

INFLUENCE OF NITROGEN AND ORGANIC FERTILIZATION ON GROWTH, YIELD AND QUALITY OF SUGAR BEET GROWN IN CALCAREOUS SOIL.

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ABSTRACT

The present investigation was carried out during the growth season of 2011-2012 at Nobaría Sugar and Refining Company, El-Bohera Governorate to evaluate the influence of N- fertilization on yield and quality of sugar beet grown in calcareous soil. Split plot design with 3 replicates with 8 treatments, four rates of nitrogen fertilizer were spread in the main plot, while the sub plots were assigned for the two organic fertilizers. The result obtained showed significant increase in shoot fresh weight, root fresh weight, root length, root yield and sugar yield in plants with increasing fertilization up to 350 kg N/fed. Organic fertilization by farmyard manure (FYM) and poultry manure (PM) was tested. The yield of these attributes of sugar beet was increased but the estimating effect was higher for PM than FYM. The technological characters of sugar beet (Sugar percentage, Purity, K, Na and Alfa-amino-N) rose with increasing N fertilization rate with application of PM or FYM. Under conditions of the present work, supplying sugar beet with 350 kg N/fed with FYM or PM resulted in the highest root and sugar yields/fed.

Keywords: Sugar beet – Nitrogen- farmyard manure - poultry manure – growth - sugar yield- Root yield

INTRODUCTION

Sugar beet is the second sugar crop after sugar cane for the production process of sugar in Egypt. Yield and quality of sugar beet depend mostly on a number of important factors such as plant variety, soil physical and chemical properties, plant nutrients requirements and climate. Sugar beet fertilization aims to achieve high yields of both beet and sugar. Fertilization especially with nitrogen in particular must aim to balance between large yield of root and large sugar content. There is knowledge of nutrients requirements and fertilization programs would lead to acceptable quantity and quality of root and sugar yield. High yield of sugar beet requires adequate nutrients balance and water supply during the growth period. However, both low available of nutrients and low water supply seems to be indicated powers the end space of vegetative growth period. It has been found that increasing N fertilization rate up to 92 kg /fed had significantly increased root fresh weight, root and sugar yield but decreased sucrose percentage (EL-Shafai, 2000 and Ismail and Abo El-Ghait, 2004). In earlier study, also (Besheit *et al.*, 1994) found that applying N up to 150 kg/fed to sugar beet grown on sandy soil significantly increased root weight of plant and sugars yield/fed. Application of organic fertilization has been applied to

estimate plant growth and yield, and a combination of farmyard manure, with mineral N increased root and sugar yields. It has been reported that organic compost with N mineral fertilizer significantly increased leaf blade length, leaf blade width, leaf petiole length, leaves no per plant, leaves fresh and dry weights, root length, root diameter, root weight and root yield (EL-Geddawy *et al.*, 2003). Kristaponyte, (2003) found that applying (FYM) in combination value N significantly increased root diameter, root length, root fresh weight and root dry weight.

Therefore, the objective of this study was to evaluate the effect of different levels of nitrogen fertilization under FYM or PM on yield and quality of sugar beet grown in calcareous soil.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Field experiment was carried out at Nobarria Sugar and Refining Company, El-Bohera government during 2011-2012 growing season. This work included eight treatments represent the combinations between nitrogen levels and two organic fertilizers (FYM and PM). The main chemical and physical characteristics of the soil shown in (Table 1) and the metrological data of the experimental site according to Chapman and Praft (1961) were shown in (Table 2). N fertilizer was added in the form of Ammonium nitrate (33.5 % N); while the organic fertilization was added at 21 m³/ fed at tillage through preparing the experimental site (Table 3).

Table 1. The average value of the main chemical and physical characteristic of the experimental soil

Soil parameter	Soil depth (cm)	Values	Soil parameter	Soil depth (cm)	Values	
EC(ds/m)	0-15	0.10	OM (%)	0-15	0.06	
	15-30	0.15		15-30	0.08	
PH	0-15	8.2	Total Co ₃ ⁻² (%)	0-15	4.9	
	15-30	8.4		15-30	5.8	
Water soluble : N(mg/100g soil)	0-15	2.1	Particle size distribution	Sand (%)	0-15	92.0
	15-30	2.8				
P(mg/100g soil)	0-15	0.2	Silt (%)	0-15	4.0	
	15-30	0.1				
Ca ⁺² (mg/100g soil)	0-15	40.0	Clay (%)	0-15	4.0	
	15-30	40.0				
Mg ⁺² (mg/100g soil)	0-15	23.0	Texture class	0-15	Sandy	
	15-30	18.0				
K ⁺ (mg/100g soil)	0-15	16.0	Moisture % by volume	F.C	0-15	13.25
	15-30	5.0				
Na ⁺ (Mg/100g soil)	0-15	6.0	W.P	0-15	5.5	
	15-30	5.0				
SAR	0-15	1.66	Available water	0-15	7.75	
	15-30	1.74				15-30

