

Published with Open Access at **Journal BiNET**

Vol. 10, Issue 01: 857-865

Journal of Bioscience and Agriculture ResearchJournal Home: www.journalbinet.com/jbar-journal.html

Integrated use of organic and inorganic fertilizers on the growth and yield of Boro rice (cv. BRRI dhan 29)

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ABSTRACT

A field experiment was conducted to evaluate the integrated effect of cow dung, poultry manure and water hyacinth with chemical fertilizers on the growth and yield of Boro rice (cv. BRRI dhan29). The effect of different levels of organic fertilizers in combination with recommended doses of inorganic fertilizers were tested over growth parameters and yield of rice. Among the yield contributing characters studied plant height, effective tillers hill⁻¹, panicle length and filled grains panicle⁻¹ were varied significantly by the different treatments. Most of the yield contributing characters influenced positively in treatment having quarter doses of cow dung, poultry manure and water hyacinth over recommended dose. The highest grain yield (5.58 t/ha) and straw yield (7.28 t/ha) were observed in that same treatment T₆ (1/3 Cow dung + 1/3 Poultry Manure + 1/3 water hyacinth + Fertilizers) over other treatments. Thus, the application of cow dung, poultry manure and water hyacinth with chemical fertilizers had significant and positive effect on N, P, K and S contents of rice.

Key Words: Organic fertilizer, Cow dung, Poultry manure and Water hyacinth

Cite article: Sohel, M. H., Sarker, A., Razzak, M. A. & Hashem, M. A. (2016). Integrated use of organic and inorganic fertilizers on the growth and yield of Boro rice (CV. BRRI dhan 29). *Journal of Bioscience and Agriculture Research*, 10(01), 857-865.



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I. Introduction

Sustainable agricultural productivity might be achieved through wise use of integrated nutrient management (Aulakh and Grant, 2008; Bhuiyan, 1994). Hence, soil fertility maintenance is essential in achieving and maintaining high crop yields over a period of time. Unscrupulous use of inorganic fertilizers to meet up the demands of HYVs rendering the soil organic matter depletion in tropical agriculture. As a result, low organic matter content of the soil, unbalanced use of chemical fertilizers, less use of organic manures and inadequate attention given for its improvement and maintenance have made the situation difficult (Karim et al., 1994; Ali et al., 2009). Before 1980's, deficiency of NPK

was a major problem of Bangladesh soil but thereafter along with NPK deficiencies of S and Zn are frequently reported (Haque and Jahiruddin, 1994; Islam and Hossain, 1993). In Bangladesh, most of the cultivated soils have less than 1.5% organic matter, where as good agricultural soil should contain of least 2% organic matter. Miah et al., 2006; Nambiar (1991) reviewed that integrated use of organic manure and chemical NPK fertilizers would be quite promising not only in providing greater stability in production, but also in maintaining higher soil fertility status. Organic matter takes an important role in maintaining soil fertility and productivity (Islam, 2002; Mondal and Chettri, 1998; Rahman and Parkinson, 2007). The problem of nutrient deficiencies as well as nutrient mining caused by intensive cropping with HYV of rice and nutrient imbalance can be minimized by judicious application of nutrients through organic manures. Losses of soil organic matter can only be replenished in the short term by application of organic matter such as manures (Mahajan et al., 2008). Cow dung, poultry manure and water hyacinth are the most popular and promising bulky organic manures produced from solid and liquid excreta of farm animals, which contain considerable amounts of essential nutrient elements required for plant growth. These are one kind of store house of nutrients of plants. Hence an improvement and addition of a good amount of cow dung, poultry manure and water hyacinth to the crop field is essential for fertility and productivity and maintenance of this soil (Singh et al., 1999). Cow dung, poultry manure and water hyacinth have also nutritional value but cow dung use is limited to South East Asian countries including Bangladesh. Besides, cow dung is not utilized properly for crop production. Poultry manure is one of the most promising manure in our country which provides an opportunity to uptake nutrients by plants for a long time, though the poultry farming is now a day's getting popularity (Choudhary and Suri, 2009). Water hyacinth is used to make compost which is the important source of essential plant nutrients. Application of cowdung, poultry manure and water hyacinth alone or in combination with recommended fertilizer dose can play important role in rice cultivation (Hossain et al., 1997; Chettri et al., 2002). But the information on the relative contribution of cowdung, poultry manure and water hyacinth alone or in combination with chemical fertilizers in rice production is scarce in Bangladesh. Therefore, this study was designed to study the effect of integrated use of organic and inorganic fertilizers on yield and yield contributing characters of BRRI dhan29 (Saleque et al., 2004; Hossain, 2011).

