

Integrated Effect of Fertilizers on Beans Cultivated in Alluvial Soil

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A FIELD experiment was carried out using bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris* L.). CV Bohera, during season 2015 at the Agric. Exp. Station of El-Mansoura Univ. to study integrated effect of fertilizers on beans cultivated in alluvial soil. The treatments were NPK 75 %, NPK 100 %, NPK 75 % + compost and NPK 100 % + compost, in addition to control. The results showed that the best treatment was NPK 100 % + compost, compared to control, which gave the highest values of vegetative growth parameter (pod diameter, pod length and plant height), and enhanced quality parameters (NPK%, carbohydrate % and protein% of seed), also improved chlorophyll content of bean plant. the NPK 100 % + compost treatment not only enhanced NPK % in leaves and increased yield but also increased available NPK in soil.

Introduction

Bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris* L.) is one of the most important vegetable and fresh market crop in the world and bean contains a source of dietary, fibers calories, proteins, minerals and vitamins for millions of people in countries worldwide, (Shehata et al., 2011). In Egypt, bean plant is considered one of the important vegetable crops cultivated and the total cultivated area of bean plants is (60000 feddans) which produces annually about 28530 tons (FAO, 2010).

Improved soil fertility requires the use of organic and inorganic resources in an integrated manner in order to increase the efficiency of using them and thus increase productivity of the crops. In last years, raising the efficiency of used mineral fertilizers or chemical fertilizers, either natural or synthetic is needed to increase crop yields, but their high cost is not always affordable to poor farmers (Vanlauwe et al., 2000).

Phosphorus, nitrogen and potassium are major nutrients, especially for legumes, phosphorus and nitrogen can play an important role in improving plant growth and phosphate uptake efficiency by releasing phosphorus from rock or tri-calcium phosphate (El-Gizawy and Mehasen, 2009). Potassium is one of the essential elements in plants where there are relationships between yield

and potassium applications (El-Bramawy and Shaban, 2010).

The use of organic fertilizers together with chemical fertilizers, compared to the addition of organic fertilizers alone, had a higher positive effect on microbial biomass and hence soil health and application of organic manure in combination with chemical fertilizer has been reported to increase absorption of N, P and K in leaf tissue in the plant, compared to chemical fertilizer alone (Bokhtiar and Sakurai, 2005).

Researchers observed that application of organic matter significantly has an impact on the chemical, physical and biological properties of the soil, and organic matter of manure is considered a source of major plant nutrients such as N, P and potassium (K). It also provides many of the secondary nutrients that plants require. Benefits of compost amendments added to soil include pH depressing and faster infiltration rate due to enhanced soil aggregation (Liang et al., 2011).

Significant higher soil enzyme activities resulting from applied compost to soil and plants not only generate a better nutritional state which reflects positively on growth and yield of plants, but also, positively influences other soil properties, such as water holding capacity and aeration (Pagliai et al., 2004).

There are other agronomic benefits of composts application, such as high levels of soil-borne diseases suppression and removal of soil salinity. All composts work as a 'slow-release fertilizer' whereas chemical fertilizers release their nutrients faster and compost contains elements play an important role to growing plants (Sinha and Rajiv, 2003).

The objective of this research is using some fertilizers treatments which obtain integrated effect of fertilizers on beans cultivated in alluvial soil for increasing growth, yield and quality of bean plant.

TABLE 1. Analysis of compost Sample in experiment

| EC (1:10) dsm ⁻¹ | pH (1:5) | OM % | OC % | T.N % | C/N ratio | T.P % | T.K % | SP % |
|-----------------------------|----------|------|------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|------|
| 3.69 | 6.09 | 38.2 | 22.2 | 1.39 | 1:16 | 0.51 | 0.45 | 178 |

