

# EFFECT OF ZINK, IRON AND MOLYBDENUM ON GROWTH, CHLOROPHYLL AND YIELD OF SOYBEAN UNDER RAINFED CONDITION IN VERTISOL

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**Abstract**—A field experiment was conducted at Agriculture Research Station, College of Agriculture, Dhule in 2012-2013. The experiment was laid out in randomized block design with nine treatments and three replications viz. T<sub>1</sub>: Control, T<sub>2</sub>: Water spray, T<sub>3</sub>: FeSO<sub>4</sub> spray (0.5%), T<sub>4</sub>: ZnSO<sub>4</sub> spray (0.5%), T<sub>5</sub>: Seed fortification with Na<sub>2</sub>MoO<sub>4</sub>, T<sub>6</sub>: FeSO<sub>4</sub> spray (0.5%) + ZnSO<sub>4</sub> spray (0.5%), T<sub>7</sub>: FeSO<sub>4</sub> spray (0.5%) + Na<sub>2</sub>MoO<sub>4</sub>, T<sub>8</sub>: ZnSO<sub>4</sub> spray (0.5%) + Na<sub>2</sub>MoO<sub>4</sub>, T<sub>9</sub>: FeSO<sub>4</sub> spray (0.5%) + ZnSO<sub>4</sub> spray (0.5%) + Na<sub>2</sub>MoO<sub>4</sub>. The results revealed that the highest number of branches (16.83 plant<sup>-1</sup>) observed in the application of zinc and iron with seed fortification of molybdenum (T<sub>9</sub>). The higher number of (44.66) nodules were recorded in treatment in seed fortification of molybdenum. The higher values of chlorophyll content at 20 DAS (19.90 mg 100 g<sup>-1</sup>), 60 DAS (18.14 mg 100 g<sup>-1</sup>) and 80 DAS (10.14 mg 100 g<sup>-1</sup>) of soybean was recorded in treatment T<sub>9</sub> (foliar application of zinc and iron with seed fortification of molybdenum). However, the higher chlorophyll content at 40 DAS (28.06 mg 100 g<sup>-1</sup>) of soybean was observed under foliar application of zinc and iron. The highest grain (22.65 q ha<sup>-1</sup>) and straw yield (19.66 q ha<sup>-1</sup>) were observed in foliar spray of zinc and iron. It can be concluded that foliar and seed fortification of micronutrient is one of the suitable alternative to fulfill the micro-nutrient requirement to under moisture stress condition.

**Keywords:** foliar application, iron, molybdenum, seed fortification, soybean, zinc