

Original Research Article

Retroaction of summer sesame (*Sesamum indicum* L.) towards foliar application of NPK and micronutrients on content and uptake of nutrients in medium black calcareous soil of South Saurashtra region

ABSTRACT

A field trial was conducted to investigate the impact of foliar application of NPK and micronutrients on nutrient content and uptake of sesame during the summer season of 2022. The trial took place on medium black calcareous soil at the Instructional Farm of Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh. A field trial was steered to ascertain the outcome of foliar application of NPK and micronutrients on nutrient content and uptake by sesame crop during the summer season of 2022 on medium black calcareous soil of Instructional Farm, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh. The experiment was carried out with three replications and ten treatments, utilizing a Randomized Block Design. The study focused on assessing the sesame cv, GJT-5. The experiment was conducted with three replications and 10 treatments by using Randomized Block Design, the GJT-5 variety of sesame was tested in this experiment. The treatments consists of 100 % recommended dose of fertilizers (RDF), viz. 50:25:40 N-P₂O₅-K₂O kg /ha (T1), T1 + Foliar spray of MMMG-IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45 days after sowing (DAS) (T2), 75 % of RDF + 1.5 % Water Soluble Fertilizer at 30 and 45 DAS (T3), 75 % of RDF + 2.0 % Water Soluble Fertilizer at 30 and 45 DAS (T4), 50 % of RDF + 1.5 % Water Soluble Fertilizer at 30 and 45 DAS (T5), 50 % of RDF + 2.0 % Water Soluble Fertilizer at 30 and 45 DAS (T6), T3+ Foliar spray of multi micro mixture grade — IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45 DAS (T7), T4+ Foliar spray of MMMG- IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45 DAS (T8), T5 + Foliar spray of MMMG- IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45 DAS (T9) and T6+Foliar spray of MMMG- IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45 DAS (T10). The results of the experimentation revealed that the application of T4+ Foliar spray of MMMG- IV @ 0.25 % (T8) at 30 and 45 DAS (T8) recorded the significantly higher content of N, P and K and micronutrients (Fe, Zn, Mn, Cu and B) in seed and stover of sesame and also enhanced the uptake of these nutrients by plant as well as the availability of Nitrogen, Phosphorous and Potassium in soil after harvest of the crop. Significantly, they were at par with the application of T3+ Foliar spray of MMMG- IV @ 0.25 % (T7) at 30 and 45 DAS). While, the significantly lowest values of nutrient content and uptake were recorded with 50 % of RDF + 1.5 % Water Soluble Fertilizer (T5) at 30 and 45 DAS, significantly increased the content of nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), potassium (K), as well as micronutrients (iron, Fe; zinc, Zn; manganese,

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Auto, Pattern: Clear

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Auto, Pattern: Clear

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Auto, Pattern: Clear

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Auto, Pattern: Clear

Formatted: Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Auto, Pattern: Clear

Mn; copper, Cu; and boron, B) in both the seeds and stover of sesame. Additionally, it enhanced the uptake of these nutrients by the plants, and it also increased the availability of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium in the soil after the crop's harvest. These effects were statistically similar to the application of T3, in conjunction with a foliar spray of MMMG-IV at a rate of 0.25% at 30 and 45 days after sowing (T7). Whereas, significantly lower values for nutrient content and uptake were observed when 50% of RDF (Recommended Dose of Fertilizers) was applied in combination with 1.5% Water Soluble Fertilizer (T5) at 30 and 45 days after sowing. These findings emphasize the substantial impact of different fertilization strategies on nutrient dynamics in sesame plants and the surrounding soil in an academic context.

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, Font color: Auto, Pattern: Clear

Keywords — Sesame, randomized block design, nutrient content, nutrient uptake and WSF (water soluble fertilizer).

INTRODUCTION

Since the ancient times, the sesame plant (*Sesamum indicum* L.) has been cultivated as a significant oilseed crop across Asia, with India boasting the longest history of sesame production grown as an important oilseed crop throughout Asia, with India having the longest history of sesame production. The Arthashastra of Kautilya makes mention of sesame farming in India, indicating its historical significance in the country's agricultural practices. Sesame is characterized by 36 wild species, with 19 of them thriving in India, while the remaining species are exclusive to Africa. Sesame has 36 wild species, 19 of which are found in India and the rest only in Africa. The majority of *Sesamum* genus in the wild are native to sub-Saharan Africa, however, *Sesamum indicum* was also previously discovered in India. Sesame (*Sesamum indicum* L.), one of the most historically significant oilseed crops in the world, has been cultivated in Asia for thousands of years, with India holding the distinction of having the longest history of sesame cultivation. One of the most significant and historic oilseed crops in the world, sesame (*Sesamum indicum* L.), has been farmed in Asia for thousands of years, with India having the longest history of sesame cultivation.

