

IMPACT OF SOME INTEGRATED FERTILIZATION TREATMENTS ON GROWTH, PRODUCTIVITY AND QUALITY OF PEA PLANTS

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ABSTRACT

Two field experiments were conducted at the Agricultural Experimental and Research Station, Faculty of Agriculture, Cairo University, Giza, Egypt, in the two winter seasons of 2013 and 2014, to investigate the effects of different fertilizer integrations, on the vegetative growth characters, green pods yield and its components and chemical contents of pea plants (*Pisum sativum* L.) "cv. Master B", as compared with soil mineral fertilization (60 kg/fed N, 40 kg/fed P and 40 kg/fed K) and chicken manure alone at 5 ton/fed. The integrated fertilization treatments included organic fertilizer (chicken manure at 5 ton/fed) with spray mineral fertilization (potassien, having 30% K and 8% N), or biofertilizations (phosphorin as phosphate dissolving bacteria, both applied to seeds and potassifag as a source of potassium dissolving bacteria) or with potassien plus phosphorien or potassifag. The experiments included eight treatments and were laid out in a randomized complete blocks design (RCBD). The obtained results indicated that the integrated fertilization management consisting of chicken manure at 5 ton/fed plus mineral foliar fertilization (using potassien) and biofertilization (using potassifag or phosphorien) gave similar great effect for vegetative growth and yield to soil application of mineral N.P., K., without significant differences among them. So, the treatments of T1(soil mineral fertilization), T5 (chicken manure + potassifag + potassien) and T8 (chicken manure + phosphorien + potassien) gave greater plant fresh weight, raised N content in the plants and led to obtaining higher values of weight and number of pods yield per plant in both seasons, as compared with chicken manure alone (T2). Furthermore, all treatments of potassien, *i.e.*, T5, T8 and T3 (organic fertilizer + potassien) significantly exceeded mineral fertilization in the leaf contents of chlorophyll. Also T5 and T8 gave significantly higher total pod yield over chicken manure alone. T5 and T8 gave relatively higher values of yield per plant and per feddan than using chemical fertilizers, but without significant differences between them. T5 treatment exhibited the highest values of pod length number of seeds/pod and weight of 100 green seeds which were also significantly higher than organic manure alone. T5 and T7 (organic fertilizer + phosphorien + potassifag) in both seasons and T8 in the first season significantly increased percentage of total sugars in green seeds as compared to chemical fertilization. Meanwhile, the integrated treatments (T5, T7 and T8) significantly increased green seeds contents of total sugars in both seasons as compared with organic fertilizer alone. T1, T3, T5 and T8 caused statistically significant increase in protein percentage over organic manure alone. The integrated fertilization management consisting of chicken manure at 5 ton/fed plus mineral foliar fertilization (using potassien) and biofertilization (using potassifag or phosphorien) can be recommended for pea production in clay soil instead of using soil application of mineral fertilization with the purpose of reducing soil pollution with chemical fertilizers.

Key words: *peas, integrated fertilization, biofertilization, foliar fertilization, mineral fertilization, chicken manure.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Peas (*Pisum sativum* L.), a cool weather crop, is one of the most important leguminous vegetable

crops grown in Egypt due to its high content of protein, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals (Makasheva,1983). For getting high yield and

quality of most vegetable crops, including peas, adequate supplementations of plant nutrients, especially N, P and K, should be applied.

Nitrogen is necessary for the formation of amino acids, enzymes, chlorophyll, is the building block of protein, and is essential for plant cell division. It is vital for plant growth, through direct involvement in photosynthesis. It is also one of the necessary components of vitamins. It helps in the production and use of carbohydrates and affects energy. Phosphorus is involved in photosynthesis, respiration, energy storage and transfer, cell division and enlargement, and it promotes early root formation and growth. It improves quality of fruits, vegetables, and grains. It is vital to seed formation, helps plants survival under harsh winter conditions, increases water-use efficiency, and hastens maturity. Potassium is involved in carbohydrate metabolism, and the breakdown and translocation of starch and photoassimilates into sink organs. It increases photosynthesis and water-use efficiency. It is essential in protein synthesis and important in fruit formation. It activates enzymes and controls their reaction rates. It improves quality of seeds and fruits, and winter hardiness. It also increases disease resistance (Shukla *et al.*, 2014)

Over the years, inorganic fertilizers have been widely used worldwide to support and optimize the growth and yield of vegetable crops. A survey in China revealed that the average rates of application of fertilizers were 780 kg N, 615 kg P₂O₅, and 393 kg K₂O ha⁻¹ for obtaining the highest yield from open field vegetable crops (Chen *et al.*, 2000). Another survey conducted in the same year in China showed that greenhouse vegetables, received much higher inputs with the application of 2 388 kg N, 3, 274 kg P₂O₅, and 1, 216 kg K₂O ha⁻¹ per year to get a high yield (Liu, 2000). In a comparison among three rates of N (0, 750 and 1500 kg N/ ha) and three rates of K (0, 300 and 600 kg K₂O/ha), Liu *et al.* (2008) found that application of N and K fertilizers substantially increased the yields of kidney bean and tomato grown in rotation under greenhouse conditions. The largest yield of kidney bean was obtained in the first and second years with the highest N-fertilizer application rate and the intermediate rate of K application. However, the application of large amounts of fertilizers, a conventional practice in the world for the production of vegetable crops,

generally leads to substantial accumulation of soil nutrients within a relatively short period of time. To mitigate environmental degradation, some researchers recommended organic fertilizers to improve physical, chemical and biological properties of soils and to decrease the need for inorganic fertilizers (Rizk , 2002; Francis, 2004). Organically grown foods are perceived as better quality, healthier and more nutritious than conventional counterparts (Warman and Havard, 1997). However, the relatively slow mineralization of the composts and other organic fertilizers limits the effective nitrogen utilization (Hartz *et al.*, 2000). The low availability of nitrogen in organic fertilizers and insufficient quantities of organically acceptable fertilizers are the main underlying factors contributing to the low yield in organic farming (Badgley *et al.*, 2007).

