

Effect of Nitrogen Levels and Weed Control Practices on Growth and Yield of Baby Corn (*Zea Mays* L.)

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ABSTRACT

A field experiment was conducted at the Agricultural College Farm, Bapatla to study the effect of nitrogen levels and weed control practices in baby corn. Application of 180 kg N ha⁻¹ recorded significantly higher plant height, more number of leaves and drymatter accumulation compared to that of 150 and 120 kg N ha⁻¹. Hand weeding twice (W₂) recorded significantly more plant height, more number of leaves and drymatter accumulation. The number of days taken to 50 percent tasseling, silking and harvest were significantly lowered when the crop was fertilized with 180 kg N ha⁻¹. Hand weeding twice (W₂) recorded significantly less number of days to 50 percent tasseling, silking and harvest. Yield attributing characters like individual cob weight and ear weight were significantly superior with the application of 180 kg N ha⁻¹ when compared to 150 and 120 kg N ha⁻¹, whereas, individual ear length and ear girth of baby corn recorded under 180 kg N ha⁻¹ were on a par with that of 150 kg N ha⁻¹. Among the weed control practices, hand weeding twice (W₂) recorded significantly more yield attributing characters like individual ear length, ear weight, cob weight, ear weight and ear to cob ratio over the other treatments. Higher cob, ear and husk yields were obtained with the application of 180 kg N ha⁻¹ but it was on a par with 150 kg N ha⁻¹ in case of cob yield and fresh fodder yield. Among weed control practices, hand weeding twice (W₂) recorded significantly higher cob, fresh fodder and dry fodder yield, but it was on a par with application of @1.0 a.i. ha⁻¹ fb 2,4-D amine @ 0.58 kg a.i. ha⁻¹ in case of fresh fodder yield.

Key words : Nitrogen levels, Cob yield, Baby corn, Weed control practices.