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Research Paper

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Nutrient analysis of paprika (*Capsicum annuum* var. longam) cv. KtPl-19 under drip fertigation system

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ABSTRACT : Paprika (*Capsicum annuum* var. *longam*) is one of the important natural colourants next to turmeric. Application of fertilizers through drip irrigation is known to play a vital role in enhancing the productivity and quality of many horticultural crops. In this view, studies on paprika (*Capsicum annuum* var. *longam*) were carried out at the College orchard, Horticultural College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, during 2006-2009 to find out the effect of different sources and levels of potassium with reference to nutrient analysis. The experiment was conducted for two seasons viz., season I (June 2007- Jan 2008) and season II (July 2008- Feb 2009) to get the concurrent result. From the study, it was observed that the crop paprika responded well to the fertigation treatments. The result revealed that application of 100 % RDF as MAP, Multi-K and SOP increased the Dry matter content at all the stages of crop growth. Similarly, the treatment T_7 revealed the highest available soil N, P, K, Ca, Mg and S at different growth stages viz., vegetative, flowering and harvesting stage. The same treatment T_7 also recorded higher nutrient uptake and less pungent.

KEY WORDS: Paprika, *Capsicum annuum* var.*longam.*, Drip fertigation, Dry matter production, Soil nutrient analysis, Nutrient uptake

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