Another proposed solution to environmental and human health protection issues is the implementation of natural technologies of plant cultivation and fertilization through applications of biofertilizers. According to Malusá and Vassilev (2014), a biofertilizer is “the formulated product containing one or more microorganisms that enhance the nutrient status (the growth and yield) of the plants by either replacing soil nutrients and/or by making nutrients more available to plants and/or by increasing plant access to nutrients”. Biofertilizers include microorganisms that fix nitrogen, solubilize phosphate and potassium, secrete hormone and suppress soil borne plant pathogens (Mohapatra *et al.*, 2013). Phosphate dissolving bacteria (PDB) play an important role in supplying phosphate to plants, in environment friendly and sustainable manner (Khan *et al.*, 2007). The inoculation with PDB improved plant growth and yield of dry beans (Tozlu *et al.*, 2012), remarkably enhanced shoot and root length, shoot and root dry matter, and P uptake of mung bean plants under greenhouse conditions (Walpolá and Yoon, 2013), positively affected *Pisum sativum* L. plants grown on sandy calcareous soil (Howladar *et al.*, 2014), and increased strawberry yield beyond the maximum achievable yield with sole P-fertilizer addition and increased fruit and leaf nutrient concentrations of N, P, K, Ca, and Fe (Gunes *et al.*, 2009). Seed inoculation of cowpea with PDB helped in improvement of nodulation, root and shoot biomass, straw and grain yield and phosphorous

and nitrogen uptake of crops (Linu *et al.*, 2009).

The potassium solubilizing microorganisms (KSMs) are a rhizospheric microorganism which solubilizes the insoluble potassium (K) to soluble forms of K for plant growth and yield. Most of the farmers use only nitrogen and phosphorus and do not use the K fertilizer due to unawareness so that the problem of K deficiency occurs in rhizospheric soils. The K fertilizer is also costly as compared to other chemical fertilizers. Therefore, the efficient KSMs should be applied for solubilization of a fixed form of K to an available form of K in the soils. This available K can be easily taken up by the plant and causes enhancement for the growth and high yield (Meena *et al.*, 2014). Inoculation of seeds and seedling treatments of plants with the KSMs generally showed significant enhancement of germination percentage, seedling vigor, plant growth, and yield and K uptake by plants under glasshouse and field conditions (Youssef *et al.*, 2010; Singh *et al.*, 2010; Awasthi *et al.*, 2011; Zhang *et al.*, 2013). Inoculation with KSMs have been reported to exert beneficial effects on growth and yield of eggplant (Ramarethinam and Chandra 2005; Han and Lee, 2005) pepper and cucumber (Han *et al.* 2006), tomato (Lin *et al.*, 2002) and okra (Prajapati, 2013). Recently, Prajapati (2016) observed that potassium solubilizing bacteria (KSB), significantly increased seed germination, root and shoot length, number of leaves and yield of Mungebean (*Vigna radiate*) over uninoculated control in the presence of feldspar.

Some studies evaluated the synergistic effects of soil fertilization with rock P and K materials and co-inoculation with P and K-dissolving bacteria [PDB (*Bacillus megaterium* var. *phosphaticum*) and KDB (*Bacillus mucilaginosus* and *B. subtilis*)] on the improvement of P and K uptake, as well as P and K availability and growth of plants grown under limited P and K soil conditions (calcareous soil). In these studies, the co-inoculation of PDB and KDB in conjunction with direct application of rock P and K materials into the soil increased P and K availability and uptake, and the plant growth (shoot and root growth) of maize plants (Abou-el-Seoud and Abdel-Megeed, 2012), pepper and cucumber (Han *et al.*, 2006) grown on P and K limited soils, suggesting their potential use as a fertilizer.

Biofertilizers may be a supplement to the organic fertilizers or it can be integrated with chemical fertilizers to reduce the cost of production and conserve soil health in vegetable plantations (El-Warakly *et al.*, 2013). Some studies indicated that adding phosphate dissolving bacteria to chicken manure and bio-fertilizers (effective microorganism (EM) to organic fertilizer (farm yard manure) increased yield of tomato (El-Tantawy and Mohamed, 2009) and faba bean (Hellal *et al.*, 2014), respectively, as compared to adding organic manure alone. Moreover, faba bean yield resulted from the combination between bio fertilizer and organic fertilizer was significantly higher than that gained from the use of mineral fertilizers (Hellal *et al.*, 2014).

