

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Effect of NPKS on Growth and Yield of Naga Chili (*Capsicum Chinense Jacq.*)

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Abstract

The experiment was conducted at Spices Research Sub-station, CRS, and Jaintapur in Rabi season of 2014-15 for selecting proper dose of NPKS for naga chilli Production. There were 14 treatment combinations comprising four levels each of N (0, 80, 100 and 120 kg/ha), P (0, 50, 75 and 100 kg/ha), K (0, 100, 120 and 140 kg/ha) and S (0, 10, 20 and 30 kg/ha). The experiment was laid out in Randomized Complete Block Design with three replications. There were significant variations among the treatments with plant height (cm), canopy spreading (cm), stem diameter (cm), Number of fruits per plant, fruit weight (g), fruit length and diameter (cm), pericarp weight (g), number of seeds per fruit, 1000 Seed weight (g), and fruit yield (t/ha) of naga chilli. The taller plant, highest stem diameter and canopy spreading of naga chilli plants were achieved from the treatment $N_{100} P_{50} K_{120} S_{20}$ (T_6) while the control (native nutrient) exhibited the lowest. The maximum yield were obtained from $N_{100} P_{50} K_{120} S_{20}$ (25.77 t/ha) followed by $N_{100} P_{75} K_{120} S_{20}$ (24.83 t/ha) and $N_{80} P_{75} K_{120} S_{20}$ kg/ha (24.40 t/ha) where as the control plots yielded the minimum (8.75 t/ha). Application of $N_{100} P_{50} K_{120} S_{20}$ kg/ha (T_6) appear to be the best treatment for maximizing the growth and yield of naga chilli for Sylhet region. The application of $N_{100} P_{50} K_{120} S_{20}$ (T_6) t/ha (T_6) also showed significantly higher gross return (910 Tk./m²) and Marginal increase in Gross return (253.75 Tk./m²) over rest of the treatments. While Marginal rate of return was significantly higher (33833.33%) with the application of $N_{100} P_{50} K_{120} S_{20}$ kg/ha (T_6) over rest of the treatments. The minimum gross return (395.06 Tk/m²) was received in control.

Keywords: Growth; Yield and Naga Chilli (*Capsicum chinense Jacq.*)

Introduction

Naga Chilli (*Capsicum chinense Jacq.*) are the member of the Solanaceae family (tribe Solaneae, subtribe Capsicinae), also known as the world's hottest chilli entered in the Guinness book of world record (2006) with a pungent level of 879,953 to 1,001,304 SHU (Adriana, *et al.*, 2008) [1]. Naga chilli is traditionally cultivated in hilly orchard along with citrus. Due to its extra-ordinary pungency level, oleoresin powder extracted from Naga chilli is predicted to dominate the world market in coming years as the mainstay for riot control (Ritesh, *et al.*, 2000) [2].

The Naga Chilli plant is wonderful gift of nature as it possesses a pleasant and palatable aroma. The crop is native to the North eastern part of Bangladesh, growing in Brahmaputra flood plain (Bhagowati, *et al.*, 2009) also known as Naga Morish or Dorset naga (that derivative from Bangladesh) [3]. Naga Chilli is an interspecies hybrid, mostly *Capsicum chinensis* with some *Capsicum frutescens* genes. The plant grows to a height of 57-129 cm at 6 months. It may even grow taller in semi-perennial situation. The leaves have a characteristic crinkle look. Flowers are greenish white with a touch of light brown. The anthers are blue while the filaments are purple. Fruits are light green, creasy white and dark green which turn bright red at maturity. The fruit posses 4-5 locules and bears about 25-35 slightly wrinkled seeds. There are at least three distinct colours found like light red, dark red and orange (Bhagowati, *et al.*, 2009) [3].

