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## Impact of integrated nutrient management on growth, yield attributes and yield of sweet corn in lateritic soil

SS Pinjari, NA Meshram, RR Rathod, DN Jagtap and AS Gawali

**Abstract**

An experiment was conducted to study the “Impact of integrated nutrient management on the performance of sweet corn” at Agronomy Experimental Research Farm, Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli (MS). The results of the present investigation indicated that the growth and yields attributes of the plant *viz.* height, number of leaves dry matter accumulation per plant and cob length, cob girth, number of grain rows, number of grains per cob, weight of grains per cob, weight of cob and cob yield ( $q\ ha^{-1}$ ) total biological yield ( $qha^{-1}$ ) and green fodder yield ( $q\ ha^{-1}$ ) were found to be significantly higher under 75% RDN + 25% N through PM at all the crop growth stages, during both the years of experimentation as well as in the mean of two years over rest of the nutrient management practices except dry matter accumulation at 30 DAS 100% N as PM nutrient source was at par with 100% N through PM. Number of cobs  $ha^{-1}$  was at par with 50% RDN + 50% N as PM level of nutrient source during all the three observations.

**Keywords:** INM, growth attribute, yield attribute, yield, PM, RDN

**Introduction**

Sweet corn (*Zea mays saccharata*) also known as sugar corn is hybridized variety of maize (*Zea mays*), specifically breed to increase the sugar content. Sweet corn is commonly known as “simply corn” in United States Canada, Australia and New Zealand. In Brazil it is known as “Milho Verde” (Green corn). It was introduced in India from USA. Today, for the country of India’s dimension, with no scope for horizontal expansion and complexity of problems and challenges, there is no alternative but continue to improve productivity without further degrading its natural resources that too in a sustainable manner. In this context it is need to adopt a rationalist organic farming approach to have an ‘Evergreen Revolution’. This has led to the concept of Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) gain momentum in recent years to improve and maintain the soil health. Besides this, with escalating cost of energy based fertilizer material, limited fossil fuels, INM approach combines the use of organic sources along with fertilizers, which would be remunerative for getting higher yields with considerable fertilizer economy (Subbian and Palaniappan, 1992) [9]. In Konkan region well irrigation is available up to March. Hence sweet corn grown for cob purpose can be very well taken under such conditions. However, information on efficient and economic use of nitrogen fertilizer and poultry manure for sweet corn particularly under lateritic soil is meager. Keeping these in mind, an experiment was conducted with an object to study the effect of organic and inorganic sources of nutrients on the performance of sweet corn.

**Material and Methods**

A field experiment was conducted to study the “Impact of integrated nutrient management on the performance of sweet corn” at Agronomy Experimental Research Farm, Dr. Balasaheb Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Dapoli (MS). The soil of experimental plot was classified as lateritic, sandy clay loam in texture, slightly acidic in reaction and medium in organic carbon content. The soil was low in available nitrogen content, medium in available  $P_2O_5$  and low in available  $K_2O$  content, during both the years. The experiment was laid out in split-split plot design. The main plot treatments comprised of four nutrient sources (T<sub>1</sub>-100% RDN, T<sub>2</sub>-75% RDN + 25% N as PM, T<sub>3</sub>-50% RDN + 50% N as PM and T<sub>4</sub>-100% N as PM), while the sub-plot treatments comprised of two levels of mulches (control and transparent polythene

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mulch) and sub-sub plot treatments comprised of two levels of growth stimulants (3% panchagavya spray and amrutpani through irrigation and control). Thus, there were 16 treatment combinations replicated in thrice. The Poultry manure and NPK fertilizers to the sweet corn crop were applied as per the main plot treatment taking in to account the following recommended dose 225:60:60 kg NPK ha<sup>-1</sup>. The poultry manure, single super phosphate and muriate of potash were applied at the time of sowing, single super phosphate and muriate of potash were applied commonly to all the treatments as per the recommended dose of fertilizer. While, nitrogen was applied in three split doses, 1<sup>st</sup> at the time of sowing (40%), 2<sup>nd</sup> one month after sowing (30%) and remaining (30%) at pre-tasseling stage through urea. The experimental data was subjected to analysis of variances (ANOVA) and treatment means were compared, significant differences were tested at p=0.05 using split-split plot design as given by Panse and Sukhatme (1985)<sup>[5]</sup>.