Formatted: Font: Italic

Formatted: Font: Italic

Formatted: Font: Italic

Comment [D1]: Author should give reference in this part

It is extensively cultivated in tropical and subtropical regions worldwide. In India, sesame is grown on 1.722 million ha, with a production of 0.816 million tonnes and an average productivity of 474 kg/ha-1. It is extensively cultivated in tropical and subtropical tracks in the world. In India, sesame occupies 1.722 million ha area and production of 0.816 million tonnes having an average productivity of 474 kg/ha. Gujarat is the leading state in sesame cultivation, with an area of approximately 2.588 lakh hectares, a production of 1.225 lakh tonnes, and a productivity of about 473.43 kg/ha⁻¹. Gujarat is the foremost state in cultivation of sesame with an area, production and productivity about 2.588 lakh ha, 1.225 lakh tonnes and 473.43 kg/ha respectively, [1].

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, Pattern: Clear

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, Pattern: Clear

It is grown in less fertilized marginal and sub-marginal areas. Low grain yield is primarily caused by widespread flower shedding, nutritional deficits, hormonal abnormalities, and endogenous levels of growth regulators [2]. Midst the agronomic aspects recognized to enhance crop production, fertilizer stands first and is considered as one of the most productive inputs in agriculture. ~~Of the~~ major elements, nitrogen which is deficient in most of the Indian soils plays a considerably important role [3]. The application of nutrients through soil also be subjected to loss through leaching, fixation with clay and volatilization losses. In calcareous soil condition most of the nutrients are not readily available to the plants, especially N, P and micronutrients are deficient due to fixation in soil. These unavailability of nutrients causes poor absorption by plants which leads the deficiency and ultimately decreases the yield of crop plant.

~~Foliar nutrition serves as an effective method for addressing nutrient deficiencies and circumventing the soil's limitations in delivering nutrients to the plant. The application of foliar spray stimulates increased cellular activity, respiration, and chlorophyll production. Foliar nutrition is a useful technique for correcting nutrient shortages and getting around the soil's inefficiency in transferring nutrients to the plant. Foliar spray causes a rise in cellular activity, respiration, and chlorophyll production.~~ Additionally, it stimulates a plant's response to increased soil water and nutrient uptake [4].

By considering the above facts within the view, an effort has been made during summer 2022 to increase the crop yield through foliar application of fertilizer along with a recommended dose of fertilizers.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

~~The An~~ experiment was conducted during ~~the~~ summer of 2022 on medium black calcareous soil at Instructional Farm, ~~of~~ Junagadh Agricultural University, ~~in~~ Junagadh, Gujarat. ~~This location is situated at a geographical coordinate of 21.50 degrees North latitude and 70.50 degrees East longitude, with an altitude of 60 meters above mean sea level (MSL) which is situated geographically at 21.50 North latitude and 70.50 East longitude with an altitude of 60 metre above the MSL (mean sea level).~~ The soil was slightly alkaline in reaction with pH of 7.8, EC 0.41 ds/m, medium in organic carbon (0.52%) and clayey in texture. The soil low in available nitrogen (237.2 kg/ha), medium in available phosphorus (28.5 kg/ha), Potash (252 kg/ha) and micronutrients iron (5.5 ppm), zinc (0.55 ppm), manganese (5.1 ppm) copper (0.51 ppm) and Boron (0.65 ppm). ~~The soil exhibited a slightly alkaline pH of 7.8, an electrical conductivity (EC) of 0.41 dS m⁻¹, and possessed medium levels of organic carbon at 0.52%. It displayed a clayey texture. In terms of nutrient content, the soil registered low availability of nitrogen at 237.2 kg/ha, while it contained medium levels of available phosphorus (28.5 kg/ha) and potassium (252 kg/ha). Furthermore, the soil contained micronutrients, including iron (5.5 ppm), zinc (0.55 ppm), manganese (5.1 ppm), copper (0.51 ppm), and boron (0.65 ppm).~~

The experiment was laid out in RBD ~~with three~~ ~~high consisting of 3~~ replications, ~~there were ten~~ ~~having 40~~ treatments viz. ~~100% RDF, viz. 50:25:40 N-P₂O₅-K₂O kg/ha⁻¹ (T1), T1 + Foliar spray of MMMG-~~

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, Pattern: Clear

Comment [D2]: Add the objective of this study in the last sentence of introduction

Formatted: Strikethrough

Formatted: Superscript

Formatted: Subscript

Formatted: Subscript

Formatted: Subscript

Formatted: Superscript

IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45 DAS (T2), 75 % of RDF + 1.5 % Water Soluble Fertilizer at 30 and 45 DAS (T3), 75 % of RDF + 2.0 % Water Soluble Fertilizer at 30 and 45 DAS (T4), 50 % of RDF + 1.5 % Water Soluble Fertilizer at 30 and 45 DAS (T5), 50 % of RDF + 2.0 % Water Soluble Fertilizer at 30 and 45 DAS (T6), T3 + Foliar spray of multi micro mixture grade ~~IV~~ IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45 DAS (T7), T4 + Foliar spray of MMMG- IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45 DAS (T8), T5 + Foliar spray of MMMG- IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45 DAS (T9) and T6 + Foliar spray of MMMG- IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45 DAS (T10). The recommended dose of fertilizer (50:25:40 N-P₂O₅-K₂O kg/ha⁻¹) was supplied through Urea, DAP and MOP respectively, and applied according to treatments. While rest of the nutrients were applied by means of foliar application of Water Soluble Fertilizer (19:19:19 N:P:K) and micronutrients through Multi micro. Mixture grade –IV (MMMG- IV).

