

# Impact of integrated nutrient management strategies for fenugreek (*Trigonella corniculata* L.) growth, yield and quality

Comment [RK1]: Make a suitable like review article

## ABSTRACT

Integrated nutrient management methods assist improve fenugreek (*Trigonella corniculata* L.) development and yield by integrating the use of organic and inorganic fertilizers. These methods enhance soil fertility, increase nutrient availability, and improve plant health, all of which lead to increased crop yield, growth and quality. Future policies must place a high priority on the economical, sustainable, and efficient use of nutrient resources for the purpose to increase agricultural output. Thus, proper crop, water, soil, and land management along with integrated nutrient management are necessary for sustainable agriculture. Improved soil qualities and increased nutrient availability for agricultural plants come from the use of organic manures in conjunction with inorganic fertilizers. This enhances fenugreek growth, yield, and quality measures. The synthesis of carbohydrates, phytohormones, and even biofertilizers is enhanced by a nutritious diet. It also builds up the soil's organic status, which raises the availability of other nutrients and contributes to the maximum growth of crops. Vermicompost, farmyard manure, *rhizobium*, phosphorus- and potassium-soluble bacteria (PSB), and *rhizobium* are among the materials used in methi cultivation that support sustainable agriculture by enhancing soil fertility, nutrient availability, and general crop health, all of which lead to higher methi yields and quality. Organic matter is a storehouse of nutrients; applying both organic and inorganic fertilizer together can boost yields, improve soil fertility, raise crop input-use efficiency, and reduce the need for expensive fertilizers. This crop responds effectively to N provided through a combination of organic and inorganic sources. Majority of the nitrogen applied from different sources is not used by the first crop and is always reflected in the crop that follows. Therefore, it is necessary to assess how integrated nutrition management affected fenugreek's yield and nutrient uptake.

Formatted: Font: Italic

**Keywords:** Yield, growth, quality, INM, Organic and inorganic fertilizers, Sustainable agriculture, Soil health

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Kasurimethi (*Trigonella corniculata* L.) is a semi-arid crop from the family Fabaceae, subfamily Papilionaceae. The chromosomal number for this species is  $2n = 16$ . It is a self-pollinating crop. *Trigonella corniculata* L., often known as Kasurimethi, Champamethi, and Marwari methi, is a diffused suberect and strongly scented annual herb. It is a significant herb spice crop that is cultivated in northern India's plains throughout the winter. During the vegetative growth cycle, it maintains a rose condition. Kasurimethi provides important minerals, vitamins, and fibers. The green leaves contain several alkaloids, including trigonelline, choline, gentianine, and carpain. Moisture accounts for 86.1%, protein for 4.4%, fat for 0.9%, fibre for 1.1%, other carbs for 6%, and ash for 1.5%. Furthermore, leaves contain high levels of vitamins such as carotene (2.34 mg/100g of fresh edible section), thiamine (0.04 mg), riboflavin (0.31 mg), nicotinic acid (0.8 mg), and vitamin C (52.0 mg/100g edible portion). [1] Kasurimethi is a semi-arid crop that can reach a height of 30 cm. Its leaves have a pinnate structure, with leaflets ranging in size from 1.25 to 2.0 cm. Its blossoms are a vivid orange-yellow in colour. Pods are sickle-shaped, 1.2–2.2 cm long, and contain 4–8 seeds. Kasurimethi is primarily farmed for its leaves and seeds, which are then used as a spice to flavour and scent food items. Currently, the cultivation of Kasurimethi is limited to the northern Indian states [2].

Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) is required to produce high-quality fodder crops without harming the environment. INM is the process of using a combination of organic, inorganic, and biological components to improve soil fertility and give plants the nutrients they need. It has been demonstrated to improve the physical, chemical, and biological properties of the soil, as well as increase the availability of both native and applied nutrients. By using INM, it is possible to promote sustainable agriculture and ensure that chemical fertilizers do not negatively impact the environment [3]. The main objective of the INM goal is to find the most efficient and homogeneous combination

that can result in good management, be a target for fertilizers, use their quantity and quality in a sufficient and balanced manner, and be directly absorbed by plants for increased yield without endangering the native nutrients of the soil or polluting the surrounding area. The intelligent use of the integrated nutrition management (INM) approach which is defined as a balanced combination of organic, inorganic, and bioorganic microorganisms in combinations in various practices can ultimately lead to the achievement of such a goal [4].

Integrated nutrient management involves using a minimal amount of organic and inorganic fertilizers in combination with microorganisms to maintain high yields without compromising soil nutrients or polluting the environment. Additionally, comprehensive nutrition control has numerous advantages. INM can support the conversion of marginal lands to productive ones, contributing to the policy of increasing cultivated land. In addition, the organic agricultural approach yields organic food, which many consumers prefer despite its greater cost. In this situation, organic fertilizers also because of their gradual release have a longer-lasting impact on succeeding crops than inorganic fertilizers, which are rapidly depleted by runoff to subsurface water and water leaching [63]. Under the audacious heading of employing integrated nutrient management (INM), recently intensified calls have emerged encouraging farmers and agriculture specialists to shift their awareness toward substituting a portion of inorganic fertilizers by more affordable, sustainable, efficient, and environmentally friendly nutrients that come from natural resources (compost) [5]. The integrated nutrient management system reduces the usage of chemical fertilizers and combines them with organic materials, including animal manure, crop leftovers, green manure, and compost. Organic management approaches differ from chemical fertilizer-based systems in terms of nutrient availability. Using a combination of chemical and organic fertilizers has been shown to improve crop production sustainability [6].