Foliar application of nutrients is a more suitable option compared with soil fertilization when the roots cannot provide necessary nutrients. Other advantages are quick compensation of nutrient deficiency and application of lesser rates thus, reducing toxicity arises from excessive accumulation of elements, preventing nutrients fixation in the soil and reducing problem of soil compactness (Wojcik, 2004). Foliar application is also less likely to result in ground water pollution (Hamayun *et al.*, 2011). Foliar application of fertilizer showed excellent results in mung bean (Hamid, 1991) and lentil (Hamayun *et al.*, 2011). Spraying N at flowering caused significant yield increase but application twice (at flowering and at late reproductive phase) gave significantly greater seed yield than any single application (Hamid, 1991) and the foliar application of nitrogen alone was more effective than NPK in producing higher number of seeds per lentil pod (Hamayun *et al.*, 2011). Foliar application of potassium nitrate significantly increased vegetative growth, chlorophyll contents yield and yield components of cucumber (Al-Hamzawi, 2010) and potato (Ben Dkhil *et al.*, 2011) as well as leaf and fruit contents of N, P and K of cucumber (Al-Hamzawi, 2010).

The objective of the present work was to study the effect of integrated fertilization, *via* using organic, bio- and foliar mineral fertilization, on growth, yield and fruit quality of peas.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1. Experimental design

Two field experiments were conducted at the Agricultural Experimental and Research Station, Faculty of Agriculture, Cairo University, Giza, Egypt, in the two winter seasons of 2013 and 2014. The experiments included eight treatments and were laid out in a randomized complete blocks design (RCBD) with four replicates in each season. The plot area was 15 m² and consisted of 5 rows, each 5 m long and 0.70 m wide. Seeds of pea (cv. Master B) were sown in hills one side of the ridges at 10 cm apart. Three to five seeds were sown in each hill. Ten days after sowing, plants were thinned to two plants per hill. The sowing dates were 18th and 15th of November in the first and second seasons, respectively. The soil of experimental site was clay loam. Physical and chemical characteristics of the experimental soil at a depth of 0-30 cm are shown in Table (1).

T5. Organic fertilizer + Potassifag + Potassien.

T6. Organic fertilizer + Phosphorien.

T7. Organic fertilizer + Phosphorien + Potassifag.

T8. Organic fertilizer + Phosphorien + Potassien.

Mineral fertilizers used in the study were applied at rates of 60 N kg/fed, 40 kg P/fed and 40 kg K/fed as is recommended for garden pea by the Ministry of Agriculture in the clay soil. Following soil preparation and ridges establishment, and before seeds sowing, phosphorus as calcium superphosphate [15.5% P₂O₅], mineral-K [40 kg/fed as potassium sulphate (48% K₂O) were broadcasted manually in the bottom of ridges and incorporated with the soil using a hand hoe. N was side banded as ammonium sulphate (20.5% N) in two equal applications, 20 and 40 days after sowing.

Chicken manure (obtained from the Agricultural Experimental and Research Station, Faculty of Agriculture, Cairo University) was

Table (1): Chemical and Physical parameters of the experimental soil.

Chemical characteristics		Physical characteristics		
Character	Value	Character	Value	
pH	8.1	Coarse sand	6.0	
E.C (mmohs /cm)	0.63			
CaCO ₃ (%)	4.8			
Soluble anions (meq/L)	HCO ₃ ⁻	2.8	Fine sand	37.0
	Cl ⁻	1		
	SO ₄ ⁻²	2.5		
Soluble Cations (meq/l)	Ca ⁺²	1	Silt	22.0
	Mg ⁺²	1.8		
	Na ⁺	2.6		
	K ⁺	0.57		
Microelements (ppm)	Mn	11.6	Clay	35.0
	Zn	2.46		
	Cu	2.06		
	Fe	5.6		
Macroelements (ppm)	N	121	Textural class	Clay loam
	P	114		
	K	592		

2.2. Treatments

This experiment included 8 treatments which were:

T1. Mineral fertilizer as control.

T2. Organic fertilizer (chicken manure at a rate of 5 ton/fed.).

T3. Organic fertilizer + Potassien.

T4. Organic fertilizer + Potassifag.

analyzed for total N, P and K exchangeable bases. The chemical characteristics of the chicken manure were 3.00% N, 0.85% P. and 0.65% K. The amount of chicken manure was calculated according to its total nitrogen content utilized at the recommended dose of 60 kg/fed N. So, chicken manure was applied at a rate of 5 ton/fed. To adjust P and K dose to be 40 kg/fed P and 40

kg/fed K (as recommended dose of mineral fertilization in the control treatment), rock phosphates (22.8% P₂O₅) and feldspar (10.6% K₂O) were applied at rates of 10 and 12 kg/fed, respectively for all chicken manure treatments. Rock phosphate and feldspar were provided by Al Ahram mining and natural fertilizer company in Egypt. Rock phosphate, feldspar and chicken manure were applied two weeks before seed sowing, where they were broadcasted manually in the bottom of ridges and mixed with soil using a hand hoe followed by immediate irrigation to ensure decomposition of the organic manure.

The biofertilizers, *i.e.*, phosphorien (*Bacillus megatherium*; phosphate-dissolving bacteria) and potassifag (*Bacillus circulance*, potassium-dissolving bacteria), were provided by Agricultural Research Center, Ministry of Agriculture. The biofertilizers were used at the rate of 800 g/fed. Seed inoculation was performed by adding an adequate amount of distilled water and Arabic gum and mixed thoroughly with the seeds and inoculated just before sowing.

Potassien (provided by Agricultural Research Center, Ministry of Agriculture) contains 30% K and 8% N. It was applied as a foliar spray, 3 times at 12-day intervals, at rate of 65 ml/1 water (as recommended by Ministry of Agriculture) starting 4 weeks after seed sowing. Few drops of Tween-20 were added to the spraying solution as a wetting agent.

