

Original Research Article

<https://doi.org/10.20546/ijcmas.2017.603.114>

## Evaluation of Soil Fertility Status from Kanchanpur District, Far-Western Development Region of Nepal

A.I. Khan<sup>1</sup>, N.L. Uranw<sup>2</sup>, R.N. Yadav<sup>3</sup>, Y.V. Singh<sup>4\*</sup>, Durgawati Patel<sup>3</sup> and Renu Yadav

<sup>1</sup>International Rice Research Institute, Kanchanpur, Nepal

<sup>2</sup>Regional Soil Testing Laboratory, Kanchanpur, Nepal

<sup>3</sup>Department of Mycology and Plant Pathology, Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, 221005, India

<sup>4</sup>Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi 221005, India

*\*Corresponding author*

### ABSTRACT

Soil fertility evaluation of an Agricultural field is an important aspect in context of sustainable agricultural production. The macro and micro nutrients govern fertility of soils and control the growth yield of crops. The main aim of this study was to evaluate soil fertility status from Kanchanpur district of Nepal. Sixty seven surface soil (0.5-15 cm) samples were analyzed for various soil fertility parameters like pH, EC, organic matter, available N, P, K, bulk density, particle density and porosity by standard procedure. The pH value ranged from 5.5–6.8 reflecting slightly acidic to neutral nature of soils. E.C. ranges between 0.16–0.40 dSm<sup>-1</sup>. Organic carbon ranges from 0.96–4.20 %. Hundred percent samples showing high organic carbon status, 55.22% medium and 54.88% high status in available N and most of the soils sample has high status in P, 88.05% samples are high in phosphorous, while 34.32% samples are low, 58.20% medium and 7.46% high in available K. Proper agriculture practices, intensive farming, forest biomass are responsible for soil fertility of soil. Bulk density ranges from 1.31 to 1.40 mg m<sup>-3</sup>, particle density ranges from 2.25 to 2.40 mg m<sup>-3</sup> porosity ranges from 55.1 to 60.8 %. Soil samples are good in status, However to continue fertility status or to overcome from the adverse effect, complementary use of bio-fertilizers, organic manures in appropriate combination of chemical fertilizers were suggested. Awareness camp, rallies, and training program can be arrange for farmer regarding the benefits of balanced use of fertilizers.

#### Keywords

Organic matter, Bio-fertilizer, Bulk density, Awareness camp, etc.

#### Article Info

##### Accepted:

18 February 2017

##### Available Online:

10 March 2017

### Introduction

Soil plays a major role in determining the sustainable productivity of an agro-ecosystem. The sustainable productivity of a soil mainly depends upon its ability to supply essential nutrients to the growing plants. Uptake of micronutrients is affected by the major nutrients due to either negative or positive interaction (Fageria, 2001). The

degradation of soil has started occurring both due to natural and human induced factors which in turn affecting the productivity. As human population continue to increase, human disturbance of the earth's ecosystem to produce food and fiber will place greater demand on soil to supply essential nutrients. The soils native ability to supply sufficient

nutrients has decreased with higher plant productivity level associated with increased human demand for food. Therefore one of the greatest challenges today is to develop and implement soil, crop and nutrients management technologies that enhance the plant productivity and quality of soil, water and air. The evaluation of soil fertility includes the measurement of available plant nutrients and estimation of capacity of soil to maintain a continuous supply of plant nutrients for a crop. The availability of nutrients depends on various factors such as type of soil, nature of irrigation facilities, pH and organic matter content. According to (Lal and Singh, 1998), soil quality degradation process with reference to productivity or fertility encompasses physical chemical and biological degradation process. This is prerequisite for determining appropriate conservation activities in monitoring our natural resource base. The present study was undertaken to know the macro nutrient status of soils of Kanchanpur district, Nepal and an attempt was also made to correlate macro nutrients content of the soils with other soil properties. Present investigation was useful in judging the deficiency of various element and thereby use of fertilizers depending on their status. The present study was conducted for covering study of the status of macronutrient and their correlation with physico-chemical properties in the soils of Kanchanpur district, Nepal.