Farmyard manure (FYM) is a valuable organic amendment that provides a balanced combination of nutrients needed for plant growth [7]. Incorporating methi into the soil improves soil fertility, microbial activity, and nutrient absorption. Rhizobium, a nitrogen-fixing bacteria, has a symbiotic connection with legume crops such as methi. Rhizobium converts atmospheric nitrogen into plant-available form, enhancing methi growth and lowering the demand for synthetic nitrogen fertilizers. PSBs are essential for increasing plant phosphorus availability [8]. Crop nutrients significantly impact plant growth, development, and productivity. Plants require critical nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, sulfur, calcium, magnesium, and micronutrients to synthesize proteins and enzymes. Adequate nutrient availability promotes root development, vegetative growth, blooming, and reproduction, resulting in increased yields and better crop quality [9]. Combining biofertilizers with organic additions like cow dung improves soil structure, microbial diversity, and nutrient levels [10]. Proper nutrient management prevents deficiencies and excesses that can harm plant health and lower agricultural yield. Optimizing soil nitrogen levels can improve crop nutrition uptake, promote sustainable agriculture, and contribute to global food security. Efficient nutrient management strategies improve crop yield, conserve soil fertility, reduce environmental impact, and promote long-term agricultural sustainability [11].

## **1) Definition, concept, goal, principles and benefits of integrated nutrient management**

### **1.1) Definition**

Integrated nutrient management (INM) involves using manures, chemical fertilizers, and biological agents to promote sustainable crop productivity and soil health. INM optimizes plant nitrogen inputs by matching soil supply with crop demand, decreasing N losses, and enhancing crop output. It is the most efficient way to maximize available resources and produce crops at a lower cost. Furthermore, INM promotes organic production, which can promote sustainable agriculture and provide direct environmental advantages [12]. [40] found that combining fertilizer with organic manure improves physicochemical qualities, leading to better nutrient absorption and uptake.

### **1.2) Concept**

Integrated nutrient management (INM) is a more efficient way to maintain soil health and optimize fertilizer use while increasing crop yield. The goal is to reduce chemical fertilizer consumption, strike a balance between crop nutrient requirements, and limit environmental effects. Animal manure, particularly farmyard manure (FYM), is essential for delivering macro- and micronutrients, enhancing soil structure, and increasing fertilizer efficiency. FYM improves cation exchange capacity, keeps soil micronutrients accessible through its chelating action, and promotes soil microbial activity [13]. As organic material breaks down, the mineralization process creates organic acids that lower soil pH,

increase nutrient concentrations, stimulate soil biological activity, and slow down the discharge of nutrients [14, 15]. Organic manure improves soil characteristics, increasing plant development and output due to its high organic matter content and microbial activity [16]. Optimizing all plant nutrition sources to maintain optimal soil fertility and productivity levels. Integrated nutrient management utilizes a combination of soil, water, and organic matter to achieve balanced and environmentally friendly fertilization. The approach optimizes nutrient inputs from all available sources, including inorganic and organic, to meet crop productivity targets. INM technology detects and restores micronutrient deficits, ensuring crop productivity [60].

### 1.3) Objectives

1. During the cropping season, it should make more nutrients from all sources available in the soil.
2. It ought to correspond with the crop's nutritional requirements.
3. It should maximize the efficiency of the soil biosphere in relation to specific functions like the breakdown of organic matter (mineralization), the biological formation of soil structure (aggregates, bio pores), the control of pathogenic organisms by their natural enemies, etc.
4. It should prevent eutrophication of water bodies, ensure that there is no buildup of toxic metals in the soil, and minimize the losses of nutrients to the environment through surface runoff, ammonia volatilization, denitrification in the case of nitrogen, and leaching NO<sub>3</sub> and PO<sub>4</sub> beyond the rooting zone. Integrated nutrient management (INM) aims to maximize crop yield while preserving the soil's capacity to support future generations. To this purpose, it integrates the use of all available natural and artificial sources of plant nutrients [17]. The fundamental objective of integrated nutrient management (INM) is to optimize the advantages from all potential plant nutrient sources in an integrated manner while maintaining or adjusting soil fertility and plant nutrient supply to an optimal level for maintaining the targeted crop yield [18].

Comment [RK2]: Objective for what?

### 1.4) Components of INM

#### 1.4.1) organic components

According to [3] components of INM are organic manure, biofertilizers, green manuring, green residues, sewage, and sludge.

Comment [RK3]: Instead of writing in topic, you can just use paragraphs

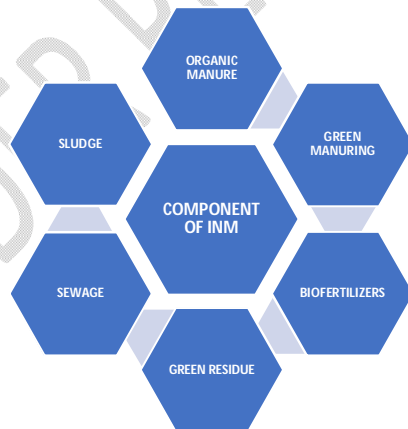


Fig1. Different components of integrated nutrient management

#### Organic manures

Organic manures formed from plants and animals, are a valuable byproduct of farming and related sectors. Manures provide secondary and micronutrients, in addition to NPK, which are crucial for

long-term production. Common organic manures include Farm Yard Manure (FYM), Enriched Organic Manure, Vermicompost, Poultry Manure, Biogas Slurry, and Urine and Liquid Manure.

