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Effect of N application (0, 20, 40, 80, 120 and 160 kg/ha) on the uptake of primary nutrients by mustard grown under rainfed (R) and minimal irrigation (MI) conditions on sandy loam soil (reclaimed ravine) was studied. The N, P and K content in plants, stalk and grain were reduced with the application of first increment of N (20 kg/ha) and thereafter it increased with the application of successive levels of N. Absorption pattern of nutrients (periodic contents of N and P in plants) indicated that major uptake of N and P occurred upto flowering stage (60 days) while potash content in plants progressed till maturity. Application of nitrogen at 80 kg N/ha resulted in maximum total uptake of N (48.3 and 60.6 kg/ha under R and MI), P (9.38 and 10.38 kg/ha under R and MI) and K (63 and 69.6 kg/ha under R and MI).