TIMING OF NITROGEN APPLICATION TO RAPESEED

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Effect of timing of nitrogen application on the yield and N uptake by two rapeseed cultivars: Westar and Pakcheen, was studied in a field experiment. Nitrogen when applied in two splits; half at planting time and other half at floral bud formation (62 DAS) increased stalk and grain yields and N-uptake significantly as compared to other timings of N-application viz. all N (i) at seed bed time or (ii) at floral bud formation or (iii) 50% flowering stages or half N dose at seed bed plus half N at 50% flowering stages. It was also observed that the agronomic efficiency and N recovery were greater in treatments receiving N in splits than all at one time.

INTRODUCTION

Rapeseed is a traditional oilseed crop of Pakistan and has remained one of the major source of edible oil in the sub-continent and China for centuries. The crop is cultivated on marginal lands with minimum inputs. Average yield level in Pakistan is one of the lowest in the world. The per acre yield can be increased by adopting improved agro-

T_3: All N at floral bud formation (62 DAS)**
T_4: All N at 50% flowering (112 DAS) Stage.
T_5: ½ N at seed bed + ½ N at floral bud formation (62 DAS)
T_6: ½ N at seed bed + ½ N at 50% flowering stage (112 DAS)
T_7: ¼ N at seed bed + ¼ N at floral bud (62 DAS) + ½ N at 50% flowering stage (112 DAS).

rapeseed
seedbed
bud forn

Table 1.

Treatmen
N @ 90 l

T_1 Contro
T_2 All N
T_3 All N
formati
T_4 All N
stage (
T_5 ½ N a