The sample for chemical analysis was drawn from 5 randomly selected plants at harvest, dried at 60 °C, grinded and used for analysis. The analysis for concentration of N, P_T and K was performed using the procedure as recommended by Jackson [5]. Micronutrients viz., Fe, Mn, Zn, Cu and B content in the seed and stover was estimated by using Triple acid extract-AAS method recommended by Lindsay and Norvell [6] and uptake of nutrients by the crop were calculated.

Data analysis: The tentative data were analysed using analysis of variance techniques at 5% level of significance endorsed by Gomez and Gomez [7].

EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

Effect on nutrient content on sesame of plant

NPK content in seed

~~An examination of data in Table 1 revealed The results showed~~ that the NPK content in seed were significantly influenced by different treatments and the higher content of N (4.83%), P (0.52%) and K (0.64%) were recorded by applying treatment T8 (T4 + Foliar spray of MMMG- IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45 days after sowing), which remained at par with treatment T7 in phosphorus content, T7, T2 and T10 about N content and T7, T2, T10 and T9 about K content of seed. Whereas, significantly lowest N (3.72%), P (0.42%) and K (0.53%) content in seed were documented with the treatment T5. The results indicated that the NPK content in the seeds was markedly affected by various treatments. The highest levels of nitrogen (N) at 4.83%, phosphorus (P) at 0.52%, and potassium (K) at 0.64% were observed when treatment T8 was applied (which involved T4 along with a foliar spray of MMMG-IV at a rate of 0.25% at 30 and 45 DAS). These levels were comparable to treatment T7 in terms of phosphorus content, treatment T7 and treatments T2 and T10 for nitrogen content, and treatment T7, T2, T10, and T9 for potassium content in the seeds. On the other hand, the lowest content of nitrogen (3.72%), phosphorus (0.42%), and potassium (0.53%) in the seeds was significantly recorded with treatment T5 (Table 1).

Micronutrient content in seed

~~The results revealed Scrutiny of data in Table 2 showed~~ that the various treatments exerted their significant influence on micronutrient content in seed. Significantly the highest content of micronutrients in seed i.e. Fe (403.25 mg), Zn (64.22 mg), Mn (76.93 mg), Cu (58.61 mg) and B

Formatted: Subscript

Formatted: Subscript

Formatted: Subscript

Formatted: Superscript

Comment [D3]: How to collect the data of NPK up take? How to calculate N P K uptake from soil

Formatted: Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, Pattern: Clear

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, Pattern: Clear

Formatted: Not Raised by / Lowered by

Formatted: English (United States), Strikethrough

Formatted: Normal, Justified, Space Before: 0 pt, Line spacing: 1.5 lines, Don't adjust space between Latin and Asian text, Don't adjust space between Asian text and numbers, Border: Top: (No border), Bottom: (No border), Left: (No border), Right: (No border), Pattern: Clear

(40.89 mg) was registered under treatment T8 (T4 + Foliar spray of MMMG-IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45 days after sowing), which remained statistically at par with the treatments T7, T2 in Zn content, T7, T2, and T10 in case of Fe, Mn and Cu, while T7, T2, T10 and T9 in respect of B content in seed. Significantly the lowermost values of N, P and K content in stover were witnessed with treatment T5 (Table 2). The results revealed that various treatments significantly influenced the micronutrient content in the seeds. The treatment T8 (T4 + Foliar spray of MMMG-IV @ 0.25% at 30 and 45 DAS) recorded the highest levels of micronutrients in the seeds, specifically iron (Fe) at 403.25 mg, zinc (Zn) at 64.22 mg, manganese (Mn) at 76.93 mg, copper (Cu) at 58.61 mg, and boron (B) at 40.89 mg. These values were statistically similar to treatments T7 and T2 for Zn content, treatments T7, T2, and T10 for Fe, Mn, and Cu content, and treatments T7, T2, T10, and T9 for B content in the seeds. On the other hand, significantly lower values of nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P) and potassium (K) content in the stover were observed with treatment T5 (Table 2).