Vermicompost made from cow dung and leaf litter, along with 25-50 indiv m<sup>-2</sup> of earthworm *P. corethrus*, resulted in a 57% increase in sugar content over the inorganic treatment. [19]

### Green manure

Green manure crops improve soil organic matter, characteristics, and nitrogen content when used in cropping systems. Legumes are commonly utilized as green manure crops due to their capacity to fix atmospheric nitrogen in root nodules through a symbiotic relationship with bacteria. Green manures are often made from the following plants: cowpea, dhaincha, sun hemp, and karanj.

### Biofertilizers

Biofertilizers are liquid-based treatments containing microorganisms that promote plant growth and nutrition. Liquid biofertilizer formulations may improve crop development due to their high cell count, low contamination, and superior viability and survivability [20]. According to [22, 23], biofertilizers can be divided into five categories, including free-living bacteria, symbiotic bacteria, phosphorus-solubilizing biofertilizers, phosphorus-mobilizing biofertilizers and PGPR. Biofertilizer formulation is simple and low-cost and can include a variety of microbial strains such as *Acetobacter*, *Azotobacter*, *Bacillus*, *Pseudomonas*, *Rhizobium*, PGPB (plant growth-promoting bacteria), and AM (arbuscular mycorrhiza). Biofertilizers are categorized into the following groups (Fig. 2):

POTASSIUM SOLUBILIZING /MOBILIZING MICROBES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Bacillus mucilaginosus</i>, <i>Bacillus</i> sp.</li> <li>• <i>Aspergillus niger</i></li> </ul>
NITROGEN FIXING MICROBES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Azotobacter</i>, <i>Clostridium</i></li> <li>• <i>azospirillum</i>, <i>rhizobium</i></li> </ul>
zinc solubilizing microbes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Mycorrhiza</i></li> <li>• <i>bacillus</i> sp., <i>psedomonas</i> sp.</li> </ul>
Phosphate SOLUBILIZING /MOBILIZING MICROBES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Bacillus circulans</i>, <i>B. polymyxa</i></li> <li>• <i>Arbuscular mycorrhiza</i>, <i>Glomus</i> sp.</li> </ul>
sulfur oxidizing microbes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Thiobacillus</i> sp.,</li> </ul>
plant growth promoting rhizobacteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Pseudomonas</i> sp., <i>Bacillus</i></li> <li>• <i>Streptomyces</i>, <i>Xanthomonas</i></li> </ul>

Fig.2 different categories of Biofertilizers

### 1.4.2) Inorganic components

Plants need air, sunlight, and water to synthesize nutrients like nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium (NPK) in the soil for crop production. The soil's nutrient reserves may be depleted by ongoing crop production if it is not managed properly. Crop yield and growth may be jeopardized as reserves are exhausted. Cumulative depletion has the potential to reduce crop yields, agricultural production, soil fertility, and eventually cause soil deterioration. The soil's nutrient reserves can be preserved and even increased with the use of methods for conserving and supplementing the soil with organic and inorganic fertilizers. [57] grouping the macronutrients into two categories: primary (macro) nutrients and secondary nutrients

#### Primary (Macro) Nutrients:

Primary (macro) nutrients are nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. They are the most frequently required in a crop fertilization program. Also, they are needed in the greatest total quantity by plants as fertilizer.

### Secondary (Macro) nutrients:

The secondary nutrients are calcium, magnesium, and sulphur. For most crops, these three are needed in lesser amounts than the primary nutrients. They are growing in importance in crop fertilization programs due to more stringent clean air standards and efforts to improve the environment.

### Micronutrients

Micronutrients play an eminent role in plant growth, development, and metabolism. However, their deficiencies may induce several physiological disorders, diseases in plants and later can reduce the quality as well as quantity of vegetable crops [58]. Micronutrients such as boron, zinc, iron, cobalt, copper, molybdenum, and manganese help to increase post-harvest life, boost yield, quality, earliness, and fruit setting, as well as build resilience to biotic and abiotic challenges[59].

Table 1. Inorganic Component of INM

Inorganic Component of INM		
Macro nutrient	Primary (macro) nutrients	nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium
	Secondary (macro) nutrients	calcium, magnesium, and sulphur
Micro nutrients	Boron, zinc, iron, cobalt, Copper, Molybdenum and Manganese	

### 1.5) Principles

Key Principles of INM. The following are the primary INM concepts that should be taken when developing integrated nutrient management strategies:

- 1) Adopting INM approaches necessitates consideration of the local farming system, including soil texture, available equipment, biological conditions in the field (weeds, insects, and diseases and climate).
- (2) By utilizing both nutrient sources, fertilizer input is maximized, crop utilization efficiency is increased, crop nutrient requirements are decreased, and overall expenses, food contamination and environmental pollution are decreased.
- (3) matching the spatial and temporal requirements of crops with the nutrient sources in the soil to preserve the native soil composition.
- (4) INM practice boosts crop potential, lowers fertilizer loss, and boosts profitability.
- (5) Over time, it enhances the soil's physiochemical characteristics, specifically its biological and hydrological aspects.
- (6) Implementing INM practices in the root zone, where nutrient conversions, solubility, availability, and release from soil to plant roots, as well as absorption, take place, is a "bottleneck" process that is the most significant process between plant and soil. This kind of workout can increase the activity of soil microorganisms to optimize biological potential [24].

### 1.6) Integrated Nutrient Management Benefits

The following are some benefits of the integrated nutrition management approach:  
1. Integrated nutrition management is both financially and environmentally advantageous. Ensures a decrease in the careless application of chemical fertilizers, which frequently contribute to unhealthy soil and environment risks.

