



Impact of different levels of organic and inorganic fertilizers on growth, yield and quality of preseasonal sugarcane ratoon in Inceptisols

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Abstract: A field experiment was conducted at soil test crop response (STCR) correlation project farm of Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri Maharashtra. The result showed that individual application of nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), potassium (K) or organic nutrient sources (Farm yard manure) recorded less value of preseasonal sugarcane ratoon but the integration of both the sources showed significantly improved all the growth, yield and quality parameters of preseasonal sugarcane ratoon. The maximum number of internodes were ranged between 21-30 with mean of 25.42, number of leaves 6-10 with mean of 7.21, length of internodes 12.50-16.80 cm with mean of 14.41 cm, girth of internodes 11.30-13.10 cm with mean of 12.15 cm and height of millable cane 335-385 with mean of 351.75 cm, respectively were found higher with application of residual effect of 30 t ha⁻¹ farm yard manure (FYM). However, the quality traits viz., brix ranged from 18.70 to 22.80 with mean of 19.87, pol per cent ranged from 15.81 to 18.41 per cent with mean of 17.53 per cent and commercial cane sugar (CCS) per cent from 9.39 to 12.09 per cent with mean of 10.76 per cent. The CCS yield was ranged between 9.58-16.30 MT ha⁻¹ with mean value of 14.13 MT ha⁻¹ were enhanced considerably with residual 15 and 30 t FYM ha⁻¹ blocks over without FYM. The application of organic and inorganic fertilizers will not only enhance the growth, yield and quality of preseasonal sugarcane ratoon but also conserve agro-ecosystem for sustainable crop production.

Keywords: Growth, Inorganic and organic fertilizer, Preseasonal sugarcane ratoon, Quality and Yield

INTRODUCTION

Sugarcane is an economically important crop next only to cotton. It provides rich source of sucrose, alcohol and organic matter waste which is utilized as fertilizer. Sugarcane was cultivated vegetatively as noble canes until the end of 20th century. Sugarcane occupies a pivotal position in the agriculture economy of India. As an instrument of agrarian reform and economic emancipation, sugarcane is second to none. This is so because it a labour intensive crop and provides livelihood to millions through an organised industry that it carries with it in the rural India. Sugarcane cultivated on an area of 50.67 lakh hectares in 2014-15 with a production of 362.33 million tonnes with an average productivity of 71.51 t ha⁻¹ in India, through, there is a wide variations with productivity across different regions. Maharashtra is one of the leading producing state in the country having area about 10.30 lakh hectares with cane production 82.23 million tonnes with an average cane production of 73.20 t ha⁻¹ during the year 2014-15 and recovery of 11.91 % (Anonymous, 2016).

Sugarcane is a long duration and exhaustive crop, which produce large quantum biomass removes considerable amount of nutrients from soil for its normal growth and development. It has been measured that sugarcane of 100 t that produced from 1 ha land removes 140, 34 and 332 kg NPK ha⁻¹, respectively, from soil (Bokhtiar *et al.*, 2001). Several researchers have demonstrated the beneficial effect of combined use of chemical and organic fertilizers to mitigate the deficiency of many secondary and micro nutrients in field that continuously received only N,P and K fertilizers for a few years, without any micronutrients or organic fertilizer. Bokhtiar *et al.* (2015) reported that the combined application of enriched pressmud or raw pressmud with chemical fertilizers improved the cane yield and the effect was more pronounced at higher fertilizer level (100 % RDF). Ramalakshmi *et al.* (2011) found that the integrated use of organic manures and inorganic fertilizers produced higher and sustainable cane yields and maintained the soil fertility. Ratoon keeping in sugarcane is economic for the farming community of which production cost is lower than plant crop by 25.35 % along with saving of seed

material. A ratoon crop mature prior to plant crop ensuring early supply of cane mills under similar condition sugarcane ratoon have a supplementary advantage of better juice quality and sugar recovery more than plant crop of same variety (Eid *et al.*, 2016). The soil test crop response (STCR) approach for targeted yield is unique in indicating both the soil test base fertilizer dose and the level of yield that can be achieved with good management practices. In order to sustain the yield and to reduce the cost of fertilizer and in turn cost of cultivation, Vajantha *et al.* (2014) noticed that the application of fertilizers based on STCR equation for target yield of 120 t ha⁻¹ recorded highest cane yield (121.5, 117.8, 114.2 t ha⁻¹ in plant crop I, plant crop II, ratoon respectively). However, the STCR equation for targeted yield of 100 t ha⁻¹ in sugarcane could be achieved without any negative deviation in Chittoor district soils. Sakarvadia *et al.* (2012) found that the yield targeting approach is effective also in soil fertility build up. The fertilizer application practices based on targeted yield approach indicated the possibility of enhancing production potentials of sugarcane in major sugarcane growing pockets of Maharashtra, viz; Ahmednagar, Pune, Solapur, Satara, Sangli. Targeted yield equations in the country are available pertaining to respective states and varieties. In Maharashtra the yield target equation for pre-seasonal sugarcane was developed during 1996 for *var* Co 86032 on Vertisols without considering the contribu-

