Productivity, Nutrient Uptake and Economics of Pearl Millet [Pennisetum Glaucum (L.)] as Influenced by Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Biofertilizer Management

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ABSTRACT

A field experiment was conducted at the Agricultural College Farm, Bapatla, to study the effect of N, P and biofertilizer management practices on yield, nutrient uptake and economics of pearl millet. The treatments consisted of T_1 : Control, T_2 : Biofertilizer alone (Azospirillum and PSB), T_3 : 20 kg N + 15 kg P_2O_5 ha⁻¹, T_4 : 40 kg N + 30 kg P_2O_5 ha⁻¹, T_5 : 60 kg N + 45 kg P_2O_5 ha⁻¹, T_6 : T_2 + T_3 , T_7 : T_2 + T_4 and T_8 : T_2 + T_5 . Application of 60 kg N + 45 kg P_2O_5 ha⁻¹ + biofertilizer recorded the highest grain yield (29.7 q ha⁻¹), stover yield (67.5 q ha⁻¹) and protein content (10.41%) but it was at par with T_7 and T_5 treatments. Significantly highest N (98.3 kg ha⁻¹) and P (25.8 kg ha⁻¹) uptake recorded with T_8 treatment. T_8 treatment recorded the highest net returns (27357 ha⁻¹) but T_7 was more economical with the highest B: C ratio (2.57).

Key words: Biofertilizer, Economics, Nitrogen, Nutrient uptake, Pearl millet, Phosphorus, Protein, Yield.