## Results and Discussion

**Effect of nutrient sources on growth attributes:** It was observed that the nutrient sources influenced the plant height (Table 1) significantly at all the stages during both the years and in the mean of two years. Application of 75% RDN + 25% N as PM (F<sub>2</sub>) produced significantly taller plants compared to 100% RDN (F<sub>1</sub>), 50% RDN + 50% N as PM (F<sub>3</sub>) and 100% N as PM (F<sub>4</sub>) during consecutive two years and in the mean of two years. While the difference between 50% RDN + 50% N as PM (F<sub>3</sub>) and 100% N as PM (F<sub>4</sub>) was not up to the mark during first year compared to second year whereas 100% N as PM (F<sub>4</sub>) was significantly superior over 50% RDN + 50% N as PM (F<sub>3</sub>) during second year and in the mean of two years. This may be due to 100% application of nitrogen through poultry manure at the time of sowing along with the P and K content in the poultry manure. Maximum number of functional leaves (Table 2) per plant at 30, 60 DAS was recorded with 75% RDN + 25% N as PM (F<sub>2</sub>), which was significantly superior over 100% RDN (F<sub>1</sub>), 50% RDN + 50% N as PM (F<sub>3</sub>) and 100% N as PM (F<sub>4</sub>) during both the years and in the mean of two years. At 90 DAS significantly maximum number of functional leaves were observed with 75% RDN + 25% N as PM (F<sub>2</sub>) over 50% RDN + 50% N as PM (F<sub>3</sub>) and 100% N as PM (F<sub>4</sub>) but behave similarly with 100% RDN (F<sub>1</sub>) during 1<sup>st</sup> year and mean of two years while during second (F<sub>2</sub>) 75% RDN + 25% N as PM was significantly superior over rest of the treatments. At harvest significantly maximum number of functional leaves were recorded under treatment 100% RDN (F<sub>1</sub>) than 50% RDN + 50% N as PM (F<sub>3</sub>) and 100% N as PM (F<sub>4</sub>) but was at par with 75% RDN + 25% N as PM (F<sub>2</sub>). The higher number of functional leaves under F<sub>2</sub> (75% RDN + 25% N as PM) were responsible for synthesizing more photosynthates under F<sub>2</sub> (75% RDN + 25% N as PM) as it was possible for the crop to intercept and harvest more solar radiation per unit area under F<sub>2</sub> (75% RDN + 25% N as PM) than the remaining treatments. At harvest, dry matter accumulation (Table 3 & 4) in the leaves, stem, grain, cob sheath, cob axis and total dry matter accumulation was significantly higher with F<sub>2</sub> (i.e. 75% RDN + 25% N as PM) compared to F<sub>1</sub> (100% RDN), F<sub>3</sub> (50% RDN + 50% N as PM) and F<sub>4</sub> (100% N as PM) during both the years of experimentation and in the mean of two years also. This was mainly due to the fact that only 25 per cent of the recommended dose of nitrogen was applied through poultry manure under F<sub>2</sub> (75% RDN + 25% N as PM) along with 75 per cent of recommended nitrogen through

chemical fertilizer. Therefore, there was enough available nitrogen in the soil for satisfying the nitrogen requirement of the crop as well as the micro-organisms responsible for decomposition of organic material in the soil. Hence, the rate of mineralization of the major nutrients was faster under F<sub>2</sub> (75% RDN + 25% N as PM) than F<sub>3</sub> (50% RDN + 50% N as PM) and F<sub>4</sub> (100% N as PM). The rate of mineralization of the nutrients under F<sub>2</sub> (75% RDN + 25% N as PM) was as per the requirement of the crop throughout its life span. Therefore, the crop under F<sub>2</sub> (75% RDN + 25% N as PM) was physiologically more active than the remaining treatments of the nutrient sources. Better performance with balance integrated nutrient management might be due to its higher nutrient contents and their faster release (Gosavi *et al.* 2006; Patra and Biswas, 2009; Samsul *et al.* 2012 and Rasool *et al.* 2016)<sup>[1, 6, 8, 7]</sup>.

