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Effect on microbial count and micronutrients in soil by application of factory effluent in lateritic soil of Konkan

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Abstract

A field experiment was conducted an "effect on microbial population and DTPA extractable micronutrient in soil by application of factory effluent in lateritic soil of Konkan" with Randomized Block Design having nine treatments and three replication at Central Experiment Station, Pangari Block, Wakawali, Dr. B. S. K. K. V., Dapoli, Dist. Ratnagiri during *Rabi* 2013-14. Effluent (composite sample of digester over flow) from the Saf Yeast company private limited, Gane- Khadpoli, Chiplun District-Ratnagiri was collected and applied to the field. According to the irrigation requirement of spinach, effluent was applied before sowing and after first cutting @ 600 liter/treatment with NPK dose @ 100, 50 and 25 per cent with and without fertilizers.

Application of effluent at different times with inorganic fertilizers in spinach crop having three numbers of cutting significantly increased microbial population and micronutrients like Fe, Mn, Zn and Cu in soil as compare to only RDF fertilizers. The highest Fe content in soil was observed in treatment T₃ at 1st cutting where (application of effluent with 100 % RDF) was applied, treatment T₇ at 2nd and 3rd cutting where (application of effluent before sowing and after first cutting + 100 % RDF) was applied. Mn content in soil was observed in T₇ at 1st and 2nd cutting, while treatment T₆ at 3rd cutting where (application of effluent before sowing and after 1st cutting) was applied. The highest Zn contain in soil was observed in treatment T₉ from 1st to 3rd cuttings where (application of effluent before sowing and after 1st cutting + 25% RDF) was applied. Whereas highest Cu in soil was found in treatment T₉ at 1st cutting, treatment T₃ at 2nd cutting and treatment T₅ at 3rd cutting where (application of effluent before sowing + 25% RDF) was applied.

Keywords: Microbial population, micronutrients, factory effluent, Konkan

Introduction

In recent years considerable attention has been paid to industrial waste which are usually discharge on land or into sources of water, It's anticipated that the industrial activities will accelerate with the pace of development. This would have adverse impact on agriculture rind would cause environmental degradation. On the other hand, a huge amount rind would cause environmental degradation. Have adverse impact on the other hand, huge amount of factory effluent like sugarcane industries vide a solution to the disposal problems. From the crop production point of view a healthy soil may be defined as one that produces good crop's suitable for human and animal consumption and has the ability to recuperate to sustain production. Therefore on the point of nutrient supplying capacity of soil factory effluent is cheap and easy way as compare to use costly fertilizer at some extent. Also microbial activity required for available nutrient is also affected due to factory effluent of sugar factory which is also known as molasses.

Material and Methods

The field experiment was laid out in randomized block design with nine treatments and three replications of Spinach crop, verity All green during 2013-14 at Central Experiment Station, Pangari Block, Wakawali, Dr. B. S. K. K. V., Dapoli, Dist. Ratnagiri. After preparation of the layout, treatment wise effluent was applied to the experimental plots. The treatments were T₁ RDF (100:50:50 kg ha⁻¹), T₂ Application of effluent before sowing, T₃ (T₂ + 100% RDF), T₄ - (T₂ + 50% RDF), T₅ (T₂ + 25% RDF), T₆ (Application of effluent before sowing and after 1st cutting), T₇ (T₆ + 100% RDF), T₈ (T₆ + 50% RDF), T₉ (T₆ + 25% RDF).

The quantity of the effluent per plot was calculated by considering the irrigation water requirement of the crop. The 600 liters of irrigation effluent was applied to each plot as per the treatment before sowing.

After 5 days, the soil of the treated plots was thoroughly mixed by cultivator to facilitate aeration and oxidation. Again after first cutting of crop nearly about 35 days 2nd application of effluent 600 liter per plot was done as per the treatments. For determination of DTPA extractable Zn, Cu, Fe and Mn 0.005 M DTPA (Diethylene triamine penta acetic acid), 0.01 M CaCl₂ and 0.1 M TEA (Tri Ethanol Amine) buffered at pH 7.3 (Lindsay and Norwell 1978) [12]. The concentration of these nutrients was read in atomic absorption spectrophotometer. Whereas, soil biological properties of bacteria, fungi and actinomycetes, serial dilutions were prepared and 10⁶ dilutions were taken for inoculation. For bacterial count nutrient agar medium, for fungi, potato dextrose agar medium and for actinomycetes ken knight's medium was used (Primer and Schmidt 1964 and Subba Rao 1988) [14, 13].