tion of FYM. This equation was not found applicable to other varieties. Further the major soils in western Maharashtra are of medium depth and come under the order Inceptisol. Hence in this context, an experiment was conducted to study the application different of levels of organic and inorganic fertilizers on medium deep soil (Inceptisols) for growth, yield and quality of sugarcane ratoon CO-94012.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The standard field experiment was conducted on pre-seasonal sugarcane (ratoon) at Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri, Maharashtra, India using a fertility gradient approach. The experimental location was between 19° 48' N and 19° 57' N latitude and 74° 19' E longitude. In the gradient experiment, operational range of variation in soil fertility was created deliberately. For this purpose, the experimental field was divided into three equal strips, the first strip received no fertilizer (N₀P₀K₀), the second and third strips received one (N₁P₁K₁) and two (N₂P₂K₂) times the standard dose of N, P₂O₅ and K₂O respectively and a gradient crop of fodder maize was grown. The variation in fertility gradient in different fertility gradient were observed from the soil test values in three fertility gradients. These fertility gradients were used for derivation of fertilizer prescription equation for plant pre-seasonal sugarcane ratoon. After harvest of plant pre-seasonal sugarcane the similar fertility gradient

Table 1. Effect of fertilization on growth parameter of pre-seasonal sugarcane ratoon in without FYM block.

Tr. No.	Treatment	F0 (0 t ha ⁻¹)				
		Number of internodes	Number of Leaves	Length of internodes (cm)	Girth of internodes (cm)	Height of millable cane (cm)
1	N ₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	20	9	10.50	8.90	320
2	N ₁₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	23	8	11.00	8.20	331
3	N ₁₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₁₁₅	22	8	12.00	9.00	310
4	N ₁₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	21	7	12.15	7.90	300
5	N ₁₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	22	6	11.20	7.80	335
6	N ₂₅₀ P ₀ K ₁₁₅	20	7	11.50	8.80	330
7	N ₂₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	25	7	12.50	8.80	310
8	N ₂₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₁₁₅	25	6	11.50	8.80	325
9	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	23	6	11.50	9.80	315
10	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₀	25	7	12.40	8.80	335
11	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	23	7	11.20	8.80	340
12	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₆₅	22	7	12.00	7.98	318
13	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₁₅	21	6	11.66	8.00	320
14	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₆₅	20	6	10.83	8.65	322
15	N ₃₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	25	7	12.00	9.80	315
16	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	23	6	12.60	10.85	325
17	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	22	7	11.50	10.00	318
18	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₆₅	22	7	13.00	10.70	330
19	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₆₅	26	7	13.65	10.80	335
20	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₁₅	25	6	13.33	10.80	310
21	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₆₅	25	7	15.00	10.80	365
22	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	19	6	9.00	8.90	290
23	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	18	5	8.95	8.10	273
24	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	19	7	9.20	7.90	265
Average of treated plots		22.33	6.75	11.67	9.12	318
Average of control plots		18.66	6	9.05	8.30	276

Table 2. Effect of fertilization on growth parameter of pre-seasonal sugarcane ratoon in 15 t FYM ha⁻¹ block.

Tr. No.	Treatment	F1 (15 t ha ⁻¹)				
		Number of internodes	Number of leaves	Length of internodes (cm)	Girth of internodes (cm)	Height of millable cane (cm)
1	N ₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	22	9	11.50	10.30	331
2	N ₁₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	20	8	12.00	10.00	341
3	N ₁₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₁₁₅	23	8	13.00	9.80	320
4	N ₁₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	24	7	12.50	9.20	321
5	N ₁₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	22	6	12.00	10.30	335
6	N ₂₅₀ P ₀ K ₁₁₅	23	7	13.15	11.60	345
7	N ₂₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	21	7	12.90	11.70	330
8	N ₂₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₁₁₅	25	6	11.38	10.30	337
9	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	26	6	12.48	10.85	325
10	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₀	26	7	11.70	10.70	340
11	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	27	6	12.50	10.90	360
12	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₆₅	22	6	12.60	10.65	330
13	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₁₅	23	6	12.70	10.80	355
14	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₆₅	24	6	12.50	11.80	345
15	N ₃₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	24	6	13.00	11.80	330
16	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	23	7	13.80	12.10	340
17	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	26	6	13.40	12.35	328
18	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₆₅	25	6	13.50	11.80	342
19	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₆₅	26	7	13.60	11.20	355
20	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₁₅	27	7	13.98	11.35	360
21	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₆₅	27	7	13.85	11.55	365
22	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	24	6	11.50	9.60	310
23	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	22	7	10.00	8.70	301
24	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	21	5	10.50	8.50	320
Average of treated plots		23.88	6.63	12.50	10.74	336
Average of control plots		22.33	6	10.66	8.93	310

