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#### Vivek Kumar

Department of Soil Science and  
Agricultural Chemistry, C. S.  
Azad University of Agriculture  
and Technology, Kanpur, Uttar  
Pradesh, India

#### Sushil Dimree

Department of Soil Science and  
Agricultural Chemistry, C. S.  
Azad University of Agriculture  
and Technology, Kanpur, Uttar  
Pradesh, India

#### US Tiwari

Department of Soil Science and  
Agricultural Chemistry, C. S.  
Azad University of agriculture  
and technology, Kanpur, Uttar  
Pradesh, India

#### RK Pathak

Department of Soil Science and  
Agricultural Chemistry, C. S.  
Azad University of Agriculture  
and Technology, Kanpur, Uttar  
Pradesh, India

#### SD Dubey

Department of Soil Science and  
Agricultural Chemistry, C. S.  
Azad University of Agriculture  
and Technology, Kanpur, Uttar  
Pradesh, India

#### Corresponding Author:

##### Vivek Kumar

Department of Soil Science and  
Agricultural Chemistry, C. S.  
Azad University of Agriculture  
and Technology, Kanpur, Uttar  
Pradesh, India

## Effect of different levels of sulphur and zinc on economics of hybrid rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) in central Uttar Pradesh

Vivek Kumar, Sushil Dimree, US Tiwari, RK Pathak and SD Dubey

### Abstract

A field experiment was conducted at student's instructional farm Chandra Shekhar Azad University of Agriculture & Technology, Kanpur during *Kharif* season of 2019 and 2020. The experiment was carried out in Factorial Randomized Block Design (RBD) having three replications and sixteen treatments T<sub>1</sub> (control), T<sub>2</sub> (Zn<sub>0</sub>+S<sub>15</sub>), T<sub>3</sub> (Zn<sub>0</sub>+S<sub>30</sub>), T<sub>4</sub> (Zn<sub>0</sub>+S<sub>45</sub>), T<sub>5</sub> (Zn<sub>2.5</sub>+S<sub>0</sub>), T<sub>6</sub> (Zn<sub>2.5</sub>+S<sub>15</sub>), T<sub>7</sub> (Zn<sub>2.5</sub>+S<sub>30</sub>), T<sub>8</sub> (Zn<sub>2.5</sub>+S<sub>45</sub>), T<sub>9</sub> (Zn<sub>5</sub>+S<sub>0</sub>), T<sub>10</sub> (Zn<sub>5</sub>+S<sub>15</sub>), T<sub>11</sub> (Zn<sub>5</sub>+S<sub>30</sub>), T<sub>12</sub> (Zn<sub>5</sub>+S<sub>45</sub>), T<sub>13</sub> (Zn<sub>7.5</sub>+S<sub>0</sub>), T<sub>14</sub> (Zn<sub>7.5</sub>+S<sub>15</sub>), T<sub>15</sub> (Zn<sub>7.5</sub>+S<sub>30</sub>) and T<sub>16</sub> (Zn<sub>7.5</sub>+S<sub>45</sub>) for hybrid rice. The test variety PHB-71 of hybrid rice was raised with different treatment combinations of sulfur and zinc. The highest cost of cultivation (55316 rupees ha<sup>-1</sup>) was recorded with application of S@45 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> and Zn @7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> while it was noted minimum (47536 rupees ha<sup>-1</sup>) under control (T<sub>1</sub>) during both the years. Maximum gross return (141329 and 150509 rupees ha<sup>-1</sup>) was recorded with the application of application of 100% RDF + S@30kg and Zn@5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> followed by 100% RDF + S@30 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> and Zn@7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> during both years. The net realization (87075 and 96255 rupees ha<sup>-1</sup>) and BCR (2.60 and 2.69) was found maximum with the application of 100% RDF + S@30kg and Zn@5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> during both the years of experimentation.