**Effect of nutrient sources on yield attributes:** The cob length, cob girth, number of grain rows and grains cob<sup>-1</sup> (Table 5, 6) were influenced significantly due different nutrient sources during both years as well as in the mean of two years. All the above referred yield attributes were significantly higher under F<sub>2</sub> (i.e. 75% RDN + 25% N as PM) compared to F<sub>1</sub> (100% RDN), F<sub>3</sub> (50% RDN + 50% N as PM) and F<sub>4</sub> (100% N as PM) during both the years of experimentation and in the mean of two years except number of grains cob<sup>-1</sup>, where F<sub>2</sub> (i.e. 75% RDN + 25% N as PM) was at par with F<sub>3</sub> (50% RDN + 50% N as PM) during 2005-06. Further F<sub>1</sub> (100% RDN) and F<sub>2</sub> (i.e. 75% RDN + 25% N as PM) nutrient sources were at par with each other and significantly superior over F<sub>4</sub> (100% N as PM) in respect of all the above referred yield attributes during all the three observations. Availability of the source under F<sub>2</sub> (75% RDN + 25% N as PM) was considerably higher than the remaining treatments. Generally there is positive co-relation between the source and the sink and hence, better availability of the source under F<sub>2</sub> (75% RDN + 25% N as PM) resulted in creation of higher amount of sink under F<sub>2</sub> (75% RDN + 25% N as PM) than the remaining treatments. Hence, the cob length, cob girth, number of grain rows per cob and number of grains per cob were significantly higher under F<sub>2</sub> (75% RDN + 25% N as PM) than the remaining treatments. Similarly, Khadtare *et al.* (2006)<sup>[3]</sup> concluded that the balance integration of RDN and manuring were significantly increases the yield attributes than control.

**Effect of Nutrient sources on yield:** During both the years and in the mean of two years, the number of cobs per hectare (Table 7) was significantly higher with F<sub>2</sub> (i.e. 75% RDN + 25% N as PM) which was at par with F<sub>3</sub> (i.e. 50% RDN + 50% N as PM) and both these treatments were significantly superior over F<sub>1</sub> and F<sub>4</sub> treatments. Whereas, F<sub>1</sub> recorded significantly higher number of cobs ha<sup>-1</sup> over F<sub>4</sub> during both the years and in the mean of two years. Further, in respect of cob yield and total biological yield during all the three observations and green fodder yield during 2<sup>nd</sup> year and in the mean of two years F<sub>2</sub> (75% RDN + 25% N as PM) level of nutrient source was significantly superior over the remaining levels. It was followed by F<sub>1</sub> (100% RDN) and F<sub>3</sub> (50% RDN + 50% N as PM) levels which were at par and significantly superior over F<sub>4</sub> (100% N as PM) in respect of the above referred characters. However, in case of green fodder yield during 1<sup>st</sup> year F<sub>2</sub> (75% RDN + 25% N as PM) and F<sub>1</sub> (100% RDN) levels were at par and were significantly superior over F<sub>3</sub> (50% RDN + 50% N as PM) and F<sub>4</sub> (100% N as PM)

levels. Similar findings were corroborated with Khadtare *et al.* (2006)<sup>[3]</sup>, Rasool *et al.* (2016)<sup>[7]</sup> and Zelalem (2014)<sup>[10]</sup> reported that the balance integration of RDN and manuring

were significantly increases the productivity of sweet corn than control due to balanced nutrition sustain optimum productivity of crop.

**Table 1:** Effect of nutrient sources, polythene mulch and growth stimulants on the plant height of the sweet corn at 30, 60, 90 DAS and at harvest