(strip) were used for conduct of soil test crop response correlation studies to develop fertilizer prescription equation for preseasonal ratoon sugarcane. Variation in fertility gradient was assessed treatment wise with strip by testing soil available NPK at harvest of plant pre-seasonal sugarcane. These soil test value assessed gradients (strips) are used as fertility gradient for conduct of preseasonal ratoon sugarcane. In fertility gradient experiment, the soil analysis data after harvest of plant preseasonal sugarcane showed that fertility gradients were created in the F₀, F₁ and F₂ strips. The yield of plant in preseasonal sugarcane and soil fertility, the data on soil test values for available N,P and K at harvest of plant preseasonal sugarcane are used as fertility gradient for preseasonal ratoon sugarcane. After confirming the establishment of fertility gradients in the experimental field, in the second phase of the field experiment, three FYM blocks were created across the fertility gradient by applying three levels (F₁ 0, F₂ 15 and F₃ 30 t ha⁻¹) of FYM. Three FYM blocks were created across the fertility gradient. The experiment was laid out in a fractional factorial design comprising twenty four equal plots with varying 21 N, P₂O₅ and K₂O treatments along with 3 control treatments on randomized basis. The different combinations of various levels of N (150, 250 and 350 kg ha⁻¹), P₂O₅ (65, 115 and 165 kg ha⁻¹) and K₂O (65, 115 and 165 kg ha⁻¹) were randomly distributed in F₀, F₁ and F₂ strip. The twenty one treatments consisted as N₀: P₁₁₅: K₁₁₅, N₁₅₀: P₆₅: K₆₅, N₁₅₀: P₆₅: K₁₁₅, N₁₅₀: P₁₁₅: K₆₅, N₁₅₀:

P₁₁₅: K₁₁₅, N₂₅₀: P₀: K₁₁₅, N₂₅₀: P₆₅: K₆₅, N₂₅₀: P₆₅: K₁₁₅, N₂₅₀: P₁₁₅: K₆₅, N₂₅₀: P₁₁₅: K₀, N₂₅₀: P₁₁₅: K₁₁₅, N₂₅₀: P₁₁₅: K₁₆₅, N₂₅₀: P₁₆₅: K₁₁₅, N₂₅₀: P₁₆₅: K₁₆₅, N₂₅₀: P₆₅: K₆₅, N₃₅₀: P₁₁₅: K₁₆₅, N₃₅₀: P₁₁₅: K₁₁₅, N₃₅₀: P₁₁₅: K₁₆₅, N₃₅₀: P₁₆₅: K₆₅, N₃₅₀: P₁₆₅: K₁₁₅, N₃₅₀: P₁₆₅: K₁₆₅. The N, P and K were applied through urea, single super phosphate and muriate of potash, respectively as per treatments. Preseasonal sugarcane (CO-94012) was taken as a main test crop in these FYM blocks and after harvest of preseasonal sugarcane crop, the cane and top yield were recorded. Without disturbing the fertility gradient and FYM blocks, after harvest of pre-seasonal plant cane in February, 2008. The same field of harvested plant preseasonal sugarcane are used for soil test crop response correlation studies for pre-seasonal ratoon sugarcane to develop the relationship between soil test value and cane yields by conducting experiment on fertility gradient approach (Ramammorthy *et al.*, 1967) with the view to derive fertilizer prescription equation for preseasonal ratoon sugarcane by conjoint use of chemical fertilizers and organic manures for making judicious and balanced fertilizer recommendations for a system as a whole. The treatment of N, P₂O₅ and K₂O proportions for pre-seasonal ratoon sugarcane were superimposed on the similar treatment of N, P₂O₅ and K₂O proportion of preseasonal plant sugarcane. The growth observations such as maximum number of internodes, number of leaves, length of internodes, girth of internodes and height of millable cane were recorded at harvesting

Table 3. Effect of fertilization on growth parameter of pre-seasonal sugarcane (ratoon) in 30 t FYM ha⁻¹ block.