## **Materials and Methods**

### **Study area**

Kanchanpur, district, Far-Western Development Region of Nepal, Co-ordinates of the location is 28.8372° N, 80.3213° E and elevation ranges lower tropical below 300 meters and upper tropical 300-1000meters. About half of the land of this district is cultivable and near about 1/3 is forest. Soils

of this district are mostly clay loam and light textured to medium textured. Farmers of this district are progressive and creative. Farmers of this district are grower of about all type of crops like cereals, pulses, vegetable and flower too. Farmers become aware about their soil health.

### **Soil sampling**

Selected 67 surface soil samples (0.5 -15 cm) were collected in butter paper bag as per the standard procedure. Quartering technique was used for preparation of soil sample. The samples were dried in air and passed through 2 mm sieve and stored in dry clean cloth bag. The soil pH and EC were determined from the saturation extract (1:2.5 soil water ratio) of soils (Jackson, 1973). The soil samples were analyzed for organic carbon (Walkley and Black, 1934), available N (Subbiah and Asija, 1956), available P (Olsen *et al.*, 1954), and available K (Hanyway and Heidal, 1952). Bulk Density was determined by clod method (Black, 1965).

### **Statistical analysis**

The relationship between different soil characteristics and micronutrient contents in soils and plants were determined using correlation coefficients:

$$r = \sqrt{\frac{SP(xy)}{SS(x), SS(y)}}$$

Where:

r = Correlation coefficient

SP (xy) = Sum product of x, y variables

SS (x) = Sum of square of x variable

SS (y) = Sum of square of y variable

## **Results and Discussion**

### **Physicochemical properties of soil**

The data on pH, EC, B.D, P.D, porosity and

organic carbon are presented in tables 1 and 2. The data shows that the pH of these soils was ranged from 5.5– 6.8 with average value of 7.1 the lowest pH was recorded in sample S-5 while highest was observed in many samples.

**Status of available N, P and K in soil**

The status of N, P and K has been shown in tables 3 and 4 and its subparts. Table 5 shows limits for soil test values used in India Muhr *et al.*, Available nitrogen content of these soils were ranged from 290 to 1218 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> with a mean value of 580 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>. S.D. value of 40.12 and C.V. value of 23.80%. Out of 67 soil samples collected from Kanchanpur,

district, Nepal. 54.88% soil samples were found high and 55.22% soil samples were found in medium range. Climate has a major impact on availability of nitrogen, maximum soil samples were found in low category it may be due to uncertain rainfall. Similar result was observed by Verma *et al.*, that the available nitrogen content in soils of Arid Tract of Punjab, India.

The available phosphorous content in these soils were varied from 18.5 to 90.50 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> with a mean value of 35.74 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>.S.D value of 1.33 and C.V. value of 25.10%. Out of 67 soil samples collected 11.94% soil samples were found medium, 88.05% soil samples found high in P content.

