EFFECT OF INCORPORATION OF SAW DUST, COIR DUST AND PADDY HUSK ON P AVAILABILITY IN A SANDY CLAY SOIL

A.N. Jayakody, Y. Kidner and J.K.A. Hettiarachchi
Department of Soil Science, University of Peradeniya.

A lysimeter experiment without plants was conducted in the field to investigate the effect of incorporation of saw dust, coir dust and paddy husk on P availability in a sandy clay soil. Above organic materials were incorporated at rates of 4t and 8t per pectare. Non treated soil served as the control. The treatments were triplicated.

Periodical changes of available P were determined in soils at 0, 2nd, 4th, 6th and 8th weeks of field incubation. P leached beyond 15cm depth was determined in the collected leachates.

The results showed that the P availability in saw dust incorporated soil was significantly higher than in the other treatments. The total amount of P leached in the saw dust treated soil during the experimentation was 2-3 times higher than in the other treatments. The amounts of P leached in paddy husk and coir dust treated soil were more or less similar to the amounts in the control. The available P in the control soil was higher than that in the paddy husk and coir dust treated soil throughout the experiment, indicating a possible P immobilization.

11th Dec. 1987 (Friday) 01.15 p.m. - 01.30 p.m.