Naga chilli is grown successfully in North-eastern region of Bangladesh during the Rabi season (Rashid, 1999) [4]. But the acreage is not satisfactory due to the unawareness of the growers on production technology. The average yield of Naga chilli in Bangladesh was 4.5-5.5 ton/hectare (personal experience). This yield is relatively low compared to that of other Naga chilli producing countries like, UK (51.88 t/ha), Sweden (54.35 t/ha), Austria (56.70 t/ha) and Israel (64.20 t/ha) (FAO, 2010) [5]. Production of Naga chilli could be increased in many ways; of which the most important one is the judicious nutrient management; for healthy growth of plants and optimum yield (Grewal and Trehan, 1979) [6].

The effect of the individual nutrient on the plant development has another major impact on the fertilizer requirements. Nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium are critical for chilli growth and development (Jones, 2008) [7]. Nitrogen is associated with vegetative and biomass accumulation (Rai, 1981, Haque, *et al*; 2015, Maksudul Haque, *et al*; 2015, Haque, *et al*; 2014), phosphorus to seed and root development (Mitra. *et al.*, 1990) and potassium is associated with fruit development, quality and manufacture of sugar and starch; important in a multi-nutrient fertilizer application (Brady, 1995) while sulphur is associated with synthesis of amino acids, co-enzyme, thiamine and chlorophyll (Tisdale, *et al.*, 1984) [8-14]. Thus, the synchronization of nutrients availability through right dose of fertilizer application is recommended to optimize yield, fruit quality, and mineral nutrient efficient use without threatening sustainability. Therefore increasing the yield of this crop by judicious application of optimum rate of nutrients especially N, P, K and S is an urgent need and has sufficient scope (A.A. Yusuf and H.A. Yusuf, 2008, R. Biswash, *et al*; 2015) [15,16].

There is a great possibility to improve its production and quality through proper nutrient management. The present study was, therefore, undertaken to find out the proper combination of fertilizer nutrients (NPKS) for higher and sustainable yield of Naga chilli.

Materials and Methods

The experiment was conducted at spices research sub-station, CRS, Jaintiapur. The experimental plot was located under AEZ 22 with sandy loam soil having extremely acidic (5.9) pH. The experiment was conducted using a randomized complete block design with 14 treatment combination and replicated thrice. The combinations were: $T_1 = N_0 P_{75} K_{120} S_{20}$ kg/ha, $T_2 = N_{80} P_{75} K_{120} S_{20}$ kg/ha, $T_3 = N_{100} P_{75} K_{120} S_{20}$ kg/ha, $T_4 = N_{120} P_{75} K_{120} S_{20}$ kg/ha, $T_5 = N_{100} P_0 K_{120} S_{20}$ kg/ha, $T_6 = N_{100} P_{50} K_{120} S_{20}$ kg/ha, $T_7 = N_{100} P_{100} K_{120} S_{20}$ kg/ha, $T_8 = N_{100} P_{75} K_0 S_{20}$ kg/ha, $T_9 = N_{100} P_{75} K_{100} S_{20}$ kg/ha, $T_{10} = N_{100} P_{75} K_{140} S_{20}$ kg/ha, $T_{11} = N_{100} P_{75} K_{120} S_0$ kg/ha, $T_{12} = N_{100} P_{75} K_{120} S_{10}$ kg/ha, $T_{13} = N_{100} P_{75} K_{120} S_{30}$ kg/ha, $T_{14} = N_0 P_0 K_0 S_0$ kg/ha (Native Nutrient). Naga chilli advanced line CC Jai-018 was used for this experiment. The plot size was 1.2m×2 m. The experimental field was ploughed and laddered for preparing the beds. The experimental area was divided into three blocks each consisted of 1.2×2 m sized 14 unit plots. The blocks and plots were spaced at 0.5 m which was used as drain. The seeds were sown in 15th December, 2014 and 45 days old seedlings were planted in the experimental field on 31st January 2015 maintaining 60×50 cm spacing. A blanket dose of 10 ton cow dung, 4 ton dolomite lime, 2 kg B and 4 kg Zn per hectare were applied. Chemical fertilizers were used as per treatment. Dolomite lime was applied after first ploughing and the plots were left for fifteen days. A general application of Cow dung @ 10 t/ha, full dose of TSP and Gypsum, half dose of MoP was applied during final land preparation. Urea and one third of MoP fertilizer were applied in four equal installments after 25, 50, 75 and 100 days after transplanting. Two times flood irrigation was provided in February and March and two hand weeding were performed at 25 and 50 days after transplanting (DAT). Harvesting of green chillies were started at first week of April and continued up to June. Data was recorded on growth characteristics, yield and yield contributing characters, incidence of pests and diseases. All the data collected was statistically analyzed by MSTAT-C package program for interpretation of results (Gomez and Gomez, 1984) [17].