**Table.1** Description of sampling site of Kanchanpur, district, Nepal

| S.N | Cropping System  | pH  | E.C. (dSm-1) | O.C. % | Av. N (kg/ha) | Av. P (kg/ha) | Av. K (kg/h) | BD (gmcm <sup>-3</sup> ) | PD (gmcm <sup>-3</sup> ) | Porosity (%) |
|-----|------------------|-----|--------------|--------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| 1   | Rice- Wheat      | 6.6 | 0.17         | 2.5    | 750.00        | 32.21         | 280.20       | 1.35                     | 2.25                     | 60.8         |
| 2   | Rice- Wheat      | 6.7 | 0.18         | 1.8    | 543.00        | 35.32         | 285.36       | 1.33                     | 2.27                     | 58.1         |
| 3   | Rice- Wheat      | 6.6 | 0.16         | 3.20   | 970.00        | 41.12         | 140.23       | 1.34                     | 2.28                     | 58.2         |
| 4   | Rice- Wheat-Rice | 6.6 | 0.20         | 1.27   | 384.00        | 32.20         | 220.00       | 1.31                     | 2.40                     | 54.2         |
| 5   | Rice- Wheat      | 5.5 | 0.19         | 4.10   | 1218.00       | 51.50         | 190.00       | 1.31                     | 2.29                     | 57.3         |
| 6   | Rice- Wheat-Rice | 6.5 | 0.18         | 2.11   | 637.00        | 56.20         | 231.00       | 1.32                     | 2.34                     | 56.5         |
| 7   | Sugarcane        | 6.5 | 0.17         | 2.27   | 684.00        | 51.12         | 210.03       | 1.35                     | 2.38                     | 56.7         |
| 8   | Rice- Wheat      | 6.6 | 0.19         | 3.20   | 960.00        | 90.50         | 112.32       | 1.31                     | 2.34                     | 55.9         |
| 9   | Sugarcane        | 6.5 | 0.18         | 1.27   | 384.00        | 62.30         | 356.32       | 1.40                     | 2.41                     | 58.0         |
| 10  | Rice- Wheat      | 6.5 | 0.17         | 1.38   | 412.00        | 61.21         | 203.32       | 1.37                     | 2.25                     | 60.8         |
| 11  | Sugarcane        | 6.5 | 0.17         | 1.01   | 305.00        | 31.14         | 204.32       | 1.35                     | 2.34                     | 57.6         |
| 12  | Rice- Wheat      | 6.5 | 0.18         | 1.57   | 466.00        | 32.21         | 291.01       | 1.38                     | 2.36                     | 58.4         |
| 13  | Rice- Wheat      | 6.4 | 0.17         | 1.91   | 590.00        | 42.23         | 295.02       | 1.34                     | 2.37                     | 56.5         |
| 14  | Rice- Wheat      | 6.5 | 0.16         | 1.75   | 525.00        | 45.21         | 317.03       | 1.32                     | 2.39                     | 55.2         |
| 15  | Rice- Wheat      | 6.5 | 0.18         | 1.56   | 468.00        | 40.25         | 290.32       | 1.34                     | 2.38                     | 56.3         |
| 16  | Rice- Wheat      | 6.5 | 0.19         | 2.14   | 640.00        | 56.20         | 280.33       | 1.30                     | 2.37                     | 54.8         |
| 17  | Rice- Wheat-Rice | 6.4 | 0.20         | 2.44   | 740.00        | 56.32         | 390.65       | 1.38                     | 2.31                     | 59.7         |
| 18  | Rice- Wheat      | 6.4 | 0.31         | 2.74   | 824.00        | 57.21         | 110.45       | 1.39                     | 2.34                     | 59.4         |
| 19  | Rice- Wheat      | 6.3 | 0.29         | 2.63   | 787.00        | 37.12         | 105.02       | 1.34                     | 2.36                     | 56.7         |
| 20  | Sugarcane        | 6.3 | 0.34         | 2.57   | 768.00        | 31.31         | 299.05       | 1.38                     | 2.39                     | 57.7         |
| 21  | Rice- Wheat      | 6.3 | 0.40         | 1.49   | 450.00        | 37.32         | 105.06       | 1.32                     | 2.38                     | 55.4         |
| 22  | Rice- Wheat      | 6.3 | 0.34         | 2.34   | 693.00        | 31.63         | 299.03       | 1.31                     | 2.37                     | 55.6         |
| 23  | Rice- Wheat      | 6.3 | 0.28         | 2.08   | 618.00        | 40.25         | 230.03       | 1.38                     | 2.39                     | 57.7         |
| 24  | Rice- Wheat-Rice | 6.6 | 0.19         | 1.66   | 496.00        | 36.32         | 120.05       | 1.39                     | 2.31                     | 60.1         |