2. Facilitates the preservation of nutrients, enhancing soil productivity by positively influencing the chemical and biological characteristics of the soil.
3. INM not only enhances the biological health of the soil but also guarantees a consistent supply of macronutrients and micronutrient.
4. Enhances the efficiency with which fertilizers are applied because of their positive impact on soil qualities which raises output.
5. INM contributes to soil fertility maintenance in addition to increasing productivity and profitability. In addition to increasing the productivity of vegetable crops, INM had demonstrated it contributes to soil fertility maintenance in addition to increasing productivity and profitability. In addition to increasing vegetable crop yields, INM had a positive knock-on effect on subsequent crops.
6. Guarantees superior quality in comparison to individual applications. INM facilitates the release of nitrogen and other plant nutrients at a rate determined by the crop's needs [17].

Biofertilizers are affordable, environmentally beneficial, and supply nutrients to crops over an extended period. Farmyard manure and green manure operate as soil conditioners by creating an environment favourable to the establishment of microbial populations. Organic sources improve soil characteristics and increase fertilizer efficiency. Integrating mineral fertilizers with organic manures provides a safe, cost-effective, socially responsible, and environmentally sustainable production method [25–26]. Co-applying organic manure with synthetic fertilizer minimizes inputs, reduces soil bulk density, and improves soil characteristics for inorganic fertilizer retention, leading to higher nitrogen use efficiency [27–28].

## 2. IMPACT OF INM'S AND SEVERAL FACTORS ON SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

### 2.1) Effect of integrated nutrient management on growth and yield on fenugreek.

Nutrients play a crucial role in crop production; however, using chemical fertilizers alone for an extended length of time may result in a loss of soil fertility and produce quality. Using organic manure in conjunction with inorganic fertilizers and biofertilizers can balance soil fertility, protect the environment, and save input costs, according to numerous workers. Kasurimethi grown using INM methods proved quite helpful in terms of quality, sustainable yield, and returns, as well as soil fertility status [29]. Practicing INM improved soil organic carbon and physicochemical qualities, resulting in higher herb and seed quality and NPK content of Kasurimethi compared to an inorganic farming system with RDF alone [2]. Applying a higher phosphorus ratio boosted plant height, possibly because of its positive influence on nitrogen transformation and glucose metabolism [30–31] reported similar results. The combination of P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> with foliar nitrogen application results in a significant improvement in growth attributes, fresh yield, and dry yield [32]. Phosphorus is necessary for methi root development, flowering, and seed generation. By assisting in the solubility of insoluble phosphorus in the soil, PSB increases crop productivity overall by making it available to methi plants. Comparably, potassium-solubilizing bacteria (KSB) increase the amount of potassium that is available to methi, another vital nutrient. For plants to blossom, bear fruit, and generally withstand stress, they need potassium. By dissolving potassium's insoluble forms in the soil, KSB improves potassium absorption [33]. Higher potassium levels may promote plant growth by increasing nutrient uptake, activating enzymatic reactions, aiding in nitrogen metabolism, and protein synthesis. This may result in increased plant height, number of branches, and dry matter production compared to lower levels of potassium fertilizer [34]. Because of increased food absorption and bioactive compounds that function similarly to cytokinin and GA<sub>3</sub>. This promotes the breaking of apical dominance and leads to a rise in the number of branches, increasing the plant's AGR and CGR. The outcomes are consistent with the findings of [29, 35, 36]. Different amounts of nitrogen caused a considerable difference in the fresh and dry yield per plant, per plot, and per hectare. The fact that there would be luxuriant growth of the plant under rising nitrogen levels, as shown by vegetative growth, could be the reason for the rise in yield. Increased output of dry and fresh herbage [1, 3–37] observed increased plant height, increased branching density per plant, plant-1 pods, seedpods, 1000 seed weight, and seed yield. Together with the inorganic nitrogen, the PSB and Rhizobium inoculation enhanced the nutrients' availability and efficiency for plant growth and seed development in the Rhizobium + PSB + 75% nitrogen treatment.

**Comment [RK4]:** Follow this type of heading and subheadings for distinguish main and sub parts in Uppercase and lowercase with numbers

This, in turn, improved cell membrane stability and reduced solute leakage from the seeds. Moreover, it resulted in the highest dry weight (81.97).

There is a substantial interaction effect between nitrogen and phosphorus with regard to plant height, dry matter accumulation, leaf area plant<sup>-1</sup>, LAI, seed, and straw yields. 20 kilograms of N were applied with 40 kg of P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>. Additionally, to increase fenugreek growth and yield, apply 20 kg N and 40 kg P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> per ha, together with seed inoculation by *Rhizobium* sp. and phosphorus-solubilizing bacteria [38]. Compared to the control group, applying FYM 15 t ha<sup>-1</sup> to fenugreek, there was a considerable increase in the number of branches, pods, seeds, test weight, seed weight, and seed/straw yields [39].

## 2.2) Effect of INM on quality of fenugreek

Higher amounts of phosphorus result in higher amounts of chlorophyll in leaves since phosphorus is an essential component for the manufacture of chlorophyll [40, 41]. The metabolic processes such as photosynthesis, nucleic acid, soluble protein, and glucose levels were all improved by the elevated foliar nitrogen levels. This led to the plant's luxuriant growth and higher yield of fresh produce. Phosphorus application improved the crop's availability of nutrients during the growing season, increasing assimilate synthesis and utilization in the leaves. This improved the performance of several yield attributes, including fresh leaf yield per hectare (q) and per plot (kg). Nitrogen levels greatly affect chlorophyll concentration in leaves. Greater nitrogen supply may delay leaf senescence and improve photosynthetic efficiency, leading to greater seed biomass [1]. Antioxidants can help retain ascorbic acid during dehydration and storage, improving the shelf life of dry products. Ascorbic acid decreased owing to oxidation and non-enzymatic browning during storage. Additionally, it is highly sensitive to heat. It could be lost due to the use of heat while drying. However, water blanching resulted in lower retention because ascorbic acid is water soluble and oxidizes during blanching. Maximum loss of ascorbic acid content was observed in control samples. Moreover, pre-treatment and drying processes, as well as storage periods, had a substantial impact on chlorophyll content. Pretreatments had a significant impact on chlorophyll retention, with greater levels maintained compared to the control group [42]. Higher potassium levels can increase plant development by promoting meristematic tissue, activating enzymatic activities, and aiding nitrogen metabolism. Protein synthesis may have increased plant height, branch count, and dry matter content. Production compared to lower levels of potassium fertilizer [34].

