

Response of Wheat (*triticumastivum* L.) to Bio fertilization and NPK fertilizers with and without Chicken manure

Y. N. Younes, A. A. Abdel-Salam, W. R. Zahra and M. A. Abdel-Salam
Soil and Water Department, Faculty of Agriculture, Moshtohor, Benha University.
Corresponding authors: Alyabsalam@yahoo.com

Abstract

Wheat is the most important crop in Egypt and the imports are large to fill the gap between production and consumption. Biofertilization is highly needed to help increasing the local production. *N₂* fixers *Azospirillum*+*Azotobacter* bacteria, P-dissolver *Bacillus megaterium* bacteria and K-dissolver *B. circulans* bacteria were assessed for wheat growth and nutrient uptake in 3 pot experiments (one for each nutrient) in absence or presence of nutrient-rich chicken manure (CM) applied at 10 g kg⁻¹. Increases in plant growth (45-day growth) of up to 50% occurred particularly in presence of CM. Sources of rock phosphate P and rock (feldspar) K were used to provide available P and K with the help of the biofertilizers and along with the organic manure. Soluble sources of N (ammonium sulphate), P (Ca-superphosphate) and K (K-sulphate) were included for comparisons. Practical implications indicate a strong proofs that using biofertilizers can contribute to sustainability in boosting wheat production.

Key words: Wheat, biofertilization and NPK fertilization.

Introduction

Wheat is the most important cereal crops in the world and in Egypt, it the local production is not sufficient to supply demand the country which leads to importing large quantities to make for the gap. The 2016-year production of wheat in Egypt was about 9 million Mg (1 Mg “megagram” = 10⁶ g) and the import was 12 million Mg (FAO, 2017). Efforts in reclaiming new arable lands involve cultivation of wheat in such lands. Since the crop needs a fertile soil to grow on to give reasonable production in low fertility lands by adding materials such as manures and biofertilizers which may help increasing the fertility of soils (Mohammadi and Sohrabi (2012): Abdel-Salam et al., 2012 and Abdel-Salam, 2014). Organic manures are materials of organic nature, animal or plant residues which when well decomposed are of benefit for plant growth and production. Investigation of different organic manures showed that poultry manure was of considerable contents of N, P, K compared with different sources (Rowell and Hadad, 2017).

Inocula of microorganisms beneficial for soil fertility can be used as biofertilizers. The most used biofertilizers belong to three main groups: the *N₂*-fixing, the phosphate solubilising (P- solubilising) and the K-solubilising groups (Abdel-Salam, 2014). The *N₂*-fixing microorganisms fix atmospheric *N₂* and transform it into amines and other organic N substances ready for plant use (an operation called “*N₂*-fixation”). The *N₂*-fixers include symbiotics, such as the *Rhizobias* species, and free-living ones such as *Azospirillum* and *Azotobacter* species (Dhanasekar and Dhandapani, 2012). Other *N₂* fixing cyanobacteria include *Aulosira*, *Tolypothrix*, *Scytonema*, *Nostoc*, *Anabaena* and

Plectonema. Inocula of *N₂* fixers are used as biofertilizers (Roy and Srivastava, 2013). Many *N₂* fixers can provide plants with growth-promoting substances and vitamins (Venkataraman and Neelakantan, 1967). On the other hand, the P-dissolving and K-dissolving microorganisms causes solubilization of insoluble P (of phosphate rocks or other insoluble P-forms) or insoluble K (of feldspar rocks, or other insoluble or fixed-K) releasing them to plants for uptake. Total P in soils is mainly in insoluble forms, and even if soils are supplied with soluble phosphate, a majority of this P is quickly transformed into insoluble P, but can be dissolved by microorganisms (Seshardi, 2000). Most microorganisms have enzymatic systems that catalyze hydrolysis of ‘myo-inositol hexakisphosphate’ (phytic acid) (Greaves et al., 1963). Bacteria have phytase and nuclease, to mineralize glycerophosphate as well as lecithin (Atlas and Bartha 1998 and Madigan et al., 2000). The most used P-dissolving bacteria (PDB) is an inoculum of *Bacillus megaterium*, marketed under different commercial brand names including the biofertilizer brand of PHSPHORIN[®] manufacture by the Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture.