II. Materials and Methods

The experiment was carried out at the Field and the Analytical laboratory of Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh. The experiment was laid out in a Randomized Complete Block Design (RCBD), where the experimental area was divided into 3 blocks representing the replications to reduce soil heterogeneity effects. Each block was divided into 7 unit plots with raised dyke treatments. Thus the total number of unit plot was 21. The unit plot size was 4m×2.5m=10 m². The treatment combinations used for the experiment were as follows-T₁: Control (No fertilizer, no manure), T₂: 100% recommended fertilizer dose, T₃: Cowdung (5 t ha⁻¹) + Fertilizers, T₄: Poultry Manure (3 t ha⁻¹) + Fertilizers, T₅: water hyacinth (5 t ha⁻¹) + Fertilizers, T₆: 1/3 Cowdung + 1/3 Poultry Manure + 1/3 water hyacinth + Fertilizers, T₇: Farmer's Practice (Cowdung 4 t ha⁻¹ + Poultry Manure 3 t ha⁻¹ + water hyacinth 3 t ha⁻¹ + Fertilizers). The chemical composition of the cow dung, poultry manure and water hyacinth are presented in Table 01.

Table 01. Nutrient contents in cow dung and poultry manure and water hyacinth

Name of organic fertilizers	Nutrient contents (%)		
	N	P	K
Cow dung	0.57	0.47	0.69
Poultry Manure	1.18	1.13	0.81
Water Hyacinth (Compost)	2.5	1.5	3.5

Fertilizer Recommendation Guide - 2012.

Data collection for physical properties: Five hills were randomly selected from each plot at maturity to record the yield contributing characters like plant height (cm), numbers of total tillers/hill,

numbers of effective tillers/hill, panicle length (cm), numbers of spike/panicle, numbers of grains/panicle and 1000-grain weight (g).

Chemical analysis of grain and straw samples: The estimation of total nitrogen was made by the semi-microKjeldahl method (Page et al., 1982). Phosphorus content of plant extract was determined colorimetrically by stannous chloride method (Olsen et al., 1954). Potassium was determined from the extract by using flame photometer. Sulphur was determined by turbidimetric method (Hunter, 1984).

Statistical analysis: The data were analyzed statistically by F-test to examine the treatment effects and the mean differences were adjudged by Duncan's Multiple Range Test (DMRT) (Gomez and Gomez, 1984) and ranking was indicated by letters.

III. Results and Discussion

Plant growth and yield contributing characters

Plant height

Among the yield contributing characters, plant height was significantly influenced by the different treatments. Plant height increased significantly due to different treatments compared to control treatment. Plant heights ranged from 73.35 to 90.88 cm (Table 02). The highest plant (90.88 cm) was attained in treatment T₆ and second highest plant (88.07 cm) was attained in treatment T₂ (100% RFD). The lowest plant height (73.35 cm) was observed in treatment T₁ (control) which was significantly lower from all other treatments. Cow dung Poultry manure and water hyacinth together with chemical fertilizers showed better performance in increasing the plant height compared to their single application. Channabasavanna and Birandar (2001) noticed that poultry manure induced taller plants as compared to cow dung. The dose of both the organic manures had positive effects on plant height. Babuet et al. (2001) observed that the plant height was significantly influenced by the incorporation of organic manures with fertilizers.