**Keywords:** Experiment, factorial randomized block design, replication, treatment, gross return, net return and b:c ratio

### 1. Introduction

Rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) is one of the most important staple foods for nearly half of the world's population, most of them living in developing countries. Rice occupies about 11% of world's agricultural land and ranks second in terms of cultivated area (Tumrani *et al.* 2015) [9]. Rice is the second most widely consumed cereal in the world next to wheat. India ranks first in respect of area 437.80 lakh ha. and second in production 118.40 million tonne ha<sup>-1</sup>. It is higher by 8.67 million tonnes than the five years' average production of 109.76 million tonnes and obtained 2705 kg yield per hectare during 2019-2020. (Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare 2020-21) [1]. Rice is grown in tropical and sub-tropical areas and occupies an area of 40 million ha<sup>-1</sup> to 43 million ha<sup>-1</sup> in the country, only 42 per cent of which is grown under irrigated condition. Rice provide food for more than 70% of the population and source of livelihood for 120-155 million rural house holders and also a back bone of Indian Agriculture. India alone produce nearly one fourth of the rice globally. Rice is one of the chief grains and dominant crop of the country. Moreover, this country has the largest area under rice cultivation, as it is one of the principal food crops. Rice is a high energy or high calorie cereal crop. Rice protein, though small in amount, is of high nutritional value. Chaudhary and Tran, (2001) [3]. Sulphur involve in chlorophyll production, protein synthesis and plant function and structure. It forms an important constituent of straw and plant stalks. Sulphur application increased the microbial biomass carbon and arylsulphatase activity. It is a building block for protein and a key ingredient in the formation of chlorophyll Duke and Reisenauer, (1986) [5]. Zinc is essential for the transformation of carbohydrates and regulates consumption of sugars. The function of zinc in plants is as a metal activator of enzymes. Deficiency of zinc in lowland rice occurs in near neutral to alkaline soils, particularly in calcareous soils. Zinc deficiencies are widely spread throughout the world, especially in the rice lands of Asia and deficiencies occur in neutral and calcareous soils Tisdale *et al.*, (1997) [8].

Waikhom Jiten Singh *et al.* (2018) [10] Reported that treatments consisted of four levels of sulphur (0, 15, 20 and 25 kg/ha) and four levels of zinc (0, 5, 10 and 15 kg Zn/ha) laid out in factorial randomise block design and which were replicated thrice.

Regarding the net return highest value was observed at S<sub>20</sub> Zn<sub>15</sub> (Rs 29278.38), however highest B: C ratio was recorded with the treatment combination of S<sub>20</sub> and Zn<sub>5</sub> (0.63).

## 2. Materials and Methods

### 2.1 Experimental Site and Location

The experiment was conducted at Students' Instructional Farm, Department of Agronomy Chandra Shekhar Azad University of Agriculture & Technology, Kanpur and it was in the alluvial tract of Indo - Gangetic plains in central part of Uttar Pradesh between 25°26' to 26°58' North latitude and 79°31' to 80°34' East longitude at an elevation of 125.9 m above mean sea level. The region falls under agro-climatic zone V (Central Plain Zone) of Uttar Pradesh.

**Treatment combination and symbols**

Sr. No.	Treatment Symbol	Treatment combination
1.	T <sub>1</sub>	Control (Zn <sub>0</sub> + S <sub>0</sub> )
2.	T <sub>2</sub>	Zn <sub>0</sub> + S <sub>15</sub>
3.	T <sub>3</sub>	Zn <sub>0</sub> + S <sub>30</sub>
4.	T <sub>4</sub>	Zn <sub>0</sub> + S <sub>45</sub>
5.	T <sub>5</sub>	Zn <sub>2.5</sub> + S <sub>0</sub>
6.	T <sub>6</sub>	Zn <sub>2.5</sub> + S <sub>15</sub>
7.	T <sub>7</sub>	Zn <sub>2.5</sub> + S <sub>30</sub>
8.	T <sub>8</sub>	Zn <sub>2.5</sub> + S <sub>45</sub>
9.	T <sub>9</sub>	Zn <sub>5</sub> + S <sub>0</sub>
10.	T <sub>10</sub>	Zn <sub>5</sub> + S <sub>15</sub>
11.	T <sub>11</sub>	Zn <sub>5</sub> + S <sub>30</sub>
12.	T <sub>12</sub>	Zn <sub>5</sub> + S <sub>45</sub>
13.	T <sub>13</sub>	Zn <sub>7.5</sub> + S <sub>0</sub>
14.	T <sub>14</sub>	Zn <sub>7.5</sub> + S <sub>15</sub>
15.	T <sub>15</sub>	Zn <sub>7.5</sub> + S <sub>30</sub>
16.	T <sub>16</sub>	Zn <sub>7.5</sub> + S <sub>45</sub>

