



## ARTICLE

## Effect of Different Levels of Water Soluble Phosphorus in Complex Fertilizers on Crop Productivity and Soil Health

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## ABSTRACT

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Field experiments were undertaken on sandy soils with three cropping systems at Giridih, Jharkhand, India for two years during 2012-2014. The experiments were executed in split plot design by assigning water soluble phosphorus (WSP) fertilizers in main-plot and recommended dose of phosphorus (RDP) in sub-plot with three replications. The maximum economical yield of rice (4705 kg/ha), baby corn (842 kg/ha) and Chickpea (920 kg/ha) were recorded with the application of 30% WSP. The maximum economical yield of successive crops - wheat (3185 kg/ha), mustard (1720 kg/ha) and groundnut (1578 kg/ha) were recorded with the application of 30% WSP and 100% RDP treatment. Almost similar trends were noticed in terms of by-product yield, nutrient uptake and residual soil fertility status. All the levels of WSP (30% - 89%) in complex fertilizers were found to be equally effective for grain yield, straw yield, nutrient uptake, and residual soil fertility.

### 1. Introduction

Phosphorus is the second most deficient nutrient in agriculture production systems around the world next to nitrogen (Balemi and Negisho, 2012)<sup>[3]</sup>. It is an essential element for plant growth. It plays an important role in photosynthesis, energy transfer and storage. Plant growth is restricted unless the soil contains adequate level of phosphorus or it is supplied to soil from external source (Tekchand and Tomar, 1993; Tomar, 2000; Setia and Sharma, 2007)<sup>[28][29][26]</sup>. The fraction of soil phos-

phorus utilized for crop growth is called as 'Available Phosphorus'. Phosphorus is absorbed by plants mostly the primary and secondary orthophosphate ions ( $\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-$  and  $\text{HPO}_4^{2-}$ ) which are present in soil solution. The amount of each form present depends primarily on soil pH. At pH 7.22 there are approximately equal amount of  $\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-$  and  $\text{HPO}_4^{2-}$ . Plant uptake of  $\text{HPO}_4^{2-}$  is much slower than  $\text{H}_2\text{PO}_4^-$ . The amount of P held in the cycling pools of soil P (i.e. plant-available P) is the working capital of the soil that determines crop productivity.

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High quality rock phosphate is a finite source and there is an on-going debate about the longevity of global P resources (Cordell *et al.* 2009; Van Kauwenbergh 2010)<sup>[7]</sup><sup>[14]</sup>. Phosphorus is important for sustainable agricultural production and global food security. To ensure equitable use of scarce P resources, inefficiencies in P use in agriculture needs to be addressed. Diammonium phosphate (DAP) is the most commonly used P-fertilizer throughout South-East Asia. However, raw materials required for its production are being imported resulting in drain of foreign exchange. Keeping this and the anticipated short supply of sulphur in the world market, fertilizer manufacturers have introduced nitrophosphates as an alternative (Khurana *et al.* 2003)<sup>[15]</sup>.

Nitrophosphates with a combination of water soluble phosphate (30–60%) and citrate-soluble phosphate offer an optimal solution to increase P-fertilizer use efficiency for majority of crops on varied soils (Wichmann 1977)<sup>[32]</sup>. Energy requirements of nitrophosphate production are 20% lower than sulphur-based P-fertilizers. From environmental point of view, nitrophosphate manufacturing does not lead to the generation of sulfur dioxide, large volumes of solid wastes and waste waters (Anonymous 1988)<sup>[1]</sup>. On the other hand, phosphoric acid- and sulphuric acid-based P-fertilizers have a major problem of phosphogypsum disposal (Reuvers and Lee 1994)<sup>[22]</sup>. Carbon dioxide produced during nitrophosphate manufacturing is consumed in N fertilizer production (Anonymous 1994)<sup>[2]</sup>. In addition, nitrophosphate production process has the ability to accommodate low-grade phosphate rock by removing inerts (Bonekamp 1984)<sup>[5]</sup>.

There has an interest in the research that how much water soluble P should be present in different kind of fertilizer for getting higher P-use efficiency and optimum crop yield. With this background, experiments were designed to study the effect of different levels of water soluble P in complex fertilizers in different cropping systems at Giridih, Jharkhand, India.

