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## Effect of FYM and Inorganic fertilizers on growth performance, yield components and yield of wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) under indo-gangetic plain of Uttar Pradesh

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### Abstract

The present field experiment was conducted at pot house of department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry of C.S.A.U.A&T Kanpur (campus) under the Central Plain zone of Uttar Pradesh, during Rabi season of 2018-19. The experiment comprised of 5 treatment combinations in randomized block design with four replications consisted of T<sub>1</sub>: [Control], T<sub>2</sub>: [100% RDF], T<sub>3</sub>: [75% RDF + FYM @ 6 t ha<sup>-1</sup>], T<sub>4</sub>: [50% RDF + FYM @ 12 t ha<sup>-1</sup>], T<sub>5</sub>: [25% RDF + FYM @ 18 t ha<sup>-1</sup>]. On the basis of the results emanated from present investigation, it could be concluded that application of 25% RDF + FYM @ 18 t ha<sup>-1</sup> shows maximum plant height (14.35 cm and 85.79 cm at 30 DAS and 90 DAS respectively) and yield attributes i.e. no. of tiller plant<sup>-1</sup> (6.17), no. of ear plant<sup>-1</sup> (5.97), ear length (10.25 cm), weight of ear (3.80 g), no. of grain spike<sup>-1</sup> (55.70), grain weight plant<sup>-1</sup> (3.00 g) and test weight (38.95 g). An appraisal of data showed that among the different combination of FYM and inorganic fertilizers treatment T<sub>5</sub> [25% RDF + FYM @ 18 t ha<sup>-1</sup>] also produced maximum grain yield (43.95 q ha<sup>-1</sup>), straw yield (72.95 q ha<sup>-1</sup>), biological yield (116.90 q ha<sup>-1</sup>) and harvest index (37.59%).

**Keywords:** Ear, FYM, spike, tiller, wheat and yield

### Introduction

Wheat (*Triticum aestivum*) is the most important staple food grain crop that has been labelled as “king of cereals”. India is the second largest wheat producer country in the world (Jat *et al.*, 2013) [9]. The approximate chemical composition of the wheat kernel is starch 63-71%; protein 10-12%; water 8-17%; cellulose 2-3%; fat 1.5-2%; sugar 2-3%; and mineral matter 1.5-2%. Gluten of the wheat kernel contains about 17.6% nitrogen. (Anonymous, 2017) [11].

The major wheat producing states are Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana and Bihar which occupy 33%, 18%, 12%, 10%, 9% and 8% area of total wheat cultivation in the country, respectively. In India, the highest productivity of wheat is recorded in Punjab (Sharma *et al.*, 2012) [18].

Wheat is generally grown in intensive cropping system with higher use of inorganic specially NPK fertilizers. Optimal fertilizer management is necessary to maintain sustainable yields, improve nutrient use efficiency of fertilizers and save fertilizer resources (Chuan *et al.* 2016) [3]. Nitrogen is one of the major deficient plant nutrients particularly in sandy loam soil of semi-arid region of western Uttar Pradesh. An optimum supply of nitrogen is important for vigorous vegetative growth, chlorophyll formation and carbohydrate utilization. But N use efficiency in cereals is quite low. Conjoint use of inorganic and organic sources of N is recommended to maintain soil and crop productivity. The integrated N management also increased organic carbon content and availability of plant nutrients in soil. Integration of chemical and organic sources and their efficient management have shown promising results not only in sustaining the production but also in maintaining soil health (Singh *et al.* 2017). Jat *et al.* (2014) [12, 10] suggested that further improvement in nutrient use efficiency will become possible by balanced use of N, P and K fertilizers and by rational use of organic manures in wheat systems.

Phosphorus (P) is the second most important essential nutrient for crop production after nitrogen (Venkatesh *et al.*, 2020) [22]. This nutrient plays various roles in the plant metabolism including a structural role in molecules, such as nucleic acids and proteins, for energy transfer, respiration, glycolysis, carbohydrate metabolism, redox reactions, enzyme activation/inactivation, membrane synthesis and stability, and in nitrogen fixation (Yousuf *et al.* 2017) [23].

Phosphorus is a component of DNA and RNA, which carries genetic information used to synthesize proteins. Phosphorus is essentially important to human beings also; it is involved in the growth and repair of body cells and tissues. Its deficiency in children affects normal bone and teeth development. Thus, there is rising concern over widespread deficiency of P in the agricultural lands of the world (Sheetal, 2013) [19].

Potassium is a “work horse” plant nutrient. Perhaps this is why it is not bound into any specific plant compound. Therefore, potassium is free to travel and to wheel and deal with in the plant almost at will. It should not be surprising that a shortage of potassium can result in loss of crop yield, quality and profitability (Ducan *et al.*, 2018) [5].