Panicle length

Panicle length of rice was significantly influenced by different treatments (Table 02). All the treatments produced higher panicle length over control treatment (T₁). Panicle length varied from 18.99 to 27.56 cm. The highest panicle length (27.56 cm) was observed in the treatment T₆ which was higher than that of the treatment, T₂, T₃, T₅ and T₇ and was statistically identical to the result of treatment T₂. The lowest panicle length (18.99 cm) was observed in the treatment T₁ (control). The result further showed that panicle length increase was directly influenced by the increased dose of organic manure in combination with chemical fertilizers and poultry manure on increased panicle length than cow dung. Ahamed and Rahman (1991) and Kumar and Singh (2006) reported that the combined application of organic matter and chemical fertilizers increased panicle length of rice.

Effective tillers hill⁻¹

The number of effective tillers hill⁻¹ was also significantly influenced by the different treatments. Number of effective tillers hill⁻¹ ranged from 8.95 to 15.04 (Table 02). The highest number of effective tillers hill⁻¹ (15.04) was obtained in the treatment T₆ (Cow dung + Poultry manure + Water hyacinth + Fertilizer). The number of effective tillers hill⁻¹ in the treatments T₂, T₇, T₄, T₃, and T₅ were statistically similar. The lowest number of effective tillers hill⁻¹ (8.95) was recorded in treatment T₁ (control). The results clearly indicated that the application of organic manures with fertilizers increased effective tiller's hill⁻¹ which was comparable to the 100% chemical fertilized treatment. Rahman et al. (1996) observed that the effect of poultry manure on effective tillers hill⁻¹ were more prominent than cow dung, it was more so when chemical fertilizers were used in combination. Azim (1999) and Chaturvedi (2005) also reported beneficial effects of manures in combination with chemical fertilizers on effective tillers hill⁻¹.

Filled grains panicle⁻¹

The number of filled grains panicle⁻¹ was significantly affected due to application of cow dung, water hyacinth, poultry manure and chemical fertilizers. The number of filled grains panicle⁻¹ ranged from

90.17 to 147.02 (Table 02). The highest number of filled grains panicle⁻¹ (147.02) was found in treatment T₆ (Cow dung + Poultry manure + Water hyacinth + Fertilizers). On the other hand, the lowest number of filled grains panicle⁻¹ (90.17) was recorded in treatment T₁ (control). Umanah et al. (2003) and Usman (2003) reported that poultry manure increased the grains per panicle. A similar finding was also claimed by Satyanarayana et al. (2002).

1000-grain weight

The 1000-grain weight of BRRI dhan29 was significantly influenced by the different treatments. 1000-grain weight ranged from 20.19 to 23.01 g (Table 02). The highest 1000-grain weight (23.01g) was observed in the treatment T₆ which was statistically identical to those observed in the treatments T₇, T₅ and T₂. The lowest 1000-grain weight (20.19g) was observed in treatment T₁ (control). Rahman (2001) reported that application of chemical fertilizers with farmyard manure or wheat straw in alternate wetting and drying condition increased N, P, & K uptake by rice plants, increased 1000 grain weight and grain yield of rice.

Table 02. Yield contributing characters of BRRI dhan29 as influenced by different treatments

