



RESEARCH ARTICLE :

Fertigation technology for enhancing nutrient use efficiency in hybrid chilli (*Capsicum annuum* L.)

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ARTICLE CHRONICLE :

Received :

19.07.2017;

Accepted :

03.08.2017

SUMMARY : A study was undertaken by the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University at Thalampallam village, Dharmapuri district, Tamil Nadu to standardize fertigation for chilli 'TNAU Chilli Hybrid CO 1' to contribute the content of nutrient use efficiency factors. The experiment was laid out in Randomized Block Design with nine treatments including three levels each of water soluble and straight fertilizers viz., 125, 100 and 75 per cent of recommended dose of fertilizers along with liquid biofertilizers which were replicated thrice. Fertigation - a technique of application of fertilizers along with irrigation water provides an excellent opportunity to maximize yield and minimize environmental pollution. Fertigation ensures availability of fertilizer nutrients in the root zone in readily available form and therefore, minimize fertilizer application rate and increases fertilizer use efficiency. The associated increase in yield with minimum fertilizer application rate, increases return on the fertilizer invested. Based on experimentation, it has been observed that fertigation leads to saving of fertilizer by 25-40%, increased returns and reduced leaching of the nutrients. The present paper is an attempt to review the work done on fertilizer use efficiency of fertigation technology.

KEY WORDS :

Fertigation, NPK, Recommended doses of fertilizers, Fertilizer saving

How to cite this article : Prabu, M., Natarajan, S., Pugalendhi, L. and Murugesan, R. (2017). Fertigation technology for enhancing nutrient use efficiency in hybrid chilli (*Capsicum annuum* L.). *Agric. Update*, 12(TECHSEAR-7) : 1853-1858; DOI: 10.15740/HAS/AU/12.TECHSEAR(7)2017/1853-1858.

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