|    |                  |     |      |      |        |       |        |      |      |      |
|----|------------------|-----|------|------|--------|-------|--------|------|------|------|
| 25 | Rice- Wheat      | 6.5 | 0.20 | 2.71 | 825.00 | 36.32 | 240.10 | 1.38 | 2.34 | 58.9 |
| 26 | Sugarcane        | 6.5 | 0.24 | 1.81 | 535.00 | 51.36 | 290.20 | 1.38 | 2.35 | 58.7 |
| 27 | Rice- Wheat      | 6.4 | 0.26 | 2.32 | 693.00 | 56.23 | 320.30 | 1.35 | 2.26 | 59.7 |
| 28 | Rice- Wheat      | 6.5 | 0.31 | 1.51 | 452.00 | 40.12 | 160.01 | 1.36 | 2.38 | 57.1 |
| 29 | Rice- Wheat      | 6.0 | 0.32 | 2.70 | 820.00 | 40.21 | 140.05 | 1.32 | 2.39 | 55.2 |
| 30 | Rice- Wheat      | 6.5 | 0.37 | 2.08 | 618.00 | 42.21 | 310.61 | 1.31 | 2.37 | 55.2 |
| 31 | Rice- Wheat      | 6.6 | 0.38 | 1.50 | 450.00 | 20.32 | 160.00 | 1.32 | 2.38 | 55.4 |
| 32 | Rice- Wheat      | 6.7 | 0.29 | 1.40 | 430.00 | 23.25 | 105.21 | 1.33 | 2.39 | 55.6 |
| 33 | Rice- Wheat      | 6.6 | 0.34 | 1.50 | 450.00 | 18.50 | 152.03 | 1.32 | 2.24 | 58.9 |
| 34 | Rice- Wheat      | 6.7 | 0.36 | 2.09 | 618.00 | 36.63 | 231.03 | 1.35 | 2.40 | 60.2 |
| 35 | Rice- Wheat      | 6.4 | 0.40 | 1.81 | 543.00 | 36.36 | 112.62 | 1.36 | 2.41 | 56.4 |
| 36 | Sugarcane        | 6.7 | 0.35 | 1.66 | 487.00 | 37.36 | 190.32 | 1.39 | 2.28 | 60.9 |
| 37 | Sugarcane        | 6.8 | 0.26 | 1.75 | 525.00 | 31.56 | 125.32 | 1.38 | 2.37 | 58.2 |
| 38 | Sugarcane        | 6.8 | 0.19 | 1.59 | 470.00 | 25.65 | 131.35 | 1.33 | 2.37 | 56.1 |
| 39 | Rice- Wheat      | 6.7 | 0.18 | 1.62 | 487.00 | 28.35 | 190.36 | 1.38 | 2.39 | 57.7 |
| 40 | Rice- Wheat      | 6.7 | 0.24 | 1.43 | 430.00 | 29.32 | 131.39 | 1.37 | 2.28 | 60.0 |
| 41 | Rice- Wheat-rice | 6.8 | 0.26 | 1.53 | 460.00 | 30.53 | 280.14 | 1.39 | 2.35 | 59.1 |
| 42 | Rice- Potato     | 6.8 | 0.19 | 2.80 | 843.00 | 25.36 | 339.45 | 1.35 | 2.27 | 59.4 |
| 43 | Rice-pea         | 6.8 | 0.21 | 2.24 | 675.00 | 20.56 | 131.12 | 1.38 | 2.39 | 57.7 |
| 44 | Rice- Wheat      | 6.8 | 0.23 | 2.11 | 637.00 | 24.36 | 113.12 | 1.34 | 2.27 | 59.0 |
| 45 | Sugarcane        | 6.7 | 0.35 | 2.77 | 825.00 | 32.23 | 155.13 | 1.36 | 2.34 | 58.1 |
| 46 | Sugarcane        | 6.7 | 0.40 | 1.30 | 392.00 | 28.32 | 119.13 | 1.39 | 2.35 | 59.1 |
| 47 | Sugarcane        | 6.8 | 0.31 | 2.71 | 821.00 | 32.32 | 125.15 | 1.33 | 2.26 | 58.8 |
| 48 | Rice- Wheat      | 6.7 | 0.35 | 1.81 | 543.00 | 31.23 | 428.16 | 1.32 | 2.35 | 56.1 |
| 49 | Rice- Wheat      | 6.7 | 0.24 | 2.56 | 768.00 | 30.33 | 131.14 | 1.31 | 2.36 | 55.5 |
| 50 | Rice- Wheat      | 6.8 | 0.31 | 1.35 | 393.00 | 25.00 | 167.13 | 1.35 | 2.34 | 57.6 |
| 51 | Rice- Wheat-Rice | 6.8 | 0.24 | 1.17 | 355.00 | 28.21 | 161.21 | 1.36 | 2.28 | 59.6 |
| 52 | Rice- Wheat-Rice | 6.8 | 0.40 | 1.81 | 543.00 | 29.00 | 220.25 | 1.39 | 2.39 | 58.1 |
| 53 | Rice- Wheat-Rice | 6.8 | 0.31 | 1.32 | 393.00 | 30.00 | 226.36 | 1.35 | 2.38 | 56.7 |
| 54 | Rice- Potato     | 6.8 | 0.18 | 1.21 | 365.00 | 28.00 | 232.32 | 1.31 | 2.34 | 55.9 |
| 55 | Sugarcane        | 6.8 | 0.17 | 2.41 | 718.00 | 27.32 | 125.32 | 1.34 | 2.31 | 58.0 |
| 56 | Sugarcane        | 6.8 | 0.18 | 2.65 | 787.00 | 24.00 | 127.32 | 1.32 | 2.35 | 56.1 |
| 57 | Rice- Wheat-Rice | 6.7 | 0.19 | 1.47 | 440.00 | 34.00 | 129.32 | 1.36 | 2.36 | 57.6 |
| 58 | Rice- Wheat-Rice | 6.6 | 0.21 | 1.17 | 355.00 | 26.00 | 125.36 | 1.33 | 2.39 | 55.6 |
| 59 | Sugarcane        | 6.6 | 0.23 | 1.71 | 515.00 | 26.32 | 131.15 | 1.37 | 2.28 | 60.0 |
| 60 | Rice- Wheat-Rice | 6.7 | 0.25 | 1.05 | 312.00 | 28.33 | 149.25 | 1.39 | 2.35 | 59.1 |
| 61 | Rice- Wheat-Rice | 6.7 | 0.30 | 2.71 | 821.00 | 29.00 | 101.32 | 1.36 | 2.34 | 58.1 |
| 62 | Sugarcane        | 6.7 | 0.40 | 0.96 | 290.00 | 20.13 | 125.32 | 1.33 | 2.25 | 59.1 |
| 63 | Sugarcane        | 6.8 | 0.29 | 1.51 | 452.00 | 25.63 | 320.32 | 1.32 | 2.31 | 57.1 |
| 64 | Sugarcane        | 6.8 | 0.31 | 2.18 | 640.00 | 32.32 | 370.25 | 1.35 | 2.29 | 58.9 |
| 65 | Rice- Wheat      | 6.8 | 0.35 | 1.11 | 337.00 | 25.13 | 154.25 | 1.38 | 2.28 | 60.5 |
| 66 | Rice- Wheat      | 6.8 | 0.31 | 1.18 | 350.00 | 29.00 | 171.24 | 1.39 | 2.34 | 59.4 |
| 67 | Rice- Wheat-Rice | 6.8 | 0.34 | 2.32 | 693.00 | 30.32 | 113.21 | 1.37 | 2.35 | 58.2 |