Texture	pH	OM	Ca	Mg	K	Total N	P	S	B	Zn	Cu	Fe	Mn	
		%	(meq/100g soil)			%	(ug/g soil)							
Sandy loam	5.9	1.12	2.8	0.91	0.28	0.071	28	18	0.11	1.13	0.07	12.2	2.2	
Critical level	-	-	2.0	0.8	0.20	-	14	14	0.2	2.0	0.2	10	5	

Table 1: Analytical data of the experimental soil

	December, 2014	January, 2015	February, 2015	March, 2015	April, 2015	May, 2015
Max. temp.	26.5	28.7	32.0	31.9	34.2	35.1
Min. temp.	7.8	13.7	16.4	19.0	21.2	24.4
Precipitation	2	0	7	60	536	992
Relative humidity	70	62	57	60	79	81

Table 2: Weather data for the experimental period

Result and Discussion

All the growth parameters showed significant variation among the treatments. T_3 ($N_{100} P_{75} K_{120} S_{20}$ kg/ha) was superior in case of plant height, stem diameter and canopy width (Table 3). Lowest plant height, stem diameter and canopy width was recorded in absolute control T_{14} treatment.

	Plant height (cm)	Stem diameter (cm)	Canopy Spreading	
			N/S	E/W
T ₁ = N ₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	70.48 g	4.63 c	63.7 d-g	65.8 d-f
T ₂ = N ₈₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	72.51 e-g	5.40 a-c	70.7 c	74.8 bc
T ₃ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	88.50 a	6.30 a	88.0 a	88.2 a
T ₄ = N ₁₂₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	75.10 d-f	4.80 bc	66.5 c-f	59.5 fg
T ₅ = N ₁₀₀ P ₀ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	71.45 fg	5.47 a-c	68.8 c-f	68.7 c-e
T ₆ = N ₁₀₀ P ₅₀ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	83.35 b	5.23 ab	77.7 b	64.8 d-g
T ₇ = N ₁₀₀ P ₁₀₀ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	77.51cd	4.63 c	68.7 c-e	70.8 b-d
T ₈ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	74.70 d-g	4.80 bc	68.8 c-e	68.2 c-e
T ₉ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₀₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	71.66 fg	4.80 bc	62.5 fg	68.6 c-e
T ₁₀ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₄₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	73.54 d-g	4.67 bc	59.6 g	65.6 d-f
T ₁₁ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₀ kg/ha	80.45 bc	5.50 a-c	68.8 cd	70.7b-d
T ₁₂ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₁₀ kg/ha	73.53 d-g	4.80 bc	62.8 e-g	62.4 e-g
T ₁₃ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₃₀ kg/ha	76.61 c-e	4.73 bc	63.4 d-g	75.7 b
T ₁₄ = N ₀ P ₀ K ₀ S ₀ kg/ha	62.52 h	3.8 d	58.0 g	58.4 g
LSD	3.94	0.85	5.22	6.27
CV (%)	3.13	11.17	4.60	5.45

In a column means followed by common letters are not significantly different from each other at 5 % level of probability by DMRT

Table 3: Growth characteristics of Naga chili as influenced by different doses of NPKS in 2014-15

Qualitative fruit characters as affected by different levels of NPKS were measured in 2014-15 and significant variation was found. The maximum fruit size (6.63 cm × 3.03 cm) was obtained from T₃ (N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha) followed by T₉ (N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₀₀ S₂₀ kg/ha). The highest pericarp weight (4.99 g) was obtained from T₄ (N₁₂₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha) which was statically similar with T₁₂ (N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₁₀ kg/ha) and T₁₃ (N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₃₀ kg/ha) while lowest (2.97 g) was found from control. Treatment T₃ (N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha) produces maximum number of seeds per fruits (39.54) and minimum was found from control. Highest (12.20 g) 1000 seed weight was obtained from T₃ (N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha) while lowest (9.07 g) was found from control (Table 4).