## 2.3) Effect of INM on soil

Farmers have applied organic manure to restore soil health since ancient times. As a result, they used to spread farmyard manure frequently, right after crop harvest. As a result, the practice of applying organic manures to soil after harvesting has been linked to improving the physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of the soil as well as restoring the health of the soil, especially in marginal soils that already have low levels of organic matter and native nutrient content, low productivity, and restrictions on the availability of essential nutrients [43, 44, 45, 46, 47]. Chemical fertilizers have an impact on soil health, resulting in unsustainable yields. To improve nutrient delivery, integrated management should include chemical fertilizers, organic manures and biological inputs. Balanced fertilization involves applying vital plant nutrients in the appropriate proportion and quantity for a given soil crop situation. Unbalanced fertilizer application reduced soil fertility and productivity. An integrated plant nutrient supply system can support balanced fertilization. Integrating organic manures with optimum NPK fertilizers improves soil health and it also has ability to stabilize crop production over time [48]. Applying biofertilizers and enriched compost improved soil chemical and biological features. Furthermore, lower inorganic fertilizer doses may improve soil microbial activity and nutrient availability compared to standard fertilizer recommendations [49, 61]. Comparing integrated nutrient management (INM) to other soil management techniques, it has been shown to improve soil organic carbon [50, 51]. In addition to renewable nutrient sources, this method facilitates the efficient use of chemical fertilizers. Although organic manures regulate nutrient absorption, improve soil quality, and have synergistic effects on crop growth, chemical fertilizers can cover the crop's immediate nutritional needs [52, 53]. Microbial biomass carbon (MBC) in soil serves as both a source and a sink for biological nutrients. Management methods such as fertilizer application, tillage, and rotation can drastically affect MBC and microbial turnover, leading to decreased net N mineralization and microbial immobilization [54]. According to [55] The use of several integrated nutrient management (INM) modules resulted in significant improvements in soil quality indices,

growth, and production attributes, although the use of 100% RDF produced the lowest levels of microbial biomass carbon and dehydrogenase activity. Using organic fertilizers reduces bulk density and enhances soil hydraulic conductivity when compared to inorganic nutrients [62]. The addition of FYM increased soil aggregation and infiltration rates, resulting in a higher HC value and a direct impact on hydraulic conductivity [33]. Integrating several nutrient sources into INM enhances soil health and production, hence promoting sustainable agriculture [64]. It also mitigates the environmental impact of traditional fertilizer use [33, 56].

## Conclusion

Integrated nutrient management (INM) techniques combine organic and inorganic inputs to promote soil fertility and plant health, which greatly increases fenugreek growth and yield. A balanced nutrient supply is ensured by combining chemical, organic, and biofertilizer manures. This increases seed production, improves root development, and increases biomass. By lowering reliance on chemical fertilizers, eliminating negative environmental effects, and enhancing soil structure, INM supports sustainable agriculture. According to studies, fenugreek plants grown under integrated nutrition management (INM) regimes had better growth characteristics, a larger yield, and higher-quality seeds than plants grown only with chemical inputs. Through increasing soil health and optimizing nutrient availability, integrated nutrient management techniques greatly increase fenugreek (*Trigonella corniculata*) growth and output. These methods are beneficial for sustainable fenugreek cultivation and increase crop yields because they improve plant development, increase productivity, and produce higher-quality crops. Therefore, INM plays a critical role in maintaining long-term soil health and fertilizer output. The combined application of inorganic chemical fertilizers and organic manures increased soil fertility and quality indicators while also increasing crop productivity. The current study concludes that applying inorganic fertilizers alone is less effective than using organic manures, biofertilizers, and inorganic fertilizers in combination to increase sweet potato yield and growth.

## Reference

1. Anupama, G., Hegde, L. N., Hegde, N. K., Devappa, V., Mastiholi, A. B., & Nishani, S. Effect of nitrogen and spacing levels on physiological and yield parameters of KasuriMethi (*Trigonellacorniculata*L.) var. Pusa Kasuri. *Int. J. Curr. Microbiol. App. Sci.* 2017; 6(9):723-733.
2. Altaf, T., Lakshminarayana, D., Seenivasan, N., Joshi, V., & Naik, D. S. Effect of integrated nutrient management on quality and NPK content of KasuriMethi (*Trigonellacorniculata*L.) under Telangana conditions. *IJCS.* 2020;8(5):1692-1694.
3. Sharma, S., Padbhushan, R., & Kumar, U. Integrated nutrient management in rice–wheat cropping system: evidence on sustainability in the Indian subcontinent through meta-analysis. *Agronomy*, 2019; 9(2): 71.
4. Janssen B. H., H. van Reuler and W. H. Prins, Integrated nutrient management: the use of organic and mineral fertilizers, *The Role of Plant Nutrients for Sustainable Crop Production in Sub-saharan Africa*, Ponsen and Looijen, Wageningen, Netherlands, 1993;89–105.
5. Selim, M. M. Introduction to the integrated nutrient management strategies and their contribution to yield and soil properties. *International Journal of Agronomy*, 2020;(1):2821678.
6. Kumar M., Chaudhary V., Naresh R. K., Maurya O. P., & Pal S. L. Does integrated sources of nutrients enhance growth, yield, quality and soil fertility of vegetable crops. *Int. J. Curr. Microbiol. App. Sci.* 2018; 7(6): 125-155.
7. Bhayal L, Kewat ML, Bhayal D, AakashJha AK, Badkul AJ. Influence of Different Sowing Dates and Nutrient Management on Yield Attributes and Yield of Wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.). *International Journal of Plant & Soil Science.* 2022; 34(22):362-367.
8. Singh SR, Singh MK, Aakash Meena K, Vishwakarma SP. Effect of Different NPK Levels on Fodder Production of Sudan Grass (*Sorghum bicolor* var. Sudanese). *International Journal of Bio-resource and Stress Management.* 2021;12(3):199- 204.