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Strikethrough

NPK content in stover

In context of NPK content in stover of sesame, the highest content of N, P and K about (1.77%), (0.27%) and (1.28%) respectively, were recorded by the application of T4 + Foliar spray of MMMG-IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45 days after sowing (T8), which was on par with treatment T7, T2, and T10 in context of N and P, while T7, T2, T10 and T9 in terms of K content in stover. The lowest content of micronutrient content in seed were noted with treatment T5. Regarding the NPK content in the stover of sesame, the application of T4 in combination with a foliar spray of MMMG-IV at a rate of 0.25% at 30 and 45 DAS (T8) resulted in the highest levels of nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), and potassium (K), at approximately 1.77%, 0.27%, and 1.28%, respectively. These values were statistically comparable to those observed in treatment T7, T2, and T10 for nitrogen and phosphorus, and treatment T7, T2, T10, and T9 for potassium content in the stover. Conversely, the lowest micronutrient content in the stover was observed in treatment T5 (Table ???).

Formatted: Strikethrough

Formatted: Space Before: 0 pt, After: 15 pt

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, English (India)

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, English (India)

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, English (India)

Formatted: Strikethrough

Micronutrient content in stover

Scrutiny of data in Table 2 The results revealed that different treatments imparted their significant impact on micronutrient content in stover. The higher content of micronutrient in stover i.e. Fe (348.5 mg), Zn (42.81 mg), Mn (66.38 mg), Cu (39.07 mg) and B (31.46 mg) were recorded with the application of treatment T4 + Foliar spray of MMMG-IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45 DAS (T8). The result is in similarity with the treatments T7, and T2 in terms of Zn, while T7, T2 and T10 in terms of Fe, Mn, Cu and B content in stover of sesame. Whereas, significantly the lower content of micronutrients in stover were recorded under treatment T5 (Table 2). The findings of this study demonstrate that different agricultural treatments have a significant impact on the micronutrient content in sesame stover. The application of treatment T4 with a foliar spray of MMMG-IV at a rate of 0.25% at 30 and 45 DAS (T8), resulted in notably higher levels of micronutrients in the stover. Specifically, iron (Fe) content was recorded at 348.5 mg, zinc (Zn) at 42.81 mg, manganese (Mn) at 66.38 mg, copper (Cu) at 39.07 mg, and boron (B) at 31.46 mg. These results align with those obtained from treatments T7 and T2 in terms of Zn content, and treatments T7, T2, and T10 concerning Fe, Mn, Cu, and B content in the sesame stover. Conversely, treatment T5 yielded significantly lower micronutrient content in the

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: English (India), Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: English (India), Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted: English (India), Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: English (India), Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, Pattern: Clear

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, Pattern: Clear

stover. This underscores the importance of the applied treatments in influencing the micronutrient composition of the crop's stover in the field of agriculture (Table 2).

Effect on nutrient uptake in sesame by plant

NPK uptake by seed

A glimpse of data (Table 1) The results revealed that application treatment T4 + Foliar spray of MMMG-IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45 days after sowing (T8) recorded significantly greater uptake of N, P and K by seed i.e. (67.07 kg/ha), (7.14 kg/ha) and (8.91 kg/ha) respectively, it was recorded statistically at par to treatment of T7 in context of Phosphorus uptake and T7 and T2 in terms of Nitrogen and Potash uptake. Whereas, significantly the lowest NPK uptake by seed was recorded under treatment T5. The results indicate that the application of treatment T4 with a foliar spray of MMMG-IV at a rate of 0.25% at 30 and 45 DAS (T8), resulted in significantly greater uptake of nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), and potassium (K) by the seeds, measuring at 67.07 kg/ha, 7.14 kg/ha, and 8.91 kg/ha, respectively. This was statistically similar to the uptake of phosphorus in treatment T7 and the uptake of nitrogen and potash in treatments T7 and T2. Whereas, T5 yielded significantly lower NPK uptake by the seeds. These findings emphasize the importance of specific agricultural treatments in influencing the uptake of essential nutrients by seeds in the field of agriculture (Table????).

Micronutrient uptake by seed

The results An assessment of data indicated that the micronutrient uptake by seed of sesame was influenced significantly by different treatments and significantly higher values of uptake of Micronutrient by seed i.e. Fe (559.1 g/ha), Zn (88.93 g/ha), Mn (106.49 g/ha), Cu (81.22 g/ha) and B (56.82 g/ha) were recorded with the treatment T4 + Foliar spray of MMMG-IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45 days after sowing (T8). This treatment was in similarity to the treatments T7 in context of Zn and B uptake, while T7 and T2 in respect of Fe, Mn and Cu uptake by seed of sesame. Significantly the lowermost number was recorded about micronutrient uptake under the treatment T5. The results indicated that the uptake of micronutrients by sesame seeds was significantly influenced by varioustreatments. The treatment that combined T4 with a foliar spray of MMMG-IV at a rate of 0.25% at 30 and 45 DAS (T8) recorded notably higher values for micronutrient uptake by seeds. Specifically, the uptake of iron (Fe) was 559.1 g/ha, zinc (Zn) was 88.93 g/ha, manganese (Mn) was 106.49 g/ha, copper (Cu) was 81.22 g/ha, and boron (B) was 56.82 g/ha. These results were statistically similar to the treatments T7 for Zn and B uptake, and T7 and T2 for Fe, Mn, and Cu uptake by sesame seeds.