Total K in soil is mainly in non-soluble forms (Sharpley, 1989). From a total K content of about 1800 to 9000 mg kg⁻¹ in Qalubia soils, only about 2 to 15 % of such contents are available (Abdel-Salam 2001). Potassium dissolving bacteria (KDB) include *Bacillus*, *Pseudomonas* and *Clostridium* bacteria. The most used of them are *Bacillus circulans*, under different commercial names (Lian et al. 2008, Mohammadi, K. and Sohrabi, Y. 2012 and Parmar and Sindhu 2013). The present work aims at assessing three kinds of bacterial inocula, i.e. *N₂*-fixers, P-dissolvers and K-dissolvers as providers of

nutrients (biofertilizers) for wheatin presence and absence of organic chicken manure which is one of the few organic manures most rich in plant nutrients (Singh et al. 1996, andRowell and Hadad, 2017).

Materials and methods:

Three pot experiments were conducted on wheat (*Triticumaestivum*, cv. Giza 168) grown on aheavy clay soil (Table 1). Each was in a randomized complete block design, factorial with two factors in 3 replicates. Experiments 1,2 and 3 relate to N, P and K fertilization respectively. Factors and treatments are as follows for each experiment: **Experiment 1(N-experiment): Factor 1 N-fertilization** 3 treatments of N0, N1 and N2 i.e. non-fertilized, mineral-N-fertilized and bio-fertilized with *Azotobacter*+*Azospirillum* respectively. **Factor 2:** Organicmanuring; i.e.non-manured (O₀) and chicken-manured (O₁).**Experiment2(P-experiment): Factor 1 P-fertilization:**5 treatments of P₀, P₁,P₂, P₃ and P₄ i.e. non-P-fertilized, PDB-biofertilized (*B. megaterium*), super-phosphate-P, rock-P and PDB+rock-Prepectively.**Factor2:** Organic manuring: as with experiment1. **Experiment 3 (K-experiment):** **Factor 1:K-fertilization 5 treatments** of K₀, K₁,K₂, K₃ and K₄ i.e. non-K-fertilized , KDB-biofertilized (*Bacillus circulans*) ,

Sulphate-K, rock-K and KDB+rock-K respectively.**Factor 2:**Organicmanuring: as with experiment 1.Mineral soluble fertilizers were ammoniumsulphate (205 g N kg⁻¹),ordinary calcium superphosphate (68 g P kg⁻¹), and potassium sulphate (400 g K kg⁻¹). In experiment 1, N was at 100 mg Nkg⁻¹ (in 3 equal splits, on days 10, 20 and 30 after seeding). In Experiment 2 mineral super phosphate P was at 30 mg P kg⁻¹, while rock P was at 60 mg P kg⁻¹. **In experiment 3,**sulphate K was 200 mg K kg⁻¹while rock K was at 400 mg K kg⁻¹. Rock nutrients (rock phosphate-P and feldspar-K) as well as soluble P and K were applied during soil preparation. The rock ones were at rates double those of their soluble forms in view of the insolubility nature of the former sources. Organic manure was added to soil at 10g kg⁻¹during soil preparation. Each pot was seeded with 12 seeds, thinned to 9 plants after emergence. Plants were allowed to grow for 45 days after which they were removed, weighed and oven dried then weighed. All pots of experiment 1 were given P and K, all pots in experiment 2 were given N and K given, and all pots of experiment 3 were given N and P. This was done to allow for exhibiting the response of the nutrient under study in every experiment under no stress of lack of other macro nutrients. Analysis of rockphosphate, superphosphate and feldspars are given in Table 2 .