All other agricultural practices, such as weed control and irrigation, were conducted according to recommendations of Ministry of Agriculture, in the clay soil. All other agro-management practices for commercial production of pea were followed whenever it was necessary.

2.3. Data recorded

2.3.1. Plant growth measurements

The plant growth measurements included vegetative growth measurements, chlorophylls in leaves and N, P and K concentrations in the plants. All these measurements were recorded 70 days after sowing at full blooming stage. Six plants from the two outer rows of each experimental plot were randomly chosen and pulled off from the soil for analysis and plant measurements.

For vegetative growth measurements, plant fresh weight, shoot length, number of branches/plant were recorded.

To determine total chlorophylls, 3 different readings of chlorophyll were taken on the third top leaf of each plant, using Minolta SPAD Chlorophyll –Meter (model SPAD 501) (Yadava, 1986).

To determine N, P and K concentrations in the plants, 100 g of represented sample of plants were oven dried at 70°C till a constant weight and then dry matter percentage was calculated. Dried samples were fine ground, then 0.1g of each sample was digested using a mixture of sulphuric and perchloric acid as described by Peterburgski (1968), then the concentration of N [with Kjeldahel method as described by Hesse (1971)], P [spectrophotometrically according to procedures of Cottenie *et al.* (1982)] and K [by Flame photometric method according to Cottenie *et al.* (1982)] were determined.

2.3.2. Yield and yield components measurement

2.3.2.1. Green pods yield per plant

For green pods yield per plant determination, marketable green pod samples were harvested from ten random selected plants of the two outer rows in each plot, where weight and number of green pods were recorded.

2.3.2.2. Total green pods yield per feddan

All marketable green pods of the three inner rows, throughout the entire harvesting period, were picked and weighed to calculate the total green pods yield /fed. Green seeds were extracted and weighed to determine the total green seeds yield /fed.

2.3.2.3. Green pods characteristics

To determinate the green pods characteristics, 10 pods picked from the second harvest were chosen randomly from each plot, where pod weigh, length, and diameter as well as number of seeds per pod were recorded.

2.3.3. Green seed quality

To determine green seeds quality 100 grams of the green seeds were oven dried at 70 °C till a constant weight and then dry matter percentage was calculated. Dried samples were fine ground, then total sugars was determined spectrophotometrically using 5% phenol / sulfuric acid reagent as was described in A.O.A.C. (1990). The crude protein was calculated by multiplying total nitrogen percent by the factor of 6.25 (A.O.A.C, 1990).

2.4. Statistical analysis

Data of the two seasons were subjected to the statistical analysis according to Gomez and Gomez (1984) and the least significant difference test (LSD) at 5% level of probability was used to verify the significant difference between treatments.

3. RESULTS

3.1. Effect of some fertilization treatments on vegetative growth

In the two seasons, plant length and plant fresh weight were significantly increased by all treatments of foliar spraying with potassien as compared with using chicken manure alone (Table 2). Meanwhile, plants treated with potassien plus chicken manure had significantly greater fresh weight than those obtained by using chemical fertilizers in the first year, but the other treatments with potassien, *i.e.* T5 (chicken manure+ potassifag + potassien) and T8 (chicken manure + phosphorien + potassien) gave greater plant fresh weight than in mineral fertilization in both seasons, without significant differences among these treatments. On the other hand, number of branches/plant was not affected by any treatment.

pea plants with organic manure alone. Furthermore, all treatments of potassien, *i.e.*, T3 (organic fertilizer + potassien), T5 (organic fertilizer + potassifag + potassien) and T8 (organic fertilizer + phosphorien + potassien) significantly exceeded mineral fertilization in the leaf contents of chlorophyll.

Organic fertilizer + potassifag + potassien (T5) significantly increased shoot dry mater (%) in both seasons as compared with using organic fertilizer alone. Different fertilizer treatments significantly influenced the N and K contents in plants, but had no influence on the P content. T5 (organic fertilizer + potassifag + potassien) and T8 (organic fertilizer + phosphorien + potassien) in both seasons as well as T3 (organic fertilizer + potassien) and T1 (mineral fertilizer) in the first season markedly raised N content in the plants as compared with using organic fertilizer alone. Also, T8 (organic fertilizer + phosphorien + potassien) in both seasons and T5 (organic fertilizer + potassifag + potassien) in the first season significantly enhanced plant content of K, as compared with using organic fertilizer alone. Moreover, T5 (organic fertilizer + potassifag + potassien) in the first season, and T8 (organic fertilizer + phosphorien + potassien)

Table (2): Effect of fertilization treatments on vegetative growth of garden peas.

Treatments	2013 season			2014 season		
	Plant fresh weight (g)	Plant length (cm)	No. of branches /plant	Plant fresh weight (g)	Plant length cm)	No. of branches /plant
Mineral fertilizers (T1)	31.40	59.38	2.00	29.07	62.04	1.46
Organic fertilizer (T2)	29.73	53.04	1.79	22.45	56.88	1.17
Organic fertilizer + Potassien (T3)	36.99	61.63	2.15	26.86	63.90	1.33
Organic fertilizer + Potassifag (T4)	27.51	55.52	1.98	22.90	57.47	1.33
Organic fertilizer + Potassifag + Potassien (T5)	35.42	59.45	2.06	26.63	62.75	1.34
Organic fertilizer + Phosphorien (T6)	27.70	57.58	1.88	23.44	58.92	1.25
Organic fertilizer + Phosphorien + Potassifag (T7)	27.94	53.62	2.00	23.06	60.57	1.17
Organic fertilizer + Phosphorien + Potassien (T8)	35.85	59.26	2.21	26.94	62.33	1.42
L.S.D. at 5%	5.05	7.67	NS	6.58	8.26	NS

3.2. Effect of fertilization treatments on some chemical contents of shoots

The chemical contents (chlorophyll, dry matter, N and K) of shoots were found statistically significant due to different fertilization treatments (Tables 3 and 4).