NPK uptake by stover

An examination of data in Table 1 showed that different treatments exerted their significant influence on Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potassium uptake by stover. Significantly higher N (37.75 kg/ha), P (5.72 kg/ha) and K (27.29 kg/ha) uptake by stover of sesame was observed under the treatment T4 + Foliar spray of MMMG-IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45 days after sowing (T8), which was statistically at par with the treatments T7 in context of N uptake, whereas T7 and T2 in respect of Phosphorus and Potassium uptake by stover. Significantly the lowest Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potassium uptake by stover was documented with the treatment T5. The results revealed that different treatments

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, English (India), Pattern: Clear

Formatted: English (India)

Formatted: Font: English (India), Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, English (India), Pattern: Clear

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, English (India), Pattern: Clear

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, English (India), Pattern: Clear

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, English (India), Pattern: Clear

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, English (India), Pattern: Clear

Formatted: English (India)

Formatted: Font: English (India), Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: English (India), Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: English (India), Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, Pattern: Clear

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, Pattern: Clear

Formatted: English (United States)

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, English (India), Pattern: Clear

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, English (India), Pattern: Clear

significantly influenced the uptake of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium by sesame stover. Notably, treatment T4, with a foliar spray of MMMG-IV at a rate of 0.25% at 30 and 45 DAS (T8), resulted in substantially higher uptake of Nitrogen (37.75 kg/ha), phosphorus (5.72 kg/ha), and potassium (27.29 kg/ha) by the sesame stover. These values were statistically comparable to those obtained in treatment T7 in the context of Nitrogen uptake, and to treatments T7 and T2 regarding phosphorus and Potassium uptake by the stover (Table 1).

Micronutrient uptake by stover

An investigation of data (Table 1) indicated that the micronutrient uptake by stover of sesame was influenced significantly by different treatments and significantly higher values of uptake of Micronutrient by stover, i.e. Fe (742.4 g/ha), Zn (90.87 g/ha), Mn (141.49 g/ha), Cu (82.99 g/ha) and B (66.99 g/ha) were recorded under the treatment T₈ (T₄ + Foliar spray of MMMG-IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45-DAS). The result is in similarity with the treatments T₇ in context of Zn uptake, T₇ and T₂ in respect of Fe, Cu and B uptake, while T₇, T₂ and T₁ in terms of Mn uptake by stover of sesame. Significantly the lowest figure about micronutrient uptake was documented under the treatment T₅. The results revealed that the uptake of micronutrients by sesame stover was significantly influenced by various treatments. Remarkably higher values of micronutrient uptake by the stover, such as iron (Fe) at 742.4 g/ha, zinc (Zn) at 90.87 g/ha, manganese (Mn) at 141.49 g/ha, copper (Cu) at 82.99 g/ha and boron (B) at 66.99 g/ha were recorded under treatment T8 (comprising T4 and a foliar spray of MMMG-IV at a rate of 0.25% at 30 and 45 DAS). These results align with those obtained in treatment T7 for Zn uptake, T7 and T2 for Fe, Cu and B uptake and T7, T2 and T1 in terms of Mn uptake by the sesame stover.

Effect on Post-harvest nutrient status of soil

An assessment of data (Table 3) revealed that different treatment imparted their significant effect on the available soil macronutrients after harvest of the crop. Significantly increased the accumulation of available N (272.73 kg/ha), P (34.37 kg/ha) and K (272.20 kg/ha) in soil after harvest of crop were noted under the application of T4 + Foliar spray of MMMG-IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45 DAS (T8), which was remained statistically parallel with T7, T2, T10, T9 and T1 in respect of available nitrogen and with treatments T7, T2 and T10 in respect of available phosphorous and potassium in soil. Significantly lower available soil N, P and K was recorded under treatment T5. However, available micronutrients status of soil remained unaffected due to various treatments. The data in Table 3 reveals that different treatments had a significant impact on the available soil macronutrients after the crop's harvest. There was a significant increase in the accumulation of available nitrogen (N) at 272.73 kg/ha, phosphorus (P) at 34.37 kg/ha and potassium (K) at 272.20 kg/ha in the soil following the crop's harvest when treatment T4 was applied with a foliar spray of MMMG-IV at a rate of 0.25% at 30 and 45 DAS (T8). These values were statistically similar to those observed in treatments T7, T2, T10, T9, and T1 for available nitrogen and in treatments T7, T2, and T10 for available phosphorus and potassium in the soil.