**Note:** RDF of NPK was given @ 150: 75: 60 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> in all the plots except control whereas Sulphur and Zinc was applied in all the plots of hybrid rice as per treatment @ 0, 15, 30, 45 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> and 0, 2.5, 5.0, 7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, respectively

### 2.2 Field preparation

The experimental field was ploughed once with soil turning plough. In first week of June, irrigation was applied and at proper soil moisture, field was ploughed with tractor drawn disc harrow followed by planking. Layout was made by marking of plots.

### 2.3 Transplanting

The nursery was given a light irrigation before uprooting the seedlings at 25 days of sowing. Transplanting was done by manual labours using two seedlings per at the spacing of 20 10 cm on 15 July 2019 and 17 July 2020.

### 2.4 Application of Fertilizer

The Urea, di-ammonium phosphate, muriate of potash, elemental sulfur and zinc oxide were used as source of N, P, K, S and Zn. In paddy, half dose of N, full doses of P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, K<sub>2</sub>O, S and Zn were applied as basal and remaining amount of nitrogen was top dressed in equal two splits. RDF of N:P:K (@ 150:75:60) will be applied in all the treatments except control by Urea, DAP and MOP, respectively while different doses of Sulphur (0, 15,30 45 kg/ha) and Zinc (0, 2.5, 5.0, 7.5 kg/ha) given by elemental sulphur and zinc oxide as per treatment composition.

### 2.5 Cultural operations

In order to protect, the crop from adverse effects of weeds and to pulverize the soil, the weeding operations were performed by manual labors with the help of *khurpi* during both the years of experimentation in the crops.

## 2.6 Economic studies

### 2.6.1 Cost of cultivation

Cost of cultivation for different treatments was worked out by adding variable cost of various treatments to common cost of cultivation.

### 2.6.2 Gross return

Gross return was worked out by multiplying grain and by-product yield separately under various treatment combinations with their existing minimum support price declared by the central government/prevaling market prices. The money values of both, grain and straw were added together in order to achieve gross return.

Gross return = Total income from grain and straw yields.

### 2.6.3 Net return

Net return was calculated by subtracting the cost of cultivation from the gross return of the individual treatment combination. Net return was worked out for hybrid rice by subtracting treatment wise total cost of cultivation from their gross monetary return.

Net return = Gross return - Cost of cultivation

### 2.6.4 Benefit-Cost ratio

Benefit-cost ratio was calculated as gross return (GR) accrued divided by total cost of cultivation (TC) of the individual treatment combination.

Benefit: Cost = Gross return ÷ Total cost of cultivation

## 3. Results

### 3.1 Effect of treatments on cost of cultivation

Data presented in table no. 1 showed that highest cost of cultivation (55316) was recorded with application of S@45 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> and Zn @7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> while it was noted minimum (47536) under control S<sub>0</sub>Zn<sub>0</sub> during both the years.

**Table 1:** Effect of treatments on Cost of cultivation of hybrid rice during 2019 and 2020

Factors	2019 and 2020			
	S <sub>0</sub>	S <sub>15</sub>	S <sub>30</sub>	S <sub>45</sub>
Zn <sub>0</sub>	47536	52745	53357	53970
Zn <sub>2.5</sub>	52582	53195	53807	54419
Zn <sub>5.0</sub>	53030	53643	54255	54867
Zn <sub>7.5</sub>	53480	54092	54704	55316

### 3.2 Effect of treatments on Gross return

The data pertaining to effect of levels of sulphur and zinc on gross return has been summarized in table 2.0 and fig no 1.0

#### Effect of Sulphur

It was obvious from the table that the applied sulphur had considerable influence on gross return during both the years. The maximum and highly significant gross realization (136559 and 145647 rupees ha<sup>-1</sup>) was computed with the treatment receiving 30 kg sulphur ha<sup>-1</sup> followed by treatment where sulphur was given @ 45 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> during first and second year respectively. Whereas, the minimum gross realization was obtained with the treatment of no sulphur application.