## 2. Methodology

### 2.1 Experimental Site

The three experiments on different cropping systems were conducted at Giridih, Jharkhand, India (Table). The mean maximum temperature is generally recorded in the month of June (40–45 °C) and minimum temperature in January (2–5 °C). The average annual rainfall is 1349 mm of which 82% occurs within the monsoon period (June–September). Relative humidity ranges from 78% to 95%. Annual potential evapo-transpiration (PET) is 1293 mm. The mean daily evaporation reaches a maximum of 12–15 mm per day in June and a minimum of 0.5–0.7 mm per

day in January. The mean wind velocity varies from 3.5 km hr<sup>-1</sup> during October to 6.4 km hr<sup>-1</sup> during April. The physico-chemical parameters of study soils are given in Table 1.

**Table 1.** The physico-chemical parameters of study soils.

Parameter	Rice-wheat	Baby corn-Mustard	Chick-pea-Groundnut
pH	6.10	5.80	5.60
Conductivity (dSm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.12	0.17	0.14
Organic carbon (%)	0.33	0.29	0.25
Available N	135	169	226
Available P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	9.30	11	7.0
Available K <sub>2</sub> O	225	244	258

### 2.2 Experimental Design

A split plot design with three replications was used in the study by allocating levels of water soluble Phosphorus (WSP) in complex P-fertilizers in main-plots and three recommended dose of phosphate treatments in sub-plots. Four levels of water soluble Phosphorus (WSP) in complex fertilizers viz T<sub>1</sub>: 30 % WSP, T<sub>2</sub>: 60 % WSP, T<sub>3</sub>: 80 % WSP, T<sub>4</sub>: 100 % WSP along with a T<sub>0</sub>: Absolute Control was taken in main-plot. To observe the residual effect, three levels of recommended doses of phosphate (RDP) viz P<sub>1</sub>: 50 % RD of phosphorus, P<sub>2</sub>: 100 % RD of phosphorus along with P<sub>0</sub>: Control was accommodated in sub-plot. Source of P-fertilizers and their properties are mentioned in Table 2. Overnight water-soaked seeds of each different crop were sown at a depth of 3–5 cm below the soil surface. The full dose of P and K, and 50% N was applied at the time of sowing. The remaining 50% N was applied in two equal doses as band application at 20 and 40 days after sowing. Weeding was done twice to keep the field weed free.

### 2.3 Soil Sampling and Analysis

Soil samples from 0 to 20 cm depth were collected after each crop harvest, air dried, and sieved (2 mm mesh). Soil organic carbon (SOC) was analyzed by the wet oxidation method (Walkley and Black 1934)<sup>[31]</sup>. Soil available nitrogen was estimated by alkaline potassium permanganate (Subbiah and Asija 1956)<sup>[27]</sup>, phosphorus by sodium bicarbonate (Olsen *et al.* 1954)<sup>[20]</sup> and potassium by ammonium acetate (Hanway and Heidel 1952)<sup>[9]</sup> method. A suspension of soil and water 1:2.5 and 1:5 was used to determine the pH and electrical conductivity (EC), respectively (Jackson 1973)<sup>[13]</sup>.

### 2.4 Statistical Analysis

Collected data were subjected to statistical analysis in a split-plot design (Gomez and Gomez 1984)<sup>[8]</sup>. Least sig-

**Table 2.** Source of fertilizer and their properties

SPECIFICATION	Nitrophosphate with potash "Suphala" (15:15:15)	Nitrophosphate "Suphala" (20:20:0)	Urea Ammonium Phosphate (20:20:0)	Diammonium phosphate (18:46:0)
Total nitrogen (%)	15.0	20	20	18.0
Ammonical nitrogen (%)	7.5	10	6.4	15.5
Nitrate nitrogen (%)	7.5	10	0.0	0.0
Urea nitrogen (%)	0.0	0.0	13.6	2.5
Neutral ammonium citrate soluble P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (%)	15.0	20	20	46.0
Water soluble P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> (%)	4.0 (27%)*	12 (60%)*	17 (85%)*	41.0 (89%)*
Water soluble K <sub>2</sub> O (%)	15	0.0	0	0
Fertilizer treatment	T <sub>1</sub>	T <sub>2</sub>	T <sub>3</sub>	T <sub>4</sub>

\*Figures in parenthesis are percent water soluble phosphorus.

nificant difference (LSD) was worked out where variance ratio (*F* test) was significant and presented/tested at 5% level of significance.