TABLE 2. Soil characteristics before planting in experiment

| Soil characters | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|-------|-------|---------------|----------------------------------|------------|------|------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Particle size distribution (%) | | | | | Chemical and physical properties | | | | | Available (mg. kg ⁻¹) | | |
| C. sand | F. sand | Silt | Clay | Texture class | EC dSm ⁻¹ (1:5) | pH (1:2.5) | SP % | OM % | Total CaCO ₃ % | N | P | K |
| 3.98 | 26.35 | 35.51 | 34.16 | Clay loam | 1.07 | 8.12 | 62.5 | 1.73 | 4.16 | 46.5 | 10.14 | 150.3 |

Mineral fertilizers

Nitrogen fertilizer was ammonium sulphate (NH₄)₂SO₄ added at a rate of 100 Kg N .fed⁻¹ as recommended dose at two equal doses and slow release fertilizer (sulfur coated) added at a rate of 187.5 kg sulfur coated urea. The recommended dose of phosphorus and potassium fertilizers were applied as super phosphate (7 % P) and potassium sulphate (40 % K) at rates of 200 Kg P₂O₅ fed⁻¹ and 50 Kg K₂O fed⁻¹, respectively.

Experimental design

The design was complete block design where: Main plots: 1- Control 2- NPK 75 %, 3- NPK 100 % 4- NPK 75%+ Compost 5-NPK 100 % + Compost. (5 treatments x 3 replicates = 15 plots) each plot 1.4 x 1.2m = 1.68 m² cultivated with 32 plants.

Materials and Methods

Field experiment was carried out planting Bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris* L.). CV Bohera, during season of 2015 at the Agric. Exp. Station of El-Mansoura Univ.to study integrated effect of fertilizers on bean plants cultivated in alluvial soil. The field experiment was an application of the data obtained from field.

Compost

The compost used was plant waste in this study, it was added at rate of 20 m³/fed⁻¹.

Soil and plant samples

Soil samples were taken after harvest stage from each plot, and then air dried, grinded and passed through 2 mm sieve and stored for soil analysis. Plant samples were taken at two stages, the first at the flowering stage (the hole plant was taken to analysis and the second was at the harvest stage) where seeds and straw were separated, and stored for analysis. Plant samples were taken from plot field and the vegetative growth parameters were measured (plant height, pod length, fresh and dry weight), and then NO₃-N was estimated in the fresh plant parts, after that the plant parts were dried at 70°C and the dry weight was recorded. The plant parts were grinded to fine powder and 0.2 gm was wet digested with a mixture of sulfuric acid (H₂SO₄) and perchloric acid (HClO₄) for the different analysis (*i.e.*, N, P and K)

Methods of soil analysis

- The electrical conductivity of the 1: 5 soil paste extracts was measured, and EC value, pH value, CaCO₃ and organic matter contents were determined according to Sahlemedhin and Taye (2000).
- Particle size distribution, available N, P and K in the soil were determined according to the methods of Haluschak (2006) and Reeuwijk (2002).

Plant analysis

Bean plant samples were oven dried at 70°C till constant weight and the dry weight was recorded. The N, P, and K concentrations were determined in oven dry plant samples at booting in the whole plant and at harvest in both separated organs of straw and seeds. The oven dry plant samples were grinded and 0.2 gm from each sample was weighted and wet digested. N, P and K nutrients were measured in the digestive extract and their percentages were calculated on oven dry weight. Nutrients determination were performed as follows :

- Total N, P and K (%) were determined according to the methods described by Mertens (2005a & b) and Agrilasa (2002) respectively.
- Chlorophyll content was estimated as the method described by Gavrilenko and Zigalova (2003).
- Total carbohydrates% was determined according to Ranganna (2001).

All data were statistically analyzed according to the technique of analysis variance (ANOVA) and the least significant difference (L.S.D) method was used to compare the difference between the means of treatment values to the methods described by Gomez and Gomez (1984). All statistical analyses were performed using analysis of variance technique by means of CoSTATE Computer Software.

