

Perspective

Organic farming and their nutrient management

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Received: 16-May-2022, Manuscript No. AAB-22-63708; Editor assigned: 19-May-2022, PreQC No. AAB-22-63708 (PQ); Reviewed: 02-Jun-2022, QC No AAB-22-63708; Revised: 08-Jun-2022, Manuscript No. AAB-22-63708 (R); Published: 15-Jun-2022

ABOUT THE STUDY

Organic farming is a farming method that excludes the use of synthetically compounded organic manure, pesticides, growth regulators, genetically modified organisms, and agricultural dietary supplements. Crop rotations, the use of crop residues, animal manures, legumes, green manures, off farm organic wastes, bio fertilizers, mechanical cultivation, mineral bearing rocks, and aspects of biological control are used to the greatest extent possible to maintain soil productivity and soil amendments, supply plant nutrients, and control insect, weeds, and other pesticides. Organic farming is thus essential because it is a holistic production management method that promotes and increases agro-ecosystem health, including biodiversity, biological cycles, and soil biological activity. Organic farming techniques have been proved in numerous studies to generate even higher yields than standard agricultural methods. There was also a significant difference in soil health indicators like nitrogen bioaccumulation potential and microbial population and diversity, which were higher in organic farms. Organic farms had substantially lower pest and disease mortality due to improved soil health. Small-scale integrated farming systems have the ability to enhance rural economic growth. Even when organic methods are integrated in production, certification, and marketing, they can boost agricultural production, repair generations of environmental harm, and bind agricultural production families into more sustainable distribution transformers, leading to increased food security. In recent years, an increasing number of farmers have shown disinterest in farming, and many who used to cultivate are migrating to other locations. Organic farming is one technique to promote

food security or self-sufficiency. Agrochemicals and hazardous pesticides are used in huge volumes, poisoning the land and water. It has serious environmental long term consequences, including loss of erosion, decreased soil fertility, degradation of aquatic environment, and genetic biodiversity loss.

Nutrient management in organic farming

It is essential in organic farming to frequently generate a healthy soil that is rich in organic matter and contains all of the nutrients that the plants require. To increase soil fertility, a wide range of methods such as green manuring, manure addition, and bio fertilizers can be used. These organic sources not only add nutrients to the soil, but they also help to prevent weeds and increase soil organic matter, that feeds soil microorganisms. Soil with high organic matter content resists erosion, holds more water, and thus requires less irrigation. Natural minerals required by plants for growth and to improve soil consistency can also be incorporated. To balance the pH of the soil, soil amendments such as lime are added. However, heavy metals in soil amendment and water should be kept to a minimum. The majority of organic fertilizers used are recycled byproducts of other industries that would otherwise be disposed. Farmers also make mushroom compost and compost from animal manures. Compost is heated and aged for at least two months before being applied to the fields, reaching and maintaining an internal temperature of 130°-140°F to kill unwanted bacteria and weed seeds. Depending on availability and crop suitability, a wide range of organic fertilizers and pesticides, as well as bacterial and fungal bio fertilizers, can be used in organic farming.

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