Treatments	Plant height (cm)	Panicle length (cm)	No. of effective tillers hill ⁻¹	No. of filled grains panicle ⁻¹	1000-grain weight (g)
T ₁	73.35 d ± 0.74	18.99 c ± 0.18	8.95 d ± 0.27	90.17 e ± 1.32	20.19 cd ± 0.23
T ₂	88.07 ab ± 0.88	27.17 a ± 0.26	15.03 ab ± 0.33	144.99 ab ± 1.52	22.08 ab ± 0.24
T ₃	84.51 c ± 0.83	25.32 ab ± 0.25	12.78 bc ± 0.29	133.86 c ± 1.41	21.13 bc ± 0.22
T ₄	85.33 bc ± 0.85	24.11 b ± 0.24	13.25 abc ± 0.31	137.0 bc ± 1.49	19.53 d ± 0.19
T ₅	76.18 d ± 0.75	22.83 c ± 0.22	13.10 c ± 0.30	113.74 d ± 1.41	22.11 ab ± 0.24
T ₆	90.88 a ± 0.89	27.56 a ± 0.26	15.04 a ± 0.33	147.02 a ± 1.55	23.01 a ± 0.25
T ₇	86.92 abc ± 0.85	25.49 ab ± 0.25	14.12 abc ± 0.32	141.14 abc ± 1.53	22.15 ab ± 0.24

The data presented in the table as Mean ± SE and significantly varied with 5% Level of significance followed by DMRT.

Yield of grain and straw

Grain yield

The grain yield of boro rice (cv. BRRI dhan29) responded significantly to integrated use of cow dung, poultry manure and water hyacinth with chemical fertilizers and results have been presented in the Table 03. The grain yields of rice ranged from 3.28 to 5.58 t ha⁻¹ due to different treatments. All the treatments produced significantly higher grain yield over control. The highest grain yield of 5.58 t ha⁻¹ showing 71.7 % increase over control was obtained in the treatment T₆ (Cow dung + Poultry manure + Water hyacinth + Fertilizers) followed by that recorded in the treatment T₇ (Farmer's practice) but they were statistically identical. The lowest grain yield of 3.28 t ha⁻¹ was observed in control treatment T₁. The treatments can be ranked in the order of T₆>T₂>T₇>T₄>T₃>T₅>T₁ in term of grain yields. The results in the Table 03 reveals that BRRI dhan29 responded better to the NPK supplied from organic manures with chemical fertilizers. NPK supplied from cow dung, poultry manure and water hyacinth with fertilizers i.e. treatment T₆ was found more effective in producing grain yield of BRRI dhan29 as compared to rice straw with fertilizers (T₃) and half chemically fertilizer treatment (T₄). The results clearly indicated that organic sources of nutrient gave significantly higher grain yield over chemical fertilizer. The study revealed that integrated use of cow dung and poultry manure with chemical fertilizers reduced fertilizer without any remarkable yield decline. Haque et al. (2001) and Rajni et al. (2001) reported that application of cow dung, poultry manure and water hyacinth in combination with chemical fertilizers increased grain yield of BRRI dhan29. Rahman et al. (2009) and Singh (2006) reported that the application of organic manure and chemical fertilizers increased the grain and straw yields of rice.

Straw yield

Like grain yield, the straw yield of boro rice (cv. BRRI dhan29) responded significantly to the application of cow dung, poultry manure and water hyacinth in combination with chemical fertilizers (Table 03). The straw yield varied from 4.17 to 7.28 t ha⁻¹ (Table 3). The highest straw yield (7.28 t ha⁻¹) was recorded in treatment T₆ (Cow dung + Poultry manure + Water hyacinth + Fertilizers) which was 70.4% increased over control. The lowest straw yield (4.17 t ha⁻¹) was recorded in the treatment T₁ (control). In producing straw yield, the treatments may be ranked in order of T₆>T₂>T₇>T₄>T₃>T₅>T₁. The percent increase in straw yield over control ranged from 28.2 to 70.53 %. However, the highest percent increase in straw yield (70.4%) was recorded in treatment T₆. The results showed that the application of cow dung or water hyacinth or poultry manure with chemical fertilizers induced higher straw yield of BRRI dhan29 and cow dung was superior to poultry manure and increased rate also had positive effect in it. This finding is assembled to the work of Khan (1998) and Reddy et al. (2004) who found significant effects of manures and fertilizers on straw yield. Rajput and Warsi (1992) and Singh (2001) also reported that the application of organic manure and chemical fertilizers increased straw yield.