Table 1. Main properties of soil of the experiment

| Property | Value | Property | Value |
|--|-------------|--|-------|
| Particle size distribution | | Soluble ions (mmolcL ⁻¹) | |
| Sand % | 26.3 | Ca ²⁺ | 5.5 |
| Silt % | 17.0 | Mg ²⁺ | 4.8 |
| Clay % | 56.7 | Na ⁺ | 9.2 |
| Texture class | heavy Clay* | K ⁺ | 0.5 |
| Moisture parameters | | Cl ⁻ | 8.3 |
| | | SO ₄ ²⁻ | 6.2 |
| Saturation percent (%) | 67.8 | HCO ₃ ⁻ | 5.5 |
| Field capacity (% w/w) | 43.0 | CO ₃ ²⁻ | 0.0 |
| Wilting point (% w/w) | 24.2 | Available nutrients** (mg kg ⁻¹) | |
| Available water(% w/w) | 18.8 | N | 25 |
| Organic matter content | | Fe | 0.8 |
| | | P | 14 |
| Organic matter (g kg ⁻¹) | 13.1 | Mn | 0.6 |
| Chemical Properties | | K | 180 |
| | | Zn | 0.7 |
| CaCO ₃ (g kg ⁻¹) | 1.5 | Cu | 0.2 |
| pH(1:2.5 w:v soil water) | 7.3 | * According to the International Soil Texture Triangle (Moeys, 2016). | |
| EC dSm ⁻¹ (in paste extract) | 2.0 | ** Extracts are: KCl (for N); NH ₄ HCO ₃ -DTPA (for P and K). DTPA for micronutrients. | |
| CEC (cation Exchangeable Capacity) cmolc kg ⁻¹ soil | 30.4 | | |

Table 2. Nutrients (total) in mineral P and K materials and manure used in the experiment

| Source | Total P (g kg ⁻¹) | Total micronutrients (mg kg ⁻¹) | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|---|---------|---------|-----------|
| | | Fe | Mn | Zn | Cu |
| Super phosphate | Total P 67 | 28 | 150 | 195 | 7 |
| Rock phosphate | Total P 125 | 4200 | 261 | 810 | 14 |
| Feldspar | Total K 120 | 165 | 40 | 7 | 6 |
| Contents of main constituents of the chicken manure g kg ⁻¹ | | | | | |
| Ash g kg ⁻¹ | Organic matter | Total N | Total P | Total K | Soluble N |
| 23 | 83.1 | 42 | 21 | 32 | 10 |

The soil was taken from an arable field in Moshtohor, Qalubiya, sieved through 8-mm sieve (to keep aggregates of the soil and allow for sufficient aeration for plant roots; no stones were in the soil). Soils and plants were analyzed according to method cited by **Black et al. (1965) for soils and Chapman and Pratt (1961)** for plants and soil.

Results and discussion:

For each experiment the results will be confined to the response in terms of plant growth weight (shoots+roots) and the uptake on the nutrient relating the experiment. N uptake and protein contents will be included in experiment 1 in view of the importance of protein for plant quality.

Experiment 1. The N-experiment:

The N fertilization treatments were N₀, N₁ and N₂: non-fertilized and, N- mineral-fertilized and N-bio-fertilized with *Azotobacter*+*Azospirillum* respectively while the organic manure were O₀ and O₁: non-manured and chicken manured respectively.

Plant growth weight (Table 3):

Application of fertilizers with of N without the organic manure increase the growth of wheat plant. The lowest weight was that which received neither manure nor N fertilization, giving 7.55 g pot⁻¹. All other treatments which received either manure or N fertilization of both gave increases of 8.3% (by manure alone) to 96.8% (by manure +bio-fertilization) indicating a considerable positive response *Azotobacter/Azospirillum* (**Zambre et al., 1984**) especially when combined with the chicken manure which is notably high in N nutrient (**Rowell and Hadad, 2017**). The main effect of N treatments shows a pattern of N₂ > N₁ > N₀ (average increase of 84.4 and 49.9 % by N₃ and N₂ respectively). The main effect was an average increase of 13.7%. High response to N occurred particularly under no manuring with little difference between the mineral N and the biological N sources. The effect of manuring occurred was particularly significant under mineral N.

Table 3. Response of wheat to N-biofertilizer, N-mineral fertilizer and organic manuring: Dry weight of roots+shoots of "45-day growth". (g pot⁻¹)

| Organic manuring (O) | N fertilization (N) | | | mean |
|---|---------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| | N ₀ | N ₁ | N ₂ | |
| O ₀ | 7.55 | 10.26 | 14.05 | 10.62 |
| O ₁ | 8.18 | 13.24 | 14.86 | 12.08 |
| mean | 7.84 | 11.75 | 14.46 | |
| LSD_{0.05} = O: 1.3 ; N: 1.7 ; ON: 2.3 | | | | |

Notes: O₀ and O₁ are non-manured and manured with chicken manure respectively..... N₀, N₁ and N₂ are non-fertilized, N-mineral-fertilized and bio-fertilized with *Azotobacter*+*Azospirillum* respectively.

