

## Influence of Organic Manure and Inorganic Fertilizer on Soil Health, Growth and Yield of Cowpea (*Vigna unguiculata* L.) var. Gomati

### ABSTRACT

An experiment was conducted on [the](#) “Influence of Organic Manure and Inorganic Fertilizer on Soil Health, Growth and Yield of Cowpea (*Vigna unguiculata* L.) var. Gomati.” during [the kharif](#) [Kharif](#) season 2022 at the research farm, Department Of Soil Science And Agricultural Chemistry, NAINI, SHUATS, Prayagraj. The design applied was 3x3 RBD having three levels of poultry-manure @ 0%, 50 % 100% h<sup>-1</sup> and NPK @ 0, 50 and 100%. The result obtained with treatment T<sub>9</sub> [NPK @ 100% + poultry manure @ 100% ha<sup>-1</sup>] that showed poultry manure [in](#) combination resulted in a slight change in soil pH at 0-15 cm [which](#) was found [to be](#) 7.56 and EC<sub>e25</sub><sup>0</sup> 0.25 dS m<sup>-1</sup> respectively. [In post](#) soil of fertilizers observations were resulted in non-significant increase in depth 0-15 cm-, bulk density 1.254Mg m<sup>-3</sup>, particle density 2.314 Mg m<sup>-3</sup> and significant in pore space 48.12 %, Water holding capacity 43.99%, Organic Carbon 0.46 %, and Av. N 285.41 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, P 23.47 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, K 208.47 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, in [the](#) case of Nitrogen kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, Phosphorus kg ha<sup>-1</sup> and Potassium kg ha<sup>-1</sup> was found to be significant among other treatments in cowpea cultivation and soil quality improvement. The maximum yield regarding, gave the best results with respect to plant height 73.28cm, [and](#) number of leaves plant<sup>-1</sup> 36.96. number of pod plant<sup>-1</sup> 10.72, weight of pod plant<sup>-1</sup> 38 g, It gave highest yield 71.58 q ha<sup>-1</sup>. It was also revealed that the application with organic manures was [an](#) excellent source for fertilization than fertilizers.

Comment [A1]: Restructure sentence

**Keywords:** Soil properties, nutrients cowpea, poultry manure, morphological parameters *etc.*

### INTRODUCTION

Pulses have long been recognized and valued as “Soil building” crops. Growing pulses improves soil quality through their beneficial effects on soil biological, chemical and physical conditions. Organic materials are intrinsic and essential components of all soils and it makes a living dynamic system in the soil that supports all life residing in soil. Organic matter plays a vital role in improving the physical, chemical, and biological condition of soil. Besides, [the](#) addition of N, P, K

organic manures ~~are is~~ a potential source of micronutrients and improves soil structure by providing binding action to soil aggregates, ~~increases-increasing~~ water holding capacity and ~~improve-improving~~ ~~the~~ buffering capacity of soils. Although ~~the~~ release of nutrients is slow but steadily for a longer duration thus preventing their losses by leaching and other means and ~~improves-improving~~ nutrient use efficiency of the crop. The nutrients supplementation through organic sources also has been found to be a good carrier for ~~the~~ flourishing of microbes resulting ~~into~~ sustained soil productivity and enhanced enzymatic activities of soil which play a vital role in the transformation of unavailable form of nutrient into available form and gives rise an organic recycling process along with improving soil health. ~~Use~~ ~~The use~~ of organic manure alone or in combination with chemical fertilizers, helps in improving ~~the~~ physico-chemical properties of the soil, ~~and~~ improves the efficient utilization of applied fertilizers ~~resulted-resulting~~ in higher seed yield and quality. The increasing use of NPK fertilizers generally devoid of micronutrients, had no doubt remarkably increased ~~the~~ food production but it brought ~~with~~ a host of problems related to micro-nutrient deficiencies by depleting their resources in ~~the~~ soil. For integrated nutrient management in maize cultivation, PM is usually applied to the prepared soil two weeks before planting (Uwah *et al.*, 2011) to allow the mineralization of the PM. Potassium plays ~~an~~ important role in formation of protein and chlorophyll and it ~~provide-provides~~ much of ~~the~~ osmotic “pull” that ~~draw-draws~~ water into plant roots. Potassium produces strong stiff straw in maize and ~~reduce-reduces~~ lodging in maize. Potassium imparts increase vigor and disease resistance to ~~plant~~ ~~plants~~ (Cobbinah *et al.*, 2011). Urea may be applied to maize farms in different growing stages. Delaying or early application of urea to plants may have an implication on soil chemical properties, growth, and yield of the crop. Many researchers have suggested that N should be applied at the time it is needed by the crop (Ogunboye *et al.* 2020 and Sitthaphanit *et al.*, 2010).