Table 03. Grain and straw yields of BRRI dhan29 as influenced by different treatments

Treatments	Grain		Straw	
	Yield (t ha ⁻¹)	% yield increase over control	Yield (t ha ⁻¹)	% yield increase over control
T ₁	3.28 d ± 0.108	-	4.17 e ± 0.081	-
T ₂	5.38 ab ± 0.116	64.1	7.14 a ± 0.085	63.1
T ₃	4.93 b ± 0.112	47.2	6.03 cd ± 0.084	37.7
T ₄	4.94 b ± 0.112	50.2	6.23 bc ± 0.084	46.3
T ₅	4.25 c ± 0.113	29.1	5.77 d ± 0.082	28.2
T ₆	5.58 a ± 0.116	71.7	7.28 a ± 0.085	70.4
T ₇	5.28 ab ± 0.116	60.4	6.31 b ± 0.084	50.1

The data presented in the table as Mean ± SE and significantly varied with 5% Level of significance followed by DMRT.

Nutrient contents in grain and straw of BRRI dhan29

Nitrogen content

The nitrogen content in grain and straw of BRRI dhan29 was significantly influenced by combined application of cow dung, water hyacinth or poultry manure along with chemical fertilizers than single application of cow dung and poultry manure. The grain N content varied from 0.981 to 1.249% (Table 04). The highest grain N content (1.249%) was observed in the treatment T₆ which was statistically identical to the results of treatments T₇ and T₂. The lowest grain N content (0.981%) was observed in the treatment T₁ (control). On the other hand, N content in straw varied from 0.467 to 0.598% (Table 4). The highest N content (0.598%) in straw was observed in treatment T₆ which was statistically identical to the results of treatments T₇ and T₂. The lowest straw N content (0.467%) was observed in the treatment T₁ (control) which was statistically identical to those in the treatments T₃ and T₅. Farid et al. (2011); Zaman et al. (2000) and Manzoor et al. (2000) reported that chemical properties like organic matter content, CEC, total N, exchangeable K, available P and S were favorably influenced by the application of organic sources of nitrogen and potassium while the inorganic sources mostly did not show positive effect.

Phosphorus content

Phosphorus content in rice grain and straw (Table 04) of BRRI dhan29 were increased significantly due to the combined application of cow dung, poultry manure and water hyacinth with chemical fertilizer. Data in Table 04 indicated that phosphorus content in grain was significantly and in straw insignificantly affected by various treatments under study. The phosphorus in rice grain ranged from 0.208 to 0.289% (Table 4) due to application of chemical fertilizers along with the cow dung or poultry manure. It was evident from the results that poultry manure accumulated more P in rice grain than

that of cow dung. The highest P content (0.289%) in grain was found in treatment T₆. The second highest P content (0.288%) was statistically similar with the results of treatment T₃, T₄, T₅ and T₇. The lowest P content (0.208%) in grain was found in treatment T₁ (control). The P content in straw ranged from 0.124 to 0.188%. The highest P content (0.188%) in straw was observed in treatment T₆ which was statistically different from all other treatments. The lowest P content (0.124%) in straw was recorded in treatment T₁ (control). All the treatments produced higher P content in grain than that in straw. Laximinarayana (2000) and Vennila et al. (2007) reported that the application of organic manure and chemical fertilizers increased the phosphorus content in rice.

Potassium content

Results in Table 04 indicated that potassium contents in rice grain and straw were significantly influenced by the different treatments over control. The K contents in grain and straw varied from 0.194 to 0.299% and 1.259 to 1.631%, respectively (Table 04) due to application of chemical fertilizers along with the cow dung, water hyacinth and poultry manure. It was evident from the results that poultry manure was more K accumulating in rice grain than that of cow dung. The highest K content in grain (0.299 %) was found in treatment T₆. The lowest K content in grain (0.194%) was obtained in treatment T₁ (control). In straw, the highest K content (1.631%) was found in treatment T₆ which was statistically different from all other treatments. The lowest K content in straw (1.259%) was observed in treatment T₁ which was different from all other treatments. Whalen et al. (2000) reported that mineral N, available P,K, Ca and Mg increased immediately after cattle manure application.