Results and Discussion*Effect of mineral fertilizers and compost on Vegetative growth parameter: pod diameter (mm), pod length (cm), and Plant height (cm) of bean plant*

- *Pod diameter (mm)*

Data tabulated in Table 3 showed that all treatments significantly increased pod diameter of bean plant, the best treatment which gave

the highest value and significant increase in pod diameter of bean plant was NPK 100%+ compost recording 12.573 (mm) in the season compared to other treatments and the control which recorded the lowest value 10.716 (mm) in the season. This result agrees with Lixandru et al. (2010) who found that applied fertilizer in quantities of 50 t and 100 t h⁻¹ compost to bean and pea improved weight, length and diameter of pods and total beans production, Also, combining organic and inorganic fertilization obtained a proportional increase of production only for the total biomass production. El-Bassiony et al. (2010) reported that increasing NPK application levels with humic acid (organic matter) improved the plant growth, yield and green pod quality of snap bean.

- *Pod length (cm)*

Concerning the effect of different treatments on pod length (cm) of bean plant in Table 3 it was found that significant increase was achieved in pod length (cm) of bean plant and the highest value resulted from the treatments NPK 100%+ compost which recorded 12.263 (cm) in the season, while the control recorded the lowest value in experiment 10.04 (cm) in season. These results are in harmony with those obtained by El-Awadi et al. (2011) who found that applied chemical fertilizers (nitrogen) 100%, 65% and 35% of the recommended dose increased pod length of Snap Bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris* L) Plants , the same results were obtained by Saxena et al. (2003)

- *Plant height (cm)*

Data in Table 3 showed that all treatments significantly increased plant height of bean plant. Also, the treatment NPK 100%+ compost gave the highest value (48.317 cm) in the season. While the control decreased plant height which gave the lowest value (35.77 cm) in the season. These results also agree with Balbhim et al. (2015) who reported that used compost and chemical fertilizers increased plant height of Leguminaceae and found that compost gave higher values followed by chemical fertilizers compared with control. These results may be due to nitrogen used to promote plant growth (Coruzzi and Last, 2000).

Effect of mineral fertilizers and compost on Yield and its components: 100 seeds weight (g) and yield (g/plot)

- *100 seeds weight (g)*

Data tabulated in Table 3 show the effect of mineral fertilizers treatment, and compost,

the control gave the lowest values of 100 seeds weight (g) of bean plant compared to other treatments and it recorded 47.1 (g) while treatment NPK100%+compost gave the highest values 49.73 (g) of bean plant in the season. These results agree with Kadam and Pathade (2014) who reported that applying 25 % chemical fertilizer with 75 % vermicomposting increased 100 seeds weight (g) of bean plant compared to control plant. Also, Bildirici and Yilmaz (2005) showed that phosphorus enhanced 100 seeds weight (g) of bean plant and played an important role in grain yield.

- *Yield (g/plot)*

Data in Table 3 showed that all treatments increased yield (g/plot) of bean plant. Also, the treatment NPK 100%+ compost gave the highest values 1681.12 (g) in the season. While the control decreased yield (g/plot) which gave the lowest value 890.25 (g) in the season. These results also agree with those obtained by Ngakou *et al.* (2008) who reported that using compost for common bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) productivity in the field increased the seed yield. Also, Mahmoud *et al.* (2010) found that applying inorganic nitrogen levels improved yield in bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris* L.).

TABLE 3. Effect of mineral fertilizers and compost on pod diameter (mm), pod length (cm), Plant height (cm), 100 seeds weight (g) and yield (g/plot) of bean plant

| Treatment | Pod diameter (mm) | pod length (cm) | plant height (cm) | 100 seeds weight /g | Yield (g/plot) |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Control | 10.71633 | 10.04 | 35.77 | 47.10 | 890.25 |
| NPK 75% | 11.5083 | 11.0033 | 43.1708 | 49.36 | 1121.27 |
| NPK 100% | 12.398 | 12.20 | 46.006 | 49.66 | 1492.85 |
| NPK 75% + compost | 11.6453 | 11.3666 | 45.1666 | 49.66 | 1406.77 |
| NPK 100%+ compost | 12.573 | 12.2633 | 48.3066 | 49.73 | 1681.12 |
| LSD _{at 5%} | 0.07 | 0.22 | 0.37 | 0.42 | 74.28 |
| F test | ** | ** | ** | ** | ** |