Except fertilization with organic fertilizer + phosphorien, all fertilization treatments increased chlorophyll content as compared with fertilizing

In the second season significantly increased K and N concentrations in the plant as compared to T1 (mineral fertilizer).

3.3. Effect of fertilization treatments on yield and yield components

Using T5 (organic fertilizer + potassifag + potassien), T8 (organic fertilizer + phosphorien + potassien) and T1 (mineral fertilizer) for pea plants fertilization led to obtaining higher values of

Table (3): Effect of fertilization treatments on some chemical contents of garden pea shoots (season 2013).

Treatments	Chlorophyll (SPAD)	Plant shoot dry matter (%)	Nitrogen (%)	Phosphorus (%)	Potassium (%)
Mineral fertilizers (T1)	30.63	20.43	2.015	0.20	1.80
Organic fertilizer (T2)	25.20	19.88	1.750	0.19	1.69
Organic fertilizer + Potassien (T3)	36.06	21.11	2.060	0.18	1.83
Organic fertilizer + Potassifag (T4)	28.42	20.81	1.690	0.21	1.79
Organic fertilizer + Potassifag + Potassien	37.21	21.90	2.082	0.18	1.98
Organic fertilizer + Phosphorien (T6)	26.44	20.26	1.707	0.17	1.69
Organic fertilizer+ Phosphorien + Potassifag	28.56	19.66	1.777	0.20	1.85
Organic fertilizer + Phosphorien + Potassien	34.27	20.30	2.135	0.22	1.90
L.S.D. at 5%	2.84	1.80	0.132	NS	0.15

Table (4): Effect of fertilization treatments on chemical contents of garden pea shoots (season 2014).

Treatments	Chlorophyll (SPAD)	Plant shoot dry matter (%)	Nitrogen (%)	Phosphorus (%)	Potassium (%)
Mineral fertilizers (T1)	34.19	20.74	1.970	0.21	1.685
Organic fertilizer (T2)	24.54	19.90	1.865	0.19	1.610
Organic fertilizer + Potassien (T3)	36.96	21.53	2.020	0.18	1.780
Organic fertilizer + Potassifag (T4)	36.12	21.59	1.835	0.22	1.645
Organic fertilizer + Potassifag + Potassien	36.61	21.96	2.102	0.20	1.755
Organic fertilizer + Phosphorien (T6)	26.67	20.17	1.918	0.19	1.693
Organic fertilizer + Phosphorien + Potassifag	32.76	21.68	1.923	0.21	1.788
Organic fertilizer + Phosphorien + Potassien	37.22	20.20	2.370	0.24	1.813
L.S.D. at 5%	2.17	NS	0.19	NS	0.203

weight and number of pods yield per plant in both seasons, as compared with values obtained in the chicken manure treatment alone. T5 and T8 gave also significantly higher total pod yield (ton/fed) over chicken manure alone. On the other hand, these two treatments gave relatively higher values of yield per plant and per feddan than using chemical fertilizers, but without significant differences between these two treatments and the chemical fertilizer.

Weight of 100 green seeds was significantly higher in plants received organic fertilizer + potassifag (T4) or organic fertilizer + phosphorien + potassien (T8) in the first season and organic fertilizer + potassifag + potassien (T5) in both seasons, as compared with those received organic fertilizer alone (Table 5).

Generally, the highest value of pods yield (ton/fed) was obtained by using T8 treatment (organic fertilizer + phosphorien + potassien), while using T5 (organic fertilizer + potassifag + potassien) led to getting the highest value of weight of green pods per plant. The differences between those two treatments and using organic fertilizer alone were significant. Using organic fertilizer + phosphorien + potassien (T8) gave 25.8 and 17.3% increase in the green pods yield (ton/fed) over using organic fertilizer alone, in the first and second seasons, respectively, while T5 treatment (organic fertilizer + potassifag + potassien) achieved 23.9 and 14.3% increase in green pods yield (ton/fed) in the first and second season, respectively, over using organic fertilizer alone. Concerning the increase in weight of green pods /plant, the treatments organic fertilizer + potassifag + potassien (T5) and organic fertilizer + phosphorien + potassien (T8) achieved 22.5 and 17.3, , in the first season, and 14.4 and 11.2 %, respectively, in the second season over using organic fertilizer alone.

3.4. Effect of fertilization treatments on green pods characters

T5 (organic fertilizer + potassifag + potassien) treatment exhibited the highest values of pod weight, pod length and number of seeds/pod, which were also significantly higher than respective values obtained with organic manure alone in the two seasons (Table 6).

