FERTILIZER REQUIREMENT OF MOSAIC FREE AND INFECTED SUGARCANE CROP

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ABSTRACT

The interaction between mosaic free and infected seed of sugarcane crop at various levels of NPK fertilizer was studied at Sugarcane Research Institute, Faisalabad during 1985-86 and 1986-87 and the farmer's field during 1986-87, to find out the fertilizer requirements of sugarcane seed cleaned from sugarcane mosaic virus. The aim was to reduce the lodging incidence of mosaic free cane causing adverse effects on the yield of crop. The results indicate that mosaic free crop showed significantly higher cane yield of 60.21, 65.01 and 58.67 t ha^{-1} at 168-84-84 (recommended), 84-84-84 (half the recommended N) and 84-42-42 (half the recommended NPK) respectively as compared with the yield of 54.29, 51.08 and 47.81 t ha^{-1} from the mosaic affected crop. It was inferred from the study that mosaic free crop requires less nitrogen as compared with crop infected by mosaic, as 27.28 percent increase in cane yield was obtained at half the nitrogen i.e., 84-84-84 to mosaic free crop when compared with full nitrogen i.e., 168-84-84 kg ha^{-1}.