Split plot design with three replications was used. N fertilizer levels were spread in the main plots; organic fertilizers were distributed in the sub plots. Two seeds of sugar beet (*Beta vulgaris*) variety Kawmmeira were sown manually on September 29th, 2011 with 0.01m planting space and 0.5m between rows. After thirty days from sowing the seedlings was thinned to one plant per hill. The field experimental area was 3150 m², divided into two equal fields of 1575 m² for each organic fertilizer (6 plants/m²). Super phosphate fertilizer (15.5% P₂O₅) was added to the soil at rate of 150 kg/fed during land preparation and mixed in the plow layer. Ammonium nitrate fertilizer was applied at a rate of (0, 150, 250 and 350 kg/fed) in five equal doses. The first dose was applied after plant thinning and the other doses were added at 45 days interval. Potassium sulfate fertilizer (48% K₂O) was applied at a rate of 50 Kg/fed in two equal doses. Both ammonium nitrate and potassium sulfate BerAlzero were applied with water of irrigation (Fertigation).

Table 2. Average value of meteorological data of the experimental site

Month	Max Temp ⁰ C	Min Temp ⁰ C	Humidity %	Wind speed (km/d)	Sunshine (Hrs.)
October, 2011	29.68	16.74	51.81	199.74	9.3
November, 2011	23.13	12.03	59.37	189.60	8.0
December, 2011	22.10	11.44	60.97	213.10	6.7
January, 2012	18.29	8.13	52.10	256.26	7.0
February, 2012	18.90	8.34	51.55	254.90	7.7
March, 2012	22.45	9.77	51.06	294.19	8.6
April, 2012	28.00	13.53	49.77	216.00	9.7
Average	23.22	11.43	53.80	231.97	8.14

Table 3. Main constitution and nutrients in farm yard manure (FYM) and poultry manure (PM) as percentage of weight basis

Parameter	FYM	PM
Humidity	81.1	57.0
Organic matter	12.7	29.3
Mineral matter	5.3	-
N	0.26	1.46
P	0.18	1.17
K	0.17	0.62
Lime	0.46	-

Artesian water was used for irrigation and fertilization by mean of drip irrigation technique. The total amount of irrigation water applied during the growth period (210 day) was 2980 m³/fed. This amount of irrigation was divided into 32 doses during the growth period from sowing to harvesting. The main chemical characteristic water of irrigation is shown in (Table 4).

Table 4. Chemical characteristics of irrigation water

Parameter	values	Parameter	values
TDS (mg/L)	345.6	Water soluble	
Water soluble		Co ₃ ⁻² (meq/L)	n.d
Ca ⁺² (meq/L)	2.0	Hco ₃ ⁻ (meq/ L)	1.3
Mg ⁺² (meq/L)	1.0	Cl ⁻	1.25
K ⁺ (meq / L)	0.16	So ₄ ⁻²	2.98
Na ⁺ (meq/ L)	2.37	SAR	12.1

n.d: not detected.

Samples of plants (6 plants) were collected at 28, 85 and 210 days from sowing for measurement fresh weight of shoot (g/m²), fresh weight of root (g/m²) and root length (cm). At harvest, sucrose percentage (AOAC, 1980), apparent purity percentage, N⁺ percentage, K⁺ percentage, alfa-amino-N percentage, sucrose percentage, Root yield(t/fed) and sugar yield (t/fed) were also determined. The obtained data were statistically analyzed according to the technique of analysis of variance (ANOVA) of the split plot design as described by (Gomez and Gomez, 1984). The mean values were compared according to least significant difference (L.S.D).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Growth and yield characters

