Impact of Bt Cotton on Soil Fertility in Cotton Growing Belt of Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh

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ABSTRACT

Thirty representative surface soil samples were collected to check from cotton growing belt of Guntur district effect of long term cultivation of Bt cotton on soil properties (12 samples each from *Bt* cotton cultivated areas continuously for 2 to 5 years, 8 to 10 years and 6 samples from areas under non *Bt* cotton). All the 30 soil samples were analysed for physico-chemical properties and available nutrient contents. Results revealed that all the soil samples were slightly alkaline in reaction, low in organic carbon and nitrogen, medium to high in phosphorus, very high in potassium, sufficient in sulphur, manganese, copper but deficient in zinc and iron.

Key words : *Bt* cotton, Macronutrients, Soil fertility.