**Effect of zinc**

A cursory glance of the data showed that the application of zinc significantly increased the gross realization of the produce after harvest. The maximum gross realization (136827 and 146048 rupees ha<sup>-1</sup>) was computed with the application of zinc @ 5.0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> which was close similar to the treatment of zinc @ 7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> during first and second years, respectively. Whilst, the lowest one was registered in treatment of no zinc application.

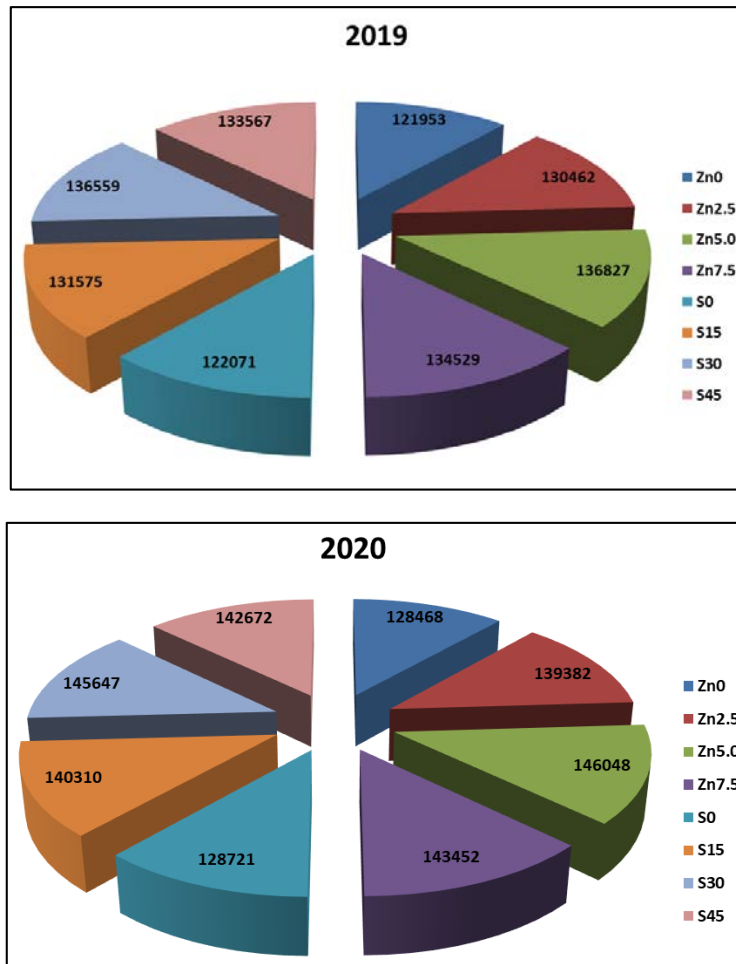
**Effect of Sulphur and zinc**

It was obvious from the data presented in table and fig that the interactive effect of applied sulphur and zinc had profound influence on gross realization of produce. The maximum gross realization (141329 and 150509 rupees ha<sup>-1</sup>) was obtained with the treatment receiving sulphur and zinc @ 30 and 5.0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> during first and second years of experimentation.

**Table 2:** Effect of treatments on Gross return during 2019 and 2020

Factors	2019					2020				
	S <sub>0</sub>	S <sub>15</sub>	S <sub>30</sub>	S <sub>45</sub>	Mean	S <sub>0</sub>	S <sub>15</sub>	S <sub>30</sub>	S <sub>45</sub>	Mean
Zn <sub>0</sub>	101281	126319	131234	128977	121953	101675	134752	140060	137386	128468
Zn <sub>2.5</sub>	126150	130000	134654	131044	130462	134743	138720	143939	140127	139382
Zn <sub>5.0</sub>	131875	135600	141329	138505	136827	141174	144711	150509	147799	146048
Zn <sub>7.5</sub>	128977	134381	139019	135740	134529	137293	143058	148079	145376	143452
Mean	122071	131575	136559	133567	130943	128721	140310	145647	142672	139338

Factors	2019		2020	
	S.E.(m)	C.D. (at 5%)	S.E.(m)	C.D. (at 5%)
S	217.139	627.318	179.505	518.591
Zn	217.139	627.318	179.505	518.591
S x Zn	434.279	1254.637	359.009	1037.182



**Fig 1:** Effect of treatments on Gross return

**3.3 Effect of treatments on net return**

The data in relation to effect of levels of sulphur and zinc on net return has been given in table no. 3 and fig no 2.

