

AVAILABILITY OF PHOSPHORUS AND ZINC AS INFLUENCED BY
CALCIUM CARBONATE

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ABSTRACT

The Wazirabad soil series with 0.72% lime content was used for this pot experiment. Control, 4, 8, 12, 16 and 20% CaCO₃ levels were created. A basal dose of 60, 45 and 30 mg/kg soil of N, P and K, respectively was applied to all the pots. Soil samples were obtained fortnightly from the pots of one set and analysed for pH, available P and Zn. In another set of pots, maize crop was grown and dry matter yield was recorded after two months. It was noticed that pH increased significantly with all the levels of CaCO₃. The availability of P and Zn was depressed significantly when lime was added. A significant decrease in dry matter yield of maize was also recorded with all but the lowest level of CaCO₃. The differences in availability of P and Zn due to time as well as treatment were significant.