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## Influence of zinc and iron on Physico-chemical properties of soil in cluster bean

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### Abstract

The research was lead at the Soil Science Research Farm, Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences, Prayagraj, U.P. during the *Kharif* season in 2020-2021. The experiment was laid out in Randomized Block Design with sixteen treatments and three replications with four levels of zinc and iron respectively with NPK as an RDF that leads to the non-significant findings *i.e.* B.D. and P.D. and remaining macro- micro nutrients in soil have significant findings which comprises yellowish brown and sandy loam textured neutral to alkaline soil that is non- saline in nature. Physico-chemical properties of soil was found best in treatment T<sub>16</sub> (RDF @ 100% + Zinc @ 20 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) as compare with in treatment T<sub>1</sub> [Absolute control (RDF @ 0% + Zinc @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>)].

**Keywords:** Zinc, iron, cluster bean, Physico-chemical properties of soil

### Introduction

India is the largest producer, consumer and importer of pulses in the world. It consumes an estimated 26 MT of pulses annually. In 2016-17, the production of pulses was 23.13 MT, in 2017-18, it was 25.42 MT and in 2018-19 is around 23.33 MT. India's pulses production is driven by chickpea and pigeon pea. The contributes of chickpea in total production is around 48% followed by pigeon pea at 17% (IPGA, 2019) [9].

Guar or cluster bean [*Cyamopsis tetragonoloba* (L.) Taub] is native to India and has been cultivated in the country for ages. Guar plant produces a cluster of flowers and pods; therefore, it is also known as cluster bean. It belongs to the family Leguminaceae and subfamily Papilionaceae and is known to improve soil fertility. Being a legume crop, it has the capacity to fix atmospheric nitrogen by its effective root nodules (Kumar *et al.*, 2012) [12]. It is generally 50-100 cm tall and bears 4 to 10 branches (branch type). However, non-branch type varieties have main stem only, which is heavily clustered with pods. The composition of cluster bean is 81.0g moisture, 10.8g carbohydrate, 3.2g protein, 1.4g of fat, 1.4g of minerals, 0.09mg thiamine, 0.03mg riboflavin, 47 I.U. vitamin-C, 316 I.U. vitamin A (per 100 g of edible portion). It provides nutritional concentrate and fodder for cattle and adds to the fertility of soil by fixing considerable amount of atmospheric nitrogen (Singh and Usha, 2003) [20]. In the recent years, this crop has assumed great significance in industrial sector due to the presence of good quality of gum in the endosperm of its seed and also having 28 to 33 per cent gum endosperm (Reddy *et al.*, 2011) [18].

Micronutrient deficiency Zn and Fe is major problem of now days because of use of high yielding varieties, intensive cropping system, inadequate supply of micronutrient and loss of organic matter content by erosion and pollution. Iron involved in chlorophyll and thylakoid synthesis and development of chloroplast and important element for plant growth and development. Zn application influence on synthesis of auxin, nodulation and nitrogen fixation which enhance the plant growth and development of crop and ultimately influence the seed yield (Kasthurikrishna and Ahlawat, 2000) [11].

Zinc deficiency leads to reduction of stem elongation, auxin activities, protein synthesis, flowering and fruit development and also growth period is prolonged resulting in delayed maturity (Tandon, 2009) [24]. Iron (Fe) deficiency is often seen in high pH and calcareous soils in arid regions (Havlin *et al.*, 2010) [8]. Fe deficiency is a major constraint for many crops production when grown in semiarid areas and yield losses some pulse crops would likely occur due to Fe deficiency (Zaiter *et al.*, 1992) [29].

## Materials and Methods

A field experiment conducted at the Soil Science Research Farm, Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture, Technology and Sciences, Prayagraj, during the *Kharif* season of two years (2020-2021) growing cluster bean *Var. Gawar Spl.* applied 4 levels of zinc and iron respectively Zinc = 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, 6.67 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, 13.34 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, 20 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> and Iron = 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, 2.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, 5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, 7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> including RDF for cluster bean = 25:50:25 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> experiment is lead to observe the physical and chemical parameters. In physical parameters like that bulk density, particle density, pore space and water holding capacity through method by 100 ml graduated measuring cylinder and process by Muthuvel *et al.*, 1992<sup>[16]</sup>.

