ROLE OF SULPHUR IN ENHANCING THE OIL CONTENTS AND YIELD OF RAPESEED UNDER MEDIUM RAINFED CONDITIONS

Abid Subhani, Ghulam Shabbir, Muhammad Fazil, Abid Mahmood, Rizwan Khalid and Nazar Muhammad Cheema***

ABSTRACT

A field study was conducted to elucidate the influence of sulphur (S) addition along with recommended fertilizer dose (90-60-0 NPK kg ha^{-1}) on the oil contents and yield of two varieties of rapeseed i.e. Chakwal-sarson and Dunkled under medium rainfed conditions during 2002-03. Sulphur was applied @ 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, and 50 kg ha^{-1} in the form of gypsum at the time of seedbed preparation before sowing. Data indicated that the application of different doses of S significantly increased the seed yield ranging from 5.2-76.7% while the oil contents were enhanced from 2.7-16.8% as compared to the control (no S application). Other yield contributing traits such as plant height, number of primary branches $plant^{-1}$, siliquae $plant^{-1}$, number of seeds $siliqua^{-1}$ and 1000-seed weight also responded positively to the S addition. Chakwal-sarson (1049 kg ha^{-1}) produced significantly higher seed yield than the Dunkled (939 kg ha^{-1}), whereas the oil content of Dunkled (43.93%) was more than Chakwal-sarson (43.68%).

Key Words: Oil Contents, Rapeseed, Sulphur, Seed Yield.