### 3. Results

#### 3.1 Grain and Straw Yield

Rice and baby corn grown in *Kharif* season and chickpea in *Rabi* with four levels of WSP- water soluble phosphorus in complex fertilizers along with control plots to note their effects on grain and straw yields. A minor variation was recorded in the yield data over the years may be due to the environmental conditions. The maximum economical yield of rice (4705 kg/ha), baby corn (842 kg/ha) and Chickpea (920 kg/ha) were recorded with the application of 30% WSP. Similar trend was noticed in terms by-product yield of rice (6675 kg/ha), baby corn (3264 kg/ha) and Chickpea (1694 kg/ha). Although there was no significant difference observed among the fertilizer treatments with respect to grain and straw yield. The minimum yields were noted where no phosphatic fertilizer was applied (Table 3-5).

Wheat and mustard in *Rabi* season and groundnut in *Kharif* were grown on residual soil fertility of previous phosphorus treatments and three levels of recommended dose of phosphorus (RDP) viz 0%, 50% and 100%. A minor variation was recorded in the yield data over the years may be due to the environmental conditions. Irrespective of crop, economic yield and by-product yield were increased with increasing the levels of RDP. The maximum economical yield of wheat (3185 kg/ha), mustard (1720 kg/ha) and groundnut (1578 kg/ha) were recorded with the application of 30% WSP and 100% RDP treatment. Similar trend was noticed in terms by-product yield of wheat (4496 kg/ha), mustard (2365 kg/ha) and groundnut (2667

kg/ha). Although there was no significant difference observed amongst the fertilizer treatments and RDP in terms of economic and by-product yields. The minimum yields were observed where no P-fertilizer was applied (Table 3-5).

#### 3.2 Nutrient uptake

Direct and residual effect of different levels of WSP in complex fertilizers on nutrients uptake (i.e. N, P & K) by crops are presented in Table 6-8. The maximum nutrients (NPK) up taken by rice (87.3 N, 14.4 P and 105.9 K kg/ha), baby corn (70.9 N, 8.67 P & 111.9 K kg/ha) and Chickpea (66.7 N, 15.4 P & 84.1 K kg/ha) were recorded with the application of 30% WSP. Although there was no significant difference observed amongst the fertilizer treatments. The minimum nutrients uptake was noted where no phosphatic fertilizer was applied (Table 6-8).

Follow-up crops; wheat, mustard and groundnut were grown on residual soil fertility of previous phosphorus treatments and with three levels of RDP viz 0%, 50% and 100%. Irrespective of crop, nutrients uptake was increased with increasing the levels of RDP. The maximum uptake of nutrient by wheat (50.9 N, 12.1 P & 96.4 K kg/ha), by mustard (72.8 N, 8.2 P & 101.3 K kg/ha) and by groundnut (91.5 N, 16.3 P & 93.4 K kg/ha) were recorded with the application of 30% WSP and 100% RDP treatment. However, there was no significant difference observed amongst the fertilizer treatments. The minimum nutrients uptake was observed where no P-fertilizer was applied (Table 6-8).

#### 3.3 Residual soil fertility

Residual soil fertility in terms of N, P & K was remarkably influenced by direct and residual effect of different levels of WSP in complex fertilizers Table 9-11. The max-

**Table 3.** Direct effect of different levels of water soluble phosphorus in complex fertilizer on rice yield and residual effect on wheat yield and system productivity.

Treatment	Rice				Wheat			
	Grain yield (kg/ha)		Straw yield (kg/ha)		Grain yield (kg/ha)		Straw yield (kg/ha)	
	2012	2013	2013	2014	2012	2013	2013	2014
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	3034	4020	4339	5668	2220	2620	3130	3713
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	4090	5320	5849	7501	2430	3030	3426	4294
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	4050	5259	5792	7416	2400	2970	3384	4208
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	4000	4950	5720	6980	2370	2760	3342	3911
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	3940	4674	5634	6590	2280	2710	3215	3840
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	--	--	--	--	2340	2937	3311	4317
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	--	--	--	--	2650	3143	3750	4620
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	2610	2841	3693	4177
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	--	--	--	--	2580	2790	3651	4101
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	--	--	--	--	2550	2770	3608	4072
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	--	--	--	--	2440	3095	3418	4333
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	--	--	--	--	2870	3550	4021	4970
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	2820	3470	3951	4858
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	--	--	--	--	2790	3390	3909	4746
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	--	--	--	--	2800	3410	3923	4774
Sem± (Main)	34.71	32.88	52.07	54.91	27.33	23.71	36.22	32.40
Sem± (Sub)					12.56	12.21	20.74	19.50
CD (p= 0.05) Main	80.05	75.83	120.08	126.64	63.03	54.68	83.52	74.71
CD (p= 0.05) Sub					26.20	25.48	43.27	40.67

imum residual soil fertility after harvesting of rice (187.4 N, 25.4 P and 280.9 K kg/ha), baby corn (231.3 N, 17.1 P & 288.6 K kg/ha) and Chickpea (304.2 N, 9.2 P & 354.6 K kg/ha) were recorded with the application of 30% WSP. Although there was no significant difference observed amongst the fertilizer treatments. The minimum nutrients uptake was noted where no phosphatic fertilizer was applied.