3.5. Effect of fertilization treatments on chemical contents of green seeds

The different fertilizer treatments significantly affected dry matter, protein percentage and total sugars in fresh seeds in both seasons (Table 7). Chemical fertilizers and all potassien treatments, *i.e* organic fertilizer + potassien (T3), organic fertilizer + potassifag + potassien (T5) and organic fertilizer + phosphorien + potassien (T8) caused significantly increase in protein percentage over organic manure alone. Except organic fertilizer + phosphorien (T7) and chemical fertilization (T1), all other treatments increased total sugars in green seeds as compared with organic fertilizer alone. Moreover, green seeds obtained from plants fertilized with organic fertilizer + potassifag + potassien (T5) or organic fertilizer + phosphorien + potassifag (T7) in both seasons or with organic fertilizer + phosphorien + potassien (T8) in the first season contained higher percentage of total sugars as compared to chemical fertilization. Compared with organic fertilizer alone the treatments of organic fertilizer + potassien (T3), organic fertilizer + potassifag + potassien (T5) and organic fertilizer + phosphorien + potassien (T8) in both seasons, as well as mineral fertilizers (T1), in the first season and organic fertilizer + phosphorien + potassifag (T7) in the second season caused significant increase in the percentage of pod dry matter mater.

4. DISCUSSION

The vegetative growth traits of green pea *i.e.*, plant length and fresh weight/plant were significantly increased by all treatments of foliar spraying with potassien as compared with using chicken manure alone, in the two seasons (Table 2).

Furthermore, all treatments of potassien, *i.e.*, T3 (organic fertilizer + potassien), T5 (organic fertilizer + potassifag + potassien) and T8 (organic fertilizer + phosphorien + potassien) significantly exceeded mineral fertilization in the leaf contents of chlorophyll.

T5 (organic fertilizer + potassifag + potassien) and T8 (organic fertilizer + phosphorien + potassien) in both seasons as well as T3 (organic fertilizer + potassien), and mineral fertilizer in the first season markedly raised N content in the shoots as compared with organic fertilizer. Also, T8 (organic fertilizer + phosphorien + potassien) in both seasons and T5 (organic fertilizer + potassifag + potassien) in the first season significantly

Table (5): Effect of fertilization treatments on yield and yield components of garden peas.

Treatments	2013				2014			
	Number of green pods /plant	Weight of green pods (g/plant)	Green pods yield (ton/fed)	Weight of 100 green seeds	Number of green pods /plan	Weight of green pods (g/plant)	Green pods yield (ton/fed)	Weight of 100 green seeds
Mineral fertilizers (T1)	10.20	53.84	3.374	51.61	11.35	52.01	3.586	53.65
Organic fertilizer (T2)	9.50	44.73	3.140	49.58	10.43	43.30	3.238	49.58
Organic fertilizer + Potassien (T3)	9.50	49.80	3.364	52.02	11.22	51.30	3.526	52.63
Organic fertilizer + Potassifag (T4)	9.60	47.96	3.358	52.83	11.22	50.23	3.463	50.80
Organic fertilizer + Potassifag + Potassien (T5)	10,20	58.84	3.891	54.24	11.60	57.11	3.753	53.85
Organic fertilizer + Phosphorien (T6)	9.65	45.49	3.271	50.40	11.50	48.76	3.262	49.58
Organic fertilizer+Phosphorien+ Potassifag (T7)	9.50	47.97	3.401	51.00	11.50	50.90	3.468	50.19
Organic fertilizer + Phosphorien + Potassien (T8)	10.25	53.66	3.951	52.42	11.35	52.61	3.797	51.41
L.S.D. at 5%	1.2	4.02	0.707	2.644	0.8	5.65	0.458	3.292

Table (6): Effect of fertilization treatments on green pods characters of garden peas.

Treatments	2013				2014			
	Pod weight (g)	Pod length	Pod diameter	Number of seeds/pod	Pod weight (g)	Pod length	Pod diameter	Number of seeds/pod
Mineral fertilizers (T1)	5.24	9.00	1.27	7.50	4.63	8.90	1.32	7.25
Organic fertilizer (T2)	4.68	8.16	1.22	6.95	4.15	8.53	1.22	6.60
Organic fertilizer + Potassien (T3)	5.24	8.43	1.28	7.65	4.57	7.95	1.30	6.90
Organic fertilizer + Potassifag (T4)	5.00	8.04	1.30	7.15	4.48	8.00	1.25	7.10
Organic fertilizer + Potassifag + Potassien (T5)	5.77	9.79	1.28	8.25	4.92	9.50	1.33	7.35
Organic fertilizer + Phosphorien (T6)	4.77	8.88	1.24	7.20	4.26	8.34	1.22	6.80
Organic fertilizer + Phosphorien + Potassifag (T7)	5.10	8.40	1.31	7.15	4.44	8.53	1.24	7.25
Organic fertilizer + Phosphorien + Potassien (T8)	5.26	8.65	1.26	7.53	4.73	8.34	1.27	7.30
L.S.D. at 5%	1.07	1.33	NS	0.81	0.67	0.85	NS	0.72

Table (7): Effect of fertilization treatments on the chemical contents of green seeds of garden peas.

Treatments	2013			2014		
	Pod dry matter (%)	Protein (%)	Total sugars (%)	Pod dry matter (%)	Protein (%)	Total sugars (%)
Mineral fertilizers (T1)	23.74	18.979	16.07	19.55	18.556	16.86
Organic fertilizer (T2)	21.20	17.924	14.62	17.80	18.036	14.55
Organic fertilizer + Potassien (T3)	23.73	19.520	17.28	20.57	19.141	18.07
Organic fertilizer + Potassifag (T4)	22.32	17.719	16.90	18.34	18.045	17.22
Organic fertilizer + Potassifag + Potassien (T5)	24.03	21.270	17.77	21.27	18.9	20.46
Organic fertilizer + Phosphorien (T6)	20.82	17.930	14.37	16.52	17.90	14.37
Organic fertilizer + Phosphorien + Potassifag (T7)	21.52	17.756	18.31	21.01	1.813	18.17
Organic fertilizer + Phosphorien + Potassien (T8)	23.49	18.990	17.73	21.63	18.863	17.65
L.S.D. at 5%	1.99	0.870	1.50	1.94	0.245	1.31