Treatments	30 DAS			60 DAS			90 DAS			At harvest		
	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean
<b>Nutrient sources</b>												
F <sub>1</sub> -100% RDN	23.85	31.42	27.63	115.18	166.58	140.88	171.17	194.45	182.81	174.17	193.75	183.96
F <sub>2</sub> -75% RDN + 25% N as PM	33.42	35.00	34.21	129.32	177.97	153.64	188.40	203.15	195.78	191.40	206.92	199.16
F <sub>3</sub> -50% RDN + 50% N as PM	26.60	32.90	29.75	112.32	169.12	140.72	174.35	196.87	185.61	177.35	195.13	186.24
F <sub>4</sub> -100% N as PM	27.07	34.35	30.71	100.02	161.47	130.74	161.85	187.15	174.50	164.85	186.17	175.51
SE (m) ±	0.43	0.18	0.25	1.48	0.86	0.76	1.42	0.77	0.89	1.42	0.47	0.71
CD (5%)	1.50	0.63	0.88	5.11	2.97	2.64	4.90	2.66	3.08	4.90	1.63	2.45
<b>Polythene mulch</b>												
M <sub>0</sub> -Control	22.63	29.49	26.06	94.87	153.97	124.42	168.44	189.52	178.98	171.44	190.19	180.82
M <sub>1</sub> - Mulch	32.84	37.34	35.09	133.55	183.60	158.58	179.44	201.29	190.37	182.44	200.79	191.62
SE (m) ±	0.24	0.09	0.13	0.26	0.46	0.28	0.41	0.28	0.22	0.41	0.25	0.16
CD (5%)	0.77	0.30	0.41	0.85	1.51	0.92	1.34	0.90	0.72	1.34	0.80	0.52
<b>Growth stimulants</b>												
P <sub>0</sub> -Control	27.51	33.50	30.50	110.98	166.52	138.75	170.64	192.27	181.45	173.64	193.59	183.62
P <sub>1</sub> -Panchagavya + Amrutpani	27.96	33.33	30.65	117.44	171.05	144.25	177.24	198.54	187.89	180.24	197.39	188.82
SE (m) ±	0.08	0.06	0.05	0.18	0.27	0.21	0.15	0.16	0.11	0.15	0.20	0.14
CD (5%)	NS	NS	NS	0.55	0.82	0.62	0.45	0.48	0.33	0.45	0.61	0.41
<b>Interactions</b>												
F X M	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
F X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
M X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
F X M X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
<b>GM</b>	27.73	33.42	30.58	114.21	168.78	141.50	173.94	195.06	184.67	176.94	195.49	186.22

**Table 2:** Effect of nutrient sources, polythene mulch and growth stimulants on the number of leaves of the sweet corn at 30, 60, 90 DAS and at harvest

Treatments	30 DAS			60 DAS			90 DAS			At harvest		
	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean
<b>Nutrient sources</b>												
F <sub>1</sub> -100% RDN	7.07	7.07	7.07	10.72	12.48	11.60	11.52	12.43	11.98	10.90	11.63	11.27
F <sub>2</sub> -75% RDN + 25% N as PM	7.88	7.85	7.87	11.20	12.88	12.04	11.60	12.68	12.14	10.87	11.13	11.00
F <sub>3</sub> -50% RDN + 50% N as PM	7.22	7.20	7.21	10.43	12.57	11.50	10.83	12.17	11.50	10.20	10.40	10.30
F <sub>4</sub> -100% N as PM	7.33	7.43	7.38	9.58	10.15	9.87	8.50	8.02	8.26	7.98	7.02	7.50
SE (m) ±	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.09	0.07	0.08	0.11	0.07	0.07	0.10	0.08	0.07
CD (5%)	0.14	0.16	0.08	0.31	0.25	0.27	0.40	0.24	0.25	0.36	0.28	0.24
<b>Polythene mulch</b>												
M <sub>0</sub> -Control	6.78	6.91	6.84	9.80	11.47	10.64	10.43	11.16	10.80	10.31	10.70	10.50
M <sub>1</sub> - Mulch	7.98	7.87	7.92	11.16	12.58	11.87	10.79	11.49	11.14	9.67	9.39	9.53
SE (m) ±	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.033	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.03
CD (5%)	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.108	0.14	0.08	NS	NS	NS	0.05	0.14	0.08
<b>Growth stimulants</b>												
P <sub>0</sub> -Control	7.43	7.48	7.46	10.11	11.63	10.87	10.33	10.81	10.57	9.70	9.77	9.73
P <sub>1</sub> -Panchagavya + Amrutpani	7.32	7.29	7.30	10.86	12.41	11.63	10.89	11.84	11.37	10.28	10.33	10.30
SE (m) ±	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.013	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.02
CD (5%)	NS	NS	NS	0.040	0.05	0.03	0.06	0.08	0.05	0.04	0.10	0.06
<b>Interactions</b>												
F X M	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	SIG	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
F X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
M X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
F X M X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
<b>GM</b>	7.38	7.39	7.38	10.48	12.02	11.25	10.61	11.33	10.97	9.99	10.05	10.02

**Table 3:** Effect of nutrient sources, polythene mulch and growth stimulants on dry matter accumulation (g) of the sweet corn at harvest.