In chemical parameters through method by-

- Soil pH - Method given by (Jackson, M. L. 1958)<sup>[10]</sup> through using digital pH meter.
- Soil EC (dSm<sup>-1</sup>) - Method given by (Wilcox, 1950)<sup>[27]</sup> through using digital EC meter.
- Organic Carbon (%) - Wet oxidation method given by (Walkley and Black, 1947)<sup>[26]</sup>.
- Available Nitrogen (kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) - Kjeldhal Method (Subbiah and Asija, 1956)<sup>[22]</sup>.
- Available Phosphorus (kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) - Colorimetric method by using Jasper single beam U.V. Spectrophotometer at 660 nm wavelength given by (Olsen *et al.*, 1954)<sup>[17]</sup>.
- Available Potassium (kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) - Flame photometric method by using Metzer Flame Photometer given by (Toth and Prince, 1949)<sup>[25]</sup>.
- Available Zinc and Iron (mg kg<sup>-1</sup>) - DTPA Extractant method by using AAS given by (Lindsay and Norvell, 1978)<sup>[13]</sup>.

## Result and Discussion

### Physical Properties of Soil

A critical perusal of data pertaining in the table 1 and fig.1 the effect of different levels of Zn and Fe on the soil in both the years 2020 and 2021 was found to be non- significant at C.D @ 5%. The soil bulk density was increases according to depth which was found to be maximum 1.302 Mg m<sup>-3</sup> at 0-15 cm and 1.306 Mg m<sup>-3</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2020 and 1.299 Mg m<sup>-3</sup> at 0-15 cm and 1.312 Mg m<sup>-3</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>16</sub> (RDF @ 100% + Zinc @ 20 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) and minimum 1.276 Mg m<sup>-3</sup> at 0-15 cm and 1.282 Mg m<sup>-3</sup> at 15-30 cm in 2020 and 1.278 Mg m<sup>-3</sup> at 0-15 cm and 1.286 Mg m<sup>-3</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>1</sub> [Absolute control (RDF @ 0% + Zinc @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>)]. The soil particle density was increases according to depth which was found to be maximum 2.582 Mg m<sup>-3</sup> at 0-15 cm and 2.588 Mg m<sup>-3</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2020 and 2.603 Mg m<sup>-3</sup> at 0-15 cm and 2.609 Mg m<sup>-3</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>16</sub> (RDF @ 100% + Zinc @ 20 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) and minimum 2.438 Mg m<sup>-3</sup> at 0-15 cm and 2.442 Mg m<sup>-3</sup> at 15-30 cm in 2020 and 2.458 Mg m<sup>-3</sup> at 0-15 cm and 2.462 Mg m<sup>-3</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>1</sub> [Absolute control (RDF @ 0% + Zinc @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>)]. Anuradha *et al.*, (2017)<sup>[1]</sup>; Yadav *et al.*, (2021)<sup>[28]</sup>.

The soil pore space was decreases according to depth which was found to be maximum 50.02% at 0-15 cm and 49.98% at 15-30 cm in 2020 and 50.30% at 0-15 cm and 50.10% at 15-30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>10</sub> (RDF @ 100% + Zinc @ 13.34 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 2.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) and minimum 47.66% at 0-15 cm and 47.50% at 15- 30 cm in 2020 and 47.83% at 0-15 cm and 47.75% at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>1</sub> [Absolute control (RDF @ 0% + Zinc @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 0

kg ha<sup>-1</sup>)]. The soil water holding capacity was decreases according to depth which was found to be maximum 51.82% at 0-15 cm and 50.60% at 15- 30 cm in 2020 and 52.23% at 0-15 cm and 51.00% at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>16</sub> (RDF @ 100% + Zinc @ 20 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) and minimum 48.65% at 0-15 cm and 47.12% at 15-30 cm in 2020 and 49.04% at 0-15 cm and 47.50% at 15-30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>1</sub> [Absolute control (RDF @ 0% + Zinc @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>)]. Banjara, G. P. and Majgahe, S. K. (2019)<sup>[2]</sup>; Chinthra *et al.*, (2021)<sup>[4]</sup>.

### Chemical Properties of Soil

A critical perusal of data pertaining in the table 2 and fig. 2 the effect of different levels of Zn and Fe on the soil in both the years 2020 and 2021 was found to be significant at C.D @ 5%. The soil pH was increases according to depth which was found to be maximum 8.18 at 0-15 cm and 8.21 at 15- 30 cm in 2020 and 8.25 at 0-15 cm and 8.28 at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>16</sub> (RDF @ 100% + Zinc @ 20 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) and minimum 7.50 at 0-15 cm and 7.52 at 15- 30 cm in 2020 and 7.56 at 0-15 cm and 7.58 at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>1</sub> [Absolute control (RDF @ 0% + Zinc @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>)]. The soil EC was increases according to depth which was found to be maximum 0.416 dSm<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 0.420 dSm<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2020 and 0.423 dSm<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 0.426 dSm<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>16</sub> (RDF @ 100% + Zinc @ 20 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) and minimum 0.342 dSm<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 0.345 dSm<sup>-1</sup> at 15-30 cm in 2020 and 0.348 dSm<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 0.352 dSm<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>1</sub> [Absolute control (RDF @ 0% + Zinc @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>)]. The soil organic carbon was decreases according to depth which was found to be maximum 0.538% at 0-15 cm and 0.531% at 15- 30 cm in 2020 and 0.542% at 0-15 cm and 0.535% at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>16</sub> (RDF @ 100% + Zinc @ 20 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) and minimum 0.465% at 0-15 cm and 0.459% at 15- 30 cm in 2020 and 0.469% at 0-15 cm and 0.463% at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>1</sub> [Absolute control (RDF @ 0% + Zinc @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>)]. Deshlahare *et al.*, (2019)<sup>[6]</sup>; Meena *et al.*, (2006)<sup>[14]</sup>.