Tr. No.	Treatment	F ₂ (30 t ha ⁻¹)				
		Number of internodes	Number of Leaves	Length of internodes (cm)	Girth of internodes (cm)	Height of millable cane (cm)
1	N ₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	23	10	12.50	11.30	335
2	N ₁₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	21	9	13.50	11.30	345
3	N ₁₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₁₁₅	24	9	13.60	11.70	337
4	N ₁₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	25	8	13.10	12.30	340
5	N ₁₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	25	7	14.00	12.85	360
6	N ₂₅₀ P ₀ K ₁₁₅	21	8	13.90	12.40	360
7	N ₂₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	22	6	14.00	11.80	355
8	N ₂₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₁₁₅	24	6	13.80	12.30	363
9	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	25	7	14.00	12.55	368
10	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₀	27	8	14.50	12.30	365
11	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	26	6	14.50	11.90	355
12	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₆₅	28	6	15.00	12.30	340
13	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₁₅	28	7	15.50	12.45	360
14	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₆₅	25	7	15.50	12.20	335
15	N ₃₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	26	6	15.50	11.80	342
16	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	29	7	15.85	12.65	357
17	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	29	7	16.00	12.90	335
18	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₆₅	27	6	16.35	13.00	365
19	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₆₅	26	8	16.80	13.10	370
20	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₁₅	30	7	16.40	12.80	385
21	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₆₅	30	8	16.60	13.30	390
22	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	24	7	11.50	11.30	325
23	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	22	7	10.98	10.90	310
24	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	23	6	12.35	10.12	345
Average of treated plots		25.42	7.21	14.41	12.15	351.75
Average of control plots		23	6.66	11.61	10.77	326.66

stage. The biochemical parameters *viz.* brix, purity (%) and CCS (%) were estimated in the laboratory as per the procedure outlined by Spencer and Meade (1964) and for Pol (%) by Lane and Euton (1993). At the age of 12 months, five stalk samples were collected and the analysis was performed on five stalk sample. The stalks were shredded using a cutter grinder. The shredded material was then mixed thoroughly and juice was extracted. Using lead acetate the juice was clarified and filtered. The polarization reading was taken by using polarization universal and the juice was analysed for quality parameters (Lane and Euton, 1993). Preseasonal sugarcane ratoon (CO-94012) was taken as a main test crop in these FYM blocks and at the time of harvest of preseasonal sugarcane ratoon crop, the cane and top yields were recorded.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Study site and soil description: The average annual precipitation during experiment period was 520 mm. Out of the total annual rainfall, about 80 per cent rains are received from South-West monsoon (June to September) while rest receives from North-East monsoon. The number of rainy days were varies from 15-45 days in a year. Total rainfall received during the period from February, 2008 to January, 2009 was 670.7 mm in 23 rainy days. The experimental soil belongs to order Inceptisol and sub group of *Vertic Hap-*

lustepts. The texture of the soil was clayey with low in available N (178.33 kg ha⁻¹), medium in available P (18.78 kg ha⁻¹) and very high in K (350.33 kg ha⁻¹). The soil was slightly alkaline in reaction with calcium carbonate content of 7.90 per cent.

Growth parameters of preseasonal sugarcane ratoon: The effect of NPK combination along with residual effect of FYM 0,15 and 30 t ha⁻¹ on growth parameters of preseasonal sugarcane ratoon in F₀,F₁ and F₂ FYM blocks at harvest are presented in Table 1, 2 and 3. The growth parameters varied by graded doses of N, P₂O₅ and K₂O. The addition of N @ 350 kg ha⁻¹ in combination with graded doses of P₂O₅ & K₂O were beneficial for improving the morphological characteristics of sugarcane ratoon with residual effect of FYM addition. The morphological growth parameters recorded in residual effect of F₁ block (15 t ha⁻¹ FYM) in combination with graded doses of NPK were recorded the higher values than in F₀ FYM blocks (Table 1 and 2). It was higher in N application @ 350 kg ha⁻¹ along with P₂O₅ and K₂O levels than the 250 and 150 kg ha⁻¹N application. This might be because of N application of ratoon sugarcane enhanced the vegetative growth. Similarly, because of residual effect of 15 t ha⁻¹ FYM may mineralize the nitrogen, reduce the loss either by leaching or volatilization as result nitrogen was more efficiently used by preseasonal ratoon sugarcane and reflected in morphological parameters. Similar, observations were recorded by the Shridevi *et al.* (2016) found that the application of 100 % recom-

Table 4. Effect of fertilization on yield and CCS yield of pre-seasonal sugarcane ratoon in different FYM block.