**Effect of Sulphur**

It clearly indicated that the applied sulphur had profound

influence on net return during both the years. The maximum and highly significant net realization (82529 and 91616 rupees ha<sup>-1</sup>) was computed with the treatment receiving 30 kg sulphur ha corresponding to the treatment where sulphur was given @ 45 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> and significantly superior to control during first and second year respectively. Whereas, the

minimum net realization (70414 and 77064 rupees ha<sup>-1</sup>) was obtained with the treatment of no sulphur application.

**Effect of zinc**

An appraisal of the data showed that the application of zinc significantly increased the net realization of the produce after harvest. The maximum gross realization (82879 and 92100 rupees ha<sup>-1</sup>) was computed with the application of zinc @ 5.0 kg ha which was close similar to the treatment of zinc @ 7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> and significantly superior to control during first and

second years, respectively. Whilst, the lowest was registered in treatment of no zinc application.

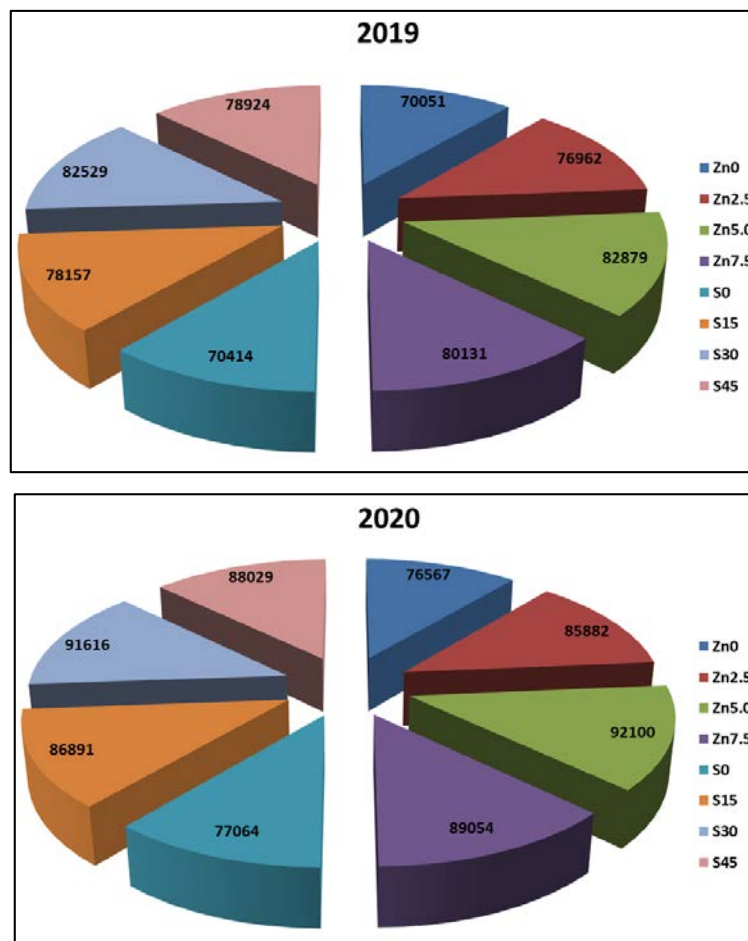
**Effect of Sulphur and zinc**

It was obvious from the data that the interactive effect of applied sulphur and zinc brought profound influence on net realization of produce. The maximum net realization (87075 and 96255 rupees ha<sup>-1</sup>) was obtained with the treatment receiving sulphur and zinc @ 30 and 5.0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> during first and second years of experimentation.