Treatment	Fruit size (cm)		Pericarp (g/fruit)	No. of seeds /fruit (No.)	1000 seed weight (g)
	Length	Diameter			
T ₁ = N ₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	4.67 f	2.39 c-f	3.42 h	35.30 de	11.14 d
T ₂ = N ₈₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	5.47 de	2.80 ab	4.38 c	37.01 c	10.06 f
T ₃ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	6.63 a	3.03 a	3.91ef	39.54 a	12.20 a
T ₄ = N ₁₂₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	4.66 f	2.65 bc	4.99 a	35.88 d	10.56 e
T ₅ = N ₁₀₀ P ₀ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	5.77 c-e	2.35 def	3.54 g	35.37 d	11.70 bc
T ₆ = N ₁₀₀ P ₅₀ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	5.56 de	2.43 c-f	3.92 ef	38.07 b	11.15 d
T ₇ = N ₁₀₀ P ₁₀₀ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	6.00 bc	2.30 ef	3.83 f	38.52 b	10.02 f
T ₈ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	5.80 c-e	2.57 b-e	3.99 de	34.50 ef	9.483 g
T ₉ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₀₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	6.37 a	2.40 c-f	3.57 gh	37.97 b	10.00 f
T ₁₀ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₄₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	5.60 de	2.59 b-d	4.07 d	34.00 f	11.01 d
T ₁₁ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₀ kg/ha	6.33 ab	2.30 ef	4.57 b	32.10 h	11.60 c
T ₁₂ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₁₀ kg/ha	5.83 cd	2.60 b-d	4.97 a	33.00 g	12.00 ab
T ₁₃ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₃₀ kg/ha	5.50 de	2.70 b	4.95 a	37.11 c	11.79 bc
T ₁₄ = N ₀ P ₀ K ₀ S ₀ kg/ha	5.43 e	2.25 f	2.97 i	31.05 i	9.07 h
LSD	0.3357	0.2374	0.1187	0.8188	0.302
CV (%)	3.51	5.63	1.69	1.37	1.65

In a column means followed by common letters are not significantly different from each other at 5 % level of probability by DMRT.

Table 4: Effect of NPKS on fruit characteristics and 1000 seed weight of naga chilli

The maximum number of fruits per plant (208) was found from the treatment T₃ (N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha). The highest Individual fruit weight (4.56 g) was obtained from T₉ (N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₀₀ S₂₀ kg/ha) treatment. The maximum yield per plant (927.8 g) was recorded from T₃ (N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha). Similarly highest yield per hectare (25.77 t/ha) was obtained from T₃ (N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha) which was followed by T₆ (N₁₀₀ P₅₀ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha) (24.83 t/ha) and T₂ (N₈₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha) (24.40 t/ha) while the lowest (8.75 t/ha) were found from control (T₁₄) treatment) (Table 5).