Tr. No.	Treatment	Cane yield and CCS yield (MT ha ⁻¹)					
		F ₀ (0 t ha ⁻¹)		F ₁ (15 t ha ⁻¹)		F ₂ (30 t ha ⁻¹)	
		Cane	CCS	Cane	CCS	Cane	CCS
1	N ₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	76.41	7.82	88.72	8.50	98.56	9.58
2	N ₁₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	77.20	7.80	130.11	12.86	114.12	10.82
3	N ₁₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₁₁₅	96.54	9.76	85.49	9.43	118.45	13.46
4	N ₁₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	73.62	7.72	104.36	10.89	111.45	12.00
5	N ₁₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	82.26	9.53	106.23	7.55	119.58	13.59
6	N ₂₅₀ P ₀ K ₁₁₅	87.90	9.65	96.66	10.07	109.56	14.10
7	N ₂₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	65.67	5.66	92.26	9.23	131.25	15.02
8	N ₂₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₁₁₅	93.66	8.15	98.58	10.03	118.90	11.55
9	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	100.65	13.22	107.24	11.28	125.34	13.06
10	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₀	95.54	9.41	107.89	13.12	116.54	12.47
11	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	112.25	10.26	115.25	10.13	128.56	15.54
12	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₆₅	111.25	12.04	111.35	12.17	131.25	14.26
13	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₁₅	93.66	11.74	95.56	9.01	141.25	16.30
14	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₆₅	93.25	10.64	109.25	10.69	124.25	13.20
15	N ₃₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	108.88	11.83	100.37	11.46	131.25	13.74
16	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	97.36	9.62	111.45	11.57	135.22	14.86
17	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	92.36	9.99	117.58	11.69	118.25	12.14
18	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₆₅	93.25	9.63	120.22	12.15	121.22	12.49
19	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₆₅	125.22	12.59	109.25	11.61	114.45	11.30
20	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₁₅	110.15	11.25	108.65	10.98	118.59	11.93
21	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₆₅	116.52	12.16	113.25	11.69	121.22	11.38
22	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	37.48	6.24	41.70	3.99	43.18	7.62
23	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	29.25	5.77	32.81	5.36	33.32	5.64
24	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	56.41	9.16	67.85	6.82	68.28	10.74
Average of treated plots		99.12	9.65	104.33	10.10	120.32	14.13
Average of control plots		41.04	7.05	47.45	5.39	48.26	8.00

mended dose of fertilizer (RDF) along with FYM @ 25 t ha⁻¹, micronutrients @ 25 kg each of ZnSO₄ and FeSO₄ and biofertilizers (*Azospirillum* and PSB @ 10 kg ha⁻¹ each) were better for improved growth parameters and yield as well as obtaining higher economical returns from sugarcane cultivation. The morphological attributes of ratoon sugarcane as affected by the residual effect 30 t ha⁻¹ FYM along with NPK combinations showed the similar trend to that of in F₁ (15 t ha⁻¹ residual effect of FYM). However, numerical values of all the morphological attributes were higher than the values observed in F₁ FYM blocks (Table 2 and 3). The number of internodes were ranged between 21-30 with mean of 25.42, length of internodes 12.50-16.80 cm with mean of 14.41 cm, girth of internodes 11.30-13.10 cm with mean of 12.15 cm and height of millable cane 335-385 with mean of 351.75 cm, respectively. The results revealed that addition of 30 t ha⁻¹ FYM to plant preseasonal sugarcane and their residual effect on ratoon sugarcane with an application of graded levels of N, P₂O₅ and K₂O in combination was found superior for morphological attributes of sugarcane ratoon. The results of the study are also supported by Abdul Fatah Soomro (2014) with opinion that enhanced the growth, yield, quality and nutrient uptake of both plant and ratoon sugarcane.

Yield of preseasonal sugarcane ratoon: The cane yield data of preseasonal sugarcane ratoon in Table 4 indicated that an increasing trend with increase in the

residual FYM from 0 to 15 and 30 t FYM ha⁻¹. The cane yield in treated plots as ratoon sugarcane experiment in the F₀ blocks was ranged from 65.67 to 125.22 MT ha⁻¹. These results showed that there was an increase in cane yield of preseasonal ratoon sugarcane with increase in N, P₂O₅ and K₂O levels. The maximum being with N₃₅₀P₁₆₅K₆₅ treatment. The average yield of control plot of F₀ block was 41.04 MT ha⁻¹. The cane yield of preseasonal ratoon sugarcane in F₁ block showed similar trend to that of F₀ blocks. The residual effect of 15 t FYM ha⁻¹ along with N, P₂O₅ and K₂O treatments increased the cane yield and ranging from 85.49 to 130.11 MT ha⁻¹ with average cane yield 104.33 MT ha⁻¹. The average cane yield in control plot was 47.45 MT ha⁻¹. The highest cane yield of 130.11 t ha⁻¹ was observed in N₁₅₀P₆₅K₁₆₅ followed by 120.22 MT ha⁻¹ of N₃₅₀P₁₁₅K₁₆₅ treatment. The residual fertility in the F₁ strip along with FYM might be used to increase the cane yields. Bokhtiar *et al.*, (2015) reported that the combined application of enriched pressmud or raw pressmud with chemical fertilizers improved the cane yield and the effect was more pronounced at higher fertilizer level (100 % RDF). The F₂ block with 30 t ha⁻¹ residual FYM the ratoon cane yield was ranged between 98.56-141.25 MT ha⁻¹ and mean of control plots was 48.26 MT ha⁻¹. There was an increase in yield of control plots in F₂ blocks than F₀ and F₁ blocks. This shows the beneficial effect of residual FYM in increasing the cane yield of preseasonal sug-

