

Nutrient Management in Zero Till Maize for North Coastal Zone of A P

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ABSTRACT

A field experiment was conducted during *rabi*, 2014-15 on sandy loam soils of Agricultural College Farm, Naira, to study the effect of N levels and micronutrient management practices on maize under zero till conditions. The experiment was laid out in split-plot design with three nitrogen levels and seven micronutrient management practices, each replicated thrice. Significantly higher growth stature, yield structure and yield were obtained with the highest level of N supplied (240 kg ha⁻¹) compared to successive lower levels. Among the micronutrient management practices, foliar application of micronutrient mixture @ 0.2% twice at 20 & 40 DAS was found to significantly enhance growth, yield attributes and kernel yield. The highest kernel yield was obtained with the highest level of nitrogen applied @ 240 kg ha⁻¹ and supplemented with micronutrient mixture, which was however found parity with same micronutrient management practice at immediate lower level of N @ 180 kg ha⁻¹. While, the kernel yield with 120 kg N ha⁻¹ and supplemented with foliar application of ZnSO₄ @ 0.2% twice at 20 & 40 DAS produced the lowest kernel yield (4090 kg ha⁻¹). Maximum gross returns, net returns and B: C ratio were observed with the application of N @ 240 kg ha⁻¹ and supplemented with micronutrient mixture, which was however found parity with same micronutrient management practice at immediate lower level of N @ 180 kg ha⁻¹.

Key words : Nitrogen levels, Micronutrients, Yield, Zero till maize.