

Effect of Rhizosphere on Release of Fixed Ammonia

SANGITA MOHANTY AND SAMAR CHANDRA DATTA

*Division of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry
ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute*

Abstract— Greenhouse experiments with two crops, namely Maize (var-Gangasafed-2) and wheat [C-306], grown in three soils (Inceptisol, Vertisol and Alfisol)] was undertaken to determine the rates of release and fixation of NH₄⁺ in the rhizosphere of both the crops in comparison to non-rhizosphere soil. Crops were grown for a period of 43 days. A set of pots without crops was kept to compare between rhizosphere and non rhizosphere effect. Destructive sampling was done periodically at 0th, 15th, 22nd, 29th, 36th, 43rd day after emergence and samples were analysed for Fixed NH₄⁺. From 22nd day onwards, release of fixed NH₄⁺ was found to be significantly higher in rhizosphere than in the non rhizosphere. Root induced release of fixed NH₄⁺ was maximum in Inceptisol. On the other hand rate of release of fixed NH₄⁺ in rhizosphere was lowest in Alfisol. Moreover in Alfisol under wheat there was no significant difference between rhizosphere and non rhizosphere in the rate of release of fixed NH₄⁺.