#### MATERIAL AND METHODS

The investigation “**Influence of Organic Manure and Inorganic Fertilizer on Soil Health, Growth and Yield of Cowpea (*Vigna unguiculata* L.) var. Gomati.**” comprises ~~of~~ a field experiment which was carried out at the Soil Science Research Farm, Sam Higginbottom University of Agriculture Technology, Prayagraj during Kharif season 2022. The details about the experiment site, soil and climate are described in this chapter together with the experimental design, layout plan, cultural practice, particulars of treatments, planting material and techniques employed for the parameters.

The experiment was conducted at ~~the~~ research farm of soil science at NAI, SHUATS, Prayagraj, the area is situated on the south of Prayagraj on the right side of the river Yamuna on the south of ~~rewa-Rewa~~ road at a distance of about 6 km from Prayagraj city. It is situated at 25<sup>0</sup>57” N latitude, 81<sup>0</sup>59” E longitude and at ~~the-an~~ altitude of 98 ~~meter-meters~~ above ~~the~~ sea level, comes under ~~the~~ subtropical belt in the ~~South-east~~ ~~Southeast~~ of Uttar Pradesh, which ~~experience-experiences~~ extremely hot ~~summer-summers~~ and fairly cold ~~winter-winters~~. The maximum temperature of the

location reaches up to 46<sup>0</sup>C – 48<sup>0</sup>C and seldom falls as low as 4<sup>0</sup>C – 5<sup>0</sup>C. The relative humidity ranged between 20 to 94 percent. The average rainfall in this area is around 1100 mm annually.

The soil samples were randomly collected from one site in the experiment plot prior to tillage operation from a depth of 0-15 cm. The volume of the soil sample was reduced by coning and quartering the composites soil sample will be air dried and passed through a 2 mm sieve by way of preparing the sample for physical and chemical analysis.

**Table 1. Treatment combination of cowpea**

| Treatments     | Treatment combinations |
|----------------|------------------------|
| T <sub>1</sub> | Absolute control       |
| T <sub>2</sub> | (RDF @ 0%+PM @ 50%)    |
| T <sub>3</sub> | (RDF @ 0%+PM @ 100%)   |
| T <sub>4</sub> | (RDF @ 50%+PM @ 0%)    |
| T <sub>5</sub> | (RDF @ 50%+PM @ 50%)   |
| T <sub>6</sub> | (RDF @ 50%+PM @ 100%)  |
| T <sub>7</sub> | (RDF @ 100%+PM @ 0%)   |
| T <sub>8</sub> | (RDF @ 100%+PM @ 50%)  |
| T <sub>9</sub> | (RDF @ 100%+PM @ 100%) |

Source: ICAR (2010)

RDF = N = 20 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> = 60 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> & K<sub>2</sub>O = 40 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> (DAP & MOP)

Poultry manure = 4 t ha<sup>-1</sup> (N = 3.0 %, P = 1.0 % & K = 1.5 %)

**Table 2. Protocols for physical and chemical analysis of soil**

| Particular                                  | Scientist, Year                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Textural class (Sand, Silt, Clay) %         | Bouyoucos, 1962                |
| Bulk density (Mg m <sup>3</sup> )           | Muthuaval <i>et al.</i> , 1992 |
| Particle density (Mg m <sup>3</sup> )       | Muthuaval <i>et al.</i> , 1992 |
| Pore space (%)                              | Muthuaval <i>et al.</i> , 1992 |
| Water holding capacity (%)                  | Muthuaval <i>et al.</i> , 1992 |
| Soil pH (1:2.5) (w/v)                       | Jackson, 1958                  |
| Soil EC (dS m <sup>-1</sup> )               | Wilcox, 1950                   |
| Organic Carbon (%)                          | Walkley and Black, 1947        |
| Available Nitrogen (kg ha <sup>-1</sup> )   | Subbiah and Asija, 1956        |
| Available Phosphorus (kg ha <sup>-1</sup> ) | Olsen et al, 1954              |
| Available Potassium (kg ha <sup>-1</sup> )  | Toth and Prince, 1949          |

