

RESPONSE OF VARYING NPK FERTILIZER COMBINATIONS ON DIFFERENT
PLANT TYPES OF SWEET POTATO (IPOMEA BATATAS L.)

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Sweet potato has the great potential to play an important role as a nutrition and energy source, mainly in the tropical countries. Despite its importance the average yield of sweet potato is still very low. This situation can perhaps be remedied with the use of high yielding cultivars. The adoption of improved cultural management practices, particularly the utilization and proper application of fertilizer could contribute to the increased yields. Hence, a study was carried out at the Visayas State College of Agriculture (VISCA), Philippines from February to May, 1986 to determine the response of varying N, P and K fertilizer combinations on different plant types of sweet potato, with the objective of optimizing the productivity of sweet potato.

All the yield components and growth parameters increased with the application of fertilizer. The fertilizer combination 60-30-30 kg/ha NPK was significantly superior over others, and there was no significant difference observed among the other 4 combinations (30-0-0, 30-30-0, 30-30,30 and 30-30-60 kg/ha NPK). The control treatment (no fertilizer) was significantly inferior in tuber yield, yield components and growth parameters.

Bush and semi - viny type varieties showed higher tuber productivity over the viny type.

B-16 : 09th Dec. 1987 (Wednesday) 02.45 p.m. - 03.00 p.m.