BD= Bulk Density, PD= Particle density, OC= Organic carbon, Av= Available, and EC= Electrical conductivity.

**Table.2** Physico-chemical properties soils of Kanchanpur, district, Nepal

| Soil characteristics       | Range     | Mean | S.D. | C.V. (%) |
|----------------------------|-----------|------|------|----------|
| pH(1:2.5)                  | 5.5-6.8   | 7.24 | 0.32 | 5.67     |
| E.C.(dSm <sup>-1</sup> )   | 0.16-0.40 | 0.22 | 0.11 | 59.34    |
| O.C. (%)                   | 0.95-4.20 | 0.55 | 0.13 | 23.00    |
| B.D.(g cm <sup>-3</sup> )  | 1.32-1.42 | 1.38 | 0.01 | 2.15     |
| P.D. (g cm <sup>-3</sup> ) | 2.25-2.42 | 2.35 | 0.04 | 2.09     |

**Table.3** Status of available macronutrients viz. available N, P, and K in soils of Kanchanpur, district, Nepal

| Soil characteristics               | Range       | Mean   | S.D.   | C.V.  |
|------------------------------------|-------------|--------|--------|-------|
| Available N (kg ha <sup>-1</sup> ) | 290-1218    | 580.11 | 40.12  | 23.80 |
| Available P (kg ha <sup>-1</sup> ) | 18.5-90.5   | 35.74  | 1.33   | 25.10 |
| Available K (kg ha <sup>-1</sup> ) | 101.3-428.1 | 201.94 | 33.582 | 17.32 |