N uptake (Table 4):

The non-treated plants showed an uptake of 108.3 mg pot⁻¹, while all treated plants exhibited higher uptake surpassing the non-treated by 18.2% by the manured treatment to as high as 322% by the manured bio-fertilized treatment. This indicates a considerable cumulative effect of the chicken manure when combined with the N-biofertilization (**Abd-El-Latif et al., 2001**). The main effect of N treatments shows a pattern of N₂ > N₁ > N₀, with average increases of 85.3 and 256.5 % by N₂ and N₁, respectively. The main effect of manuring an average

increase 73.9 % by manuring. The positive effect of N occurred particularly under manuring, more than in absence of manuring. The considerable increase given by manuring was particularly under conditions of no N fertilization. Thus there were interaction effects showing that mineral N was effective only under conditions of manuring; and that manuring was effective where N-fertilization was absent. Augmentation of organic manure to the effect of N-application proved important for maximum benefit of N-fertilization (**Zambre et al 1984 and Ghoneim and El-Araby, 2003**).

Table 4. Response of wheat to N-biofertilizer, N-mineral fertilizer and organic manuring: N-uptake by roots+shoots of "45-day growth".(mg pot⁻¹)

| Organic manuring (O) | N fertilization (N) | | | mean |
|---|---------------------|----------------|----------------|-------|
| | N ₀ | N ₁ | N ₂ | |
| O ₀ | 108.3 | 169.2 | 385.9 | 221.1 |
| O ₁ | 128.0 | 268.7 | 456.9 | 384.5 |
| mean | 118.2 | 219.0 | 421.4 | |
| LSD _{0.05} = O: 69.4 ; N: 85.0 ; ON: 100.2 | | | | |

Notes: O₀ and O₁ are non-manured and manured with chicken manure respectively..... N₀, N₁ and N₂ are non-fertilized , N-mineral-fertilized and bio-fertilized with *Azotobacter* + *Azospirillum* respectively

Protein content in plant (Table 5):

The protein content was calculated using the N content multiplied by a factor of 5.7 (AOAC 2000). Treatments given N or manure or both showed increased protein contents. The non-fertilized plants showed a content of 82.8 mg protein g⁻¹. All plants given N or manure (singly or combined) showed increases of 9.1% (by the manured) to 114.7 % (by the manured+ biofertilized; a manifestation of the enhancement effect of biofertilization when combined with organic manure. (Ghoneim and El-Araby, 2003). The main effect of N treatments shows a pattern similar to that of the N uptake, i.e. N₂ > N₁ > N₀, with increases averaging 94.0 and 22.0 % by N₂ and N₁ respectively. The superiority of mineral N over the no-N treatment was particularly

shown in presence of manure indicating an interaction of manure to the effect of mineral N: i.e. for mineral N to increase the protein, there should be manure application.

The main effect of manuring shows an average 14.4 % increase by manuring. Such pattern of response occurred particularly under conditions of N application (biological or mineral) indicating an interaction caused by N application to the response to manuring :i.e. in order for manuring to be of significant positive effect , there should be N fertilization (mineral or biological). Augmentation of organic manure to N-application proved important for maximum benefit of N- fertilization (Singh et al., 1996 and Ghoneim and El-Araby, 2003).

Table 5. Response of wheat to N-biofertilizer, N-mineral fertilizer and organic manuring: Protein content (mg g⁻¹) in plant (roots+shoots) of "45-day growth".

| Organic manuring(O) | N fertilization (N) | | | mean |
|--|---------------------|----------------|----------------|-------|
| | N ₀ | N ₁ | N ₂ | |
| O ₀ | 82.8 | 95.7 | 159.5 | 112.7 |
| O ₁ | 90.5 | 117.7 | 178.1 | 128.8 |
| mean | 46.2 | 56.7 | 118.8 | |
| LSD _{0.05} = O: 8.5 ; N: 9.6 ; ON: 10.0 | | | | |

Notes: O₀ and O₁ are non-manured and manured with chicken manure respectively..... N₀, N₁ and N₂ are non-fertilized , N-mineral-fertilized and bio-fertilized with *Azotobacter*+ *Azospirillum* respectively (protein factor: N x5.8)

Experiment 2: The P experiment:

The P fertilization treatments were P₀, P₁, P₂, P₃ and P₄, i.e. (non-P-fertilized, PDB-biofertilized (*B. megaterium*), super-phosphate-P, rock-P and PDB+rock-P), while the organic manure ones were O₀ and O₁ i.e. non-manured and chicken manured respectively.

