

# **Nutraceutical Verification of Zinc and Iron Nutrition in Corn (*Zea Mays* L.) Through Agronomic Approach**

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## **ABSTRACT**

A field experiment was conducted for two consecutive late *kharif* seasons of 2003 and 2004 to study the response of hybrid maize to micronutrient management practices. Foliar application of Zn and Fe (T<sub>7</sub>) registered the highest protein, tryptophan and crude protein content, which was comparable with soil application of Zn and Fe (T<sub>4</sub>) and foliar application of Zn (T<sub>5</sub>) during both the years of study. The highest Zn uptake by grain was recorded with foliar application of Zn and Fe (T<sub>7</sub>), which was in parity with soil application of Zn and Fe (T<sub>4</sub>) and foliar application of Zn (T<sub>5</sub>). With respect to Fe uptake foliar application of Zn and Fe (T<sub>7</sub>), however, was comparable with foliar application of Fe (T<sub>6</sub>) only. The lowest grain yield, with poor quality grain and lesser Zn and Fe uptake were observed with control (T<sub>1</sub>) during both the years.

**Key words :** Iron, Maize, Quality, Yield, Zinc.