Effect of mineral fertilizers and compost on chemical composition of bean plant

- *Nitrogen content of seeds*

Data presented in Table 4 showed that all treatments significantly increased nitrogen content in seeds. Also, the highest value of nitrogen content in seeds was with the treatment NPK 100%+compost (3.35%), while the control recorded the lowest value in the experiment (2.81%) in season. These results are in line with those of Uyanoz (2007) who found that applied different bio-organic, chemical fertilizers increased nitrogen content in seeds of bean plant. Also, Yadav *et al.* (2013) noticed higher accumulation rate of available N in seeds when applying organic matter for bean plant.

- *Phosphorus content in seeds*

Data in Table 4 showed the effect of mineral fertilizers and compost on phosphorus content of seeds. The highest value of nitrogen content in seeds was with the treatment NPK 100%+compost (0.378 %) in season, while the control recorded the lowest values in the experiment (0.344%) in season. These results are in harmony

with those obtained by Turuko and Mohammed (2014) who found response of common bean to different levels of phosphorus fertilizers and also found an increase in the number of seeds and phosphorus content in seeds due to the effect of phosphorus fertilizers. Also, El-Gizawy and Mehasen (2009) found that the interaction between phosphorus and zinc treatments significantly affected phosphorus content in seeds of bean plant.

- *Potassium content in seeds*

Data tabulated in Table 4 revealed that all tested treatments gave significant increase in potassium content of seeds compared to control in this respect. It was revealed that the treatments NPK 100%+ compost recorded 2.55 % K, but the control in the experiment gave the lowest value, 2.05% K. The results agree with those obtained by Uyanoz (2007) who reported that the combination between organic manure and chemical fertilizers increased potassium content in seeds of bean plant. Also, Khosro *et al.* (2010) found that the content of phosphorus and potassium and other minerals in seeds of pea plant increased under

application of compost and farmyard manure.

- *N% in leaves*

Data in Table 4 revealed that all treatments under study were superior and significantly increased over control which gave higher values compared to control for nitrogen in leaves. In this respect, the treatment NPK 100% + compost gave the highest value (3.75%K) in the leaves of bean, while the control gave the lowest value in this respect, it recorded (3.39 %K) in the leaves of bean plant. These results are in harmony with those found by Amanullah et al. (2007), who reported increasing leaves contents of N and K of snap bean plants by adding (100 kg N ha⁻¹) improving the soil physical and chemical properties by the presence of higher levels of nutrient elements of organic matter. Also, Felefael and Mirdad (2014) reported that using organic fertilizers; chicken manure and biofertilizer increased nitrogen in pod and leaves of snap bean plant.

- *P% in leaves*

Data tabulated in Table 4 showed that all

treatments significantly increased phosphorus content in leaves of bean plant. Also, the highest value of phosphorus content in leaves was found with the treatment NPK 100% + compost (0.417%P), while the control recorded the lowest value in the experiment 0.379%. Moghazy et al., 2014 found that application of combinations between compost manure and mineral nitrogen fertilizer increased NPK content in leaves of pea plant. Also, Mohamed and Ebead 2013 applied tri-calcium phosphate in combination with sewage sludge compost resulting in an increase in the NPK content in shoots and leaves of bean plants.

- *K% in leaves*

Concerning the effect of different treatments on potassium % in the leaves of bean plants in Table 4, results showed a significant increase in potassium in leaves and the highest value of potassium content in the leaves was with the treatment NPK 100% + compost recording (2.70% K), while the control recorded the lowest value in experiment 2.37 %. Santos et al. (2001) found