Follow-up crops; wheat, mustard and groundnut were grown on residual soil fertility of previous phosphorus treatments and with three levels of RDP viz 0%, 50% and 100%. Irrespective of crop, residual soil nutrients were increased with increasing the levels of RDP. The residual soil fertility was recorded the highest with the application of 30% WSP and 100% RDP treatment for wheat (218.6

N, 19.2 P & 323.9 K kg/ha), mustard (261.7 N, 20.1 P & 299.6 K kg/ha) and groundnut (287.8 N, 10.2 P & 322.9 K kg/ha). However, there was no significant difference observed amongst the fertilizer treatments. The minimum residual soil nutrients were observed where no P-fertilizer was applied (Table 6-8).

#### 4. Discussions

##### 4.1 Grain and Straw Yield

Irrespective of crops or/and cropping system, crop grain and straw yield were statically at par with the application P-fertilizers having different WSP (30-89%). Similar results were also observed by Saha *et al.*, 2014<sup>[25]</sup>, Khurana *et al.*, 2003 & 2004<sup>[16]</sup>. The phosphorus nutrition of plants is predominantly controlled by P dynamics in the soil/ rhi-

**Table 4.** Direct effect of different levels of water soluble phosphorus in complex fertilizer on baby corn and residual effect on mustard and system productivity.

Treatment	Baby corn				Mustard			
	Cob yield (kg/ha)		Straw yield (kg/ha)		Grain yield (kg/ha)		Straw yield (kg/ha)	
	2012	2013	2013	2014	2012	2013	2013	2014
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	436	510	1683	1984	1010	1105	1374	1503
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	810	874	3127	3400	1252	1471	1703	2001
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	783	843	3022	3279	1195	1411	1625	1919
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	757	844	2922	3283	1180	1389	1605	1889
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	717	840	2768	3268	1167	1376	1587	1871
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	--	--	--	--	1181	1230	1618	1685
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	--	--	--	--	1398	1555	1915	2130
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	1384	1505	1896	2062
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	--	--	--	--	1329	1478	1821	2025
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	--	--	--	--	1294	1448	1773	1984
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	--	--	--	--	1248	1335	1716	1836
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	--	--	--	--	1667	1773	2292	2438
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	1599	1737	2199	2388
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	--	--	--	--	1514	1703	2082	2342
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	--	--	--	--	1501	1698	2064	2335
Sem± (Main)	23.07	31.05	89.01	121.34	24.12	24.77	29.66	32.95
Sem± (Sub)					14.88	12.68	18.30	16.86
CD (p= 0.05) Main	53.21	86.25	205.21	336.16	55.61	57.12	68.40	75.97
CD (p= 0.05) Sub					31.03	26.45	38.17	35.18

zosphere- plant continuum. The concentration of available soil phosphorus seldom exceeds 10 mM (Bielecki, 1973)<sup>[4]</sup>, which is much lower than that in plant tissues where the concentration is approximately 5 to 20 mM phosphorus (Raghothama, 1999)<sup>[21]</sup>. Because of the low concentration and poor mobility of plant-available phosphorus in soils, applications of P-fertilizers are needed to improve crop growth and yield. The chemical and biological processes in the rhizosphere determine mobilization and acquisition of soil nutrients as well as microbial dynamics. These processes also control nutrient use efficiency of crops, and thus profoundly influence crop productivity (Hinsinger *et al.*, 2009; Richardson *et al.*, 2009; Wissuwa *et al.*, 2009; Zhang *et al.*, 2010)<sup>[11][23][33][34]</sup>. In a long-term study on calcareous soils of Haryana, Meelu *et al.* (1977)<sup>[19]</sup> and Chaudhary *et al.* (1979)<sup>[6]</sup> did not found significant differ-

ence in grain yield @ 120 kg P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> ha<sup>-1</sup> application through water soluble sources SSP, DAP, UAP and nitrophosphate of 30% WSP. Similarly, Saha *et al.*, 2013<sup>[24]</sup> and Khuran *et al.*, 2004<sup>[16]</sup> reported effectiveness of nitrophosphate at par with SSP, DAP and UAP in terms of crop yield.