Treatments	At harvest								
	Leaves			Stem			Grain		
	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean
<b>Nutrient sources</b>									
F <sub>1</sub> -100% RDN	63.13	71.46	67.30	61.76	78.54	70.15	77.89	74.64	76.27
F <sub>2</sub> -75% RDN + 25% N as PM	71.10	81.54	76.32	77.12	100.73	88.93	87.01	92.70	89.85

F <sub>3</sub> -50% RDN + 50% N as PM	62.02	72.70	67.36	65.74	81.85	73.80	78.43	70.29	74.36
F <sub>4</sub> -100% N as PM	51.14	58.74	54.94	50.76	67.53	59.14	70.93	56.16	63.55
SE (m) ±	0.93	0.66	0.78	1.36	1.37	1.02	0.47	0.74	0.28
CD (5%)	3.20	2.30	2.69	4.70	4.75	3.52	1.61	2.55	0.95
<b>Polythene mulch</b>									
M <sub>0</sub> -Control	52.61	63.91	58.26	50.85	69.31	60.08	70.60	67.07	68.84
M <sub>1</sub> - Mulch	71.08	78.31	74.70	76.84	95.02	85.93	86.53	79.83	83.18
SE (m) ±	0.38	0.37	0.24	0.51	0.69	0.41	0.54	0.24	0.36
CD (5%)	1.24	1.21	0.78	1.67	2.24	1.34	1.78	0.78	1.19
<b>Growth stimulants</b>									
P <sub>0</sub> -Control	57.95	68.52	63.24	55.31	76.82	66.06	74.60	69.40	72.00
P <sub>1</sub> -Panchagavya + Amrutpani	65.75	73.70	69.72	72.38	87.50	79.94	82.53	77.50	80.01
SE (m) ±	0.36	0.34	0.26	0.49	0.60	0.28	0.44	0.38	0.26
CD (5%)	1.09	1.01	0.78	1.47	1.81	0.85	1.33	1.15	0.77
<b>Interactions</b>									
F X M	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
F X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
M X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
F X M X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
<b>GM</b>	61.85	71.11	66.48	63.84	82.16	73.00	78.57	73.45	76.00

**Table 4:** Effect of nutrient sources, polythene mulch and growth stimulants on dry matter accumulation (g) of the sweet corn at harvest

Treatments	At harvest								
	Cob sheath			Cob axis			Total		
	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean of 2 years	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean of 2 years	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean of 2 years
<b>Nutrient sources</b>									
F <sub>1</sub> -100% RDN	26.56	30.03	28.30	30.19	24.28	27.23	259.53	278.95	269.24
F <sub>2</sub> -75% RDN + 25% N as PM	32.78	37.58	35.18	37.07	29.70	33.38	305.08	342.26	323.67
F <sub>3</sub> -50% RDN + 50% N as PM	26.88	31.28	29.08	33.35	25.87	29.61	266.42	281.98	274.20
F <sub>4</sub> -100% N as PM	16.03	14.64	15.34	25.43	15.93	20.68	214.27	212.99	213.65
SE (m) ±	0.29	0.43	0.31	0.50	0.40	0.36	3.27	2.69	2.24
CD (5%)	1.01	1.49	1.06	1.74	1.38	1.26	11.32	9.29	7.74
<b>Polythene mulch</b>									
M <sub>0</sub> -Control	17.90	23.19	20.54	29.68	21.65	25.66	221.63	245.13	233.38
M <sub>1</sub> - Mulch	33.23	33.58	33.40	33.34	26.24	29.79	301.01	312.97	307.00
SE (m) ±	0.21	0.14	0.11	0.19	0.12	0.12	1.12	0.89	0.62
CD (5%)	0.70	0.45	0.35	0.63	0.38	0.39	3.67	2.90	2.03
<b>Growth stimulants</b>									
P <sub>0</sub> -Control	22.93	25.94	24.44	30.10	22.42	26.26	240.88	263.10	252.00
P <sub>1</sub> -Panchagavya + Amrutpani	28.20	30.83	29.51	32.92	25.47	29.19	281.77	295.00	288.38
SE (m) ±	0.12	0.21	0.12	0.17	0.17	0.09	0.96	0.85	0.49
CD (5%)	0.36	0.63	0.36	0.50	0.51	0.26	2.87	2.54	1.48
<b>Interactions</b>									
F X M	NS	NS	SIG	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
F X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
M X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	SIG
F X M X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
<b>GM</b>	25.56	28.38	26.97	31.51	23.94	27.73	261.32	279.05	270.19