Growth weight (Table 6):

The non-treated plants showed the lowest weight of 12.87 g pot⁻¹ while all plants which received fertilizers gave increases ranging from 5.4% (by manure alone) to 45.8% (by superphosphate + manure) and as high as 49.7% (by manure+PDB+Rock-P) indicating high efficiency of combining the PDB with chicken manure to boost dissolution of P in rock phosphate (Elsebaay, and

Elkotkat, 2011 and Abdel-Salam et al., 2016). The main effect of P-fertilization shows the pattern P₄ > P₂ > P₃ > P₁ > P₀ indicating efficient use of P-biofertilizer combined with mineral P, particularly rock P. In studies elsewhere on PDB *B. megaterium* combined with chicken manure (Dawa et al., 2013 and Rowell and Hadad, 2017) on tomato and wheat, increases of up to 50% increase in plant growth were obtained. On maize, field experiment studies (Abdel-Salam et al. 2016) increases exceeded 100% by applying PDB (*B. megaterium*) + farmyard manure + rock P. Growth promoting substances including indole-acetic acid (IAA) and siderophores are produced by *B. megaterium* (Madigan et al 2000 and Mehta et al 2010)

Table 6. Response of wheat to P-biofertilizer, P-mineral fertilizer and organic chicken manure: Plant weight (roots+shoots) of "45-day growth". (g pot¹)

| Organic manuring (O) | Bio-Mineral P-fertilization (P) | | | | | mean |
|---|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| | P ₀ | P ₁ | P ₂ | P ₃ | P ₄ | |
| O ₀ | 12.87 | 13.72 | 15.56 | 15.30 | 16.63 | 14.75 |
| O ₁ | 13.56 | 16.10 | 18.77 | 15.39 | 19.26 | 16.62 |
| mean | 13.22 | 14.91 | 17.17 | 15.35 | 17.95 | |
| LSD 0.05 = O: 0.89 P:1.41 OP: 1.99 | | | | | | |

Notes: O₀ and O₁ are non-manured and manured with chicken manure respectively..... P₀, P₁, P₂, P₃ and P₄ are non-P-fertilized, PDB-biofertilized (*B. megaterium*), super-phosphate-P, rock-P and PDB+ rock- Prespectively

The PDB in the current study was notable in its efficiency where there was chicken manure, thus exhibiting an interaction caused by manure boosting the positive response to P-biofertilization. The main effect of manure shows an average of 12.7% increase; the effect was particularly in presence of Super-P alone (20.6%), PDB (17.3%), or PDB+rock P (15.8%).

P uptake in whole plant (Table 7):

Untreated plants showed an uptake of 35.64 mg pot⁻¹. All other treatments showed increases ranging from 39.4% (by the biofertilized treatment) to 249.4% (by manure + PDB+Rock-P. The main effect of P-fertilization shows a pattern resembling the one

of yield i.e. P₄ > P₂ > P₃ > P₁ > P₀ confirming the positive response of combining P-biofertilization with rock P boosted by chicken manure. The main effect of manure shows an average 47.6% increase. The positive effect of manure was most apparent in presence PDB (64.9%), rock P (39.9%) or rock P+ biofertilizer (49.3%). Increased P uptake caused by *B. megaterium* with or without organic manures or rock P were reported by researchers on a number of crops including wheat (Laheurte and Berthelin 1988, Ghoneim and El-Araby, 2003, Dawa et al 2013, Abdel-Salam et al., 2016 and Rowell and Hadad, 2017).