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Soil parameters

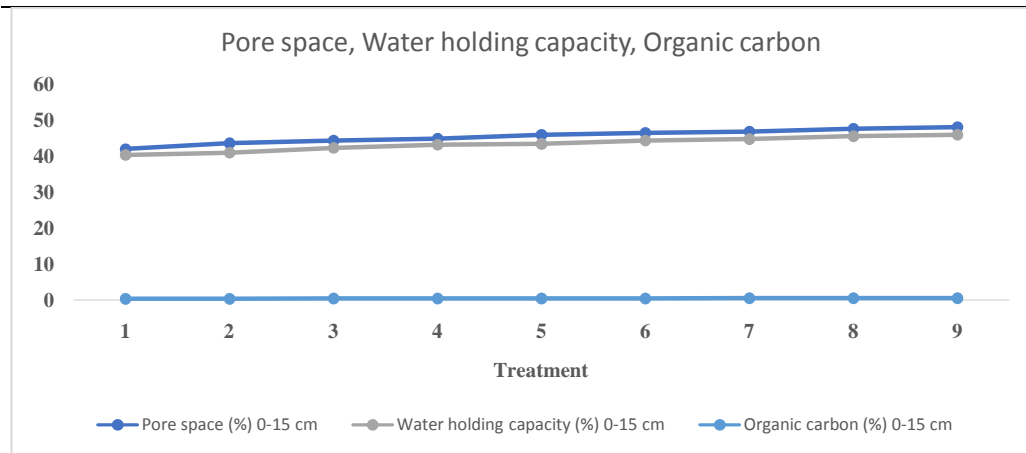
The composition of NPK and Poultry manure ~~have~~ ~~has~~ a significant increase ~~on~~ ~~in~~ the soil parameters. The increase of pore space %, water holding capacity %, organic carbon, available nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium with the improvement of soil parameters, table 2. ~~shown~~ ~~shows~~ that application of different levels of NPK and Poultry manure ~~have~~ ~~has~~ a significant role on ~~the~~ soil. In treatment T<sub>1</sub> lowest data observed, pore space 42.02%, water holding capacity 40.37%, organic carbon 0.28%, nitrogen 258.97 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, phosphorus 18.62 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, potassium 175.62 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> and T<sub>9</sub> shows the highest pore space 48.12, water holding capacity 45.99%, organic carbon 0.46%, nitrogen 285.41 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, phosphorus 23.47 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> and potassium 208.47 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, in 0-15 cm depth of soil.

### Effect of different levels of NPK and poultry manure on soil properties

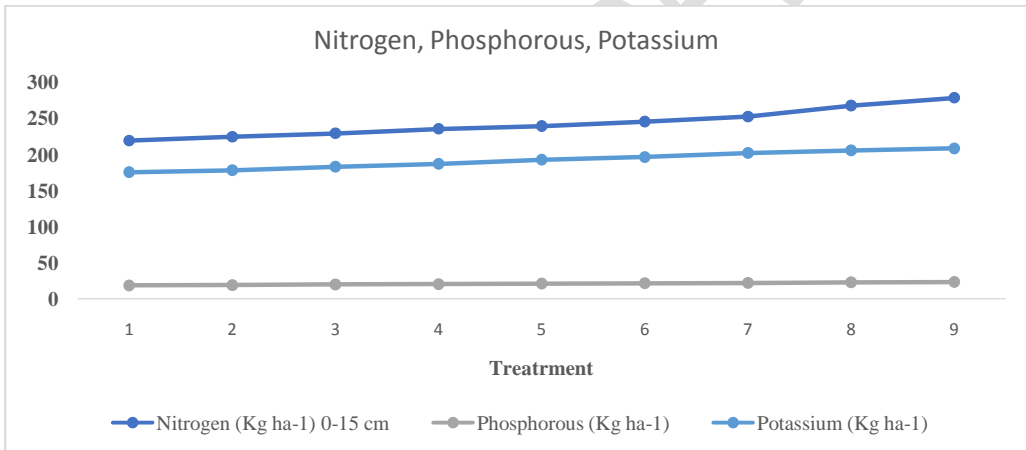
In fig 1. and 2. the treatment T<sub>9</sub> is the maximum potential of soil parameters that improve the soil followed by T<sub>8</sub>. It eventually shows that the NPK and poultry manure application is ~~the~~ ~~a~~ beneficial effect on the soil, that will maintain the soil. T<sub>1</sub> shows ~~that~~ ~~the~~ lowest effect on the soil.