**Table 5:** Effect of nutrient sources, polythene mulch and growth stimulants on the yield attributing characters of the sweet corn

Treatments	Cob length			Cob girth			Number of grain rows			Number of Grains per cob		
	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean
<b>Nutrient sources</b>												
F <sub>1</sub> -100% RDN	20.19	19.13	19.66	17.12	17.73	17.43	14.71	14.71	14.71	603.27	595.69	599.48
F <sub>2</sub> -75% RDN + 25% N through PM	21.10	20.39	20.75	18.01	18.39	18.20	15.92	15.92	15.92	632.83	696.00	664.42
F <sub>3</sub> -50% RDN + 50% N through PM	20.14	19.39	19.76	17.32	17.87	17.60	14.96	14.83	14.90	624.15	603.48	613.81
F <sub>4</sub> -100% N through PM	16.78	16.77	16.78	15.93	16.15	16.04	14.25	14.58	14.42	453.65	498.90	476.27
SE (m) ±	0.13	0.16	0.12	0.10	0.05	0.06	0.08	0.08	0.06	7.49	8.34	6.07
CD (5%)	0.43	0.57	0.40	0.34	0.16	0.22	0.29	0.28	0.21	25.91	28.86	21.01
<b>Polythene mulch</b>												
M <sub>0</sub> -Control	19.03	17.96	18.50	16.43	17.08	16.75	14.42	14.52	14.47	549.01	552.67	550.84
M <sub>1</sub> - Mulch	20.07	19.87	19.97	17.76	17.99	17.88	15.50	15.50	15.50	607.94	644.36	626.15
SE (m) ±	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02	1.73	1.09	0.80
CD (5%)	0.10	0.12	0.10	0.11	0.03	0.07	0.08	0.10	0.07	5.63	3.54	2.61
<b>Growth stimulants</b>												
P <sub>0</sub> -Control	19.18	18.32	18.75	16.67	17.36	17.02	14.58	14.77	14.68	552.39	577.69	565.04
P <sub>1</sub> -Panchagavya + Amrutpani	19.92	19.51	19.72	17.52	17.71	17.61	15.33	15.25	15.29	604.56	619.34	611.95



SE (m) ±	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	2.68	2.30	2.02
CD (5%)	0.15	0.18	0.13	0.07	0.05	0.05	0.07	0.07	0.06	8.03	6.89	6.05
<b>Interactions</b>												
F X M	SIG	NS	SIG	SIG	SIG	SIG	NS	NS	NS	SIG	NS	SIG
F X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
M X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
F X M X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
<b>GM</b>	19.55	18.92	19.23	17.09	17.53	17.31	14.96	15.01	14.98	578.47	598.52	588.49

**Table 6:** Effect of integrated nutrient management, polythene mulch and growth stimulants on the yield attributing characters of the sweet corn