Table 5. Effect of fertilization on quality parameter of pre-seasonal sugarcane ratoon in without FYM.

Tr. No.	Treatment	F0 (0 t ha ⁻¹)				
		Brix (°C)	Pol (%)	Invert sugar (%)	Purity (%)	CCS (%)
1	N ₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	22.80	16.21	0.40	71.09	8.82
2	N ₁₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	20.80	17.06	0.50	82.01	10.11
3	N ₁₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₁₁₅	20.80	17.06	0.51	82.01	10.11
4	N ₁₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	19.60	17.13	0.54	87.39	10.49
5	N ₁₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	22.40	16.27	0.50	72.63	8.98
6	N ₂₅₀ P ₀ K ₁₁₅	22.80	18.59	0.47	81.53	10.98
7	N ₂₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	22.30	15.56	0.46	69.77	8.62
8	N ₂₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₁₁₅	21.80	15.80	0.59	72.47	8.71
9	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	20.80	17.54	0.47	84.32	10.55
10	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₀	21.80	16.51	0.46	75.73	9.35
11	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	21.80	16.75	0.53	76.83	9.57
12	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₆₅	20.00	17.61	0.49	88.05	10.82
13	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₁₅	19.80	17.34	0.48	87.57	10.63
14	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₆₅	18.80	17.93	0.46	95.37	11.42
15	N ₃₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	19.80	17.61	0.58	88.93	10.87
16	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	20.80	16.82	0.51	80.86	9.89
17	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	19.80	17.61	0.53	88.93	10.82
18	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₆₅	20.80	17.30	0.59	83.17	10.33
19	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₆₅	21.00	17.06	0.69	81.23	10.06
20	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₁₅	21.80	17.47	0.71	80.13	10.22
21	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₆₅	21.80	17.71	0.79	81.23	10.44
22	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	22.80	16.68	0.47	73.15	9.26
23	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	22.00	16.99	0.45	77.22	9.74
24	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	20.60	17.54	0.43	85.14	10.60
Average of treated plots		21.15	17.09	0.53	81.12	10.06
Average of control plots		21.80	17.07	0.45	78.50	9.86

Table 6. Effect of fertilization on quality parameter of pre-seasonal sugarcane (ratoon) in 15 t FYM ha⁻¹.

Tr. No.	Treatment	F1 (15 t ha ⁻¹)				
		Brix (°C)	Pol (%)	Invert sugar (%)	Purity (%)	CCS (%)
1	N ₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	22.80	17.88	0.41	78.42	10.34
2	N ₁₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	20.80	16.82	0.52	80.86	9.89
3	N ₁₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₁₁₅	20.60	18.02	0.53	87.47	11.04
4	N ₁₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	21.80	17.71	0.55	81.23	10.44
5	N ₁₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	20.80	16.82	0.52	80.86	9.89
6	N ₂₅₀ P ₀ K ₁₁₅	21.80	17.47	0.48	80.13	10.22
7	N ₂₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	21.80	17.23	0.49	79.03	10.01
8	N ₂₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₁₁₅	20.60	17.30	0.58	83.98	10.32
9	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	21.80	16.99	0.47	77.93	9.79
10	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₀	20.60	18.26	0.47	83.76	11.26
11	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	22.00	17.95	0.53	81.59	10.61
12	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₆₅	20.40	17.86	0.49	87.54	10.94
13	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₁₅	22.80	16.88	0.50	74.03	9.43
14	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₆₅	21.80	16.99	0.48	77.93	9.79
15	N ₃₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	18.80	17.93	0.55	95.37	11.42
16	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	22.00	17.71	0.53	80.50	10.39
17	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	20.80	16.82	0.59	80.86	9.89
18	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₆₅	20.80	17.06	0.66	82.01	10.11
19	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₆₅	19.80	17.34	0.70	87.57	10.63
20	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₁₅	20.80	17.06	0.73	82.01	10.11
21	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₆₅	20.80	17.30	0.55	83.17	10.33
22	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	18.80	17.93	0.45	95.37	11.42
23	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	19.80	18.34	0.46	92.62	11.54
24	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	20.80	18.26	0.49	87.78	11.20
Average of treated plots		20.98	17.50	0.53	83.42	10.46
Average of control plots		19.80	18.17	0.46	91.92	11.38

Table 7. Effect of fertilization on quality parameter of pre-seasonal sugarcane (ratoon) in 30 t FYM ha⁻¹.