The inclusion of organic manure with inorganic fertilizers may serve as a chelating and complexing agent which prevents the nutrients from precipitation, fixation, oxidation and leaching. Application of organic manures may also improve availability of native nutrients in soil as well as the efficiency of applied fertilizers (Sawrup, 2010) [17]. The role of organic matter is well established in governing the nutrient fluxes, microbial biomass and improvement in soil physical chemical and biological properties (Malav *et al.*, 2019) [13]. Maintaining soil health is of utmost important to ensure food and nutritional security of the country (Jadhao *et al.*, 2019) [8]. For most efficient use of fertilizers, all nutrients must be used in balance proportion. However, there is a lack of information regarding the performance of FYM and nitrogen in relation to productivity and fertility of soil under wheat cultivation (Hassan *et al.*, 2018) [6].

FYM is a good source of nutrients and contributed towards build-up of organic matter in soil (Kumar *et al.*, 2017) [15]. Nitrogen is an indispensable element for optimum functioning of crops. The increase in eco-friendly production of wheat can be made possible by widespread adoption of improved technologies of which fertilizer management particularly that of nitrogen through organic manure can play a key role. Hence, present investigation was carried out to study the growth, yield and nutrient uptake behaviour of wheat to define optimum dose under integrated use of FYM (Chesti *et al.*, 2013) [2].

## Material and Methods

### Soil of the Experimental Field

The experimental field is sandy loam in texture, good aeration (42.9% porosity), alkaline in reaction (pH 7.6), low in organic carbon (0.32%), low in available N (169.4 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>), medium in available P (16.3 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>), and high in available K (154.7 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>).

### Layout and Design of the Experiment

The experiment was laid out in randomized block design with four replications. The total numbers of unit plots were 20. The size of a unit plot was 1.0 m X 1.0 m. The width of the main irrigation channel is 1.5 m.

## Treatments of the Investigation

The experiment comprised of 5 treatment combinations in randomized block design with four replications consisted of T<sub>1</sub>: [Control], T<sub>2</sub>: [100% RDF], T<sub>3</sub>: [75% RDF + FYM @ 6 t ha<sup>-1</sup>], T<sub>4</sub>: [50% RDF + FYM @ 12 t ha<sup>-1</sup>], T<sub>5</sub>: [25% RDF + FYM @ 18 t ha<sup>-1</sup>].

## Fertilizer and Manure Application

Fertilizers were applied as per treatments whereas nitrogen, phosphorus and potash were applied through urea, DAP, Murate of Potash, respectively. The amount of nitrogen in DAP was adjusted in the amount of urea. Recommended dose of fertilizer i.e. NPK @ 120:60:40 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, were applied. Half of nitrogen and full dose of phosphorus and potash were applied as basal at the time of sowing by placement method. The remaining half of the nitrogen was applied at the time of first irrigation. The quantity of FYM required for substituting a specified amount of nitrogen as per treatment was calculated and incorporated into soil 15 days before sowing of the crop.

## Seed and Sowing

The seeds of Wheat PBW - 343, were sown @ 125 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> in shallow furrows with the help of manual labour at a row spacing of 22.5 cm and plant spacing 10 cm apart. Depth of sowing was kept 4-5 cm.

## Irrigation

Besides one pre-sowing irrigation, the crop was given six irrigations at different stages *viz.*, CRI, tillering, late jointing, flowering, milking and dough stage during the period of experimentation.

## Harvest Index (%)

The harvest index was worked out with the help of following formula given by Donald *et al.* (1976) [4].

$$\text{Harvest Index (\%)} = \left[ \frac{\text{Grain Yield (q ha}^{-1}\text{)}}{\text{Biological Yield (q ha}^{-1}\text{)}} \right] \times 100$$

## Result and Discussion

### Growth Parameter

#### Plant Height

The data portrayed that the maximum plant height was recorded as 14.35 cm, 85.79 cm and 88.45 cm in T<sub>5</sub>: [25% RDF + FYM @ 18 t ha<sup>-1</sup>]. at 30 DAS, 90 DAS and at harvest stage respectively which was statically at par with par with T<sub>4</sub>: [50% RDF + FYM @ 12 t ha<sup>-1</sup>] with 13.40 cm, 82.72 cm and 85.50 cm at 30 DAS, 90 DAS and harvest stage respectively and the minimum plant height was recorded as 9.85 cm, 66.33 cm and 68.55 cm T<sub>1</sub> [Control] at 30 DAS, 90 DAS and at harvest stage respectively. The results of present investigation are also in agreement with the findings of Prakash *et al.*, (2011) and Suryawanshi *et al.*, (2018) [21].

