

Growth, Yield Attributes and Yield as Influenced by Crop Establishment and Nutrient Management in Fingermillet (*Eleusine coracana* L.)

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ABSTRACT

A field experiment was conducted on method of crop establishment and nutrient management in fingermillet during *Rabi*, 2022-23 at Agricultural College Farm, Naira. The soil was sandy loam having pH 6.24, low in organic carbon (0.62), low in nitrogen (265 kg ha⁻¹), medium in available phosphorus (40.5 kg ha⁻¹) and high in available potassium (388 kg ha⁻¹). The experiment was laid out in a split plot design with three main plot treatments and five sub plot treatments replicated thrice. Results revealed that, among methods of sowing, maximum plant height (80.2 cm), number of tillers plant⁻¹ (5.9), number of grains per head⁻¹ (1508), ear head weight (7.1g), grain yield (2496 kg ha⁻¹) and straw yield (3542 kg ha⁻¹) was noticed in SRI method of planting (M₁). In case of nutrient management treatments, 75% RDF (45-30-22.5 NPK kg ha⁻¹) + poultry manure @ 3.0 t ha⁻¹ resulted in significantly higher number of grains per head⁻¹ (1508), ear head weight (7.3g), grain yield (2590 kg ha⁻¹) and straw yield (3591 kg ha⁻¹).

Key words: *Crop establishment, Fingermillet grain yield and Nutrient Management.*