Treatments	Weight of grains per cob			Number of cobs per plant			Weight per cob		
	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean
<b>Nutrient sources</b>									
F <sub>1</sub> -100% RDN	220.35	247.67	234.01	1.30	1.68	1.49	430.42	461.67	446.04
F <sub>2</sub> -75% RDN + 25% N through PM	254.52	276.04	265.28	1.17	1.92	1.54	478.96	477.08	478.02
F <sub>3</sub> -50% RDN + 50% N through PM	235.37	268.33	251.85	1.08	1.68	1.38	457.22	475.71	466.47
F <sub>4</sub> -100% N through PM	143.47	164.13	153.80	1.07	1.18	1.13	295.97	295.42	295.69
SE (m) ±	2.87	4.13	3.04	0.02	0.03	0.01	6.87	5.17	5.19
CD (5%)	9.94	14.30	10.53	NS	0.10	0.05	23.77	17.89	17.96
<b>Polythene mulch</b>									
M <sub>0</sub> -Control	186.92	222.60	204.76	1.09	1.47	1.28	393.40	393.21	393.31
M <sub>1</sub> - Mulch	239.92	255.48	247.70	1.22	1.77	1.49	437.88	461.73	449.81
SE (m) ±	2.07	1.16	0.82	0.01	0.01	0.01	2.25	1.93	0.91
CD (5%)	6.76	3.79	2.68	NS	0.03	0.03	7.32	6.28	2.98
<b>Growth stimulants</b>									
P <sub>0</sub> -Control	187.98	229.79	208.88	1.20	1.63	1.41	382.95	412.71	397.83
P <sub>1</sub> -Panchagavya + Amrutpani	238.87	248.29	243.58	1.11	1.61	1.36	448.33	442.23	445.28
SE (m) ±	2.12	0.99	1.26	0.01	0.01	0.01	3.42	1.63	2.07
CD (5%)	6.37	2.98	3.77	NS	NS	NS	10.26	4.90	6.22
<b>Interactions</b>									
F X M	NS	NS	SIG	NS	NS	NS	SIG	NS	SIG
F X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
M X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
F X M X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
<b>GM</b>	213.42	239.04	226.23	1.15	1.62	1.39	415.64	427.47	421.56

**Table 7:** Effect of nutrient sources, polythene mulch and growth stimulants on number of cobs, green fodder and total biological yield of the sweet corn

Treatments	Number of cobs per ha.			Cob yield (q/ha)			Green fodder yield (q/ha)			Biological yield (q/ha)		
	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean	1 <sup>st</sup> year	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	Mean
<b>Nutrient sources</b>												
F <sub>1</sub> -100% RDN	48544.97	58531.75	53538.36	199.34	217.26	208.30	226.36	243.06	234.71	425.69	460.32	443.01
F <sub>2</sub> -75% RDN + 25% N as PM	52447.09	62962.96	57705.03	214.62	230.82	222.72	238.10	256.61	247.35	452.71	487.43	470.07
F <sub>3</sub> -50% RDN + 50% N as PM	51521.16	61044.97	56283.07	197.69	216.27	206.98	210.02	240.08	225.05	407.71	456.35	432.03
F <sub>4</sub> -100% N as PM	41071.43	43716.93	42394.18	104.63	96.23	100.43	144.35	161.71	153.03	248.97	257.94	253.46
SE (m) ±	420.86	662.5917	418.98	2.75	2.29	2.32	4.22	2.11	3.10	6.62	4.22	5.36
CD (5%)	1456.42	2292.952	1449.91	9.51	7.92	8.04	14.61	7.30	10.74	22.91	14.62	18.56
<b>Polythene mulch</b>												
M <sub>0</sub> -Control	45304.23	52347.88	48826.06	158.27	176.59	167.43	187.68	213.62	200.65	345.95	390.21	368.08
M <sub>1</sub> -Mulch	51488.10	60780.42	56134.26	199.87	203.70	201.79	221.73	237.10	229.41	421.59	440.81	431.20
SE (m) ±	188.52	340.6312	209.85	0.60	0.65	0.46	0.78	0.66	0.46	0.95	1.13	0.79
CD (5%)	614.80	1110.858	684.37	1.97	2.11	1.50	2.53	2.14	1.51	3.10	3.69	2.58
<b>Growth stimulants</b>												
P <sub>0</sub> -Control	47156.08	54662.70	50909.39	170.87	184.85	177.86	196.86	217.26	207.06	367.72	402.12	384.92
P <sub>1</sub> -Panch. + Amrutpani	49636.24	58465.61	54050.93	187.27	195.44	191.35	212.55	233.47	223.01	399.82	428.90	414.36
SE (m) ±	134.19	179.00	113.45	0.38	0.42	0.33	0.43	0.50	0.29	0.58	0.75	0.49
CD (5%)	402.33	536.67	340.15	1.13	1.27	0.99	1.30	1.51	0.88	1.73	2.25	1.46
<b>Interactions</b>												
F X M	NS	NS	NS	NS	SIG	SIG	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
F X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
M X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
F X M X P	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
<b>GM</b>	48396.2	56564.15	52480.16	179.07	190.15	184.61	204.70	225.36	215.03	383.77	415.51	399.64

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