Table 7. Response of wheat to P-biofertilizer, P-mineral fertilizer and organic chicken manure: P uptake in (roots+shoots) of "45-day growth". (mg pot¹)

| Organic fertilization (O) | Bio-Mineral P-fertilization (P) | | | | | mean |
|---|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| | P ₀ | P ₁ | P ₂ | P ₃ | P ₄ | |
| O ₀ | 35.64 | 49.69 | 77.66 | 60.89 | 83.43 | 61.46 |
| O ₁ | 64.78 | 81.93 | 97.07 | 85.16 | 124.52 | 90.69 |
| Mean | 50.21 | 65.81 | 87.37 | 73.03 | 103.98 | |
| LSD 0.05 = O: 15.71 ; P: 18.40 ; OP: 21.01 | | | | | | |

Notes: O₀ and O₁ are non-manured and manured with chicken manure respectively..... P₀, P₁, P₂, P₃ and P₄ are non-P-fertilized, PDB-biofertilized (*B. megaterium*), super-phosphate-P, rock-P and PDB+rock- Prespectively

Experiment 3. The K-experiment:

K fertilized treatments were K₀, K₁, K₂, K₃ and K₄ i.e. Non-K-fertilized, KDB-biofertilized (*Bacillus circulans*), Sulphate-K, rock-K and KDB+rock-K. The organic manure ones were non-manures (O₀) and manured (O₁).

Plant dry weight (Table 8):

Untreated plants gave 11.62 g pot⁻¹ the ones receiving fertilizers or manure or both showed increases of 13.2 % (by the manured) to 51.3% (by the manured+rock-K). Thus the KDB biofertilizer was effective in solubilizing the rock-K. The main effect of fertilization showed K₄ > K₂ > K₃ > K₁ > K₀ indicating high positive response to K-biofertilizer combined with rock K. In other studies on bio-fertilization of tomatoes and other vegetables, increases were enhanced when in presence of chicken manure (Dawa et al 2013 and Rowell and Hadad, 2017). On sorghum (*Sorghum bicolor*) an

increase of as high as 66% was obtained upon application of *Bacillus circulans* in combination with KDB (Abdel-Salam et al. 2016) indicating high efficiency of KDB. Other studies (Gharib et al. 2008) on response sweet marjoram (*Majorana hortensis*) to *Bacillus circulans* showed 42% increase in plant growth. Studies on wheat (Tilak and Reddy 2006) showed 38 % grain increase by applying *Bacillus circulans*, and 43% by applying *Bacillus cereus*. The main effect of manure shows an increase of 12.4%, and the increase was most pronounced the positive effect of manure was particularly significant in presence of rock K (15.9%).

One of the benefits of the PDB and KDB biofertilizers is that they are reported to produce growth promoting substance such as indole-acetic acid (IAA) and siderophores *B. circulans* (Mehta et al., 2010).

Table 8. Response of wheat to K-biofertilizer, K-mineral fertilizer and organic chicken manure: Plant weight (roots+shoots) of "45-day growth".(g pot¹)

| Organic fertilization (O) | Bio-Mineral K-fertilization (K) | | | | | mean |
|--|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| | K ₀ | K ₁ | K ₂ | K ₃ | K ₄ | |
| O ₀ | 11.62 | 13.89 | 15.05 | 13.68 | 16.14 | 14.08 |
| O ₁ | 13.15 | 15.60 | 16.89 | 15.86 | 17.58 | 15.82 |
| Mean | 12.39 | 14.75 | 15.97 | 14.77 | 16.86 | |
| LSD_{0.05} = O: 1.51 ; K: 1.71 ; OK: 1.92 | | | | | | |

Notes: O₀ and O₁ are non-manured and manured with chicken manure respectively..... K₀, K₁,K₂, K₃ and K₄ are non-K-fertilized , KDB-biofertilized (*Bacillus circulans*) , Sulpaate-K, rock-K and KDB+rock-Krespectively

K uptake in whole plant (Table 9):