**Comment [RK5]:** Check all scientific name (it should be in italics)

**Formatted:** Font: Italic

**Formatted:** Font: Italic

9. Aakash, Thakur NS, Singh MK, Bhayal L, Meena K, Choudhary SK, Kumawat N, et al. Sustainability in Rainfed Maize (*Zea mays* L.) Production Using Choice of Corn Variety and Nitrogen Scheduling. *Sustainability*. 2022;14(5):3116.
10. Vats S, Srivastava P, Saxena S, Mudgil B, Kumar N. Beneficial effects of nitrogenfixing bacteria for agriculture of the future, p. In Cruz C, Vishwakarma K, Choudhary DK, Varma A (ed), *Soil nitrogen ecology*. Springer, Cham, Switzerland. 2021;305–325.
11. Kumar V, Singh MK, Lakshmi DU, Aakash, Saikia N, Kumari A. Response of N P S doses and urea foliar spray on lentil under guava (*Psidium guajava*) + lentil (*Lens culinaris*) based agri-horti system. *The Indian Journal of Agricultural Sciences*. 2022;92(11):1410–1412.
12. Jat, L. K., Singh, Y. V., Meena, S. K., Meena, S. K., Parihar, M., Jatav, H. S. *et al.*, Does integrated nutrient management enhance agricultural productivity? *J Pure Appl Microbiol*, 2015;9(2):1211-1221.
13. Sipai AH, Sevak K, Modi DB, Khorajiya KU, Jigar RJ. Effect of sulfur and zinc with and without FYM on yield, content, and uptake of nutrients after harvest of mustard [*Brassica juncea* L. Czern & Coss] grown on light-textured soil of Kachchh. *The Ecoscan*. 2016;10(3&4): 527-534.
14. Dotaniya ML, Meena HM, Lata M, Kumar K. Role of phytosiderophores in iron uptake by plants. *Agricultural Science Digest-A Research Journal*. 2013;33(1):73- 76 9.
15. Singh Y, Sharma DK, Sharma NL, Kumar V. Effect of different levels of NPK with combined use of FYM and sulphur on yield, quality and nutrients uptake in Indian mustard (*Brassica juncea* L.). *International Journal of Chemical Studies*. 2017;5(2):300-304
16. Mitran T., Mani P.K., Bandyopadhyay P.K., and Basak N. Effects of Organic Amendments on Soil Physical Attributes and Aggregate-Associated Phosphorus Under Long-Term Rice-Wheat Cropping. *Pedosphere*, 2018; 28(5):823-832.
17. Bhat, T. A., Rather, A. M., Hajam, M. A., & Paul, S. (2018). Integrated nutrient management and its components in vegetable production. *International Journal of Chemical Studies*, 2018; 66:510-517.
18. Mangaraj, S., Paikaray, R. K., Maitra, S., Pradhan, S. R., Gamayak, L. M., Satapathy, M., ...& Hossain, A. Integrated nutrient management improves the growth and yield of rice and greengram in a rice—greengram cropping system under the coastal plain agro-climatic condition. *Plants*, 2022; 11(1): 142.
19. Nurhidayati, N., Ali, U., and Murwani, I. Yield and quality of cabbage (*Brassica oleracea* L.var. *Capitata*) under organic growing media using vermicompost and earthworm *Pontoscolex corethrus* inoculation. *Agriculture and Agricultural Science Procedia*, 2016;11(6): 5–13.
20. Anjali, Sharma, P. and Nagpal, S. Effect of Liquid and Charcoal Based Consortium Biofertilizers Amended with Additives on Growth and Yield in Chickpea (*Cicer arietinum* L.). *Legume Research*. 2021; 44(5): 527-538.
21. Barman, K., S., Collis, J.P., Muralidharan, B., and Prasad, V.M. Effect of integrated nutrient management of plant brinjal (*Solanum melongena*). *Int. J. Agri. Sci. and Res.*, 2017; 7(1): 179-182.
22. A. Basu, P. Prasad, S.N. Das, S. Kalam, R.Z. Sayyed, M.S. Reddy, H. El Enshasy Plant growth promoting rhizobacteria (PGPR) as green bioinoculants: Recent developments, constraints, and prospects *Sustainability*, 2021;(13):1140,
23. T. Mahanty, S. Bhattacharjee, M. Goswami, P. Bhattacharyya, B. Das, A. Ghosh, P. Tribedi Biofertilizers: A potential approach for sustainable agriculture development *Environ. Sci. Poll. Res.*, 2017;(24): 3315-3335
24. Selim, M. M. (2020). Introduction to the integrated nutrient management strategies and their contribution to yield and soil properties. *International Journal of Agronomy*, 2020;(1): 2821678.
25. Baloch, P.A.; Rajpar, I.; Talpur, U.A. Effect of integrated nutrient management on nut production of coconut and soil environment: A review. *Sci. Technol. Dev*. 2014; 33:14–21.
26. Midya, A., Saren, B. K., Dey, J. K., Maitra, S., Praharaj, S., Gaikwad, D. J., ...& Hossain, A. (2021). Crop establishment methods and integrated nutrient management improve: Part ii. nutrient uptake

Formatted: Font: Italic

and use efficiency and soil health in rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) field in the lower indo-gangetic plain, India. *Agronomy*, 2021; 11(9):1894.