**Table 3:** Effect of treatments on net return during 2019 and 2020

Factors	2019					2020				
	S <sub>0</sub>	S <sub>15</sub>	S <sub>30</sub>	S <sub>45</sub>	Mean	S <sub>0</sub>	S <sub>15</sub>	S <sub>30</sub>	S <sub>45</sub>	Mean
Zn <sub>0</sub>	53745	73574	77877	75007	70051	54139	82007	86703	83417	76567
Zn <sub>2.5</sub>	73568	76806	80848	76625	76962	82161	85525	90132	85708	85882
Zn <sub>5.0</sub>	78845	81958	87075	83638	82879	88144	91068	96255	92932	92100
Zn <sub>7.5</sub>	75497	80289	84315	80424	80131	83814	88966	93375	90060	89054
Mean	70414	78157	82529	78924	77506	77064	86891	91616	88029	85900

Factors	2019		2020	
	S.E.(m)	C.D. (at 5%)	S.E.(m)	C.D. (at 5%)
S	143.426	414.360	95.943	191.885
Zn	143.426	414.360	95.943	271.326
S x Zn	286.852	828.719	191.885	542.651



**Fig 2:** Effect of treatments on net return

**3.4 Effect of treatments on BCR**

The data pertaining to effect of levels of sulphur and zinc on BCR has been given in table no. 4 and fig no 3.

**Effect of Sulphur**

It was noticed that the applied levels of sulphur had profound

influence on BCR during both the years. The maximum and highly significant BCR (2.53 and 2.70) was computed with the treatment receiving 30 kg sulphur ha<sup>-1</sup> followed by the treatment wherein sulphur was given @ 45 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> however, significantly superior to control during first and second year respectively. Whereas, the minimum BCR (2.36 and 2.48)

was computed with the treatment of no sulphur application.

application.

**Effect of zinc**

A visualisation of the data showed that the application of zinc significantly increased the value respective to BCR of the produce. The maximum BCR (2.54 and 2.71) was computed with the application of zinc @ 5.0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> followed by the treatment of zinc @ 7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> and significantly superior to control during first and second years, respectively. Whilst, the lowest BCR was registered in treatment of no zinc