The non-fertilized non-manured plants showed 222.4 mgK uptake pot⁻¹ and the treated ones showed increases of 39.4 % (K-biofertilized) to 114.5% (biofertilized+rock-K); a pattern rather as the one given by the P-biofertilization experiment. The bacterial inoculation causing dissolution of rock P or rock K , beside their solubilization action , can produce growth promoting substances (Mehta et al 2010 , Dawa et al 2013 , Abdel-Salam et al., 2016 and Rowell and Hadad,2017) .The main effect of K-fertilization shows a pattern resembling the one of

yield i.e. K₄>K₂>K₃>K₁>K₀ elucidating the positive effect of applying K-dissolving biofertilizer combined with rock-K to increase yield and K-uptake .The chicken manure caused an average of 21.9% in K uptake and the positive response was particularly apparent where no fertilizers were added. Increased K uptake caused by *B. circulans* with or without organic manures or rock K increased growth, yields and nutrient uptake by many crops (Ghoneimand El-Araby, 2003, Dawa et al 2013, Abdel-Salam et al.,

Table 9. Response of wheat to K-biofertilizer, K-mineral fertilizer and organic chicken manure: K uptake in (roots+shoots) of "45-day growth".(mg pot¹)

| Organic manuring (O) | Bio-Mineral K-fertilization (K) | | | | | mean |
|--|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| | K ₀ | K ₁ | K ₂ | K ₃ | K ₄ | |
| O ₀ | 222.4 | 310.5 | 391.3 | 314.6 | 402.1 | 328.2 |
| O ₁ | 332.4 | 384.4 | 432.2 | 374.7 | 477.1 | 400.2 |
| mean | 277.4 | 347.5 | 411.8 | 344.7 | 439.6 | |
| LSD 0.05 = O: 18.5 K :23.2 OP: 35.2 | | | | | | |

Notes: O₀ and O₁ are non-manured and manured with chicken manure respectively..... K₀, K₁,K₂, K₃ and K₄ are non-K-fertilized , KDB-biofertilized (*Bacillus circulans*) , Sulpaate-K, rock-K and KDB+rock-Krespectively 2016and Rowell and Hadad,2017)

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Conclusion and practical implications:

Biofertilizers providing plant with N, P and K macronutrients in forms of bacterial inoculants can be utilized in practical agriculture in order to enrich soils with available nutrients for wheat. For obtaining the highest positive effect of the biofertilizers, sources of rich organic manure (such as chicken manure "CM") along with sources of the non-available (or difficultly available) macronutrients must be provided. Increases can rise up to as high as 50% in plant growth. The N₂ fixing bacteria of Azotobacter+ *Azospirillum*, the P-dissolving B.

megaterium and the K-dissolving *B. circulans* can be used in this concern. Using CM and rock P or rock K can provide sources of low cost P and K nutrients.

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إستجابة القمح للتسميد الحيوى وأسمدة النيتروجين والفوسفور والبوتاسيوم مع أو بدون سماد مخلفات الدواجن

ياسمين نبيل يونس، على أحمد عبدالسلام، وسام رشاد زهرة، محمد على عبدالسلام

قسم الأراضى والمياه - كلية الزراعة بمشهر - جامعة بنها

ويعتبر القمح أهم المحاصيل في مصر، والواردات كبيرة لسد الفجوة بين الإنتاج والاستهلاك. لابد من وجود التسميد الحيوى بدرجة عالية للمساعدة فى زيادة الانتاج المحلى. البكتريا المثبتة للنيتروجين مثل الازوسبيريللم والازوتوباكتر والبكتريا المذيبة للفوسفات مثل الباسيلس ميجاتيريم والبكتريا المذيبة للبوتاسيوم الباسيلس سيركيولنس تم تقييمها لنمو وتغذية وامتصاص القمح فى ثلاث تجارب أصص (تجربة لكل عنصر على حدة) فى وجود أو غياب سماد الدواجن الذى تم إضافته بمعدل 10جم/كجم. حدثت زيادة جزئية فى نمو نباتات القمح (45 يوم) تصل الى اكثر من 50% فى وجود سماد الدواجن. استخدم الصخر الفوسفاتى والفلسبارات للامداد بعنصرى الفوسفور والبوتاسيوم لمساعدة الكائنات الحية الدقيقة جنباً الى جنب مع السماد العضوى. تضمنت المقارنة المصادر السمادية الذاتية مثل النيتروجين (سلفات الامونيوم)، الفوسفور (سوبر فوسفات الكالسيوم) ، والبوتاسيوم (سلفات البوتاسيوم). وتشير الأثار العلمية الى وجود ادلة قوية على ان استخدام الاسمدة الحيوية يسهم فى تعزيز انتاج القمح.