Sulphur content

Data in Table 04 indicated that sulphur contents in grain and straw was insignificantly affected by various treatments under study. Sulphur content in rice grain ranged from 0.097 to 0.144%. The highest value (0.144%) was found in T₆. which was statistically identical to the result of treatment T₂. The lowest S content was in treatments T₁ which was statistically similar to the results of treatments T₃, T₄, and T₅. On the other hand, the S content in straw varied from 0.071 to 0.125%. The highest S content in straw (0.125%) was observed in treatment T₆ (Cow dung + Poultry manure + Water hyacinth + Fertilizers) which was statistically similar to those in treatments T₂, T₄, and T₇. The lowest S content in straw (0.071%) was found in treatment T₁ (control). Hossain (1996) and Muhammad et al. (2003) reported that the levels of S concentrations in rice grain and straw improved due to combined use of organic manures and chemical fertilizers.

Table 04. N, P, K and S contents in grain and straw of BRRI dhan29 as influenced by different treatments

Treatment	% N		% P		% K		% S	
	Grain	Straw	Grain	Straw	Grain	Straw	Grain	Straw
T ₁	0.981 d ± 0.0074	0.467 d ± 0.0079	0.208 b ± 0.0088	0.124	0.194 d ± 0.0092	1.259 c ± 0.0075	0.097	0.071
T ₂	1.233 ab ± 0.0084	0.569 ab ± 0.0088	0.266 ab ± 0.0092	0.165	0.287 ab ± 0.0099	1.525 ab ± 0.0084	0.128	0.112
T ₃	1.148 c ± 0.0075	0.512 bcd ± 0.0083	0.239 ab ± 0.0091	0.139	0.228 bcd ± 0.0095	1.325 c ± 0.0079	0.107	0.097
T ₄	1.171 bc ± 0.0079	0.538 abc ± 0.0089	0.249 ab ± 0.0090	0.149	0.233 bcd ± 0.0096	1.338 c ± 0.0081	0.113	0.107
T ₅	1.132 c ± 0.0080	0.502 cd ± 0.0082	0.234 ab ± 0.0091	0.133	0.211 cd ± 0.0093	1.289 c ± 0.0078	0.107	0.088
T ₆	1.249 a ± 0.0081	0.598 a ± 0.0086	0.289 a ± 0.0093	0.188	0.299 a ± 0.0098	1.631 a ± 0.0085	0.144	0.125
T ₇	1.223 ab ± 0.0084	0.545 abc ± 0.0089	0.288 a ± 0.0093	0.168	0.263 abc ± 0.0095	1.392 bc ± 0.0079	0.133	0.088

Data presented in the table as Mean ± SE and significantly varied with 5% Level of significance followed by DMRT.

IV. Conclusion

Plant height, effective tillers hill⁻¹, panicle length, number of filled grains panicle⁻¹ and 1000-grain weight were significantly influenced due to different treatments. It may be mentioned here that the combined application of organic and inorganic fertilizers showed the better performance in the yield components of rice. It was observed that cow dung, poultry manure and water hyacinth with chemical fertilizers gave better grain and straw yields than only chemical fertilizers. It also appeared that yields due to organic manure (cow dung, poultry manure and water hyacinth) were statistically superior to the yield obtained with the control treatment.

Acknowledgement

Authors wish to thank Dr. Md. Abul Hashem, Dr. M. Mazibur Rahman and all of the teachers, technicians and staffs of the department of soil science, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh for their assistance in conducting the study.

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