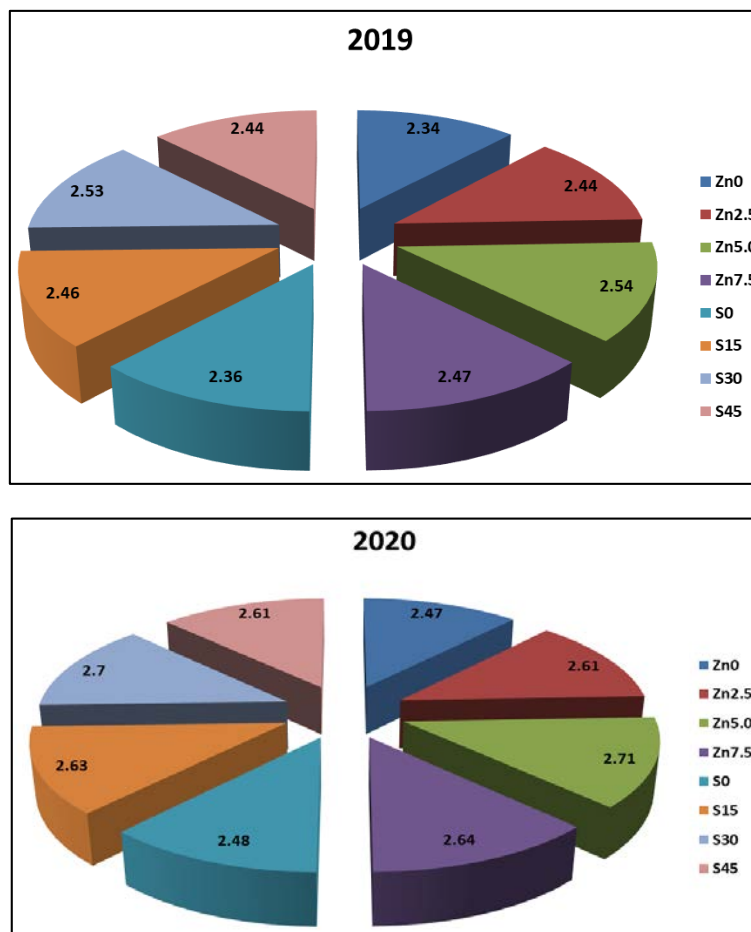
**Effect of Sulphur and zinc**

It was obvious from the data that the interactive effect of applied sulphur and zinc brought significant influence on BCR of produce. The maximum BCR (2.60 and 2.69) was obtained with the treatment receiving sulphur and zinc @ 30 and 5.0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> during first and second years of experimentation.

**Table 4:** Effect of treatments on BCR during 2019 and 2020

Factors	2019					2020				
	S <sub>0</sub>	S <sub>15</sub>	S <sub>30</sub>	S <sub>45</sub>	Mean	S <sub>0</sub>	S <sub>15</sub>	S <sub>30</sub>	S <sub>45</sub>	Mean
Zn <sub>0</sub>	2.13	2.39	2.46	2.39	2.34	2.14	2.55	2.62	2.55	2.47
Zn <sub>2.5</sub>	2.4	2.44	2.50	2.41	2.44	2.56	2.61	2.68	2.57	2.61
Zn <sub>5.0</sub>	2.49	2.53	2.60	2.52	2.54	2.66	2.7	2.77	2.69	2.71
Zn <sub>7.5</sub>	2.41	2.48	2.54	2.45	2.47	2.57	2.64	2.71	2.63	2.64
Mean	2.36	2.46	2.53	2.44	2.45	2.48	2.63	2.70	2.61	2.60

Factors	2019		2020	
	S.E.(m)	C.D. (at 5%)	S.E.(m)	C.D. (at 5%)
S	0.022	0.063	0.025	0.073
Zn	0.022	0.063	0.025	0.073
S x Zn	0.043	0.125	0.050	0.146



**Fig 3:** Effect of treatments on BCR

**4. Discussion**

It was obvious from the results that the applied sulfur had considerable influence on cost of cultivation, gross return, net return and BCR during both the years. The maximum and highly significant cost of cultivation, gross realization, net realization and BCR were computed with the treatment

receiving 30 kg sulfur ha followed by treatment where sulfur was given @ 45 kg ha during first and second year respectively. Whereas, the minimum cost of cultivation, gross realization, net realization and BCR was obtained with the treatment of no sulfur application. Similar to sulfur application, the data showed that the application of zinc

significantly increased the cost of cultivation, gross realization, net realization and BCR of the produce after harvest. The maximum gross realization was computed with the application of zinc @ 5.0 kg ha which was followed by the treatment of zinc @ 7.5 kg ha and minimum at its control during first and second years, respectively. Bahera *et al.* (2018) [2] reported that the application of recommended fertilizer dose(RFD) @ 80-40-40 kg N-P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-K<sub>2</sub>O ha<sup>-1</sup>+ZnSO<sub>4</sub> @ 25 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>+B @ 1 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> recorded higher gross return, net return and B: C ratio than other management practices. It was also observed that likewise sulfur and zinc their interactions also showed positive impact on cost of cultivation, gross realization, net realization and BCR during both the years of experimentation. It is interesting to report here that the maximum cost of cultivation, gross realization, net realization and BCR were recorded with the treatment receiving sulfur and zinc @ 30 and 5.0 kg ha and minimum at its control. Waikhom Jiten Singh *et al.* (2018) [10] reported that highest B: C ratio was recorded with the treatment combination of S20 and Zn5 (0.63). This might be due to less cost incurred and obtained maximum gross return. These findings are in accordance with results obtained by (Mauriya *et al.* 2013; Das *et al.* 2010 and Rakesh Kumar *et al.* 2014) [6, 4, 7].

## 5. Conclusion

From above results, it may be inferred that the maximum gross return, net return and B:C ratio was found with the application of 100% RDF + soil application of S@30kg and Zn@5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> followed by 100% + soil application of S@30kg and Zn@7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> during the experimentation year of 2019 and 2020.

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