Table 3. Effect of different levels of NPK and Poultry manure on soil properties

| Treatments     | Pore space (%) | Water holding capacity (%) | Organic carbon (%) | Nitrogen (Kg ha <sup>-1</sup> ) | Phosphorus (Kg ha <sup>-1</sup> ) | Potassium (Kg ha <sup>-1</sup> ) |
|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                | 0-15 cm        | 0-15 cm                    | 0-15 cm            | 0-15 cm                         | 0-15 cm                           | 0-15 cm                          |
| T <sub>1</sub> | 42.02          | 40.37                      | 0.28               | 219.30                          | 18.62                             | 175.62                           |
| T <sub>2</sub> | 43.66          | 41.02                      | 0.31               | 224.43                          | 19.27                             | 178.27                           |
| T <sub>3</sub> | 44.37          | 42.30                      | 0.34               | 229.31                          | 19.85                             | 183.25                           |
| T <sub>4</sub> | 44.92          | 43.21                      | 0.36               | 235.54                          | 20.47                             | 187.09                           |
| T <sub>5</sub> | 45.98          | 43.45                      | 0.38               | 239.31                          | 21.11                             | 192.85                           |
| T <sub>6</sub> | 46.52          | 44.37                      | 0.40               | 245.50                          | 21.61                             | 196.47                           |
| T <sub>7</sub> | 46.88          | 44.80                      | 0.42               | 252.48                          | 22.25                             | 202.11                           |
| T <sub>8</sub> | 47.64          | 45.59                      | 0.44               | 267.66                          | 23.09                             | 205.61                           |
| T <sub>9</sub> | 48.12          | 45.99                      | 0.46               | 278.49                          | 23.47                             | 208.47                           |



**Fig 1. Effect of different levels of NPK and Poultry manure on pore space, water holding capacity and organic carbon**



**Fig 2. Effect of different levels of NPK and poultry manure on nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium**  
kg ha<sup>-1</sup>

**Table 4. Influence of organic manure and inorganic fertilizers on yield of cowpea**

| Treatment      | Treatment Combination  | Pod yield (q ha <sup>-1</sup> ) |
|----------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| T <sub>1</sub> | Absolute control       | 52.83                           |
| T <sub>2</sub> | (RDF @ 0%+PM @ 50%)    | 54.58                           |
| T <sub>3</sub> | (RDF @ 0%+PM @ 100%)   | 54.86                           |
| T <sub>4</sub> | (RDF @ 50%+PM @ 0%)    | 56.66                           |
| T <sub>5</sub> | (RDF @ 50%+PM @ 50%)   | 58.96                           |
| T <sub>6</sub> | (RDF @ 50%+PM @ 100%)  | 63.67                           |
| T <sub>7</sub> | (RDF @ 100%+PM @ 0%)   | 64.58                           |
| T <sub>8</sub> | (RDF @ 100%+PM @ 50%)  | 67.63                           |
| T <sub>9</sub> | (RDF @ 100%+PM @ 100%) | 71.58                           |

As depicted in [table-Table 4](#) that the maximum pod yield of cowpea was 71.58 q ha<sup>-1</sup> found in T<sub>9</sub> [NPK @ 100 % + PM @ 100 %] followed by T<sub>8</sub> [NPK @ 100 %+ @ PM 50 %] and the minimum pod yield q ha<sup>-1</sup> was found in T<sub>1</sub> which was 52.83 q ha<sup>-1</sup> respectively.

#### CONCLUSION

It revealed that the treatment combination T<sub>9</sub> [NPK @ 100 % + PM @ 100 %] shows [the](#) best results with respect to in comparison to other treatment combinations and gave [the](#) highest yield 71.58 q ha<sup>-1</sup>. According to the T<sub>9</sub> if farmers [s](#) apply integrated nutrients *i.e.*, NPK and poultry manure for profitable production of cowpea, economics and maintain soil fertility and productivity.

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