enhanced shoot content of K. Potassium consists of 30% K and 8%N. Nitrogen is necessary for the formation of amino acids, the building blocks of protein and essential for plant cell division. It is vital for plant growth. It is also an essential constituent of chlorophyll and directly involved in photosynthesis and it comprises 40% to 50% of the dry matter of protoplasm (Roy *et al.*, 2006). So, the greater vegetative growth that was recorded with using potassium may be due to the presence of nitrogen in potassium. It is well known that nitrogen causes enhancement in chlorophyll content and nitrogen percentage in shoots. Furthermore, most potassium treatments showed significantly higher values of vegetative growth, N and dry matter percentage as compared to mineral fertilizer. Foliar application of nutrients is a more suitable option compared with soil fertilization when the roots cannot provide the necessary nutrients. Other advantages are quick compensation of nutrient deficiency and application of lesser rates thus, reducing toxicity arises from excessive accumulation of elements, preventing nutrients fixation in the soil and reducing problem of soil compactness (Wojcik, 2004).

Also, T8 (organic fertilizer + phosphorus + potassium) in both seasons and T5 (organic fertilizer + potassium + potassium) in the first season significantly enhanced shoot content of K. These results may be due to presence of K at 20% in potassium.

Using T5 (organic fertilizer + potassium + potassium) and T8 (organic fertilizer + phosphorus + potassium) in both seasons led to obtaining significantly higher values of weight and number of pods yield per plant, and total pod yield as compared with pea plants received chicken manure alone. On the other hand, these two treatments gave relatively higher values of yield per plant and per feddan than using chemical fertilizers, but without significant differences between these two treatments and the chemical fertilizer.

Average weight of green pods and weight of 100 green seeds were significantly higher in plants received organic fertilizer + potassium or organic fertilizer + phosphorus + potassium in the first season or organic fertilizer + potassium + potassium in both seasons, as compared with those received organic fertilizer alone (Table 5). The increase

occurred in the total yield and its components might be attributed to the increase in vegetative growth traits (Tables 3 and 4). Foliar application of potassium nitrate significantly increased vegetative growth, chlorophyll contents yield and yield components of cucumber (Al-Hamzawi, 2010) and potato (Ben Dkhil *et al.*, 2011) as well as leaf and fruit contents of N, P and K of cucumber (Al-Hamzawi, 2010).

The highest value of pods yield (ton/fed) was obtained by using the treatment of organic fertilizer + phosphorus + potassium (T8), while using organic fertilizer + potassium + potassium (T5) led to obtaining the highest value of weight of green pods per plant. T8 (organic fertilizer + phosphorus + potassium) gave 25.8 and 17.3% increase in the green pods yield /fed over using organic fertilizer alone, in the first and second season, respectively, while the increase in green pods yield /fed over using organic fertilizer alone due to using the treatment organic fertilizer + potassium + potassium (T5) was 23.9 and 14.3%, in the first and second season, respectively. Concerning the increase in weight of green pods (g/plant), T5 (organic fertilizer + potassium + potassium) and T8 (organic fertilizer + phosphorus + potassium) achieved 31.5 and 20.0%, respectively, in the first season, and 31.8 and 21.5 %, respectively, in the second season over using organic fertilizer alone. The high total yield per feddan, which resulted from using T8 (organic fertilizer + phosphorus + potassium) may be attributed to the presence of phosphate-dissolving bacteria (PDB) which take part in biological control against soil borne phytopathogens (Vassilev *et al.*, 2006). Many previous studies have proved that inoculation with PDB improved plant growth and yield of many crops. In this regard PDB remarkably enhanced plant growth of cowpea (Linu *et al.*, 2009), dry beans (Tozlu *et al.*, 2012), mung bean (Walpolo and Yoon, 2013) and garden pea plants grown on sandy calcareous soil (Howladar, *et al.*, 2014), and increased yield of strawberry (Gunes *et al.*, 2009) and dry beans (Tozlu *et al.*, 2012). Similarly, inoculation of seeds and seedling treatments of plants with potassium solubilize bacteria (KDB) generally showed significant beneficial effects on growth and yield of pepper and cucumber (Han *et al.*, 2006), tomato (Lin *et al.*, 2002), eggplant (Ramarethinam and Chandra 2005; Han and Lee,

2005.), okra (Prajapati *et al.*, 2013) and mungebean (Prajapati, 2016) over uninoculated control in the presence of feldspar. The increase in plant growth and yield due to using BDB and KDB is attributed to solubilizing the insoluble form of phosphate (Khan *et al.*, 2007) and potassium (Meena *et al.*, 2014) to soluble forms, respectively. In the present study, it was clear that inoculation of pea seeds with phosphorien, that contains phosphate dissolving bacteria (*Bacillus magatherum*) and potassifag that contains potassium dissolving bacteria (*Bacillus circulance*) in presence of chicken manure did not improve plant growth or yield of pea plant as compared with using chicken manure alone. The inconsistency and variability in the plant responses to phosphate and potassium dissolving bacteria have been previously attributed to adverse conditions such as interaction of rhizospheric organisms, physical and chemical conditions of the soil (*e.g.*, low or high pH), poor ability of the PGPR strain to colonize the plant roots, environmental factors including high or low mean temperatures, and, low rainfall during the growing season, as well as to host cultivars. Many or all these factors could be involved in the lack of consistent responses to application of biofertilizers (Fuentes-Ramirez and Caballero-Mellado, 2006).

