.00	NS	603	838

Note: RDF @ 75:75:90 kg N: P₂O₅: K₂O ha⁻¹, FYM @ 10 t ha⁻¹, Glyricidia @ 7.4 t ha⁻¹, Eupatorium @ 8.10 t ha⁻¹, DAT- Day after transplanting

Actinomycetes population (cfu × 10⁴ g⁻¹ of soil)

Among the different INM treatments, actinomycetes population was found significantly higher with the application of 100 per cent RDF + glyricidia (50 %) + eupatorium (50 %) (15.11 g⁻¹ of soil) and it was followed by T9 -100 per cent RDF + glyricidia (50 %) + eupatorium (50 %) + PGPR and T5 -100 per cent RDF+ FYM + PGPR (14.70 and 13.72 cfu × 10⁴ g⁻¹ of soil, respectively). Whereas lowest in T1 (10.10 cfu × 10⁴ g⁻¹ of soil).

Application of green manures and FYM was highly beneficial in improving bacteria, fungi and actinomycetes population in the soil. Similar results were reported by Mondal *et al.*, (2003) and Kumaran, (2010) .

Yield and yield attributes

Influence of integrated nutrient management on yield and yield attributes at harvest is presented in Table 3. Among various treatments maximum number of productive tillers per hill (18.41), panicle length (22.29cm), panicle weight(4.13g hill⁻¹), total number of grains (128 panicle⁻¹), 1000 grain weight(25.36g), grain yield (5843kg ha⁻¹) and straw yield(7477 kg ha⁻¹) was recorded by the application of 100 per cent recommended dose of fertilizers + Glyricidia (50 %) + eupatorium (50 %) + PGPR(T₉), followed by 100 per cent recommended dose of fertilizers + FYM + PGPR(T₅). Higher yield and yield attributing parameters may be due to better carbon assimilation and accumulation of carbohydrates in the plant.

Number of productive tillers increased with supplemental addition of N and K through green manures, which could be attributed to the influence of N on leaf development, tiller production and increasing leaf photosynthetic

activity (Ntanson and Koutroubas, 2002). In RDF treatment, insufficient nutrients for filling of grains led to diminished grain number per panicle; thus, in this state, lower competition is the cause of decreased hallow grain percentage in panicle. The results were in accordance with the findings of Esfehiani *et al.*, (2005) and (Ramachandra Prasad *et al.*, 2016).

Grain yield and straw yield of paddy was significantly influenced by the combined application of 100 per cent recommended dose of fertilizers, green manures and biofertilizers. Increase in 1000 grain weight, grain yield and straw with treatment T₉- RDF + glyricidia (50 %) + eupatorium (50 %) + PGPR followed by T₅-100 per cent RDF + FYM + PGPR.

This might be due to better nitrogen and chlorophyll content of plant at panicle emergence and grain filling period consequent to an increasing availability of nitrogen to rice crop maintained complimentary source-sink relationship. Thus the increase in growth and yield owing to the application of N-fertilizers may be due to nitrogen is an important constituents of nucleotides, proteins, chlorophyll and many enzymes, involved in various metabolic processes which have direct impact on vegetative and reproductive phases of plants. With increment of nitrogen fertilizer, grain yield increased relatively, but further increase in nitrogen level produced higher straw yield. These findings are supported by Thomas and Thomas, (2009), Amit Kaul *et al.*, (2015) and Glick, (2012).

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