**Table 1:** Effect of treatment combinations on Plant Height

Treatments	Treatment Combinations	Plant Height (cm)		
		30 DAS	90 DAS	At Harvest
T <sub>1</sub>	Control	9.85	66.33	68.55
T <sub>2</sub>	100% RDF	12.25	79.31	81.96
T <sub>3</sub>	75% RDF + FYM @ 6 t ha <sup>-1</sup>	12.75	81.12	83.35
T <sub>4</sub>	50% RDF + FYM @ 12 t ha <sup>-1</sup>	13.40	82.72	85.50
T <sub>5</sub>	25% RDF + FYM @ 18 t ha <sup>-1</sup>	14.35	85.79	88.45

SE(d)	0.516	2.065	2.581
C.D.	1.124	4.499	5.623

**Yield Components:** The data portrayed that the maximum no. of tiller plant<sup>-1</sup> (6.17), no. of ear plant<sup>-1</sup> (5.97), ear length (10.25 cm), weight of ear (3.80 g), no. of grain spike<sup>-1</sup> (55.70), grain weight plant<sup>-1</sup> (3.00 g) and test weight (38.95 g) in T<sub>5</sub>: [25% RDF + FYM @ 18 t ha<sup>-1</sup>] which was statically at par with par with T<sub>4</sub>: [50% RDF + FYM @ 12 t ha<sup>-1</sup>] with no. of tiller plant<sup>-1</sup> (5.84), no. of ear plant<sup>-1</sup> (5.73), ear length (9.87

cm), weight of ear (3.66 g), no. of grain spike<sup>-1</sup> (53.36), grain weight plant<sup>-1</sup> (2.85 g) and test weight (38.65 g). The minimum no. of tiller plant<sup>-1</sup> (4.75), no. of ear plant<sup>-1</sup> (4.15), ear length (7.15 cm), weight of ear (2.65 g), no. of grain spike<sup>-1</sup> (38.65), grain weight plant<sup>-1</sup> (1.75 g) and test weight (36.85 g). Similar findings were reported by Pandey *et al.*, (2009) and Kulkarni *et al.*, (2018) [14, 11].

**Table 2:** Effect of treatment combinations on Yield Components

Treatment	No. of Tillers plant <sup>-1</sup>	No. of Ear plant <sup>-1</sup>	Ear Length (cm)	Ear weight (g)	No. of Grain spike <sup>-1</sup>	Grain weight Plant <sup>-1</sup>	Test weight(g)
T <sub>1</sub>	4.75	4.15	7.15	2.65	38.65	1.75	36.85
T <sub>2</sub>	5.68	5.50	9.47	3.51	51.25	2.78	38.25
T <sub>3</sub>	5.73	5.60	9.65	3.58	52.14	2.82	38.35
T <sub>4</sub>	5.84	5.73	9.87	3.66	53.36	2.85	38.65
T <sub>5</sub>	6.17	5.97	10.25	3.80	55.70	3.00	38.95
SE(d)	0.38	0.29	0.37	0.12	1.29	0.102	0.47
C.D.	0.84	0.64	0.82	0.28	2.81	0.225	1.04

### Productivity Parameters

A cursory glance of data revealed that the maximum grain yield (43.95 q ha<sup>-1</sup>), straw yield (72.95 q ha<sup>-1</sup>), biological yield (116.90 q ha<sup>-1</sup>) and harvest index (37.59%) was recorded in T<sub>5</sub>: [25% RDF + FYM @ 18 t ha<sup>-1</sup>] followed by T<sub>4</sub>: [50% RDF + FYM @ 12 t ha<sup>-1</sup>] with 42.20 q ha<sup>-1</sup>, 71.05 q ha<sup>-1</sup>,

113.25 q ha<sup>-1</sup> and 37.26% respectively and the minimum grain yield (29.75 q ha<sup>-1</sup>), straw yield (50.65 q ha<sup>-1</sup>), biological yield (80.40 q ha<sup>-1</sup>) and harvest index (37.00%) in T<sub>1</sub> [Control]. These result are accordance with the finding of Singh *et al.*, (2018) and Hussain *et al.*, (2018) [7, 20].

**Table 3:** Effect of treatment combinations on Productivity Parameters

Treatment	Treatment Combination	Grain yield (q ha <sup>-1</sup> )	Straw yield (q ha <sup>-1</sup> )	Biological Yield (q ha <sup>-1</sup> )	Harvest Index (%)
T <sub>1</sub>	Control	29.75	50.65	80.40	37.00
T <sub>2</sub>	100% RDF	40.45	67.41	107.86	37.05
T <sub>3</sub>	75% RDF + FYM @ 6 t ha <sup>-1</sup>	41.15	69.40	110.55	37.22
T <sub>4</sub>	50% RDF + FYM @ 12 t ha <sup>-1</sup>	42.20	71.05	113.25	37.26
T <sub>5</sub>	25% RDF + FYM @ 18 t ha <sup>-1</sup>	43.95	72.95	116.90	37.59
	SE(d)	1.01	1.91	1.33	1.69
	C.D.	2.22	4.16	3.01	3.37

### Conclusion

Based on the finding of the present study, it can be inferred that application of T<sub>5</sub>[25% RDF + FYM @ 18 t ha<sup>-1</sup>] resulted maximum growth performance and yield attributes which results more yield of wheat crop during rabi season under Indo-Gangetic plain of Uttar Pradesh. It is strongly recommended that farmer of the U.P adopt the dose of T<sub>5</sub> [25% RDF + FYM @ 18 t ha<sup>-1</sup>] doses for better crop yield.

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