#### 4.2 Nutrient Uptake

Irrespective of crop or/and cropping system, data recorded on nutrients uptake in terms of NPK did not show significant differences among the WSP treatments. Because of the unique properties of P in soil such as low solubility, low mobility, and high fixation by the soil matrix, the availability of P to plants is dominantly controlled by two key processes: (1) spatial availability and acquisition of P in terms of plant root architecture and (2) bio-availability and acquisition of P based on the rhizosphere



**Table 5.** Direct effect of different levels of water soluble phosphorus in complex fertilizer on chickpea and residual effect on groundnut and system productivity.

Treatment	Chickpea				Groundnut			
	Cob yield (kg/ha)		Straw yield (kg/ha)		Grain yield (kg/ha)		Straw yield (kg/ha)	
	2012	2013	2013	2014	2012	2013	2013	2014
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	680	739	1251	1375	1050	1082	1733	1785
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	862	969	1586	1802	1312	1402	2165	2313
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	823	963	1514	1791	1297	1374	2140	2267
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	787	957	1448	1780	1250	1286	2063	2122
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	762	956	1402	1778	1275	1310	2104	2162
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	--	--	--	--	1221	1355	2039	2263
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	--	--	--	--	1498	1592	2502	2659
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	1344	1491	2244	2490
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	--	--	--	--	1302	1432	2174	2391
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	--	--	--	--	1294	1438	2161	2401
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	--	--	--	--	1325	1372	2239	2319
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	--	--	--	--	1410	1746	2383	2951
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	1325	1685	2239	2848
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	--	--	--	--	1403	1644	2371	2778
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	--	--	--	--	1365	1583	2307	2675
Sem± (Main)	41	47	89	90	159	115	80	93
Sem± (Sub)					368	265	184	214
CD (p= 0.05) Main	95	98	205	206	124	69	62	56
CD (p= 0.05) Sub					1050	1082	1733	1785

chemical and biological processes. Plants are able to respond to P starvation by changing their root architecture, including root morphology, topology, and distribution patterns (Vance et al., 2003)<sup>[30]</sup>. Root-induced chemical and biological changes in the rhizosphere play a vital role in enhancing the bioavailability of soil P (Hinsinger, 2001)<sup>[10]</sup>. Root-induced acidification can decrease rhizosphere pH by 2 to 3 units relative to the bulk soil, resulting in substantial dissolution of sparingly available soil P (Marschner, 1995)<sup>[18]</sup>. The pH change in the rhizosphere is mainly affected by cation/anion uptake ratios and nitrogen assimilation. Organic acid excretion and function in increasing P mobilization is well documented (Raghothama, 1999; Vance et al., 2003; Hinsinger *et al.*, 2005)<sup>[21][30][11]</sup>. The total P uptake was maximum with

water soluble sources (SSP, DAP and UAP) followed by partially water soluble nitrophosphate. The trend of yield with respect to P sources also reflected in the total P uptake by wheat. Such a trend might be explained on the basis of availability of P and solubility of fertilizer in the soil system. Effectiveness of nitrophosphate was statistically at par with other WSP fertilizers (Saha *et al.*, 2014; Khurana *et al.*, 2003 & 2004)<sup>[25][17]</sup>.

#### 4.3 Residual soil fertility

Irrespective of crops or/and cropping system, residual soil fertility in terms of NPK was recorded higher due to application of nitrophosphates (30% WSP) followed by UAP and DAP. Under P deficiency, plants can develop adaptive responses to facilitate efficient P acquisition and translocation. The phosphorus utilize efficiently by ad-

**Table 6.** Direct effect and residual effect of different levels of water soluble phosphorus in complex fertilizer on nutrient uptake by rice and wheat.