**Table.4** Classification OC% and available Macro nutrients status content in soils of Kanchanpur, district, Nepal

| S.No. | Elements | No. of samples | % of samples | No. of samples | % of samples | No. of samples | % of samples |
|-------|----------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
|       |          | Low            |              | Medium         |              | High           |              |
| 1     | OC%      | 0              | 0.00         | 0              | 0.00         | 67             | 100          |
| 2     | N        | 0              | 0.00         | 37             | 55.22        | 30             | 54.88        |
| 3     | P        | 0              | 0.00         | 8              | 11.94        | 59             | 88.05        |
| 4     | K        | 23             | 34.32        | 39             | 58.20        | 5              | 7.46         |

**Table.5** Rating limits for soil test values used in India (Muhret *et al.*, 1965)

| Nutrients                          | Rating of the soil test values |                         |        |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
|                                    | Low                            | Medium                  | High   |
| Organic carbon (%)                 | < 0.5                          | 0.5 – 0.75              | > 0.75 |
| Available N(kg ha <sup>-1</sup> )  | <280                           | 280 – 560               | >560   |
| Available P (kg ha <sup>-1</sup> ) | <12.5                          | 12.5 – 25               | >25    |
| Available K (kg ha <sup>-1</sup> ) | <135<br>Deficient              | 135 – 335<br>Sufficient | >335   |

**Table.6** Correlations between physic- chemical properties and available macro nutrients in the soil of Kanchanpur, district, Nepal

|                 | pH      | EC     | OC      | N      | P     | K     | BD     | PD      | POROSITY |
|-----------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|-------|-------|--------|---------|----------|
| <b>pH</b>       | 1       |        |         |        |       |       |        |         |          |
|                 | .67     |        |         |        |       |       |        |         |          |
| <b>EC</b>       | .053    | 1      |         |        |       |       |        |         |          |
|                 | .670    |        |         |        |       |       |        |         |          |
|                 | .67     | .67    |         |        |       |       |        |         |          |
| <b>OC</b>       | -.431** | -.138  | 1       |        |       |       |        |         |          |
|                 | .000    | .266   |         |        |       |       |        |         |          |
|                 | .67     | .67    | .67     |        |       |       |        |         |          |
| <b>N</b>        | -.430** | -.144  | 1.000** | 1      |       |       |        |         |          |
|                 | .000    | .245   | .000    |        |       |       |        |         |          |
|                 | .67     | .67    | .67     | .67    |       |       |        |         |          |
| <b>P</b>        | -.468** | -.304* | .364**  | .364** | 1     |       |        |         |          |
|                 | .000    | .012   | .002    | .002   |       |       |        |         |          |
|                 | .67     | .67    | .67     | .67    | .67   |       |        |         |          |
| <b>K</b>        | -.124   | -.168  | .006    | .002   | .243* | 1     |        |         |          |
|                 | .318    | .173   | .962    | .985   | .047  |       |        |         |          |
|                 | .67     | .67    | .67     | .67    | .67   | .67   |        |         |          |
| <b>BD</b>       | .187    | .079   | -.213   | -.214  | -.033 | -.036 | 1      |         |          |
|                 | .131    | .525   | .083    | .083   | .789  | .770  |        |         |          |
|                 | .67     | .67    | .67     | .67    | .67   | .67   | .67    |         |          |
| <b>PD</b>       | -.148   | .103   | -.120   | -.120  | .059  | .018  | .007   | 1       |          |
|                 | .231    | .405   | .333    | .333   | .636  | .882  | .955   |         |          |
|                 | .67     | .67    | .67     | .67    | .67   | .67   | .67    | .67     |          |
| <b>POROSITY</b> | .237    | .037   | -.051   | -.054  | -.064 | -.018 | .693** | -.651** | 1        |
|                 | .054    | .766   | .679    | .665   | .608  | .885  | .000   | .000    |          |
|                 | .67     | .67    | .67     | .67    | .67   | .67   | .67    | .67     | .67      |

\*\* . Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2- tailed).