Formatted: Font: Italic

27. Apori S.O.; Byalebeka J.; Murong M., Sekandi J.; Noel G.L. Effect of co-applied corncob biochar with farmyard manure and NPK fertilizer on tropical soil. *Resour. Environ. Sustain.* 2021; 5: 100034.

28. Nielsen, S., Joseph, S., Ye, J., Chia, C., Munroe, P., van Zwieten, L., & Thomas, T. (2018). Crop-season and residual effects of sequentially applied mineral enhanced biochar and N fertiliser on crop yield, soil chemistry and microbial communities. *Agriculture, ecosystems & environment*, 2018; 255: 52-61.

29. Babalshawar S, Shetty GR, Pooja DA, Bhat R. Performance of Kasuri Methi (*Trigonellacorniculata* L.) under Hill Zone of Karnataka. *International Journal of Current Microbiology and Applied Sciences*. 2020;9(6):1758-1762.

Formatted: Font: Italic

30. Kumar M. and Kumar V. (2016). Effect of nitrogen, phosphorus, and cutting management on flowering and yield of green leaves of fenugreek (*Trigonella foenumgraecum* L.). *Annals of Horticulture*. 2016; 2: 220-224

Formatted: Font: Italic

31. Datta N., Hore J.K. and Sarkar T. (2017). Growth and yield of fenugreek (*Trigonella foenum-graecum* L.) as influenced by different levels of NPK under new alluvial plains of West Bengal, India. *International Journal of Current Microbiology and Applied Sciences* 2017; 6(9): 2304-2312

Formatted: Font: Italic

32. Yadav A. K., Singh S. P., Yadav D. K., Yadav G. K., Singh K., & Yadav, M. K. Influence of Phosphorous and Foliar Nitrogen on the Growth, Quality and Yield of Kasuri Methi (*Trigonellacorniculata* L.). *Legume Res. Int. J.*, 2021; 1(7).

Formatted: Font: Italic

33. Solanki K, Choudhary SK, Aakash Singh V, Singh A, Birla D. Response of *Bacillus megaterium* and *Bacillus mucilaginosus* Strains on Yield and Quality of Soybean. *International Journal of Selim M. M. and Al-Owied A.-J. A.*, Genotypic responses of pearl millet to integrated nutrient management, *Bioscience Research*. (2017) ;14(2): 156–169

34. Awasthi, N. K., Naik, S. N., Singh, D., & Singh, T. (2020). Effect of potassium on growth and yield of different varieties of fenugreek (*Trigonella foenumgraecum* L.). *Ann. Agric. Res. New Series*, 2020; 41(3): 1-6.

Formatted: Font: Italic

35. Kusuma MV, Venkatesha J, Ganghadarappa PM, Hiremath JS, Mastiholi AB, Manjunatha G. Effect of integrated nutrient management on growth and yield of fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare* Mill.); 2019

Formatted: Font: Italic

36. Raghuwanshi DK, Tomar KS. Study of organic production techniques of fenugreek (*Trigonella foenum-graecum* L.). M. Sc (Ag/Horti) Thesis, RVSKVV Gwalior, College of Agriculture, Gwalior (M.P.); 2021.

Formatted: Font: Italic

37. Shivran, A.C., Jat, N.L., Singh, D., Rajput, S.S., and Mittal, G.K. Effect of integrated nutrient management on productivity and economics of fenugreek (*Trigonella foenum-graecum*). *Legume Research*. 2016;39(2):279-283.

Formatted: Font: Italic

38. Mehta, R. S., Patel, B. S., Meena, S. S., & Meena, R. S. Influence of nitrogen, phosphorus and bio-fertilizers on growth characters and yield of fenugreek (*Trigonella foenum-graecum* L.) 2010

Formatted: Font: Italic

39. Patel, B., Ghodpage, R. M., Patel, J., Karwade, S. G., & Ekka, A. A. (2020). Impact of long-term organic sources on physical properties and yield of vegetable crops in Nagpur district. *IJCS*, 2020; 8(2):2723-2727.

40. Dar, T.A., Uddin, M., Khan, M.M.A., Ali, A., Hashmi, N. and Idrees, M. (2015). Cumulative effect of gibberellic acid and phosphorus on crop productivity, biochemical activities and trigonelline production in *Trigonella foenum-graecum* L. *Cogent Food and Agriculture*. 2015;1: 995950

41. Gendy A.S., Abdelkader M.A., Naggar N.Z. and Elakkad H.A. Effect of intercropping systems and NPK foliar application on productivity and competition indices of black cumin and fenugreek. *Current Science International*. 2018; 7(3): 387-401

42. Tayade V. D., Bhopal S. R., Jawarkar A. K., Dalal S. R., & Ghawade S. M. Effect of pre-treatments on dehydrated Kasurimethi (*Trigonellacorniculata* L.). *Pharma Innovation J*, 2021; 10, 1034-1037.