Result and Discussion

Microbial population in soil

Application of effluent and inorganic fertilizers significantly affect the microbial population of bacteria in soil (Table 1), which varied from 9.90 to 23.29 × 10⁶ cfu g⁻¹ at 1st cutting, 7.45 to 28.42 × 10⁶ cfu g⁻¹ at 2nd cutting and 6.78 to 26.26 × 10⁶ cfu g⁻¹ at 3rd cutting, respectively. Similarly fungi in soil was varied from 1.58 to 7.06 × 10⁶ cfu g⁻¹ at 1st cutting, 1.40 to 7.18 × 10⁶ cfu g⁻¹ at 2nd cutting and 1.14 to 6.51 × 10⁶ cfu g⁻¹ at 3rd cutting, respectively. Whereas in case of actinomycetes was varied from 2.15 to 6.25 × 10⁶ cfu g⁻¹ at 1st cutting, 1.36 to 6.65 × 10⁶ cfu g⁻¹ at 2nd cutting and 1.16 to 5.15 × 10⁶ cfu g⁻¹ at 3rd cutting, which was decreased as time interval from 1st to 3rd cutting.

A field experiment was conducted to study the effect of different levels and method of biomethanted spentwash by (Selvamurugan *et al.* 2011) [1]. They found that by using distillery spentwash and pressmud boicompost on soil microbial bacteria was mostly appeared to have increased at initial stages and thereafter, progressively decreased with crop growth stages. The degradation of organic matter and depletion of plant nutrients might be the reason for the reduction of microbial population.

DTPA extractable micronutrients (Fe, Mn, Zn and Cu) in soil

Iron (mg kg⁻¹)

DTPA extractable Fe content of soil as influenced by application of effluent and inorganic fertilizers at different times in acid lateritic soil ranged from 39.17 to 53.90 mg kg⁻¹, 47.67 to 59.25 mg kg⁻¹ and 44.54 to 61.33 mg kg⁻¹ at 1st, 2nd and 3rd cutting of spinach, respectively (Table 2). From the data it was observed that with application of effluent before sowing and after first cutting, there was increase in Fe content in soil from 1st to 2nd cutting, which was further decreased from the treatment T₁ to T₅ and increased from the treatment T₆ to T₉ at 3rd cutting. Regarding high availability of Fe in

acid lateritic soils, Katyal *et al.* (1982) [2] cleared that the high content of available Fe may be due to accumulation of sesquioxides and also higher organic matter content, which keeps iron in complexes and available form. In addition to this, Tisdale *et al.* (1995) [11] explained that when a strong acid anion (NO₃⁻) is absorbed and replaced with a weak acid (HCO₃⁻), the pH of root zone increases Fe availability.

Manganese (mg kg⁻¹)

The variations in Mn observed from 118.08 to 260.59, 133.23 to 464.80 and 130.02 to 341.81 mg kg⁻¹ at 1st, 2nd and 3rd cuttings of spinach, respectively (Table 2). The application of effluent before sowing and after first cutting, there was increase Mn in soil. These results are in agreement with those reported by Devrajan and Oblisami (1995b) [3] and Baskar *et al.* (2003) [4, 10]. Increased availability of Mn might be due to direct contribution from the effluent as well as solubilisation and chelation effect of organic matter supplied by the effluent (Baskar *et al.* 2003) [4, 10]. An experiment was conducted by Jena *et al.* (2010) [5] regarding high availability of Mn in acid lateritic soils, Mehta and Patel (1967) [6] stated that the high concentration of available Mn might be due to warm and humid climate of the region.

Zinc (mg kg⁻¹)

The DTPA extractable Zn at various cuttings stages ranged from 0.62 to 0.93 mg kg⁻¹ at 1st cutting, 0.21 to 1.70 mg kg⁻¹ at 2nd cutting, while 0.37 to 1.93 mg kg⁻¹ at 3rd cutting, respectively (Table 2). A perusal of data indicated that there was decreased the content of Zn in soil at 2nd cutting in case of T₁ to T₅, but it was increased in treatment from T₆ to T₉ it may be due to 2nd time application of effluent after first cutting whereas it was increased in all treatment at 3rd cutting. Baskar *et al.* (2001) [7] stated that increased availability of Zn might be due to direct contribution from the effluent as well as solubilization and chelation effect of organic matter supplied by the effluent. Patil (2012) [8] found that there was increase in Zn content due to application of distillery effluent in different doses in lateritic soils of Konkan.

Copper (mg kg⁻¹)

The data representing that to Cu content in (Table 2) as a whole revealed that there were significant changes in Cu values from 1st to 3rd cutting ranged from 5.08 to 6.38 mg kg⁻¹, 5.01 to 6.04 mg kg⁻¹ and 5.13 to 6.19 mg kg⁻¹ at 1st, 2nd and 3rd cutting, respectively. It is obvious that as the application of effluent increased the Cu content of soil. The data indicated that Cu content of soil decreased at 2nd cutting as compared to 1st cutting. Bose *et al.* (2002) [9] also reported an increase in Cu due to application of effluent on soils with neutral pH (7.08) with sugarcane crop. Baskar *et al.* (2003) [4, 10] have explained that increased Cu availability might be due to direct contribution from the effluent as well as solubilization and chelation effect of organic matter supplied by the effluent.