Shoot Fresh Weight (SFW): Data in Table 5 showed that significant increase in shoot fresh weight of sugar beet plants were achieved with increase N application in combination with FYM up to 250 kg N/fed for 28 days age plants, while 85 and 210 days age plants showed significant increase with increasing N rate up to 350 kg N/fed. Similar trend was found with increasing N application rate in combination with PM. This result is in agreement with that reported by Leilah *et al.*, (2005), who mentioned that increasing N level up to 250 kg N/fed produced significantly higher values of shoot fresh weight. It is clear that organic fertilization by (PM) without N application produced significant in shoot fresh weight of sugar beet plants than (FYM) especially at 210 day sage plants. The effect of (PM) on (SFW) was more than that (FYM) especially at high rates of N application (250 and 350 kg N/fed) and at older plants (210 days age) than young plants (28 days age). The values of the relative variation (R.V.%) in shoot fresh weight of sugar beet plants (Table 6) indicated that increasing N application had increase in shoot fresh weight of sugar beet plants with longer rate of younger (28 days) than older (210 day) plants. It is also clear that the value of utile values rate had decreased until plant age. This data indicates that the estimating effect of N on the growth of plant is higher at the earlier growth stages of plants than at late growth stage of plants. Data in Table 7 showed that the value of relative growth rate (RGR) were laughed for young plants (28 days) than old plants (210 day) this in decades progressive rate of increase in the growth of sugar beet plant during the early growth period (between 28 and 85 days) than decreased by proceeding plant age (85-210

day). It is also clear that increasing N fertilizer application rate had decreased the value of (RGR) especially at earlier growth stage (28 day) but this decrease was not significant. It is also clear that there were no significant variation the values of RGR as a result of FYM and PM application during the three growth pended of sugar beet plant. The estimating action of PM was more effective at higher dose of applied N fertilizes than at low N fertilizer application.

Table 5. Shoot fresh weight (gm/m²) of sugar beet plant as influence by nitrogen and organic fertilizer treatments for samples collected after 28, 85 and 210 days form sowing.

Organic Manure (21m ³ //fed.)	Nitrogen (kg /fed)	Growth period(days)		
		28	85	210
	0	150	3390	7200
FYM	150	168	3630	7620
	250	180	3420	7740
	350	186	3480	7920
	0	168	3870	7260
PM	150	180	3270	7380
	250	180	3840	8790
	350	210	3900	8940
L.S.D 0.05		7	103	57

Table 6. Relative variation (R.V. %) in SFW as a result of N and manure fertilization

Organic Manure (21m ³ //fed.)	Nitrogen (kg /fed)	Growth period(days)		
		28	85	210
	0	-	-	-
FYM	150	+12.0	+7.1	+5.8
	250	+7.1	-5.7	+1.5
	350	+3.3	+1.7	+2.3
	0	-	-	-
PM	150	+7.1	-15.5	+1.6
	250	0.0	+17.4	+19.1
	350	+16.6	+1.5	+1.7

Table 7. Relative growth rate (RGR) of shoot (gm/m²/day) of sugar beet plant as influence by nitrogen and organic fertilizer treatments.

Organic Manure (21m ³ //fed.)	Nitrogen (kg /fed)	Growth period(days)		
		28	85	210
	0	0.055	0.006	0.021
FYM	150	0.054	0.006	0.021
	250	0.052	0.007	0.021
	350	0.051	0.007	0.021
	0	0.055	0.005	0.021
PM	150	0.051	0.007	0.020
	250	0.054	0.007	0.021
	350	0.051	0.007	0.021
LSD 0.05		0.018	0.018	0.018

Root Fresh Weight (RFW)

Data in Table 8 showed significant increase in root fresh weight (RFW) of sugar beet plant as a result of increasing rate of applied N in the presence of FYM and PM. These findings coincide with those declared by Leilah *et al.*, (2005), who mentioned that increasing N fertilizer level raise high value of root fresh weight.

Table 8. Root fresh weight (gm/m²) of sugar beet plant as influence by nitrogen and organic fertilizer treatments after 28, 85 and 210 day from sowing.

Organic Manure (21m ³ //fed.)	Nitrogen (kg /fed)	Growth period(days)		
		28	85	210
FYM	0	132	2070	4260
	150	144	2100	4290
	250	150	2460	7560
	350	168	2730	4680
PM	0	144	2400	4350
	150	156	2130	380
	250	168	2520	4710
	350	192	2670	5070
LSD 0.05		4	91	64

Data in Table 9 showed that the rate of the relative growth rate (RGR) of Root F.W were higher in young plants (28-85 days) than older plants (85-210 days)

It seem that no significant variation in the rates of RGR of the RFW as a result of increasing rates of applied N as a result of organic fertilization by FYM and PM.

Table 9. Relative growth rate (RGR) of root sugar beet plant (gm/m²/day) as influence by nitrogen and organic fertilizer treatments.