Chemical fertilizers and all potassien treatments, *i.e* organic fertilizer + potassien (T3), organic fertilizer + potassifag + potassien (T5) and organic fertilizer + phosphorien + potassien (T8) caused significant increase in protein percentage over organic manure alone. These results may be attributed to the presence of mineral nitrogen in available and quick form in both mineral fertilizer and potassien. All treatments of potassien and potassifage cause remarkable increases in the dry matter percentage and reducing sugars content of green seeds. Potassien has potassium at 20% and potassifag contains potassium solubilize bacteria, which transfer the insoluble form of potassium to soluble forms (Meena *et al.*, 2014). The present results may be attributed to the role of potassium in the formation of carbohydrates and translocation of photo assimilates into source organs.

Conclusion

The integrated fertilization management consisting of chicken manure at 5 ton/fed plus mineral foliar fertilization (using potassien) and

biofertilization (using potassifag or phosphorien) can be recommended for pea production in clay soil instead of using soil application of mineral fertilization with the purpose of reducing soil pollution with chemical fertilizers.

5. REFERENCES

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تأثير بعض معاملات التسميد المتكامل على نمو وإنتاجية وجودة نباتات البسلة

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ملخص

تم اجراء تجربتان فى محطة بحوث وتجارب كلية الزراعة، جامعة القاهرة، مصر، فى موسمى شتاء 2013 و2014، لدراسة تأثير توليفات مختلفة من التسميد التكاملى (التسميد العضوى (سماد الدواجن بمعدل 5 طن/فدان)+الرش المعدنى بالبوتاسين (يحتوى على 30% K و 8% N)، وسماد الدواجن بمعدل 5 طن/فدان + السماد الحيوى (تلقيح البذور بالفوسفورين كيكترىا مذيبية للفوسفات أو+البوتاسيفاج كمصدر للبكتريا المذيبة للبوتاسيوم)، وسماد الدواجن بمعدل 5 طن/فدان + البوتاسين + الفوسفورين او البوتاسيفاج]، على صفات المجموع الخضرى ومحصول القرون الخضراء ومكوناته، وبعض الصفات الكيماوية لنبات البسلة صنف ماستر بى، مقارنة بالتسميد المعدنى للتربة (60 كجم N، 40 كجم P، 40 كجم K)، وبسماد الدواجن فقط 5 طن/فدان. تضمنت التجربة 8 معاملات، وتم توزيعها فى قطاعات كاملة العشوائية. وقد اشارت النتائج أن التسميد المتكامل المتكون من سماد الدواجن بمعدل 5 طن للفدان+التسميد المعدنى الورقى بالبوتاسين + التسميد الحيوى (الفوسفورين او البوتاسيفاج)، أعطى زيادة معنوية فى النمو الخضرى والمحصول وفى نفس الوقت مماثل للتسميد المعدنى للتربة، وبدون اى اختلافات معنوية بين تلك المعاملات. وعلى ذلك فقد أعطت المعاملة "1" (تسميد معدنى للتربة)، ومعاملة "5" (سماد دواجن + البوتاسيفاج + بوتاسين)، ومعاملة "8" (سماد دواجن + الفوسفورين + بوتاسين) أعلى وزن وعدد محصول قرون للنباتات فى الموسمين مقارنة بسماد الدواجن فقط (معاملة 2). بالإضافة إلى ذلك سببت المعاملات التى تحتوى على بوتاسين، مثل المعاملات 5 و8 وكذلك المعاملة "3" (التسميد العضوى + البوتاسين) زيادة معنوية عن التسميد المعدنى فى محتوى الاواق من الكلوروفيل. ولقد أعطت المعاملات "5" و"8" زيادة معنوية فى محصول القرون الكلى للفدان مقارنة باستخدام سماد الدواجن فقط، كما اعطت المعاملات "5" و"8" زيادة نسبية فى محصول القرون لكل نبات ولكل فدان مقارنة باستخدام السماد الكيماوى بدون اى اختلافات معنوية بينهم. اظهرت المعاملة رقم 5 أعلى قيم بالنسبة لطول القرن وعدد البذور فى القرن ووزن 100 بذرة مقارنة باستخدام سماد الدواجن منفردا. ولقد أعطت المعاملة "5" وكذلك المعاملة "7" (سماد عضوى + فوسفورين + بوتاسيفاج) فى كلا الموسمين والمعاملة "8" فى الموسم الأول فقط أعلى نسبة من السكريات الكلية مقارنة بالسماد المعدنى فقط، بينما سببت المعاملات المتكاملة (معاملات 5، 7، 8) زيادة فى محتوى البذور الخضراء من السكريات الكلية فى كلا الموسمين مقارنة بالسماد العضوى فقط، وسببت المعاملات 1، 3، 5، 8 زيادة معنوية فى البروتين عن السماد العضوى فقط. وعلى ذلك فانه أوصى بالمعاملات السمادية المتكاملة المتكونة من سماد دواجن بمعدل 5 طن/فدان + الرش المعدنى الورقى (البوتاسين)+ السماد الحيوى باستخدام البوتاسيفاج او الفوسفورين فى إنتاج البسلة فى التربة الطينية بدلا من التسميد المعدنى للتربة بغرض تقليل التلوث الترية بالأسمدة الكيماوية.

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