Treatment	Fruits /plant (No.)	Individual fruit weight (g)	Yield/plant (g)	Yield (t/ha)
T ₁ = N ₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	141.3 h	3.91 j	552.5 k	15.35 h
T ₂ = N ₈₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	180.0 c	4.88 d	878.4 c	24.40 b
T ₃ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	208.0 a	4.47 g	927.8 a	25.77 a
T ₄ = N ₁₂₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	122.5 j	5.50 a	673.8 g	18.72 f
T ₅ = N ₁₀₀ P ₀ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	150.0 f	4.05 i	607.6 j	16.88 g
T ₆ = N ₁₀₀ P ₅₀ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	200.0 b	4.47 g	894.0 b	24.83 b
T ₇ = N ₁₀₀ P ₁₀₀ K ₁₂₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	146.7 fg	4.27 h	626.5 h	17.40 g
T ₈ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	120.5 j	4.00 ij	482.2 l	13.40 i
T ₉ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₀₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	169.0 d	4.56 f	770.6 e	21.41 d
T ₁₀ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₄₀ S ₂₀ kg/ha	132.2 i	4.66 e	616.6 i	17.13 g
T ₁₁ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₀ kg/ha	140.0 h	5.26 b	737.7 f	20.49 e
T ₁₂ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₁₀ kg/ha	165.0 e	5.02 c	826.6 d	22.96 c
T ₁₃ = N ₁₀₀ P ₇₅ K ₁₂₀ S ₃₀ kg/ha	143.4 gh	5.42 a	777.2 e	21.59 d
T ₁₄ = N ₀ P ₀ K ₀ S ₀ kg/ha	90.3 k	3.50 k	315.1 m	8.75 j
LSD	4.146	0.092	8.419	0.8944
CV (%)	1.64	1.14	0.72	2.77

In a column means followed by common letters are not significantly different from each other at 5% level of probability by DMRT

Table 5: Yield and yield contributing characters of Naga chili as influenced by different doses of NPKS

Nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium and sulphur markedly influence the fruit yield of Naga chili (Table 6). All fertilizer treatments significantly increased the fruit yield over the control. Fruit yield increased progressively with the increasing rates of N up to 100 kg /ha. Nitrogen application @ 80, 100 and 120 kg /ha increased Fruit yield by 58.96, 67.89 and 21.95% over the N control treatment.

Progressively significant increase in fruit yield was observed for the additional rates of phosphorus up to 75 Kg/ha. The application of 50, 75 and 100 kg/ha increased the fruit yield by 47.10, 52.67 and 3.08% over P-control (Table 6). Potassium increased fruit yield significantly up to 120 kg /ha. The highest increase in Fruit yield over K-control due to K application was 92.31% (Table 6). Addition of 20 kg /ha S increased 25.77% fruit yield over S-control treatment.

Nutrient	Treatment code	Level (kg /ha)	Fruit yield (t/ha)	% yield increase over control
N	T ₁	0	15.35	-
	T ₂	80	24.40	58.96
	T ₃	100	25.77	67.89
	T ₄	120	18.72	21.95
P	T ₅	0	16.88	-
	T ₆	50	24.83	47.10
	T ₃	75	25.77	52.67
	T ₇	100	17.40	3.08
K	T ₈	0	13.40	-
	T ₉	100	21.40	59.70
	T ₃	120	25.77	92.31
	T ₁₀	140	17.13	27.84
S	T ₁₁	0	20.49	-
	T ₁₂	10	22.96	12.05
	T ₃	20	25.77	25.77
	T ₁₃	30	21.59	5.37

Table 6: Single effect of N, P, K and S on the fruit yield of Naga chilli

Response Function

Positive but quadratic relationship was observed between fruit yield of Naga chili and added nutrients (N, P, K and S) (Figures 1,2,3 and 4). Regression analysis showed a quadratic relationship between yield and applied nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium and sulphur. Positive but quadratic relationship was observed between fruit weight of Naga chilli and added nutrients (N, P, K and S). (AKM Shalahuddin, *et al.*, 2018) [18,19].

