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Nutrition in banana

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ABSTRACT : Banana requires large quantities of nutrients for sustaining its production apart from its growth and development. As banana is a large plant with bigger size of the leaves, it exhausts major and minor elements from the soil in larger quantities and the soils require a continuous replenishment of nutrients. Banana being an exhaustive crop, proper manuring and fertilizer application has to be done for obtaining good yields, with better quality fruits. The inorganic nutrients are absorbed by the plants in readily assimilable form whereas the organic manures take time for distribution of nutrients as they need to undergo decomposition in soil. Application of inorganic fertilizers in split doses along with organic manures in combination with biofertilizers in an integrated manner is the best practice for sustaining production, yield and quality in banana as the indiscriminate usage of inorganic fertilizers deteriorates the soil health through volatilization and mineralization and causes loss of nutrients through leaching besides polluting the environment.

KEY WORDS : Nutrition, Banana, Inorganic, Organic, Integrated nutrient management

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