Tr. No.	Treatment	F2 (30 t ha ⁻¹)				
		Brix (°C)	Pol (%)	Invert sugar (%)	Purity (%)	CCS (%)
1	N ₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	22.88	17.23	0.52	75.30	9.73
2	N ₁₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	18.80	15.81	0.48	84.09	9.49
3	N ₁₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₁₁₅	19.00	17.93	0.55	94.36	11.37
4	N ₁₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	20.80	17.78	0.53	85.48	10.77
5	N ₁₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	19.00	17.93	0.50	94.36	11.37
6	N ₂₅₀ P ₀ K ₁₁₅	18.80	18.41	0.55	97.92	11.86
7	N ₂₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	18.70	17.93	0.60	95.88	11.45
8	N ₂₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₁₁₅	20.80	17.54	0.53	84.32	10.55
9	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	18.80	18.17	0.50	96.64	11.64
10	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₀	17.80	17.79	0.49	99.94	11.56
11	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	18.80	18.66	0.55	99.25	12.09
12	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₆₅	19.20	17.44	0.51	90.83	10.87
13	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₁₅	18.60	18.00	0.55	96.77	11.54
14	N ₂₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₆₅	19.80	17.34	0.55	87.57	10.63
15	N ₃₅₀ P ₆₅ K ₆₅	20.40	17.34	0.53	85.00	10.47
16	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₆₅	20.80	18.02	0.51	86.63	10.99
17	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₁₅	20.80	17.30	0.53	83.17	10.33
18	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₁₅ K ₁₆₅	20.30	17.13	0.67	84.38	10.31
19	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₆₅	20.30	17.23	0.75	77.26	9.88
20	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₁₅	21.00	17.06	0.58	81.23	10.06
21	N ₃₅₀ P ₁₆₅ K ₁₆₅	21.80	16.55	0.59	75.91	9.39
22	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	19.00	17.93	0.46	94.36	11.37
23	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	19.80	17.34	0.48	87.57	10.63
24	N ₀ P ₀ K ₀	20.80	16.82	0.50	80.86	9.89
Average of treated plots		19.87	17.53	0.54	88.30	10.76
Average of control plots		19.86	17.36	0.48	87.59	10.63

arcane ratoon. The average cane yield of pre-seasonal sugarcane in F₀, F₁ and F₂ blocks were 99.12, 104.33 and 120.32 MT ha⁻¹, respectively. The increased cane yield revealed that additional effect of residual FYM in combination with N, P₂O₅ and K₂O treatments. The cane yield in treated plots of F₁ FYM block was increased by 5.25 per cent over F₀ block and by 21.38 per cent in F₂ blocks over F₀ blocks. The cane yield of control plots of F₁ and F₂ blocks was increased by 15.61 and 17.59 per cent over the cane yield of control plots of the F₀ blocks. This has indicated that addition of FYM alone and in combination with N, P₂O₅ and K₂O fertilizers helped in increasing the pre-seasonal sugarcane ratoon. The higher doses of P₂O₅ and K₂O were enhanced the CCS yield. This might be associated with the P may enhanced the activity of sucrose synthetase, which was responsible for sugar synthesis in sugarcane. The CCS yield observed in F₁ (residual effect of 15 t ha⁻¹ FYM) were higher than the F₀ FYM block. The invert sugars content of cane juice showed similar trend to that in F₁ FYM block. The addition of FYM to plant pre-seasonal sugarcane ratoon @ 15 and 30 t ha⁻¹ and their residual effect on ratoon pre-seasonal cane in combination with varying levels of N, P₂O₅ and K₂O are more beneficial for improving the juice quality and commercial cane sugar yield. This might be associated with enhanced availability of plant nutrients, supply of micronutrients through FYM provides balanced nutrition to sugarcane. Similarly, improvement in biological and physical condition of soil. The

findings of Abdul Fatah Soomro (2014) studied the effect of inorganic and organic nutrient sources and rates for sugarcane production and reported that the integrated nutrient management recorded 25 % saving in inorganic NPK fertilizers due to application of FYM and or press mud applied at 20 t ha⁻¹ and enhanced the growth, yield, quality and nutrient uptake of both plant and ratoon sugarcane. Umesh *et al.* (2013) reported that the number of tillers, millable cane count, sugarcane and sugar yield were significantly increased at higher level of N when applied with organic manure where as the effect of biogas slurry was found more pronounced. Haque *et al.*, (2011) reported that the combined use of either pressmud or farmyard manure @ 10 t ha⁻¹ with 2/3rd recommended dose of inorganic fertilizer may be suggested for higher sugarcane yield and maintenance of soil fertility in high Ganges River Floodplain (AEZ11).