43. M. M. Selim and A.-J. A. Al-Owied, "Genotypic responses of pearl millet to integrated nutrient management," *Bioscience Research*, 2017; 14(2): 156–169,
44. Selim M., Potential role of cropping system and integrated nutrient management on nutrients uptake and utilization by maize grown in calcareous soil, *Egyptian Journal of Agronomy*. (2018) 40(3): 297–312,
45. Surve, V., Patel, P., Patel, T., & Jinjala, H. (2024). Integrated Nutrient Management for Enhancing Cereal Crop Production: A Review. *Annual Research & Review in Biology*, 2024;39(4):5-8.
46. Rautaray S. K., Ghosh B. C., and Mittra B. N., Effect of fly ash, organic wastes and chemical fertilizers on yield, nutrient uptake, heavy metal content and residual fertility in a rice-mustard cropping sequence under acid lateritic soils, *Bioresource Technology*. (2003) ;90(3), 275–283,
47. Shah Z., Shah S. H., Peoples M. B., Schwenke G. D., and Herridge D. F., Crop residue and fertilizer N effects on nitrogen fixation and yields of legume-cereal rotations and soil organic fertility, *Field Crops Research*. (2003); 83(1), 1–11.
48. Yadav, K., Singh, S., & Kumar, V. (2018). Effect of integrated nutrient management on soil fertility and productivity on wheat crop. *Journal of Experimental Agriculture International*, 2018; 24(2):1-9.
49. Patra, A., Sharma, V. K., Purakayastha, T. J., Barman, M., Kumar, S., Chobhe, K. A., ... & Anil, A. S. Effect of long-term integrated nutrient management (INM) practices on soil nutrients availability and enzymatic activity under acidic Inceptisol of North-Eastern region of India. *Communications in Soil Science and Plant Analysis*, 2020; 51(9), 1137-1149.
50. Bhardwaj, A. K., Rajwar, D., Mandal, U. K., Ahamad, S., Kaphaliya, B., Minhas, P. S., et al., Impact of Carbon Inputs on Soil Carbon Fractionation, Sequestration and Biological Responses under Major Nutrient Management Practices for rice-wheat Cropping Systems. *Sci. Rep.*, 2019; 9 (1): 1–10.
51. Majumder, B., Mandal, B., Bandhyopadhyay, P. K., Gangopadhyay, A., Mani, P. K., Kundu, A. L., et al. (2008). Organic Amendments Influence Soil Organic Carbon Pools and Crop Productivity in Nineteen-Year-Old Rice-Wheat Agro-Ecosystem. *Soil Sci. Soc. Am. J.*, 2008; 72, 1–11.
52. Bihari, B., Kumari, R., Padbhushan, R., Shambhavi, S., and Kumar, R. (2018). Impact of 9 Inorganic and Organic Sources on Biogrowth and Nutrient Accumulation in Tomato Crop CV. H-86 (KashiVishesh). *J. Pharmacog. Phytochem.*, 2018; 7 (2), 756–760.
53. Yadav, D. S., & Kumar, A. (2000). Integrated nutrient management in rice-wheat cropping system under eastern Uttar Pradesh conditions. *Indian Farming*, 2000;50(1):28-30.
54. Gupta, V. V. S. R., Roper, M. M., Thompson, J., Pratley, J. E., & Kirkegaard, J. Harnessing the benefits of soil biology in conservation agriculture. *Australian agriculture in*, 2020;237-253.
55. Singh H., Singh R. P., Meena B. P., Lal, B., Dotaniya M. L., Shirale, A. O., & Kumar, K. Effect of integrated nutrient management (INM) modules on late sown Indian mustard [B. juncea (L.) Cernj. Cosson] and soil properties. *Journal of Cereals and Oilseeds*, 2018;9(4): 37-44
56. Surve, V., Patel, P., Patel, T., & Jinjala, H. (2024). Integrated Nutrient Management for Enhancing Cereal Crop Production: A Review. *Annual Research & Review in Biology*, 2024;39(4):5-8.
57. Rajasekar, M., Nandhini, D. U., Swaminathan, V., & Balakrishnan, K. (2017). A review on role of macro nutrients on production and quality of vegetables. *International Journal of Chemical Studies*, 5(3), 304-309.
58. Sharma U, Kumar P. Extent of deficiency, crop responses and future challenges. *International Journal of Advanced Research*. 2016; 4(4):1402-1406.
59. Sidhu M. K., Raturi H. C., Kachwaya D. S., & Sharma A. Role of micronutrients in vegetable production: A review. *Journal of Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry*, 2019;8(1S), 332-340.
60. Kumar S., Agrawal, S., Jilani N., Kole P., Kaur G., Mishra A., & Tiwari H. Effect of integrated nutrient management practices on growth and productivity of rice: A review. *The Pharma Innovation Journal*, 2023 12(5), 2648-2662.

61. Kumar P, Kumar R, Chouhan S, Tutlani A. Exploring genetic variability, correlation and path analysis in fenugreek (*Trigonella foenum-graecum* L.) for crop improvement. International Journal of Bio-resource and Stress Management. 2023;14(11):1523-9.

62. Kumari S, Kumar R, Chouhan S, Chaudhary PL. Influence of various organic amendments on growth and yield attributes of mung bean (*Vigna radiata* L.). International Journal of Plant & Soil Science. 2023 May 13;35(12):124-30.

63. Chouhan S, Kumari S, Kumar R, Chaudhary PL. Climate resilient water management for sustainable agriculture. Int. J. Environ. Clim. Change. 2023;13(7):411-26.

64. Paudel P, Kumar R, Pandey MK, Paudel P, Subedi M. Exploring the impact of micro-plastics on soil health and ecosystem dynamics: A comprehensive review. Journal of Experimental Biology and Agricultural Sciences. 2024;12(2):163-74.

Formatted: Font: Italic

UNDER PEER REVIEW