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Bangladesh J. Sci. Ind. Res. **45(2)**, 169-172, 2010

Short Communication

BANGLADESH JOURNAL OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

E-mail: bjsir07@gmail.com

Response of Different Levels of Nitrogen and Phosphorus on Tthe Growth and Yield of French Bean

R. Sen[a], M. A. Rahman[b], A. K. M. S. Hoque[a], S. Zaman[b], and S. Noor[a]

[a]Soil Science Division, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute, Joydebpur and [b]Regional Agricultural Research Station, BARI, Jamalpur

Abstract

A field experiment on French bean was conducted in Old Brahmaputra Floodplain Soil of Jamalpur and Grey Terrace Soil of Joydebpur during 2005-2006 to find out the optimum rates of N and P for yield maximization. Four levels of nitrogen (0, 100, 150 and 200 kg ha^{-1}) and 3 levels of phosphorus (0, 40 and 60 kg ha^{-1}) were used in the experiment. Potassium (K) 80 kg, sulphur (S) 10 kg and 5 t cowdung ha^{-1} were applied as a basal dose. The experiment was laid out in a randomized complete block design with 12 treatments replicated 4 times. Nitrogen and phosphorus alone significantly influenced the pod yield of French bean. Among the N levels, the highest pod yield (13.33 t ha^{-1} at Jamalpur and 14.68 t ha^{-1} at Joydebpur) were obtained with 150 kg N ha^{-1}. Among the P levels, the highest pod yield (12.35 t ha^{-1} at Jamalpur and 13.69 t ha^{-1} at Joydebpur) were obtained with 60 kg P ha^{-1}. Interaction effect was not significant. However, highest pod yield (13.60 t ha^{-1} at Jamalpur and 15.05 t ha^{-1} at Joydebpur) was obtained from 150 kg N plus 60 kg P ha^{-1}. Economic analysis showed that 150 kg N plus 40 kg P ha^{-1} gave the highest gross margin of Tk. 1,66,684/ha.

Key words : French bean; Nitrogen and phosphorus fertilization; Pod yield

Introduction

French bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) is one of the most important leguminous vegetables in the world. It is an export oriented vegetable which is rich in protein, calcium, iron and vitamins (Haque *et al,*). It is used as vegetables when pods are immature and tender. French bean is an important under utilized vegetable in Bangladesh (Rahman *et al.,* 2002). French bean can easily be grown in field as well as in homestead garden if the soil is managed properly. Srinivas and Naik observed that the pod yield of French bean increased with increasing rate of N application and they obtained 13.2 t ha^{-1} pod by using 160 kg N ha^{-1} (Srinivas and Naik, 1988). Guu *et al.* (1997) recorded 17.2 t ha^{-1} pod yield with fertilizer and manure application. Research on fertilizer management for French bean in Bangladesh is in preliminary stage. The present research work was, therefore, undertaken to find out the response of French bean to different rates of nitrogen and phosphorus.

Materials and Method

The experiment was conducted at BARI Regional Station, Jamalpur and BARI central farm, Joydebpur during 2005-2006 to find out the optimum rate of nitrogen and phosphorus for French bean. Before starting the experiment, soil samples was collected from the field and analyzed in the laboratory following standard methods. The nutrient status of the initial soil has been presented in Table I.

Organic matter content of the soil were poor. The soils were acidic in nature. Phosphorus, potassium, sulphur, boron and zinc status of the soil were found to be either at par or below the critical level. Based on soil test values the different treatment combinations were formulated as follows :

Table I. Nutrient status of experimental soil prior to fertilization

Location	Textural class	pH	OM %	Ca	Mg	K	Total N %	P	S	B	Fe	Zn
				meq/100g				µg/g				
Jamalpur	Clay loam	5.8	0.95	4.2	1.7	0.13	0.05	14	12	0.24	120	1.3
Joydebpur	Silty loam	6.4	1.60	6.4	2.9	0.18	0.07	13	16	0.30	161	2.0
Critical level	-	-	-	2.0	0.8	0.20	-	14	14	0.20	10	2.0

* Corresponding author: E-mail: :

Treatment combinations of nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizer :

There are twelve treatment combinations comprising 4 levels of N (0, 100, 150 and 200 kg ha^{-1}) and 3 levels of P (0, 40 and 60 kg ha^{-1}). The treatments were arranged in factori

T_1 =	N_0P_0 kg ha^{-1}	T_7 =	$N_{150}P_{40}$ kg ha^{-1}
T_2 =	$N_{100}P_0$ kg ha^{-1}	T_8 =	$N_{200}P_{40}$ kg ha^{-1}
T_3 =	$N_{150}P_0$ kg ha^{-1}	T_9 =	N_0P_{60} kg ha^{-1}
T_4 =	$N_{200}P_0$ kg ha^{-1}	T_{10} =	$N_{100}P_{60}$ kg ha^{-1}
T_5 =	N_0P_{40} kg ha^{-1}	T_{11} =	$N_{150}P_{60}$ kg ha^{-1}
T_6 =	$N_{100}P_{40}$ kg ha^{-1}	T_{12} =	$N_{200}P_{60}$ kg ha^{-1}

al RCB design with 4 replications. A blanket dose of 80 kg K, 10 kg S and 5 t cowdung ha^{-1} was applied in the experiment. The sources of N, P, K and S were urea, TSP, MP and gypsum, respectively. The unit plot size was 3.0m x 2.4m. The whole amount of P, K, S, cowdung and ½ of N were applied at final land preparation and the remaining ½ of N was top dressed 25 days after sowing. The tested variety was BARI French $bean^{-1}$. The seeds of French bean were sown on late November in both the years at both locations with a spacing of 25cm x 15cm. Intercultural operations like weeding, irrigation and pest control measures were done as and when required. Data on yield components were collected. The green pods were harvested 4 times in February at both locations. The collected data were analyzed statistically by computer following IRRISTAT package (Perrin *et al.*, 1979).

Results and Discussion

Effect of nitrogen on the growth and yield of French bean

French bean responded significantly to different levels of nitrogen (Table II). Yield and yield components of French bean increases with the increase of nitrogen upto 150 kg N ha^{-1} and decrease thereafter. The highest number of pods/plant (25.90 at Jamalpur and 27.90 at Joydebpur), pod length (14.68 cm at Jamalpur and 14.98 cm at Joydebpur) and pod circumference (1.15 cm at Jamalpur and 1.17 cm at Joydebpur) were recorded in the treatment that received 150 kg N ha^{-1}. Plant height was found highest (39.68 cm at Jamalpur and 40.26 cm at Joydebpur) in the same treatment. The highest significant pod yield (13.33 t ha^{-1} at Jamalpur and 14.68 t $h^{-1}1$ at Joydebpur) was obtained with 150 kg N ha^{-1} which was statically similar with N @ 200 kg/ha treated yield (12.99 t ha^{-1} at Jamalpur and 14.55 t ha^{-1} at Joydebpur). The lowest pod yield (7.03 t ha^{-1} at Jamalpur and 8.46 t ha^{-1} at Joydebpur) was obtained from N-control treatment. Higher pod circumference and length, and pods/plant might have contributed to the higher yield of French bean. The result is in agreement with that of Hoque *et al* and Singh (2000). Hoque *et al.* and Singh (2000) obtained highest pod yield (13.5 and 14.9 t/ha, respectively) with the application of 150 kg Nitrogen. Pod yield increased significantly with each successive increment in N up to 120 kg/ha were reported (Baboo *et a1*., 1998).

Effect of phosphorus on the growth and yield of French bean

Different levels of phosphorus significantly influenced the yield and yield components of French bean (Table III). The highest number of pods/plant (24.18 at Jamalpur and 24.83 at Joydebpur), pod length (14.29 cm at Jamalpur and 14.62 cm at Joydebpur) and pod circumference (1.12 cm at Jamalpur and 1.17 cm at Joydebpur) were recorded in the treatment that received 60 kg P ha^{-1}. Plant height was found highest (38.17 cm at Jamalpur and 38.69 cm at Joydebpur) in the same treatment. The highest significant pod yield (12.35 t ha^{-1} at Jamalpur and 13.69 t ha^{-1} at Joydebpur) was obtained with 60 kg P ha^{-1} which was followed by P @ 40 kg/ha treated yield (11.54 t ha^{-1} at Jamalpur and 12.80 t ha^{-1} at Joydebpur). The lowest pod yield (10.12 t ha^{-1} at Jamalpur and 11.53 t ha^{-1} at Joydebpur) was obtained from P-control treatment. It is revealed that pod yield increased with