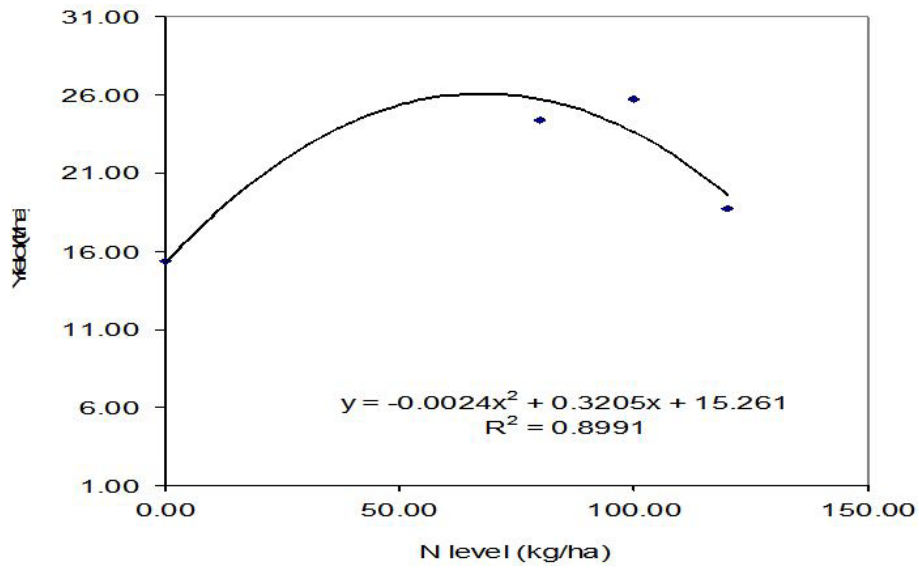


Figure 1: Effect of Nitrogen on fruit yield of Naga chilli

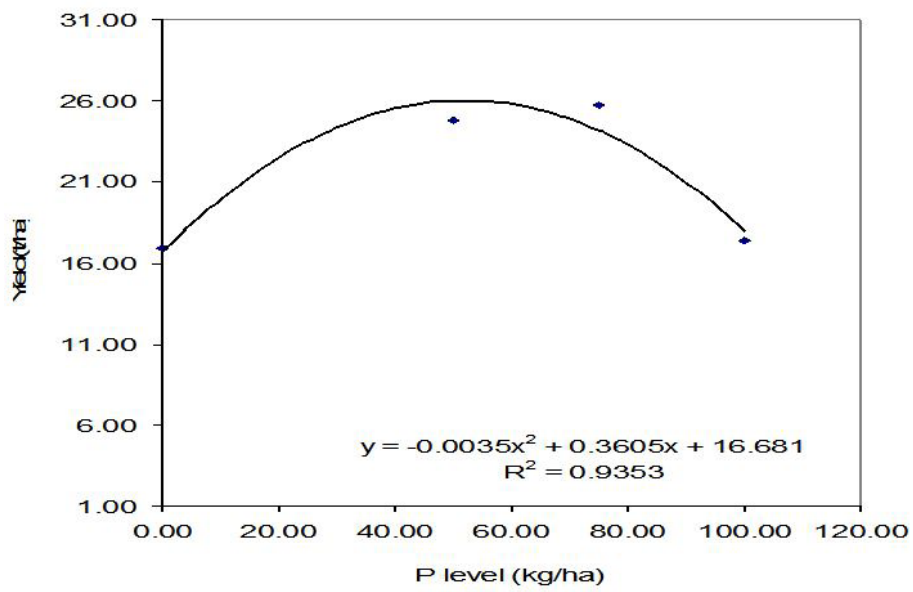


Figure 2: Effect of P on fruit yield of Naga chilli

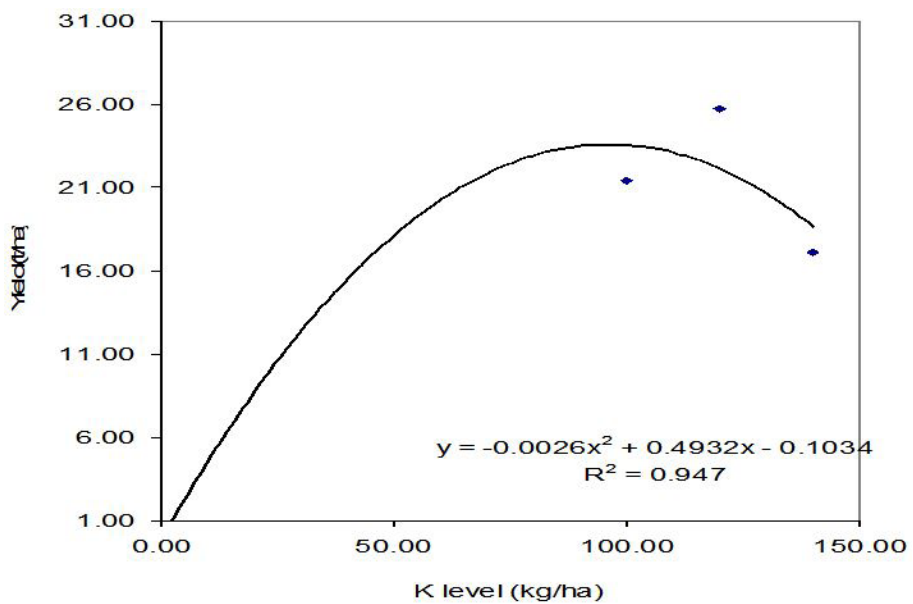


Figure 3: Effect of K on fruit yield of Naga chilli

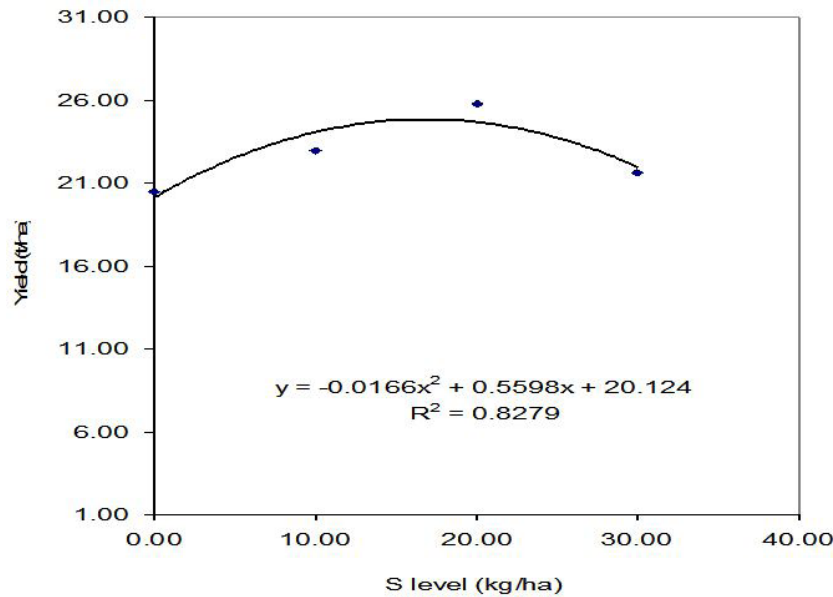


Figure 4: Effect of S on fruit yield of Naga chilli

From the regression equation, the optimum dose of Nitrogen and Phosphorus were 66.7 kg/ha and 51.5 kg/ha. In case of potassium, the optimum dose was worked out as 94.9 kg/ha. Similarly, the optimum dose of sulphur was found to be 16.9 kg/ha¹. Beyond the said optimum dose, there is a possibility of losing certain amount of yield of higher level of nutrients were applied (Table 7).

Nutrient	Regression equation	Optimum dose (kg /ha)	Maximum fruit yield (t/ha) for optimum dose	Production of fruit (t/ha) for 1 kg nutrient (use efficiency)	Beyond optimum dose the reduction of fruit yield (t/ha) for kg nutrient
N	$y = -0.0024x^2 + 0.320x + 15.26$	66.7	26.53	0.16	2.4
P	$y = -0.0035x^2 + 0.3605x + 16.68$	51.5	25.97	0.18	3.5
K	$y = -0.0026x^2 + 0.4932x - 0.1034$	94.9	23.29	0.25	2.6
S	$y = -0.0166x^2 + 0.5598x + 20.12$	16.9	24.83	0.28	16.6

Table 7: Response function of Naga chilli to N, P, K & S

Economic evaluation

Gross return was calculated from the price of naga chilli. Variable cost was calculated from the costs involved for fertilizer used for the experimental treatments. The partial budget analysis of fertilizer showed that the gross return from the control plot was Tk. 395.06 /m² and the application of fertilizer increased the gross return up to Tk.910.00/ m². The gross margin ranged from Tk. 395.06 /m² to Tk. 907.99/m². The maximum mean gross margin of Tk. 907.99/m² was achieved with the treatment of N₁₀₀ P₅₀ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha (Table 5).

