ZINC AND CU NUTRITION OF TWO WHEAT VARIETIES ON A CALCAREOUSSOIL

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ABSTRACT

Keeping in view the wide spread zinc and to a lesser extent Cu deficiencies in our crops and soils, two pot culture studies employing wheat cultivars cv. Inqlab-91 and Pasban were undertaken to investigate their Zn and Cu nutrition on a Hafizabad series soil with 0.4 and 0.6 mg kg^{-1} DTPA-Zn and Cu, respectively. One out of three plants grown, was sampled at an intermediary midtillering stage (30 cm high) for Zn and Cu composition, while other two were grown to maturity for grain yield. Zinc and Cu apart from basal N, P and K were applied @ 0, 2.5, 5 and 10 mg kg^{-1} soil. Both varieties responded to Zn and Cu application ($P<.01$). Zinc concentrations of about 21 mg kg^{-1} in both the varieties in their whole shoot was associated with their near maximum yield obtained at soil applied Zn @ 4 and 2 mg kg^{-1}, respectively; while, Cu concentration of 7.0 and 6.5 mg kg^{-1} in the whole shoot of the two varieties were associated with near maximum grain yield obtained at soil applied Cu of 2 and 4 mg kg^{-1} Cu, respectively.