Table II. Effect of different levels of nitrogen on the growth and yield of French bean during 2005-06

Treatment	Plant height (cm)		Pod length (cm)		Pod circumference (cm)		Pods/plant (no.)		Pod yield (t/ha)	
	Jamalpur	Joydebpur	Jamalpur	Joydebpur	Jamalpur	Joydebpur	Jamalpur	Joydebpur	Jamalpur	Joydebpur
N_0	34.19b	35.00b	12.87ab	13.10b	1.08	1.13	18.47c	19.53d	7.03c	8.46c
N_{100}	35.56b	35.98b	13.78a	13.95b	1.10	1.17	21.73b	21.70c	12.01b	13.00b
N_{150}	39.68a	40.26a	14.68a	14.98a	1.15	1.17	25.90a	27.90a	13.33a	14.68a
N_{200}	39.45a	39.61a	14.43a	14.72a	1.12	1.17	25.20a	25.00b	12.99ab	14.55a
CV (%)	8.1	8.0	8.7	8.5	7.6	7.5	9.8	9.6	10.4	9.3

Table III. Effect of different levels of phosphorus on the growth and yield of French bean during 2005-06

Treatment	Plant height (cm)		Pod length (cm)		Pod circumference (cm)		Pods/plant (no.)		Pod yield (t/ha)	
	Jamalpur	Joydebpur	Jamalpur	Joydebpur	Jamalpur	Joydebpur	Jamalpur	Joydebpur	Jamalpur	Joydebpur
P_0	36.24	36.84	13.48c	13.71c	1.11	1.14	21.78c	22.15c	10.12c	11.53c
P_{40}	37.25	37.60	14.05b	14.25b	1.12	1.17	22.53b	23.63b	11.54b	12.80b
P_{60}	38.17	38.69	14.29a	14.62a	1.12	1.17	24.18a	24.83a	12.35a	13.69a
CV (%)	8.1	8.0	8.7	8.5	7.6	7.5	9.8	9.6	10.4	9.3

increasing rate of phosphorus. French bean responds to the application of phosphorus more than to other nutrient (Hagg *et al.*, 1967) and production increases proportionately with the increase in the level of phosphorus fertilizer (Miranda and Lobato 1978). Increasing level of Phosphorus increase the pod yield of French bean were reported by Roy and Parthasarathy (Roy and Parthosarathy 1999). French been develop poorly when grown in P-deficient soil and its low level leads to low bean productivity (Kanwar 1982).

Interaction effect on pod yield and yield components of French bean

The interaction effect of N and P on pod yield and yield components of French bean was found insignificant (Table IV). However, highest pod yield (13.60 t ha^{-1} at Jamalpur and 15.05 t ha^{-1} at Joydebpur) was obtained from $N_{150}P_{60}$ treatment. The lowest pod yield (5.92 t ha^{-1} at Jamalpur and 6.92 t ha^{-1} at Joydebpur) was obtained from N_0P_0 treatment. Higher rates of N and P application produced higher number of pods/plant, higher pod length and circumference and as well as higher yield of pods. Nitrogen increases the plant growth and phosphorus enhances nodulation of French bean (Roy and Parthosarathy 1999). Similar findings were also reported by Baboo *et al*. (1998) and Singh (2000).

Economic analysis

In order to identify a suitable treatment combination, economic evaluation of different treatment combination was done through partial budgeting.

Economic analysis presented in Table V revealed that highest gross margin of Tk. 1,66,684/ha was obtained from the treatment T_7 ($N_{150}P_{40}$ kg/ha) with a variable cost Tk. 4,556/ha. Lowest gross margin of Tk. 77,040/ha was obtained from control (N_0P_0) treatment. Thirumalai and Khalak (1993) also reported increasing gross margin with rising N and P. The rate of net returns however decreased beyond 150 kg N/ha.