This may be due to phosphorus build up in soil because of high biomass in soil, or, phosphatic fertilizer application. These finding are in agreement with the result reported by Meena *et al.*, in soil of Tonk district of Rajasthan. The potassium content in these soils was ranged from 101.3 to 428.1 kg/ha with a mean value of 201.94 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> K. S.D. value 33.582 and C.V. value of 17.32%. Out of 67soil samples 38.32% soil samples were found low, 58.20% soil

samples were found medium and 7.46% sample founded high in K content.

**Correlation between physico-chemical properties and available macro nutrients in the soils of Kanchanpur, district, Nepal**

Correlation between physico-chemical properties and available macro-nutrients in soils shows in table 6. Since most of the soil

Nitrogen is found in organic form, therefore, this relationship was observed. Available nitrogen is negatively (-0.430<sup>\*\*</sup>) correlated with pH, negatively (-0.144) correlated with EC, positively (1.000<sup>\*\*</sup>) correlated with OC, negatively (-0.214) correlated with BD and positively (0.120) correlated with PD.

Available phosphorous is positively (0.468) correlated with pH, positively (0.304) correlated with EC, positively (0.364) correlated with OC, positively (0.033) correlated with BD and positively (0.059) correlated with PD. The relationship between available P and C level could not exhibit the concurrent results. Jatav and Mishra have also reported the similar results in soil of Mewar region of Rajasthan and Janjigar district of Chhattishgarh.

Available potassium is negatively (-0.124) correlated with pH, positively (-0.168) correlated with EC, positively (0.006) correlated with OC, Negatively (0.036) correlated with BD and positively (0.018) correlated with PD.

It can be concluded that, the soil from Kanchanpur, district, Nepal is categorized under slightly acidic to moderately neutral in reaction, out of 67 soil samples 100% were found High in organic carbon in the soils of studied area. 55.22% medium and 54.88% high in available nitrogen, available phosphorus found medium 11.94% to high 88.05% and available potassium 34.32% found in low, 58.20% found in medium and 7.46% found high range. Proper agriculture practices, intensive farming, forest biomass are responsible for maintaining soil fertility status of the study area. To overcome from the adverse effect of the chemical cultivation efforts should be made to exploit all the available resource of nutrients under the theme of integrated nutrient management (INM). Under this approach the best available option lies in the complimentary use of bio-fertilizers, organic manures in suitable combination of chemical fertilizers. 'Organic agriculture' system should be inoculated which begins to consider potential environmental and social impacts by

eliminating the use of synthetic inputs such as synthetic fertilizers, pesticides etc. The camps, rallies and training programs for the farmers should be arranged for increasing awareness regarding the benefits of organic agriculture, bio-fertilizers etc. in crop production and thereby improving soil fertility and nutrients status.

### **Acknowledgement**

The authors are highly grateful to Regional Soil testing laboratory Sundarpur Kanchanpur, for providing necessary facility to carry out this work and International Rice Research Institute Nepal, for their financial support, and also thankful to Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Banaras Hindu University Varanasi, India.

### **References**

- Babel, A.L. Available Micronutrient Status and their Relationship with Soil Properties.
- Black, C.A. 1965. Soil Plant relationship 2<sup>nd</sup> edition New York., Pub. USA, pp. 515-516.
- Chauhan, J.S. 2001. Fertility status of soils of Birla Panchayat Samiti of Jodhpur district Rajasthan, Master's thesis, MPUAT, Udaipur.
- Chopra, S.L and Kanwar, J.S. 2005. Analytical Agricultural chemistry. Kalyani publishers, New Delhi.
- Das, D.K. Role of soil information systems in sustainable use of land resources.
- Deshmukh, K.K. 2012. Evaluation of soil fertility status from sangamner area, Ahmednagar District Maharashtra, India. *Rasayan J. Chem.*, 5: 398-406.
- Fageria, V.D. 2001. Nutrient Interactions in Crop plants, *J. Plant Nutri.*, 24(8): 1269-1290.
- Gupta, S., Mallick, T., Datta, J.K. and Saha, R.N., Impact of opencast mining on the soil and plant communities of Sonapur-Bajari opencast coal mine area, West Bengal, India. *Vista in Geol.*, 5: 94-198.
- Hanway, T.J. and Heidal, H. 1952. Soil analysis methods as used in Iowa State soil testing