TABLE 4. Effect of mineral fertilizers and compost on chemical composition of bean plant

| Treat. | Char. | N% | | P% | | K% | |
|----------------------|-------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|
| | | seeds | leaves | seeds | leaves | seeds | leaves |
| Control | | 2.81 | 3.39 | 0.344 | 0.379 | 2.05 | 2.37 |
| NPK 75% | | 2.99 | 3.44 | 0.351 | 0.391 | 2.16 | 2.43 |
| NPK 100% | | 3.13 | 3.49 | 0.362 | 0.396 | 2.30 | 2.53 |
| NPK 75%+ compost | | 3.25 | 3.66 | 0.373 | 0.407 | 2.39 | 2.60 |
| NPK 100%+ compost | | 3.35 | 3.75 | 0.378 | 0.417 | 2.55 | 2.70 |
| LSD _{at 5%} | | 0.09 | 0.08 | 0.006 | 0.006 | 2.91 | 0.06 |
| F test | | ** | ** | ** | ** | ** | ** |

increasing leaf contents of N and K by applying a source of nitrogen fertilizer and organic material which improved photosynthetic rate and the yield of bean plant.

Effect of mineral N fertilizers and compost on qualitative parameters of bean plant

- *Carbohydrate % in seeds*

Data in Table 5 revealed that treatments increased total carbohydrate% in seeds of bean plant and the studied treatment which gave the highest value and significant increase in T. carbohydrate was NPK 100% + compost which recorded 45.02 % in cultivation season. While the control achieved the lowest value 38.31%. These results are in harmony with those found by

Moghazy et al. (2014) who reported that applied mineral nitrogen, compost and micronutrients on pea plant improved Carbohydrate in seeds. El-Mansi et al. (2004) reported on pea, that applied compost and nitrogen fertilizer increased T. carbohydrate and protein in seeds which may be due to the high growth and pod high yield of plant fertilized by nitrogen fertilizer combined with compost manure; it may be due to availability of organic nitrogen, which ultimately resulted in better root growth and increased physical activity of roots to absorb the nutrients through decomposition of organic manure that led to an increase in their contents

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- *C. protein % on seeds*

Data in Table 5 showed that effect of mineral fertilizers, and compost on protein % in seeds which showed that NPK 100%+ compost treatment increased protein % in seeds of bean plant and recorded the highest value (22.44%) compared to other treatments and control which recorded the lowest value (17.65 %) in cultivation season. The results agree with those obtained by Kucuk *et al.* (2011) who found that application of nitrogen with Rhizobium + nitrogen fertilization on bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris* L.) increased protein in seeds. Also, Uchida (2000) found that in legumes and other leafy vegetables, nitrogen fertilizers improved the quality and quantity of dry matter and protein in plant and seeds. Also, Russel (2008) reported that the legume plants such as bean plant supplies the carbohydrate for

TABLE 5. Effect of mineral fertilizers and compost on qualitative paramerters of bean seeds.

| Treat. | Char | Total carbohydrate % | Crude Protein % | Chlorophyll (mg/g) |
|-------------------|------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Control | | 38.31 | 17.65 | 2.01 |
| NPK 75% | | 39.87 | 18.69 | 1.75 |
| NPK 100% | | 41.62 | 19.54 | 1.90 |
| NPK 75% + compost | | 44.79 | 20.33 | 1.46 |
| NPK 100%+ compost | | 45.02 | 22.44 | 1.63 |
| LSD at 5% | | 2.35 | 0.54 | 0.12 |
| F test | | ** | ** | ** |

Effect of mineral fertilizers and compost on soil available NPK

- *Soil available N (ppm)*

Data in Table 6 showed that all treatments significantly increased soil available N. Also the highest value of soil available N was with the treatment NPK100%+compost which recorded 49.90 ppm in cultivation season , while the control recorded the lowest value in the experiment (39.37 ppm). These results agree with those obtained by Sharif *et al.*, 2013 who reported that available nitrogen of soil was improved when composts added to soil. Also, Suhane (2007) applied 100 kg nitrogen fertilizers to soil, only 20-25 kg is available in soil to plants, while when applied with compost gave higher available N in soil to plants and showed that exchangeable potassium (K) was over 95% higher in vermicompost.

- *Soil available P (ppm)*

Data in Table 6 showed that all treatments gave a significant increase in soil available P (ppm)

bacterial growth while the bacteria fix atmospheric N₂ into NH₄⁺ in soil , to be converted into amino acids that can be used by the plant to synthesize proteins for its growth and development.

