

Response of *Rabi* Finger Millet to Nitrogen and Potassium in North Coastal Andhra Pradesh

G Pavani, A V Ramana, M Srinivasa Rao and S Govinda Rao.

Department of Agronomy, Agricultural College, Naira-532 185

ABSTRACT

A field experiment was conducted in finger millet on sandy loam soil of Agricultural College, Naira during *Rabi*, 2020-21 with graded levels of nitrogen and potassium along with foliar application of nutrients. The soil was sandy loam having pH 7.4, EC 0.15 dSm⁻¹, organic carbon 0.35 %, available N 187.3 kg ha⁻¹, available P₂O₅ 28.0 kg ha⁻¹ and available K₂O 260.5 kg ha⁻¹. The experiment was laid out in a Randomized Block design, replicated thrice with eleven treatments. The results revealed that application of 120 kg N and 60 kg K₂O ha⁻¹ recorded significantly higher plant height (123.9 cm), number of tillers hill⁻¹ (4.0), dry matter production (6011 kg ha⁻¹), days to 50% earhead emergence (73.3) and maturity (108), number of earheads m⁻² (106.3), number of fingers earhead⁻¹ (6.93), test weight (3.80), grain yield (2397 kg ha⁻¹) and straw yield (3564 kg ha⁻¹) of finger millet. The highest harvest index (41.3) was observed with application of 90 kg N and 45 kg K ha⁻¹. Among foliar application of nutrients, these parameters were found to be significantly higher with N90 and K0 + Foliar application of 1% KNO₃ twice at Active tillering and PI stages.

Keywords: *Fertilizers, Finger millet, Foliar application, Grain yield and Yield attributes.*