Treatment	Nutrient uptake by rice (Kg/ha)						Nutrient uptake by wheat (Kg/ha)					
	Nitrogen		Phosphorus		Potassium		Nitrogen		Phosphorus		Potassium	
	2012	2013	2013	2014	2012	2013	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	62.71	57.88	11.22	10.13	83.74	64.65	44.95	43.36	8.68	8.22	54.97	53.26
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	93.90	80.71	15.32	13.55	116.68	95.13	67.68	52.96	9.80	8.20	81.77	71.03
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	89.90	76.87	15.03	13.15	110.23	91.56	62.23	53.02	9.19	7.63	79.59	74.09
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	87.97	73.04	14.80	12.95	104.78	89.46	50.62	50.84	8.14	7.34	77.32	71.19
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	86.64	75.78	14.44	13.05	103.56	86.98	50.44	47.38	9.04	8.75	62.94	61.15
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	45.59	33.27	9.72	7.93	68.84	69.01
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	80.58	56.30	10.91	10.21	91.67	84.44
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	58.88	49.01	10.62	10.27	90.60	84.67
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	41.43	39.07	10.30	10.12	96.36	89.82
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	46.87	42.88	10.33	10.02	94.54	82.29
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	48.17	47.37	10.91	10.35	73.57	76.97
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	62.38	39.56	12.33	11.84	99.38	93.44
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	59.27	46.55	12.29	11.59	96.71	94.12
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	59.06	40.15	12.41	11.80	95.28	94.08
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	51.01	44.47	12.45	11.76	97.04	95.17
Sem± (Main)	9.84	9.29	1.36	2.82	8.69	9.77	6.08	5.24	0.48	0.64	3.95	4.36
Sem± (Sub)							2.75	3.75	0.51	0.44	3.16	3.78
CD (p= 0.05) Main	22.73	21.43	3.15	5.26	19.85	20.93	14.05	11.58	1.19	1.39	9.18	10.70
CD (p=0.05) Sub							5.75	6.62	1.71	0.94	6.59	6.42

**Table 7.** Direct and residual effect of different levels of water soluble phosphorus in complex fertilizer on nutrient uptake by baby corn and mustard.

Treatment	Nutrient uptake by baby corn (Kg/ha)						Nutrient uptake by mustard (Kg/ha)					
	Nitrogen		Phosphorus		Potassium		Nitrogen		Phosphorus		Potassium	
	2012	2013	2013	2014	2012	2013	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	56.22	63.42	6.15	6.30	83.16	93.21	45.61	53.54	4.13	4.29	70.20	74.27
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	65.54	68.72	8.35	8.99	101.46	108.87	55.86	63.54	5.70	5.53	83.11	87.08
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	68.50	66.23	8.10	9.02	104.46	115.44	58.53	67.69	5.97	5.74	87.72	88.72
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	69.80	67.39	8.50	8.75	109.73	114.25	59.44	65.76	5.40	5.66	90.90	92.56
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	71.69	70.04	8.28	8.59	108.01	113.51	61.73	64.16	5.76	5.45	90.79	96.23
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	50.97	56.90	5.68	5.38	77.93	78.39
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	61.73	67.35	6.68	6.75	93.87	92.98
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	63.44	68.03	7.00	6.05	97.51	91.09
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	65.87	67.72	6.51	6.85	97.93	98.82
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	64.00	70.33	6.31	6.19	98.04	97.05
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	51.70	57.28	6.31	6.39	81.16	83.06
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	68.53	76.76	7.70	8.10	97.68	97.68
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	66.37	76.68	7.33	8.02	98.16	101.52
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	69.08	76.54	7.93	8.52	103.67	99.07
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	67.11	69.65	7.11	8.59	101.04	102.27
Sem± (Main)	5.89	6.80	2.53	3.34	6.57	7.00	4.28	7.66	0.78	1.50	2.56	5.04
Sem± (Sub)							2.30	2.34	0.40	0.39	1.70	1.42
CD (p= 0.05) Main	13.44	15.68	5.85	7.71	15.16	16.15	9.86	17.66	1.79	3.45	5.90	11.62
CD (p= 0.05) Sub							4.79	4.88	0.83	0.81	3.54	2.96



**Table 8.** Direct and residual effect of different levels of water soluble phosphorus in complex fertilizer on nutrient uptake by chickpea and groundnut.