Juice quality of pre-seasonal sugarcane ratoon:

The juice quality of pre-seasonal ratoon sugarcane as influenced by the residual effect of FYM and NPK combinations are depicted in Table 5, 6 and 7. The brix, Pol and purity per cent of pre-seasonal sugarcane ratoon at harvest were not considerably influenced by the NPK treatment combination with the residual effect in F₀ blocks (Table 5). However, per cent commercial cane sugar (CCS) content was higher in higher doses of NPK application. The higher doses of P and K were enhanced the CCS per cent. This might be associated with the P may enhanced the activity of

sucrose synthetase, which was responsible for sugar synthesis in sugarcane. The K was mostly useful in translocation of sugars from source to sink. Similarly, K enhanced the activity of many enzymes in plant system. The juice quality of preseasonal ratoon sugarcane in respect to brix, pol, purity, invert sugars and CCS per cent was affected by residual effect of FYM (15 t ha⁻¹). The Pol per cent of preseasonal ratoon sugarcane was ranged between 16.82-18.26 and purity per cent 78.42-95.37 with an average value of 17.50 and 83.42 (Table 6). The commercial cane sugar content was not considerably affected by residual effect of FYM and treatment combinations of NPK. However, commercial cane sugar yield was higher in high doses of N, P₂O₅ and K₂O applied to the preseasonal ratoon sugarcane. The Pol, CCS per cent and CCS yield observed in F₁ (residual effect of 15 t ha⁻¹ FYM) were higher than the F₀ FYM block. The invert sugars content of cane juice showed similar trend to that in F₁ FYM block. The juice quality of preseasonal sugarcane ratoon in residual effect of 30 t ha⁻¹ FYM block (F₂) was showed the similar trend to that of F₀ and F₁ blocks. However, numerically pol, purity and CCS per cent were higher than F₀ and F₂ FYM blocks. The pol per cent in F₂ blocks was ranged from 15.81 to 18.41 per cent with mean of 17.53 per cent and CCS per cent from 9.39 to 12.09 per cent with mean of 10.76 per cent (Table 7). The results indicated that the residual effect of 30 t ha⁻¹ FYM with different NPK combinations were more beneficial for improving juice quality. Minimum quality parameters were recorded in RDF alone treatments, might be organic manures are responsible for utilization of assimilated N in cane and conversion of reducing sugars to recoverable sugars. Application of 100 per cent RDF through inorganic fertilizers alone reduced the quality of juice in terms of brix, sucrose and purity per cent compared with the control, while combination of both organics and inorganic fertilizers improved these parameters over 100 per cent NPK. Ramalakshmi *et al.* (2011) reported that the better juice quality was observed in manure treated plots than RDF alone. Maximum juice sucrose (19.75 %) and % CCS (13.72) was observed in FYM + RDF of plant crop. FYM + RDF registered higher cane yield and sugar yield than application of entire 'N' through RDF alone but it was found at par with vermicompost + RDF. The study showed that integrated use of organic manures and inorganic fertilizers produced higher and sustainable cane yields and maintained the soil fertility. The invert sugars content of preseasonal sugarcane ratoon was considerably higher in N application @ 350 kg ha⁻¹ and lower in 150 kg ha⁻¹ with varying levels of P and K. The higher invert sugars content might be because of N enhanced the activity of invertase enzyme at maturity stage of preseasonal sugarcane ratoon. The invertase enzyme hydrolyse the sucrose into simple sugars *viz.*, glucose

and fructose.

Conclusion

The juice quality parameters average of pol (17.53 per cent), commercial cane sugar (10.76 per cent), commercial cane sugar yield (14.13 MT ha⁻¹) and cane yield (120.32 MT ha⁻¹) of preseasonal ratoon sugarcane were higher in residual effect of 30 t FYM ha⁻¹ as compare to other treatments. The results indicated that the residual effect of 30 t ha⁻¹ FYM with different NPK inorganic combinations were more beneficial for improving juice quality and commercial cane sugar yield parameters of preseasonal sugarcane ratoon and also conserve agro-ecosystem for sustainable crop production.

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