- laboratory. *Iowa Agri.*, 57: 1-31.  
*Indian Society of Soil Sci.*, 1999; 47: 584-610.
- Jackson, M.L. 1973. Soil chemical analysis. Prentice Hall of India Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.
- Jatav, G.K. and Mishra, V.N. 2012. Evaluation of soil fertility status of available N, P and K in Kumar, inceptisol of Baloda block of Janjgir district of Chhattisgarh. *J. Progressive Agri.*, 3(1): 28-32.
- Lal, R. and Singh, B.R. Effect of soil degradation on crop productivity in East Africa.
- Latha, K.R. and Singh, R. 2003. Effect of cropping systems and fertilizer levels on the nutrient uptake and yield by sorghum in rainfed vertisols. *Indian J. Agri. Res.*, 37: 209-213.
- Mali, V.S., Zende, N.A. and Verma, U.K. Correlation between soil physico-chemical properties and available micronutrients in salt affected soils symposium no. 33 paper no. 2220 presentation.
- Mathur, G.M., Deo, R. and Yadav, B.S. 2006. Status of zinc in irrigated North-West Plain soils of Rajasthan. *J. Indian Society of Soil Sci.*, 54(3): 359-361.
- Meena, H.B., Sharma, P.R. and Rawat, U.S. 2006. Status of macro-micronutrients in some soils of Tonk district of Rajasthan. *J. Indian Society of Soil Sci.*, 54: 508-512.
- Muhur, G.R., Datta, N.P., Subramany, N.S., Dever, F., Lecy, V.K. and Donahue, R.R. 2011. Soil testing in India, USDA, publication, 1965; 120. of Jhunjhunu tehsil, district Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan, India. *J. Agri. Sci.*, 3(2): 97-106.
- Olsen, S.R., Cole, C.V., Watanbe, F.S. and Dean, L.A., Estimation of available phosphorus in soil by extracting with sodium bicarbonate. U.S.A. Circ. 939. (c.f. methods of soil analysis, part 2. Ed. C. A. Black, *American Society of Agronomy, Madison, Wisconsin.*
- Ramana, Singh Y.V., Jat L.K., Meena Santosh K., Singh Lakhapati, Jatav, H.S. and Paul Alpana. 2015. Available Macro Nutrient Status and their Relationship with Soil physico- chemical properties of Sri Ganganagar District of Rajasthan, India. *J. Pure and Appl. Microbiol.*, 9(4): p. 2887-2894.
- Sharma, R.P., Yadava, R.B., Lama, T.D., Bahadur, A. and Singh, K.P. 2013. Status of secondary nutrients vis-a-vis soil site-characteristics of vegetable growing soils of Varanasi. *Vegetable Sci.*, 40(1): 65-68.
- Singh, D.P. and Rathore, M.S. 2013. Available nutrient status and their relationship with soil properties of Aravalli mountain ranges and Malwa Plateau of Pratapgarh, Rajasthan, India. *African J. Agri. Res.*, 8(41): 5096-5103.
- Singh, R.P. and Mishra S.K. 2013. Available macro nutrients (N, P, K, And S) in the soils of Chiraigaon block of districts Varanasi (U.P) in Relation to soil characteristics, *Indian J. Scientific Res.*, 3(1): 97-100.
- Soils of arid tract of Punjab, Indian. 2005. *J. Agri. Biol.*, 7(2): 370-372.
- Subbiah, B.V. and Asija G.L. 1956. A rapid procedure for estimation of available nitrogen in soil. *Curr. Sci.*, 25: 259-260.
- Sustainable Agriculture*, 1998; 13(1): 15-41.
- Yadav, B.K. 2011. Micronutrient status of soils under legume crops in arid region of Western Rajasthan, India. *Academic J. Plant Sci.*, 4(3): 94-97.

**How to cite this article:**

Khan, A.I., N.L. Uranw, R.N. Yadav, Y.V. Singh, Durgawati Patel and Renu Yadav. 2017. Evaluation of Soil Fertility Status from Kanchanpur district, Far-Western Development Region of Nepal. *Int.J.Curr.Microbiol.App.Sci*. 6(3): 961-968.  
doi: <https://doi.org/10.20546/ijcmas.2017.603.114>