Treatment	Nutrient uptake by Chickpea (Kg/ha)						Nutrient uptake by Groundnut (Kg/ha)					
	Nitrogen		Phosphorus		Potassium		Nitrogen		Phosphorus		Potassium	
	2012	2013	2013	2014	2012	2013	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	54.12	59.55	13.35	3.81	67.24	68.54	60.14	62.18	11.46	12.29	67.01	69.07
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	65.05	68.33	16.00	6.48	81.49	86.66	73.39	79.45	13.50	14.90	82.79	89.04
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	62.95	67.95	15.53	6.62	81.16	85.37	72.00	78.20	13.29	14.56	80.79	87.29
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	62.45	66.45	15.53	6.79	80.80	84.06	68.25	75.71	12.93	14.21	79.35	87.49
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	61.38	64.38	15.73	7.51	80.80	82.93	71.05	76.45	12.39	13.84	77.78	86.91
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	65.42	68.48	12.68	13.98	72.74	79.29
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	82.98	86.71	14.52	15.95	89.25	92.84
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	81.66	82.58	14.76	15.30	87.56	90.86
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	78.11	79.81	13.76	15.13	85.54	88.08
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	79.72	78.65	13.86	14.87	82.24	89.16
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	72.96	72.03	13.65	14.35	76.66	82.05
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	89.12	93.83	15.35	17.18	92.73	94.03
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	87.09	91.50	14.87	16.93	87.35	92.80
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	85.76	89.62	14.94	16.76	86.31	91.00
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	86.30	88.96	14.99	16.81	85.64	90.68
Sem± (Main)	4.265	3.583	0.563	0.773	1.103	1.236	10.23	7.13	3.08	2.92	4.46	5.60
Sem± (Sub)							5.14	4.66	1.01	1.29	2.79	3.25
CD (p= 0.05) Main	9.834	8.262	1.297	1.783	2.544	2.852	23.62	16.44	7.15	6.73	10.28	8.95
CD (p= 0.05) Sub							10.73	9.73	2.10	2.56	5.83	2.54

**Table 9.** Direct and residual effect of different levels of water soluble phosphorus in complex fertilizer on residual soil fertility after harvest of rice and wheat.

Treatment	Residual soil fertility after rice (Kg/ha)						Residual soil fertility after wheat (Kg/ha)					
	Nitrogen		Phosphorus		Potassium		Nitrogen		Phosphorus		Potassium	
	2012	2013	2013	2014	2012	2013	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	158.16	167.37	12.76	13.81	235.35	247.45	162.26	170.01	10.98	12.32	270.50	277.39
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	185.69	189.06	23.93	26.80	275.58	286.15	201.02	198.61	15.52	15.78	284.38	291.57
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	182.96	183.81	21.76	24.45	270.62	283.77	197.03	193.85	15.12	15.67	285.65	287.81
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	178.16	179.38	21.64	23.39	265.88	276.11	187.34	192.26	14.87	15.34	280.58	282.53
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	174.15	183.13	20.74	23.06	266.45	274.83	171.42	177.96	14.91	15.12	281.42	281.20
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	189.10	193.85	12.28	14.22	275.34	284.48
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	211.35	201.79	18.12	19.12	300.44	308.09
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	201.12	206.56	17.97	18.89	295.84	305.63
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	179.34	176.37	17.52	18.57	300.44	307.47
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	162.32	177.96	17.5	17.84	302.38	304.48
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	170.24	174.78	13.38	16.72	280.65	293.81
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	232.27	204.97	19.54	18.94	305.48	342.35
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	209.11	198.61	18.98	19.08	300.65	323.43
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	196.15	196.42	18.43	18.87	297.77	328.48
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	194.95	190.67	18.03	18.67	300.86	326.24
Sem± (Main)	14.59	16.62	9.07	3.98	13.41	15.98	9.55	34.47	8.57	6.16	31.30	22.69
Sem± (Sub)							6.14	22.44	6.49	4.86	24.18	18.28
CD (p= 0.05) Main	33.57	38.33	20.86	9.19	30.95	36.86	21.96	79.49	19.76	14.15	72.17	52.29
CD (p= 0.05) Sub							12.79	46.81	13.54	10.14	50.44	38.06

**Table 10.** Direct and residual effect of different levels of water soluble phosphorus in complex fertilizer on residual soil fertility after harvest of baby corn and mustard.