Table 1: Effect of factory effluent and inorganic fertilizers on microbial population of soil

Tr. No.	Treatments	Bacteria (× 10 ⁶ cfu g ⁻¹)			Fungi (× 10 ⁶ cfu g ⁻¹)			Actinomycetes (× 10 ⁶ cfu g ⁻¹)		
		1 st cutting	2 nd cutting	3 rd cutting	1 st cutting	2 nd cutting	3 rd cutting	1 st cutting	2 nd cutting	3 rd cutting
T ₁	RDF (100:50:50 kg ha ⁻¹)	9.90	7.45	6.78	1.58	1.40	1.14	2.15	1.36	1.16
T ₂	Application of effluent before sowing	14.27	12.42	9.33	3.87	2.92	3.17	4.27	2.90	1.73
T ₃	T ₂ + 100% RDF	23.05	21.39	15.91	7.06	5.46	4.31	5.49	4.08	2.53
T ₄	T ₂ + 50% RDF	20.26	20.20	11.54	6.56	4.33	2.70	5.95	3.45	3.87
T ₅	T ₂ + 25% RDF	19.84	19.56	14.97	4.60	3.00	2.62	5.21	3.19	2.23

T ₆	Application of effluent before sowing and after 1 st cutting	15.50	17.25	26.26	5.15	5.89	4.95	4.30	5.23	3.79
T ₇	T ₆ + 100% RDF	23.29	28.42	22.64	6.17	7.18	6.51	6.16	6.53	4.93
T ₈	T ₆ + 50% RDF	22.67	22.92	20.64	5.99	6.24	4.97	6.25	6.65	3.05
T ₉	T ₆ + 25% RDF	16.17	19.24	16.45	4.49	4.58	3.35	5.26	5.33	5.15
S.E.±		0.65	1.29	0.73	0.50	0.29	0.56	0.25	0.30	0.53
C.D. (P=0.05)		1.96	3.87	2.18	1.50	0.88	1.68	0.65	0.91	1.60

Table 2: Effect of factory effluent and inorganic fertilizers on Fe and Mn micronutrient in soil at various cuttings of spinach

Tr. No.	Treatments	Fe			Mn			Zn			Cu		
		1 st cutting	2 nd cutting	3 rd cutting	1 st cutting	2 nd cutting	3 rd cutting	1 st cutting	2 nd cutting	3 rd cutting	1 st cutting	2 nd cutting	3 rd cutting
T ₁	RDF (100:50:50 kg ha ⁻¹)	39.17	47.67	44.54	118.08	133.23	130.02	0.62	0.21	0.37	5.08	5.01	5.13
T ₂	Application of effluent before sowing	45.29	52.47	46.83	249.49	294.49	222.80	0.85	0.63	0.79	5.36	5.30	6.04
T ₃	T ₂ + 100% RDF	53.90	55.64	45.97	251.92	301.01	235.68	0.78	0.56	0.81	6.06	6.04	6.16
T ₄	T ₂ + 50% RDF	46.35	49.49	45.23	248.80	286.83	255.52	0.91	0.66	0.88	6.22	5.89	6.08
T ₅	T ₂ + 25% RDF	45.92	54.08	46.88	227.84	294.72	254.99	0.88	0.52	0.83	6.06	5.97	6.19
T ₆	Application of effluent before sowing and after 1 st cutting	47.25	54.91	58.77	260.05	423.36	341.81	0.85	1.67	1.90	5.93	5.17	5.40
sT ₇	T ₆ + 100% RDF	53.76	59.25	61.33	260.59	464.80	330.13	0.91	1.53	1.78	6.26	4.91	5.30
T ₈	T ₆ + 50% RDF	49.28	50.77	59.45	241.76	438.51	250.13	0.89	1.66	1.70	6.18	5.12	5.56
T ₉	T ₆ + 25% RDF	51.68	55.52	55.59	255.79	452.75	299.73	0.93	1.70	1.93	6.38	5.28	5.98
S.E.±		2.74	2.05	1.81	14.808	13.001	22.686	0.04	0.18	0.04	0.27	0.20	0.19
C.D. (P=0.05)		8.21	6.15	6.06	44.394	38.977	68.012	0.11	0.55	0.13	0.81	0.58	0.57

Conclusion

The application of effluent with inorganic fertilizers resulted in a significant increase in micronutrients content and microbial population in the soils which was very necessary for availability of nutrients for crop production and build-up of soil fertility.

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