Dominance analysis shows that the treatments of N₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha, N₈₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha, N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha, N₁₂₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha, N₁₀₀ P₁₀₀ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha, N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₀ S₂₀ kg/ha, N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₀₀ S₂₀ kg/ha, N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₄₀ S₂₀ kg/ha, N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₀ kg/ha, N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₁₀ kg/ha, and N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₃₀ kg/ha are cost dominated irrespective of this experiment.

Marginal analysis (Table 6) showed that the highest marginal rate of return (MRR) of 33833.33% was obtained from the treatment of N₁₀₀ P₅₀ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha (T6) followed by that of N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₀ kg/ha 20729.37%. Hence, application of N₁₀₀ P₅₀ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha would be economically acceptable for the naga chilli production in the hilly region of Piedmont plains soil (Tables 8 and 9).

Treatment	Gross return (Tk./m ²)	Variable cost (Tk./m ²)	Gross margin (Tk./m ²)	Remarks
T ₁	618.19	1.98	616.21	CD
T ₂	787.50	2.31	785.19	CD
T ₃	875.00	2.41	872.59	CD
T ₄	535.94	2.5	533.44	CD
T ₅	656.25	1.26	654.99	CU

T ₆	910.00	2.01	907.99	CU
T ₇	641.81	2.76	639.05	CD
T ₈	527.19	2.06	525.13	CD
T ₉	739.38	2.48	736.9	CD
T ₁₀	578.38	2.6	575.78	CD
T ₁₁	722.00	2.06	719.94	CD
T ₁₂	612.50	2.23	610.27	CD
T ₁₃	627.38	2.56	624.82	CD
T ₁₄	395.06	0	395.06	CU

T₁ = N₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₅ = N₁₀₀ P₀ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₉ = N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₀₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₁₃ = N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₃₀ kg/ha
 T₂ = N₈₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₆ = N₁₀₀ P₅₀ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₁₀ = N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₄₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₁₄ = N₀ P₀ K₀ S₀ kg/ha (Native Nutrient)
 T₃ = N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₇ = N₁₀₀ P₁₀₀ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₁₁ = N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₀ kg/ha CU= Cost undominated
 T₄ = N₁₂₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₈ = N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₁₂ = N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₁₀ kg/ha CD= Cost dominated

Table 8: Partial budget and dominance analysis for different fertilizer response data of naga chilli

Treatment	Gross return (Tk./m ²)	Variable cost (Tk./ m ²)	Marginal increase in Gross return (Tk./m ²)	Marginal increase in variable cost (Tk./m ²)	Marginal rate of return (%)
T ₆	910	2.01	253.75	0.75	33833.33
T ₅	656.25	1.26	261.19	1.26	20729.37
T ₁₄	395.06	0	395.06	0	0

T₁ = N₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₄ = N₁₂₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₇ = N₁₀₀ P₁₀₀ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₁₀ = N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₄₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₁₃ = N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₃₀ kg/ha
 T₂ = N₈₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₅ = N₁₀₀ P₀ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₈ = N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₁₁ = N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₀ kg/ha T₁₄ = N₀ P₀ K₀ S₀ kg/ha (Native Nutrient)
 T₃ = N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₆ = N₁₀₀ P₅₀ K₁₂₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₉ = N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₀₀ S₂₀ kg/ha T₁₂ = N₁₀₀ P₇₅ K₁₂₀ S₁₀ kg/ha

Table 9: Marginal analysis of undominated fertilizers response data of Naga chilli

Conclusion

From the regression analysis, it can be concluded that about 66.7 kg N, 51.5 kg P, 94.9 kg and 16.9 kg S per hectare was found optimum for Naga Chili cultivation in Spices Research Sub-station, CRS, Jaintiapur, and Sylhet.

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