A critical perusal of data pertaining in the table 3 and fig. 3 the effect of different levels of Zn and Fe on the soil in both the years 2020 and 2021 was found to be significant at C.D @ 5%. The soil available nitrogen was decreases according to depth which was found to be maximum 230.52 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 212.30 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2020 and 233.75 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 216.28 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>16</sub> (RDF @ 100% + Zinc @ 20 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) and minimum 218.06 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 196.50 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2020 and 221.11 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 203.58 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>1</sub> [Absolute control (RDF @ 0% + Zinc @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>)]. The soil available phosphorus was decreases according to depth which was found to be maximum 16.70 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 14.84 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2020 and 16.93 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 15.05 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>16</sub> (RDF @ 100% + Zinc @ 20 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) and minimum 12.36 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 9.60 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2020 and 12.53 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 8.72 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>1</sub> [Absolute control (RDF @ 0% + Zinc @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>)]. The soil available potassium was decreases according to depth which was found to be maximum 210.20 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 198.52 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2020

and 213.14 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 201.30 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>16</sub> (RDF @ 100% + Zinc @ 20 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) and minimum 195.82 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 183.37 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2020 and 198.56 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 185.94 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>1</sub> [Absolute control (RDF @ 0% + Zinc @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>)]. Sahu *et al.*, (2020) <sup>[19]</sup>; Singh *et al.*, (2015) <sup>[21]</sup>. A critical perusal of data pertaining in the table 4 and fig. 4 the effect of different levels of Zn and Fe on the soil in both the years 2020 and 2021 was found to be significant at C.D @ 5%. The soil available zinc was increases according to depth which was found to be maximum 0.435 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 0.442 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2020 and 0.453 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 0.460 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>16</sub> (RDF @ 100% + Zinc @ 20 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>)

and minimum 0.284 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 0.292 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2020 and 0.295 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 0.304 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>1</sub> [Absolute control (RDF @ 0% + Zinc @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>)]. The soil available iron was decreases according to depth which was found to be maximum 8.64 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 6.84 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2020 and 8.90 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 7.05 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>16</sub> (RDF @ 100% + Zinc @ 20 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 7.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) and minimum 4.23 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 3.14 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2020 and 4.36 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> at 0-15 cm and 3.23 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> at 15- 30 cm in 2021 in treatment T<sub>1</sub> [Absolute control (RDF @ 0% + Zinc @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + Iron @ 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>)]. Choudhary *et al.*, (2021) <sup>[5]</sup>; Sunil *et al.*, (2017) <sup>[23]</sup>.

**Table 1:** Effect of different levels of zinc and iron on bulk density (Mg m<sup>-3</sup>), particle density (Mg m<sup>-3</sup>), pore space (%) and water holding capacity (%) in soil at harvest.