Treatment	Residual soil fertility after baby corn (Kg/ha)						Residual soil fertility after mustard (Kg/ha)					
	Nitrogen		Phosphorus		Potassium		Nitrogen		Phosphorus		Potassium	
	2012	2013	2013	2014	2012	2013	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	204.15	206.44	13.42	12.77	263.35	271.01	184.43	199.00	11.80	12.45	253.55	268.99
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	225.24	231.38	16.59	17.41	281.59	295.55	198.61	239.23	15.36	16.40	270.55	277.33
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	227.43	235.12	15.99	17.95	278.56	297.39	202.52	242.06	14.88	16.77	276.85	279.20
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	226.98	233.45	16.70	17.58	282.99	290.26	210.33	236.42	15.35	17.09	275.38	283.36
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	229.52	235.77	16.47	17.82	284.38	293.34	212.34	241.12	14.96	16.15	278.36	280.44
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	204.89	208.64	12.89	15.67	262.45	272.69
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	214.89	242.08	17.38	18.94	290.37	280.00
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	219.52	249.56	16.88	18.71	288.12	283.40
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	217.88	247.09	17.66	19.10	282.36	285.87
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	219.07	241.20	16.94	18.97	286.60	279.68
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	216.33	216.78	14.56	16.24	275.38	283.49
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	247.15	269.42	20.36	19.90	298.80	292.88
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	250.53	259.00	19.44	19.85	302.88	293.40
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	254.70	257.50	19.65	19.80	300.85	298.37
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	259.43	263.98	19.84	19.21	305.38	293.75
Sem± (Main)	17.85	17.29	5.10	3.22	8.29	23.75	6.46	20.67	11.56	3.88	4.59	12.37
Sem± (Sub)							6.40	8.76	5.60	2.14	7.54	12.46
CD (p=0.05) Main	41.16	39.86	11.75	7.42	19.12	54.76	14.90	47.67	26.67	8.94	10.58	28.53
CD (p=0.05) Sub							13.35	18.28	11.68	4.46	15.72	25.98

**Table 11.** Direct and residual effect of different levels of water soluble phosphorus in complex fertilizer on residual soil fertility after harvest of Chickpea and Groundnut.

Treatment	Residual soil fertility after Chickpea (Kg/ha)						Residual soil fertility after Groundnut (Kg/ha)					
	Nitrogen		Phosphorus		Potassium		Nitrogen		Phosphorus		Potassium	
	2012	2013	2013	2014	2012	2013	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	257.46	268.46	7.81	8.24	303.33	324.41	228.83	239.16	7.02	7.51	273.33	279.89
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	299.22	309.23	8.82	9.51	335.50	373.65	260.95	269.43	8.44	8.92	298.91	308.75
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	294.56	304.97	8.00	9.37	329.83	365.71	259.92	267.85	8.83	8.87	293.75	302.17
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	291.97	301.56	7.84	9.11	322.67	357.41	257.95	261.33	7.96	8.77	291.28	297.33
P <sub>0</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	289.23	299.22	7.67	8.92	316.17	356.29	253.37	259.36	8.07	8.59	187.41	296.68
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	249.40	255.35	7.62	7.73	286.07	293.71
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	267.77	281.71	8.87	9.97	313.67	319.87
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	266.44	278.54	8.97	9.87	308.88	314.61
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	265.20	275.18	8.78	9.86	304.98	310.02
P <sub>1</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	262.26	274.03	8.59	8.69	302.92	308.37
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>0</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	253.45	256.94	7.93	8.11	291.06	302.35
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>1</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	281.54	294.14	9.87	10.50	319.22	326.54
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>2</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	278.86	289.66	9.55	10.10	312.60	321.87
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>3</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	279.04	286.59	8.95	9.87	309.88	314.62
P <sub>2</sub> T <sub>4</sub>	--	--	--	--	--	--	274.86	284.06	8.69	9.65	306.97	311.77
Sem± (Main)	23.83	22.98	5.40	8.38	14.72	24.12	23.67	20.48	5.85	7.96	21.49	82.61
Sem± (Sub)							14.67	19.48	3.78	4.57	13.14	43.16
CD (p= 0.05) Main	54.96	52.99	12.45	19.32	33.95	55.62	54.59	47.23	13.48	18.36	49.55	42.10
CD (p= 0.05) Sub							30.61	40.63	7.88	9.54	27.42	29.62

justing P recycling internally, limiting P consumption, and reallocating P from old tissues to young and/or actively growing tissues (Marschner, 1995)<sup>[18]</sup>. Taken together, plants have developed a series of adaptive responses to take up and utilize P efficiently, including morphological, physiological, and biochemical responses.

## 5. Conclusion

Study data showed that all four levels of WSP in P-fertilizers (i.e. 30 %, 60%, 85% and 89%) and three cropping systems namely Rice-wheat, Baby corn-Mustard and Chickpea-Groundnut at Giridih, Jharkhand, India were found to be equally effective for crop yield, nutrient uptake, and soil fertility. However, all studied parameters were increased with increasing the levels of phosphorus (i.e. 0%, 50% RDF and 100% RDF).

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