

## Integrated nutrient management in cotton-sunflower cropping system in the sandy loam soils of north India

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### Abstract

Two sets of field experiments were conducted during *kharif* and *rabi* seasons of 2002-' 03 and 2003-' 04 at New Delhi under irrigated conditions to formulate site-specific nutrient management strategies for cotton-sunflower cropping system. The *kharif* experiments on cotton consisted of eight treatments viz., 100% recommended dose of fertilizers (RDF; 60:30:30 N, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and K<sub>2</sub>O kg ha<sup>-1</sup>), 50% RDF, mung bean intercrop incorporation (MII), farm yard manure (FYM; 12 t ha<sup>-1</sup>), 50% RDF+MII, 50% RDF+FYM, 50% RDF+FYM+MII and control, and it was laid out in a randomized block design with three replications. For the succeeding sunflower crop (*rabi*), each cotton plot was subdivided into three, and 0, 50 and 100% RDF were applied adopting a split plot design. Highest values for seed cotton yield and NPK uptake were observed for the combined application of all three nutrient sources. Nutrient management of cotton also exerted a marked effect on seed yield and NPK uptake of the succeeding sunflower crop. However, direct application to sunflower had a more pronounced effect than the residual effects.

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