Treatment	Bulk density (Mg m <sup>-3</sup> )				Particle density (Mg m <sup>-3</sup> )				Pore space (%)				Water holding capacity (%)			
	2020		2021		2020		2021		2020		2021		2020		2021	
	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm
T <sub>1</sub>	1.276	1.282	1.278	1.286	2.438	2.442	2.458	2.462	47.66	47.50	47.83	47.75	48.65	47.12	49.04	47.50
T <sub>2</sub>	1.283	1.289	1.284	1.293	2.461	2.465	2.481	2.485	47.87	47.71	48.04	47.95	49.72	48.34	50.12	48.73
T <sub>3</sub>	1.282	1.287	1.281	1.292	2.453	2.458	2.473	2.478	47.74	47.64	47.95	47.84	49.52	48.18	49.92	48.57
T <sub>4</sub>	1.278	1.284	1.278	1.288	2.445	2.448	2.465	2.468	47.73	47.55	47.90	47.79	48.82	47.62	49.21	48.00
T <sub>5</sub>	1.281	1.285	1.279	1.291	2.448	2.453	2.468	2.473	47.67	47.62	47.92	47.78	49.38	47.90	49.78	48.28
T <sub>6</sub>	1.287	1.292	1.286	1.297	2.528	2.532	2.548	2.552	49.09	48.97	49.30	49.17	50.24	49.06	50.64	49.45
T <sub>7</sub>	1.290	1.294	1.288	1.300	2.560	2.564	2.580	2.585	49.61	49.53	49.85	49.69	50.84	49.52	51.25	49.92
T <sub>8</sub>	1.287	1.291	1.285	1.297	2.471	2.476	2.491	2.496	47.92	47.86	48.17	48.02	50.54	49.86	50.94	50.26
T <sub>9</sub>	1.296	1.301	1.294	1.306	2.548	2.551	2.568	2.571	49.14	49.00	49.35	49.20	50.32	49.28	50.72	49.67
T <sub>10</sub>	1.285	1.288	1.282	1.295	2.571	2.575	2.592	2.596	50.02	49.98	50.30	50.10	51.35	50.16	51.76	50.56
T <sub>11</sub>	1.290	1.295	1.289	1.300	2.550	2.554	2.570	2.574	49.41	49.30	49.62	49.49	50.43	49.62	50.83	50.02
T <sub>12</sub>	1.301	1.305	1.298	1.311	2.581	2.586	2.602	2.607	49.59	49.54	49.84	49.69	51.64	50.42	52.05	50.82
T <sub>13</sub>	1.289	1.293	1.287	1.299	2.559	2.563	2.579	2.584	49.63	49.42	49.74	49.71	49.60	48.70	50.00	49.09
T <sub>14</sub>	1.294	1.303	1.296	1.304	2.572	2.576	2.593	2.597	49.69	49.55	49.84	49.77	51.40	50.24	51.81	50.64
T <sub>15</sub>	1.296	1.304	1.297	1.306	2.575	2.578	2.596	2.599	49.67	49.52	49.76	49.73	51.51	50.31	51.92	50.71
T <sub>16</sub>	1.302	1.306	1.299	1.312	2.582	2.588	2.603	2.609	49.57	49.54	49.82	49.69	51.82	50.60	52.23	51.00
F - test	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
CD @ 5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.58	1.87	2.15	2.19	1.69	1.91	2.48	1.75
S.Ed. (±)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.77	0.92	1.05	1.07	0.83	0.94	1.21	0.86

**Table 2:** Effect of different levels of zinc and iron on bulk density (Mg m<sup>-3</sup>), particle density (Mg m<sup>-3</sup>), pore space (%) and water holding capacity (%) in soil at harvest.

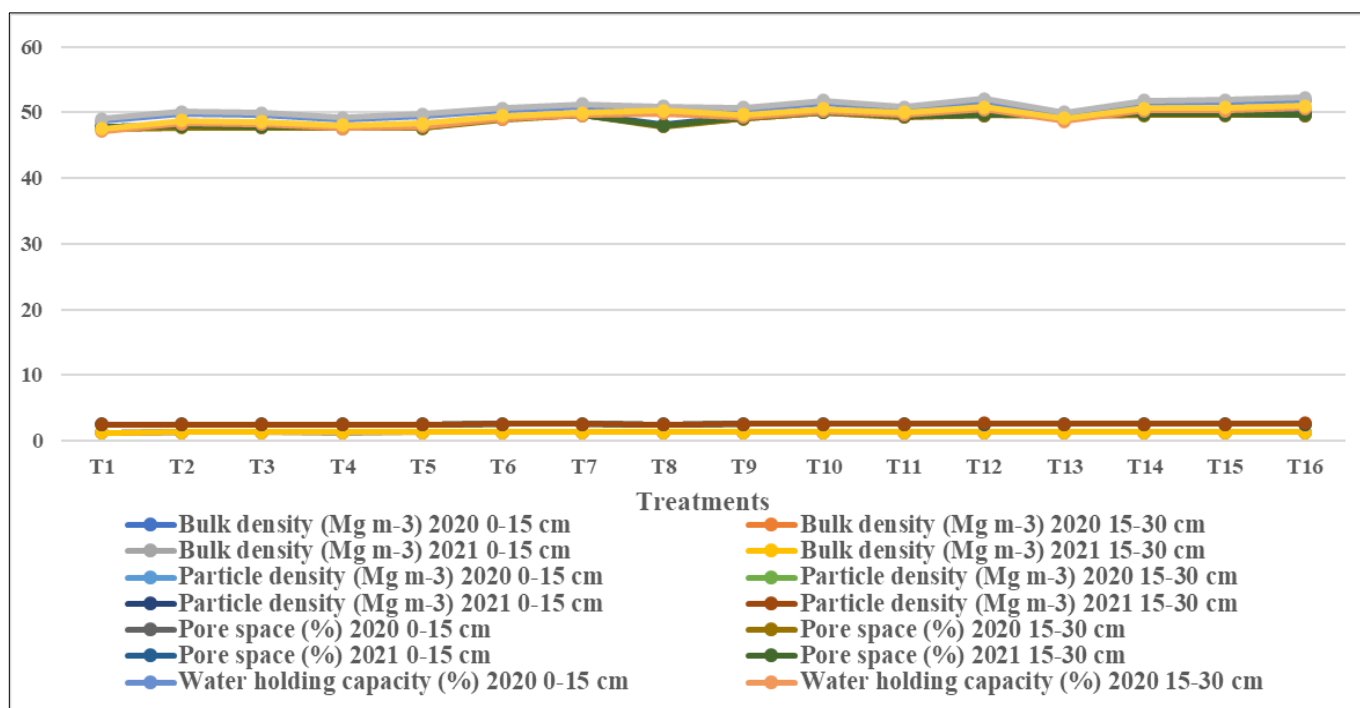
Treatment	pH				EC (dSm <sup>-1</sup> )				Organic carbon (%)			
	2020		2021		2020		2021		2020		2021	
	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm
T <sub>1</sub>	7.50	7.52	7.56	7.58	0.342	0.345	0.348	0.352	0.465	0.459	0.469	0.463
T <sub>2</sub>	7.60	7.64	7.66	7.70	0.352	0.554	0.396	0.402	0.481	0.475	0.485	0.479
T <sub>3</sub>	7.54	7.58	7.60	7.64	0.350	0.352	0.355	0.358	0.476	0.471	0.480	0.475
T <sub>4</sub>	7.51	7.54	7.57	7.60	0.345	0.348	0.351	0.354	0.468	0.462	0.476	0.466
T <sub>5</sub>	7.52	7.56	7.58	7.62	0.348	0.351	0.354	0.357	0.473	0.468	0.477	0.472
T <sub>6</sub>	7.62	7.65	7.68	7.71	0.362	0.365	0.368	0.372	0.484	0.478	0.488	0.482
T <sub>7</sub>	7.80	7.84	7.86	7.90	0.381	0.386	0.389	0.391	0.501	0.496	0.505	0.500
T <sub>8</sub>	7.71	7.75	7.77	7.81	0.372	0.376	0.379	0.382	0.494	0.488	0.498	0.492
T <sub>9</sub>	7.64	7.67	7.70	7.73	0.364	0.368	0.371	0.374	0.487	0.479	0.491	0.483
T <sub>10</sub>	7.91	7.95	7.97	8.01	0.388	0.391	0.394	0.398	0.512	0.511	0.516	0.515
T <sub>11</sub>	7.68	7.71	7.74	7.77	0.372	0.376	0.379	0.384	0.494	0.488	0.498	0.492
T <sub>12</sub>	8.12	8.15	8.17	8.20	0.411	0.416	0.419	0.423	0.534	0.528	0.538	0.532
T <sub>13</sub>	7.75	7.78	7.81	7.84	0.380	0.382	0.385	0.389	0.496	0.492	0.500	0.496
T <sub>14</sub>	7.92	7.97	7.98	8.03	0.392	0.396	0.399	0.403	0.523	0.520	0.527	0.524
T <sub>15</sub>	8.14	8.16	8.21	8.23	0.398	0.402	0.405	0.408	0.527	0.522	0.531	0.526
T <sub>16</sub>	8.18	8.21	8.25	8.28	0.416	0.420	0.423	0.426	0.538	0.531	0.542	0.535
F - test	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
CD @ 5%	0.32	0.35	0.21	0.33	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
S.Ed. (±)	0.16	0.17	0.10	0.16	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01

**Table 3:** Effect of different levels of zinc and iron on available nitrogen ( $\text{kg ha}^{-1}$ ), available phosphorus ( $\text{kg ha}^{-1}$ ) and available potassium ( $\text{kg ha}^{-1}$ ) in soil at harvest.

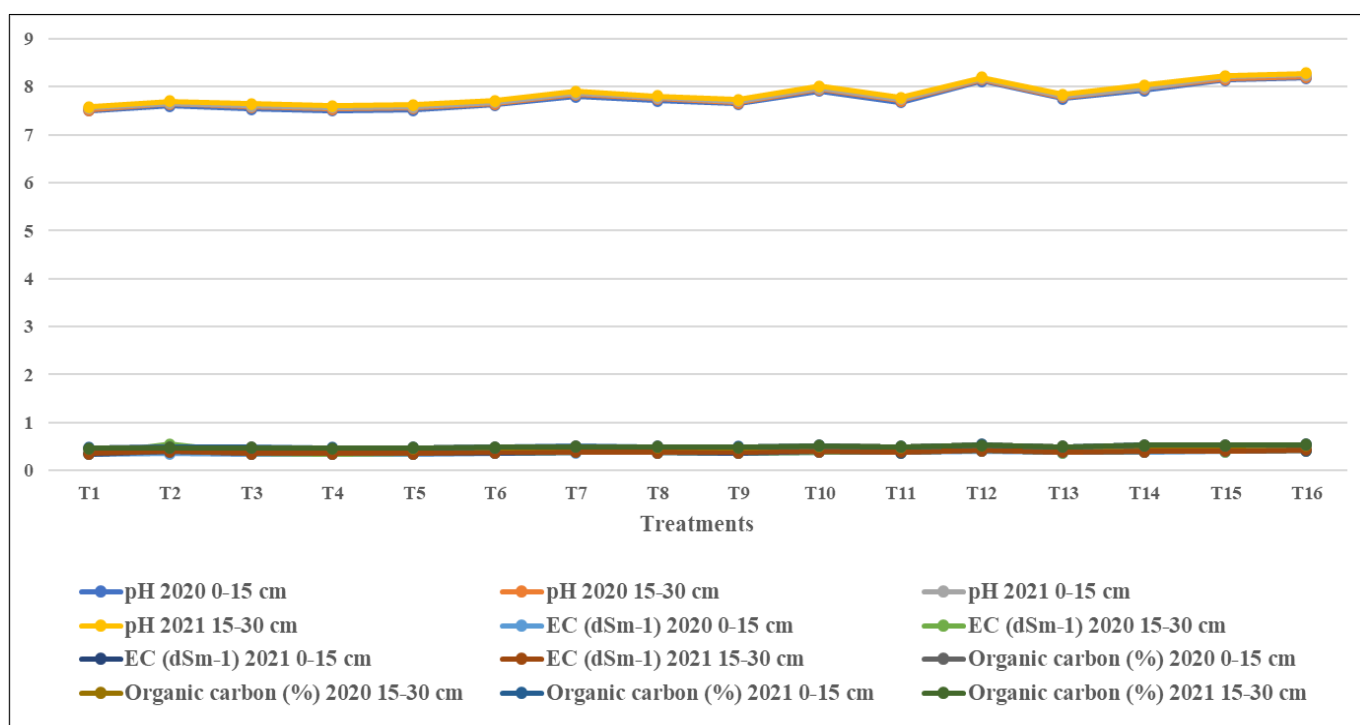
Treatment	Available nitrogen ( $\text{kg ha}^{-1}$ )				Available phosphorus ( $\text{kg ha}^{-1}$ )				Available potassium ( $\text{kg ha}^{-1}$ )			
	2020		2021		2020		2021		2020		2021	
	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm
T <sub>1</sub>	218.06	196.50	221.11	203.58	12.36	9.60	12.53	8.72	195.82	183.37	198.56	185.94
T <sub>2</sub>	220.35	203.78	223.43	205.91	13.18	10.62	13.36	10.77	197.62	186.82	200.39	189.44
T <sub>3</sub>	222.18	206.08	225.29	207.77	12.84	10.48	13.02	10.63	196.78	187.15	199.53	189.77
T <sub>4</sub>	219.34	198.60	222.41	204.88	12.52	9.72	12.70	9.86	196.08	183.78	198.83	186.35
T <sub>5</sub>	221.08	203.16	224.18	206.65	12.73	10.14	12.91	10.28	198.37	185.42	201.15	188.02
T <sub>6</sub>	225.50	206.45	228.66	211.14	13.47	10.86	13.66	11.01	198.55	187.08	201.33	189.70
T <sub>7</sub>	224.55	203.50	227.69	210.19	14.86	12.68	15.07	12.86	205.45	193.62	208.33	196.33
T <sub>8</sub>	222.08	202.18	225.19	207.68	14.28	11.92	14.48	12.09	203.18	191.78	206.02	194.46
T <sub>9</sub>	221.88	202.36	224.99	207.47	13.54	11.18	13.73	11.34	201.19	188.18	204.01	190.81
T <sub>10</sub>	225.76	204.76	228.92	211.44	15.32	13.38	15.53	13.57	206.34	194.45	209.23	197.17
T <sub>11</sub>	222.08	202.18	225.19	207.68	14.28	11.92	14.48	12.09	203.18	191.78	206.02	194.46
T <sub>12</sub>	228.36	208.52	231.56	214.09	16.32	14.62	16.55	14.82	208.67	196.38	211.59	199.13
T <sub>13</sub>	223.62	202.76	226.75	209.25	14.75	12.15	14.96	12.32	204.76	192.50	207.63	195.20
T <sub>14</sub>	226.95	205.16	230.13	212.65	15.64	13.53	15.86	13.72	207.82	195.96	210.73	198.70
T <sub>15</sub>	227.34	206.43	230.52	213.05	15.81	13.78	16.03	13.97	208.52	195.78	211.45	198.52
T <sub>16</sub>	230.52	212.30	233.75	216.28	16.70	14.84	16.93	15.05	210.20	198.52	213.14	201.30
F - test	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
CD @ 5%	4.34	4.65	4.46	3.45	0.46	0.52	0.64	0.42	4.93	4.16	4.21	3.64
S.Ed. ( $\pm$ )	2.13	2.79	2.21	2.02	0.22	0.25	0.31	0.21	2.42	2.67	2.51	1.72

**Table 4:** Effect of different levels of zinc and iron on available zinc ( $\text{mg kg}^{-1}$ ) and available iron ( $\text{mg kg}^{-1}$ ) in soil at harvest.

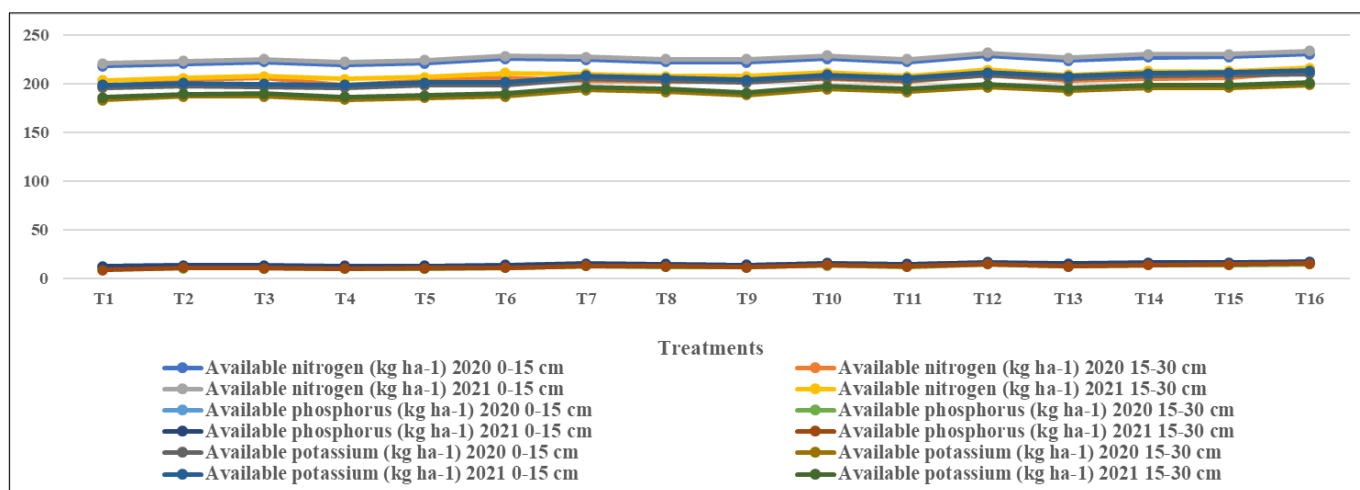
Treatment	Available zinc ( $\text{mg kg}^{-1}$ )				Available iron ( $\text{mg kg}^{-1}$ )			
	2020		2021		2020		2021	
	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm	0-15 cm	15-30 cm
T <sub>1</sub>	0.284	0.292	0.295	0.304	4.23	3.14	4.36	3.23
T <sub>2</sub>	0.328	0.334	0.341	0.347	5.10	4.16	5.25	4.28
T <sub>3</sub>	0.288	0.296	0.300	0.308	4.65	3.52	4.79	3.63
T <sub>4</sub>	0.321	0.329	0.334	0.342	4.96	3.90	5.11	4.02
T <sub>5</sub>	0.331	0.338	0.344	0.352	5.36	4.38	5.52	4.51
T <sub>6</sub>	0.337	0.342	0.351	0.356	5.78	4.76	5.95	4.90
T <sub>7</sub>	0.35	0.361	0.364	0.376	6.28	5.07	6.47	5.22
T <sub>8</sub>	0.349	0.358	0.363	0.372	6.06	4.92	6.24	5.07
T <sub>9</sub>	0.345	0.353	0.359	0.367	5.86	4.85	6.04	5.00
T <sub>10</sub>	0.367	0.375	0.382	0.390	6.95	5.56	7.16	5.73
T <sub>11</sub>	0.356	0.362	0.370	0.377	6.45	5.14	6.64	5.29
T <sub>12</sub>	0.406	0.411	0.422	0.428	7.93	6.08	8.17	6.26
T <sub>13</sub>	0.384	0.389	0.400	0.415	7.38	5.82	7.60	5.99
T <sub>14</sub>	0.395	0.404	0.411	0.420	7.52	5.96	7.75	6.14
T <sub>15</sub>	0.423	0.436	0.440	0.454	8.36	6.42	8.61	6.61
T <sub>16</sub>	0.435	0.442	0.453	0.460	8.64	6.84	8.90	7.05
F - test	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
CD @ 5%	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.34	0.23	0.33	0.28
S.Ed. ( $\pm$ )	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.17	0.11	0.16	0.13



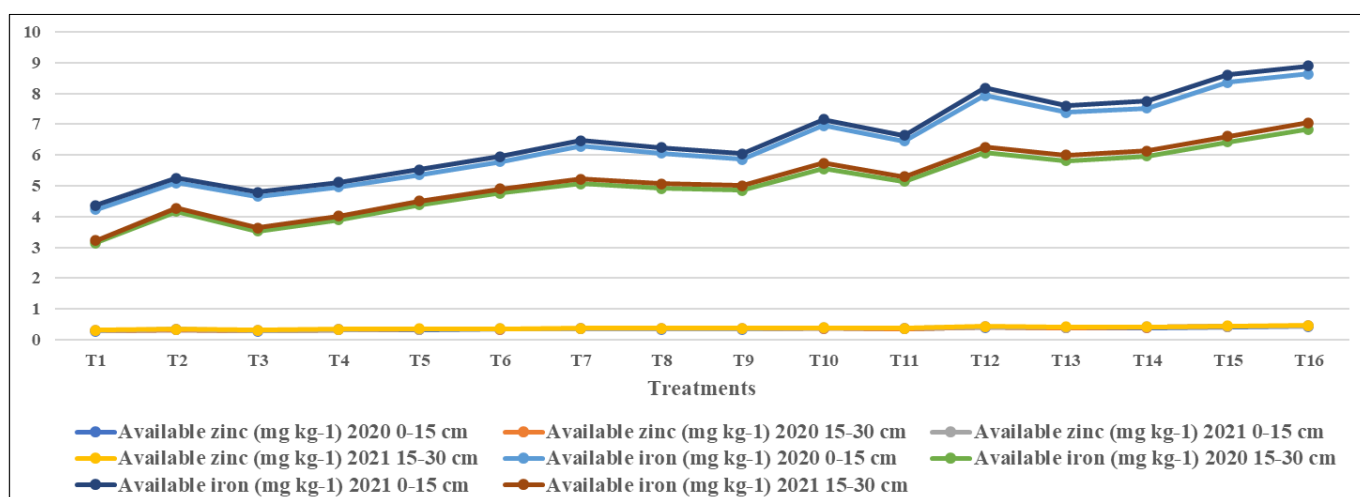
**Fig 1:** Effect of different levels of zinc and iron on bulk density (Mg m<sup>-3</sup>), particle density (Mg m<sup>-3</sup>), pore space (%) and water holding capacity (%) in soil at harvest.



**Fig 2:** Effect of different levels of zinc and iron on bulk density (Mg m<sup>-3</sup>), particle density (Mg m<sup>-3</sup>), pore space (%) and water holding capacity (%) in soil at harvest.



**Fig 3:** Effect of different levels of zinc and iron on available nitrogen ( $\text{kg ha}^{-1}$ ), available phosphorus ( $\text{kg ha}^{-1}$ ) and available potassium ( $\text{kg ha}^{-1}$ ) in soil at harvest.



**Fig 4:** Effect of different levels of zinc and iron on available zinc ( $\text{mg kg}^{-1}$ ) and available iron ( $\text{mg kg}^{-1}$ ) in soil at harvest.

## Conclusion

According to the results revealed the treatment T<sub>16</sub> (RDF @ 100% + Zinc @ 20  $\text{kg ha}^{-1}$  + Iron @ 7.5  $\text{kg ha}^{-1}$ ) was seen to be best for all the Physico-chemical parameters which is followed by treatment T<sub>12</sub> (RDF @ 100% + Zinc @ 13.34  $\text{kg ha}^{-1}$  + Iron @ 7.5  $\text{kg ha}^{-1}$ ) and treatment T<sub>15</sub> (RDF @ 100% + Zinc @ 20  $\text{kg ha}^{-1}$  + Iron @ 5  $\text{kg ha}^{-1}$ ) and the lowest treatment was T<sub>1</sub> [Absolute control (RDF @ 0% + Zinc @ 0  $\text{kg ha}^{-1}$  + Iron @ 0  $\text{kg ha}^{-1}$ )]. Which proved that full dose of NPK, Fe and Zn are recommendable to the farmers.

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