DISCUSSION

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, English (India), Pattern: Clear

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, English (India), Pattern: Clear

Formatted

Formatted

Formatted

Formatted

Formatted

Formatted

Formatted

Formatted

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted: Font color: Black, Kern at 12 pt

Formatted

Formatted

Formatted

Formatted: English (India), Strikethrough

Formatted: Strikethrough

Formatted: English (India), Strikethrough

Formatted: Strikethrough

Formatted: English (India), Strikethrough

Formatted: Strikethrough

Formatted: English (India), Strikethrough

Formatted: Strikethrough

Formatted

Formatted

The growth and maintenance of greater chlorophyll and photosynthetic area in terms of higher leaf area and leaf area index occurred from the foliar feeding of important nutrients, mainly N, which led to higher photosynthesis. Additionally, foliar K feeding promotes a higher transfer of photosynthates from the leaves to the growing seeds, improving seed output. These two elements worked together to improve the transfer of photosynthates to growing seeds, which led to the production of healthy, mature seeds. Similar to this, applying micronutrients through foliar application promotes the activation of various enzymes and increases basic metabolic rate in plants, which facilitated the synthesis of nucleic acids and hormones and increased seed yield due to greater availability of nutrients and photosynthates [8].

Increased availability of N, P, K, and micronutrients during combined foliar treatment may be the cause of the rise in N, P, and K content in seed and stover. The increased nutrient intake was caused by an increased supply of nutrients and a well-developed root system, which increased water and nutrient absorption. This may possibly be related to the increased availability of minerals in the treated soil and the role that micronutrients play in the activation of several enzymes that aid in nutrient uptake.

It depends on the concentration of nutrient ions in the plant system and is connected to the metabolic processes of the plant. The increase in micronutrients concentration in plant due to the foliar application of micronutrients which lead to the quick absorption and avoid nutrient losses. Combined soil and foliar application of NPK and micronutrients resulted in increased concentration of macro and micronutrients in sesame crop. The findings are in agreement with Manasa et al., [9].

This might be explained by their complementary effects, which increase availability in the root environment and facilitate extraction and transit to the plant system. Increased uptake of nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, iron, zinc, manganese, copper, and boron follow better yield and nutrient absorption. These results of present investigation are in close agreements with the findings of [10-12] in case of soil application of NPK fertilizers and [13-15] in case of foliar application.

The amount of nutrients that remain in the soil after a crop is harvested mostly depends on both the input of nutrients from various sources and crop uptake. Higher levels of N, P₂O₅, and K₂O in soil may be the result of foliar spraying these nutrients, which reduced soil uptake. The conclusions of [9, 14-16] are highly supported by the findings of the current investigation.

CONCLUSION

~~Based on one year's experimentation, it can be concluded that sesame crop fertilized with 75 % recommended dose of fertilizers (37.5: 18.75: 30 N: P₂O₅: K₂O kg /ha) + 2.0 % Water Soluble Fertilizer at 30 and 45 days after sowing + Foliar spray of MMMG-IV @ 0.25 % at 30 and 45 DAS led to remarkable improvements in nutrient content and uptake due to efficiently absorption by plant from soil and through foliar application which strengthen the plant system and ultimately improves the performance of the crop. Based on one year of experimentation, it can be concluded that fertilizing sesame with 75% of the recommended dose of fertilizers (37.5 kg N, 18.75 kg P₂O₅, and 30 kg K₂O per hectare), in combination with a 2.0% application of WaterSoluble Fertilizer at 30 and 45 DAS, as well as a foliar spray of MMMG-IV at 0.25% at 30 and 45DAS, resulted in significant improvements in nutrient content and uptake. This was achieved through efficient nutrient absorption by the plant from the soil and via foliar application, strengthening the plant's system and ultimately enhancing the performance of the crop.~~

REFERENCE

Formatted: Font: English (India), Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: English (India), Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: English (India), Strikethrough

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Black, Kern at 12 pt, Pattern: Clear

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Black, Kern at 12 pt, Pattern: Clear

Formatted: Font: (Default) Arial, 10 pt, Font color: Black, Kern at 12 pt, Pattern: Clear

Formatted: Font: Font color: Black, English (United States), Kern at 12 pt

[1]. Anonymous, (2021). Directorate of Agriculture Gujarat of Government, Gandhinagar. Online available at <https://dag.gujarat.gov.in>, accessed on 6 December, 2022.

Comment [D4]: Avoid to use the data from anonymous

[2]. S. N. Saha and S. C. Bhargava (1980). Physiological analysis of the growth, development and yield of oil-seed sesame. *The Journal of Agricultural Science.*, 95: 733-736.

[3]. V. Kumar (1986). Evaluation of promising varieties of toria (*Brassica campestris* var. toria) at varying rates of nitrogen fertilization. (Thesis) M.Sc.(Ag.) Agronomy, Gobind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, India.