- *Chlorophyll content (mg/g fresh leaves):*

Results in Table 5 showed the effect of mineral fertilizers and compost on chlorophyll content in bean which revealed that NPK100%+compost increased chlorophyll content and recorded the highest value (24.45 mg/g fresh leaves) compared to other treatments and control which recorded the lowest value (14.96 mg/g fresh leaves) in cultivaton season. The results agree with those obtained by Awad *et al.* (2007) who found that nitrogen helps to increase chlorophyll content in the plant, and the same result was observed with Al-Said and Kamal (2008)

compared to the control in this respect. It was revealed that the treatments NPK 100% + compost recorded (5.42 ppm P), while control gave the lowest value (4.12 ppm P). The results agree with those obtained by Majumdar *et al.* (2007) who found that the application of rock phosphate (RP) mixed with different organic materials increased the concentration of phosphorus. Also, Vanlauwe *et al.* (2000) found that composts with RP released more amounts of acid and alkaline phosphates in soil as compared to other common composts, which may be able to liberate more P from rock phosphate with rhizosphere acidification during N₂ fixation, converting it into available forms in the soil as well as incorporating it as biomass.

- *Soil available K (ppm)*

Data in Table 6 showed the effect of mineral fertilizers and compost on soil available K (ppm) which showed that NPK100%+compost increased soil available K and recorded the highest values (229.4 ppm K) compared to other

treatments and the control which recorded the lowest value (189.1 ppm K). The results agree with those obtained by Singh and Chauhan (2009) who found that potassium is as effective as chemical fertilizer with continued application of compost (organic nitrogen), it tends to be released at a constant rate from the accumulated humus'

and the net overall efficiency of nitrogen over a period of years is considerably greater than 50% of that of chemical fertilizers. Also, Atiyeh (2000) showed that applied compost and vermicompost to soil increased soil available potassium compared to traditional organic fertilizers.

TABLE 6. Effect of mineral fertilizers and compost on available N, P and K (PPM) in soil cultivated

| Char. | Soil | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Avail. N PPM | Avail. P PPM | Avail. K PPM |
| Treatment | | | |
| Control | 39.37 | 4.12 | 189.1 |
| NPK 75% | 41.80 | 4.16 | 198.3 |
| NPK 100% | 44.30 | 4.52 | 209.0 |
| NPK 75%+ compost | 46.20 | 4.96 | 218.0 |
| NPK 100% + compost | 49.90 | 5.42 | 229.4 |
| LSD at 5% | 0.98 | 0.26 | 3.29 |
| F test | ** | ** | ** |

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التأثير المتكامل للمخصبات على الفاصوليا المزروعة في التربة الرسوبية

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نفذت تجربة حقلية على نبات الفاصوليا صنف البحيرة خلال موسم ٢٠١٥ م في محطة البحوث- كلية الزراعة- جامعة المنصورة لدراسة كفاءة استخدام المخصبات على زيادة الانتاجية والنمو في نبات الفاصوليا وتحسين محتوى التربة من عناصر النتروجين ، الفوسفور والبوتاسيوم المتاحة في التربة . وكانت المعاملات كما يلي NPK ٧٥٪ - NPK ١٠٠٪ - NPK ٧٥٪ + كمبوست و NPK ١٠٠٪ + كمبوست بالإضافة للكنترول . وقد اظهرت النتائج ان أفضل معاملة كانت هي NPK ١٠٠٪ + كمبوست مقارنة بباقي المعاملات والكنترول التي اعطت اعلى قيم في النمو الخضري (قطر القرون ، طول القرون وارتفاع النبات) وحسنت من قيم الجودة (محتوى البذور من العناصر الكبرى و الكربوهيدرات والبروتين٪) وادت الي زيادة محتوى نبات الفاصوليا من الكلورفيل . بالإضافة لذلك حسنت المعاملة محتوى الأوراق من العناصر الكبرى وادي الي زيادة الانتاجية والمحتوى المتاح من العناصر الكبرى في التربة .