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Effect of foliar spray of micronutrient on plant growth character and yield of banana

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ABSTRACT : The experiment was conducted by Agricultural Research Station, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Vellore district of Tamil Nadu during 2014-15 to study the effect of foliar spray of micronutrients on growth and yield parameter of banana. The investigation was carried out in simple Randomized Block Design with three replications and 12 treatments in the experimental field at Kavasampattu village, Vellore district. The uniform healthy 2 months old sword suckers of cv. POOVAN were planted in pit at a spacing of 2m x 2m after treating the Carbendazim. The nitrogen and potash were applied in 3 splits *i.e.* at 3,5 and 7th months after planting. The phosphorus was applied by basal. The micro-nutrients *viz.*, Zn (0.5%), borax (0.1%), Fe (0.2%) and Cu (0.2%) were applied singly or in combination as foliar spray at 3, 5 and 7th month after planting of suckers. Control plants were sprayed with water only. Recommended plant protection measures and cultural operations were made throughout the period of study. Observation on plant height, leaf number and flowering percentage were recorded at shooting. From the findings of the present investigation, the yield per hectare was significantly higher in high density population of plant height, number of leaves and flowering percentage with application of foliar spray of zinc (0.5 %) and boron (0.1%) followed by boron (0.1 %) and iron (0.2 %). It can be adopted for higher yield of banana.

KEY **W**ORDS : Foliar nutrition, Micronutrients, Banana

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