[4]. P. Veeramani, K. Subrahmaniyan and V. Ganesaraj (2012). Nutrient management for sustainable groundnut productivity in India- a review. *International Journal of Engineering sciences.*, 11: 8138-8153.

[5]. M. L. Jackson (1974). *Soil chemical analysis*, Prentice Hall India Private Limited., New Delhi, pp. 327-350.

[6]. W. L. Lindsay and W. A. Norvell (1978). Development of a DTPA soil test for zinc, iron, manganese and copper. *Soil Science Society of America Journal.*, 42: 421-428.

[7]. K. A. Gomez and A. A. Gomez (1984). *Statistical Procedures for Agricultural Research* (2nd Edn.), New York, John Wiley and Sons.

[8]. D. Elayaraja (2016). Influence of micronutrients and NPK levels on the yield and nutrients uptake by sesame in coastal soil. *International Research Journal of Chemistry.*, 12: 38-47.

[9]. V. H. Manasa, N. S. Malligawad, L. H. Kumar, L. H. Shiva and B. Ramakrishna, (2015). Effect of water soluble fertilizers on uptake of major and micro nutrients by groundnut and post-harvest nutrient status in vertisol of Northern transition zone of Karnataka. *The Ecoscan.*, 9: 01-05.

[10]. K. Mamatha, G. C. Vidyasagar, P. Laxminarayana and G. Padmaja (2017). Effect of boron levels and farmyard manure on physiological growth and quality of sesame (*Sesamum indicum* L.). *International Journal of Current Microbiology and Applied sciences.*, 6: 2568-2574.

[11]. A. Bijarnia, O. P. Sharma, R. Kumar, R. Kumawat, and R. Choudhary (2019). Effect of nitrogen and potassium on growth, yield and nutrient uptake of sesame (*Sesamum indicum* L.) under loamy sand soil of Rajasthan. *Journal of Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry.*, 8: 566-570.

[12]. G. Jat, S. K. Sharma, R. H. Meena, R. Choudhary, R. S. Choudhary and S. K. Yadav (2021). Effect of zinc application on quality and yield of soybean (*Glycine max* L.) under Typic Haplusteps Soil. *Indian Journal of Pure and Applied Bioscience.*, 9: 188-193.

[13]. B. Roul, B. K. Mishra and N. Prusty (2017). Physiological effect of micronutrient on uptake of major nutrient by plant and oil content of seed of sesame crop for coastal Odisha situation. *Journal of Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry.*, 6: 1990-1993.

[14]. S. Batta (2020). Effect of foliar application of NPK and micronutrients on summer groundnut (*Arachis hypogaea* L.). (thesis), Junagadh Agriculture University, Junagadh, India.

[15]. M. Jajoo (2022). Effect of foliar application of water soluble macro and micro nutrient fertilizer on growth, yield and quality of kharif soybean (*Glycine max* L.). (thesis), Junagadh Agriculture University, Junagadh, India.

[16]. K. H. Solanki, P. M. Vaghasia and P. B. Viroja (2022). Effect of foliar application of water soluble fertilizer on growth, yield and quality of Indian mustard (*Brassica juncea* L. Czern and Coss). *International Journal of Current Microbiology and Applied Science.*, 11: 125-130.

Table 1: Effect of foliar application of NPK and micronutrients on content and uptake of Macronutrients (N, P and K) by the crop

Treatments	N				P				K			
	Content (%)		Uptake (kg/ha)		Content (%)		Uptake (kg/ha)		Content (%)		Uptake (kg/ha)	
	Seed	Stover	Seed	Stover	Seed	Stover	Seed	Stover	Seed	Stover	Seed	Stover
T ₁	4.24	1.48	50.92	28.85	0.45	0.22	5.42	4.32	0.58	1.08	6.98	20.99
T ₂	4.64	1.61	59.86	32.21	0.47	0.25	6.14	4.94	0.62	1.18	8.07	23.67
T ₃	4.01	1.35	40.24	22.35	0.44	0.21	4.41	3.45	0.57	0.98	5.74	16.15
T ₄	4.13	1.43	43.24	25.22	0.45	0.22	4.69	3.83	0.57	1.03	6.03	18.16
T ₅	3.72	1.19	28.21	13.43	0.42	0.16	3.19	1.79	0.53	0.87	4.01	9.65
T ₆	3.82	1.24	31.20	15.07	0.43	0.17	3.52	2.08	0.54	0.90	4.46	10.81
T ₇	4.73	1.70	63.09	35.13	0.50	0.25	6.60	5.19	0.63	1.22	8.43	25.20
T ₈	4.83	1.77	67.07	37.75	0.52	0.27	7.14	5.72	0.64	1.28	8.91	27.29
T ₉	4.33	1.53	39.94	19.53	0.46	0.22	4.19	2.86	0.61	1.12	5.57	14.28
T ₁₀	4.47	1.59	41.90	20.79	0.46	0.24	4.37	3.11	0.61	1.14	5.77	14.90
SEm ±	0.13	0.06	2.82	1.76	0.01	0.01	0.25	0.35	0.02	0.06	0.45	1.50
CD at 5%	0.38	0.18	8.38	5.24	0.04	0.03	0.74	1.04	0.06	0.19	1.34	4.47