Table IV. Effect of different levels of phosphorus on the growth and yield of French bean during 2005-06

Treatment	Plant height (cm)		Pod length (cm)		Pod circumference (cm)		Pods/plant (no.)		Pod yield (t/ha)	
	Jamalpur	Joydebpur	Jamalpur	Joydebpur	Jamalpur	Joydebpur	Jamalpur	Joydebpur	Jamalpur	Joydebpur
$T_1= N_0P_0$	33.56	34.87	11.65	11.90	1.07	1.10	17.20	18.90	5.92	6.92
$T_2= N_{100}P_0$	33.93	34.21	13.61	13.72	1.10	1.14	20.30	20.40	9.86	11.24
$T_3= N_{150}P_0$	38.92	39.35	14.56	14.86	1.16	1.17	25.00	26.10	12.78	14.05
$T_4= N_{200}P_0$	38.55	38.95	14.10	14.35	1.11	1.16	24.60	23.20	11.93	13.90
$T_5= N_0P_{40}$	34.11	34.89	13.46	13.67	1.08	1.13	18.80	19.80	6.29	8.36
$T_6= N_{100}P_{40}$	36.11	36.32	13.73	14.00	1.10	1.16	22.40	22.20	12.79	13.11
$T_7= N_{150}P_{40}$	39.22	39.76	14.61	14.61	1.18	1.20	24.80	28.10	13.60	14.94
$T_8= N_{200}P_{40}$	39.56	39.44	14.41	14.70	1.12	1.18	24.10	24.40	13.49	14.78
$T_9= N_0P_{60}$	34.89	35.23	13.49	13.74	1.08	1.15	19.40	19.90	8.88	10.09
$T_{10}=N_{100}P_{60}$	36.66	37.40	14.00	14.14	1.11	1.20	22.50	22.50	13.37	14.64
$T_{11}=N_{150}P_{60}$	40.89	41.68	14.86	15.47	1.12	1.15	27.90	29.50	13.60	15.05
$T_{12}=N_{200}P_{60}$	40.22	40.45	14.79	15.12	1.12	1.18	26.90	27.40	13.54	14.98
CV (%)	8.1	8.0	8.7	8.5	7.6	7.5	9.8	9.6	10.4	9.3

Table V. Partial budget analysis for different nitrogen and phosphorus response data of French bean (average of 2 locations)

Treatment	Nitrogen cost (Tk./ha)	Phosphorus cost (Tk./ha)	Total variable cost (Tk./ha)	Mean pod yield (t/ha)	Gross return (Tk./ha)	Gross margin(Tk./ha)
T_1= N_0P_0	0	0	0	6.42	77,040	77,040
T_2= N_{100} P_0	1,304	0	1,304	10.55	1,26,600	1,25,296
T_3= $N_{150}P_0$	1,956	0	1,956	13.42	1,61,040	1,59,084
T_4= $N_{200}P_0$	2,608	0	2,608	12.92	1,55,040	1,52,432
T_5= N_0P_{40}	0	2,600	2,600	7.33	87,960	85,360
T_6= $N_{100}P_{40}$	1,304	2,600	3,904	12.95	1,55,400	1,51,496
T_7= $N_{150}P_{40}$	1,956	2,600	4,556	14.27	1,71,240	1,66,684
T_8= $N_{200}P_{40}$	2,608	2,600	5,208	14.14	1,69,680	1,64,472
T_9= N_0P_{60}	0	3,900	3,900	9.45	1,13,400	1,09,500
T_{11}=$N_{100}P_{60}$	1,304	3,900	5,204	14.01	1,68,120	1,62,916
T_{11}=$N_{150}P_{60}$	1,956	3,900	5,856	14.35	1,72,200	1,66,344
T_{12}=$N_{200}P_{60}$	2,608	3,900	6,508	14.26	1,71,120	1,64,612

Price : 1 kg N = Tk. 13.04; 1 kg P = Tk. 65; 1 kg French bean = Tk. 12

Conclusion

From the above field experiment, it may be concluded that 150 kg nitrogen, 40 kg phosphorus along with a basal dose of 80 kg potassium, 10 kg sulphur and 5 t cowdung ha-1 are found economic for optimum yield of French bean in Old Brahmaputra Floodplain Soil of Jamalpur and Grey Terrace Soil of Joydebpur.

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Received : October 12, 2008;
Accepted : September 15, 2009