Organic Manure (21m ³ //fed.)	Nitrogen (kg /fed)	Growth period(days)		
		28	85	210
FYM	0	0.048	0.006	0.019
	150	0.047	0.006	0.019
	250	0.049	0.005	0.019
	350	0.049	0.004	0.018
PM	0	0.049	0.005	0.019
	150	0.046	0.006	0.018
	250	0.048	0.005	0.018
	350	0.046	0.005	0.018
LSD 0.05		0.018	0.018	0.018

Data in Table 10 showed that the values of the relative variation in root fresh weight (RFW) have been increase with increasing N application rate. However, these increases were higher with the highest N dose for 28

and 85 days old plants and were the highest with N dose of 250 kg N/fed with 210 days old plants.

It is also clear from Table 10 that the values of relative increase in RFW were as the average almost higher with application of PM than FYM. These data point out to the effective role of PM for statically TFW than that of FYM in the presence of N fertilization.

Table 10. Relative variation (R.V. %) in total fresh weight as a result of N and organic manure fertilization.

Organic Manure (21m ³ //fed.)	Nitrogen (kg /fed)	Growth period(days)		
		28	85	210
FYM	0	-	-	-
	150	+9.0	+1.4	+0.7
	250	+4.1	+17.1	+6.2
	350	+12.0	+11.0	+2.6
PM	0	-	-	-
	150	+8.3	-11.2	+6.0
	250	+7.6	+18.3	+7.5
	350	+14.2	+6.0	+7.6

Root length (RL)

Data in Table 11 showed significant increase in root length of sugar beet plants with increasing rate of applied N with either FYM or PM application. The values of root length were almost higher in older plants (210 day) than either 85 days or 28 days plants. It is also clear that the values of root length were significantly higher for plant treated with PM and for plant treated with FYM at each rate of N applied. These results are in accordance with that of (Seadh *et al.*, 2007) showed that increasing nitrogen fertilizer level significantly increased all studied growth characters, especially root length.

Table 11. Root length (cm) of sugar beet plant as influence by nitrogen and organic fertilizer treatments at 28, 85 and 210 days from sowing.

Organic Manure (21m ³ //fed.)	Nitrogen (kg /fed)	Growth period(days)		
		28	85	210
FYM	0	8.0	15.0	17.0
	150	8.0	21.0	24.0
	250	11.0	23.0	29.0
	350	13.0	25.0	31.0
PM	0	10.0	18.0	21.0
	150	12.0	26.0	27.0
	250	13.0	28.5	32.0
	350	15.0	29.0	34.0
LSD 0.05		3.0	3.0	1.5

Data in Table 12 showed that the values of RGR of root length were almost higher at earlier plant (28 day) than at 85 and 210 days old plants. These values were almost higher for plants treated with PM than for those treated with FYM. This data indicate higher efficiency of PM for estimating the root length of sugar beet plant with each rate of applied N.

Table 12. Relative growth rate (RGR) of root length (cm/day) of sugar beet plant as influence by nitrogen and organic fertilizer treatments.

Organic Manure (21m ³ //fed.)	Nitrogen (kg /fed)	Growth periods (days)		
		28-85	85-210	28 – 210
FYM	0	0.011	0.001	0.004
	150	0.017	0.001	0.006
	250	0.013	0.002	0.005
	350	0.011	0.002	0.005
PM	0	0.010	0.001	0.004
	150	0.014	0.000	0.004
	250	0.013	0.001	0.005
	350	0.012	0.001	0.004
LSD 0.05		0.017	0.017	0.017

Root yield (RY): Data in Table 13 showed significant increase in the values of root yield (TY) of sugar beet plants with increasing rate of applied N with either FYM or PM application. It is also clear that, the values of root yield (RY) were significantly higher for plants treated with PM than for those treated with FYM. This data indicate higher stimulation for the growth of sugar beet plants when treated with PM than with FYM at each rate of applied N. These findings coincide with those declared by (Allam *et al.*, 2005), who mentioned that increasing N fertilizer level raise high value of root and sugar yield.

Sugar yield (SY): Data in Table 13 showed significant increase in the sugar yield of plants as a result of increasing N application rate. Also, these values were significantly higher for plants treated with PM than for those with FYM.

Table 13. Sugar and root yield of sugar beet as influence by nitrogen and organic fertilizer treatments.

Organic Manure (21m ³ //fed.)	Nitrogen (kg /fed)	Sugar yield (t/fed.)	Root yield (t/fed.)
FYM	0	2.32	10.5
	150	3.82	16.33
	250	4.76	20.15
	350	4.91	20.86
PM	0	3.08	15.17
	150	4.88	22.98
	250	4.97	23.12
	350	5.11	23.13
LSD 0.05		0.0148	0.047

2. Quality characters

Sugar: Data in Table 14 showed significant increases in the percentage of sugar in root of sugar beet with increasing application rate of applied mineral N fertilizer, with either FYM or PM application. It is clear that FYM application significantly increased the percentage of sugar in root as compared with PM, at each rate of applied N.

Purity: Data in Table 14 showed significantly decrease in purity as a result of increasing rate of applied N. also, it is clear that the purity was significantly lower with PM application than FYM application with each rate of applied N.

Potassium: The concentration of K was significantly increase in root with increasing rate of applied N. in addition, K increase was significantly higher in plant sown in soil treated with PM than FYM at each rate of applied N.

Sodium: Data in Table 14 showed significantly increase in the levels of Na in root with increasing rate of applied N. the data also showed significantly higher level of Na in root of plants sown on soil treated with PM than FYM.

Alfa-amino-N: As shown in Table 14, there were significant increases in the concentration of alfa-amino-N in root with increasing application rate of mineral N fertilizer. It is also clear that root of plants sown on soil treated with PM contain significantly higher level of alfa-amino-N than of these treated with FYM.

These results are in line with that of (EI-Dsouky and Attia, 2004), who found marked reduction in sucrose percentage and increases in impurities (Na, K and alpha -amino N) were observed with increasing inorganic N.

Table 14. The average value of sugar, purity, K, Na and alfa-amino-N

Organic Manure (21m ³ //fed.)	Nitrogen (kg /fed)	Sugar	Purity	K	Na	Alfa-amino-N
FYM	0	22.12	91.77	4.28	0.45	1.10
	150	23.40	90.65	4.44	0.55	1.15
	250	23.64	90.34	4.68	0.69	1.36
	350	23.76	88.81	5.06	0.86	2.46
	0	20.30	91.13	4.34	0.49	1.13
PM	150	21.22	90.32	4.46	0.63	1.18
	250	21.48	88.74	4.85	0.89	1.40
	350	21.92	88.20	5.11	0.89	2.54
	LSD 0.05	0.57	0.11	0.01	0.05	0.05

3. Soil characterization of plant harvest

Data in Table 15 showed marked and relative decrease in the values of PH of soil after plant harvest as compared with these of the original soil (Table 1). The effect of PM on decreasing soil PH was more pronounced than the effect of FYM. On the other hand, the values of EC were increased after plant harvest as compared with the original soil (Table 1). Also, the levels of OM in soils had increases after plant harvest than of the original soil (Table 1). However, there were no marked variations in the level of total Co₃⁻² in soils before and after plant harvest (Tables 1 and 15).

Table 15. The average value of some characteristics of soil after plant harvest.

Parameter	Soil depth (cm)	FYM soil	PM soil
PH	0-15	7.09	6.78
	15-30	7.42	7.11
EC(ds/m)	0-15	0.88	0.76
	15-30	1.11	1.11
OM (%)	0-15	0.15	0.12
	15-30	1.14	0.13
Total Co ₃ ⁻² (%)	0-15	5.13	4.92
	15-30	5.54	4.72

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تأثير التسميد النيتروجيني والعضوي على نمو وجودة محصول بنجر السكر في الاراضى الجيرية.

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اقيمت تجربة حقلية خلال موسم نمو 2012/2011 بمصنع النوبارية للسكر بمحافظة البحيرة لتقييم تأثير التسميد النيتروجيني على حاصل وجودة بنجر السكر المنزرع فى الاراضى الجيرية. استخدم تصميم القطاعات المنشقة مرة واحدة فى ثلاث مكررات وثمانى معاملات، حيث وزعت اربع مستويات للتسميد النيتروجينى فى القطع الرئيسية، فى حين خصصت القطع المنشقة لنوعي التسميد العضوى.

أظهرت النتائج زيادة معنوية فى الوزن الطارج للعرش، الوزن الطارج للجذر، طول الجذر، محصول الجذور النهائى ومحصول السكر النهائى للنباتات مع زيادة معدلات التسميد النيتروجينى حتى 350 كجم/الفدان. التسميد العضوى باستخدام السماد البلدى (FYM) وسبلة الدجاج (PM) ادى الى زيادة المحصول ولكن بدرجة اكبر مع استخدام سبلة الدجاج. الصفات التكنولوجية لبنجر السكر (نسبة السكر، النقاوة، K، Na، Alfa-amino-N) زادت بزيادة التسميد النيتروجينى فى وجود التسميد العضوى سواء السماد البلدى او سبلة الدجاج. تحت ظروف هذا البحث يوصى بزراعة بنجر السكر مع اضافة 350 كجم ن/الفدان فى ظل وجود سواء السماد البلدى او سبلة الدجاج، حيث انه اعطى اعلى حاصل جذور وسكر نهائى/الفدان.

قام بتحكيم البحث

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