Comment [D5]: All table should add small letter after number if the parameters show significant different in statistically analysis

Table 2: Effect of foliar application of NPK and micronutrients on content and uptake of micronutrients (Fe, Zn, Mn, Cu and B) by the crop

Tr. No.	Fe				Zn				Mn				Cu				B			
	Content		Uptake		Content		Uptake		Content		Uptake		Content		Uptake		Content		Uptake	
	Seed	Stover	Seed	Stover	Seed	Stover	Seed	Stover	Seed	Stover	Seed	Stover	Seed	Stover	Seed	Stover	Seed	Stover	Seed	Stover
T ₁	319.4	300.7	381.3	590.0	49.93	34.11	59.62	65.95	63.55	58.53	76.02	114.71	47.19	32.13	56.93	62.56	35.62	26.89	42.81	52.62
T ₂	375.6	331.3	484.5	663.9	58.65	39.09	76.01	77.90	72.62	62.53	93.80	125.54	55.49	36.99	71.86	73.73	38.03	29.25	49.07	58.48
T ₃	308.3	295.4	311.5	486.8	48.02	32.61	47.91	53.58	60.86	57.47	61.48	95.04	45.69	29.42	46.37	48.79	34.22	25.86	34.28	42.59
T ₄	311.7	297.4	327.5	525.4	49.65	33.11	51.76	58.46	62.36	58.23	65.40	102.93	46.19	31.02	48.50	54.88	34.59	26.54	36.32	46.96
T ₅	304.6	286.9	231.6	322.8	45.03	30.49	33.99	34.48	58.73	53.97	44.36	60.94	41.93	27.30	31.78	30.52	31.99	22.96	24.11	26.05
T ₆	307.6	291.5	253.3	353.9	47.29	32.08	38.39	38.74	60.53	55.85	49.10	67.90	43.39	28.43	35.46	34.47	33.54	23.85	27.32	28.84
T ₇	390.3	340.9	520.1	705.9	61.18	40.72	81.39	84.06	75.02	65.01	99.98	134.58	57.53	38.36	76.69	79.39	39.60	30.46	52.69	62.82
T ₈	403.2	348.5	559.1	742.4	64.22	42.81	88.93	90.87	76.93	66.38	106.5	141.49	58.61	39.07	81.22	82.99	40.89	31.46	56.82	66.99
T ₉	343.9	309.8	316.2	401.1	54.31	35.98	49.90	46.11	67.07	59.60	61.86	77.02	51.09	34.44	47.28	44.26	36.89	28.38	34.03	36.48
T ₁₀	359.9	320.5	337.0	422.5	56.03	37.35	52.92	49.10	70.01	60.81	65.61	79.29	53.05	35.37	49.71	46.21	37.76	29.05	35.41	37.94
SEm ±	16.8	11.06	25.32	46.9	2.61	1.78	3.51	3.87	3.20	2.09	4.81	9.03	2.34	1.55	4.58	4.34	1.54	0.91	2.58	3.52
CD at 5%	50.0	32.88	75.24	139.3	7.76	5.31	10.45	11.51	9.53	6.22	14.29	26.84	6.96	4.62	13.62	12.89	7.35	2.72	7.66	10.47

Table 3: Effect of foliar application of NPK and micronutrients on post-harvest nutrient status of soil

Treatments	Post-harvest soil Available nutrients							
	Macronutrients (kg/ha)			Micronutrients (mg/kg)				
	N	P	K	Fe	Zn	Mn	Cu	B
T ₁	237.81	28.73	244.71	5.60	0.54	5.78	0.94	0.42
T ₂	260.92	31.97	259.58	6.00	0.58	5.95	0.98	0.49
T ₃	226.11	26.33	236.15	5.44	0.53	5.77	0.93	0.40
T ₄	230.39	27.53	240.66	5.55	0.54	5.80	0.94	0.41
T ₅	213.25	24.28	229.39	5.24	0.48	5.53	0.88	0.39
T ₆	217.64	25.31	232.09	5.42	0.50	5.61	0.90	0.40
T ₇	266.98	33.86	266.34	6.09	0.58	6.08	0.98	0.51
T ₈	272.73	34.37	272.20	6.21	0.59	6.15	0.99	0.52
T ₉	246.49	29.41	249.67	5.71	0.55	5.83	0.95	0.45
T ₁₀	252.24	30.95	252.82	5.89	0.58	5.93	0.98	0.48
SEm ±	13.16	1.15	7.18	0.25	0.03	0.25	0.04	0.03
CD at 5%	39.11	3.43	21.33	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS