International Symposium

on

Jute and Allied Fibres Production, Utilization and Marketing

January 9-12, 2008

at

National Library

Kolkata, India

Abstracts of Papers

Organized by

INDIAN FIBRE SOCIETY (Eastern Region)

in collaboration with

Central Research Institute for Jute & Allied Fibres (ICAR)

National Institute for Research on Jute & Allied Fibres Technology (ICAR)

International Jute Study Group, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Office of the Jute Commissioner, Govt. of India

Jute Manufacturing Development Council, Govt. of India

http://www.crijaf.org

CHARACTERISTICS OF JUTE SEED PRODUCING SOILS OF ANDHRA PRADESH, MAHARASHTRA AND TAMIL NADU

Sitangshu Sarkar, Nibedita Bose and Gautam Bhowmik
Central Research Institute for Jute and Allied Fibres, Barrackpore, Kolkata-700120

Around 5000 tonnes of quality seed is required for sowing about 0.8 million hectare of jute area now under cultivation in India. Majority of the jute seed requirement of Bangladesh (around 3000 tonnes annually to cover an area of around 0.5 million ha) are also met by private seed traders of India. The government controlled seed agencies and the private seed producers prefer to grow jute seeds in the states of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and parts of Karnataka due to several reasons including the soil and climatic factors, availability of land for longer period for the purpose etc. The soil characteristics of the jute seed growing soils of Maharashtra (Ahmednagar district), Andhra Pradesh (Guntur district) and Tamil Nadu (Erode district) had been compiled in the present study. The soil reaction was moderately alkaline for all the studied soils of Maharashtra (pH 7.8 - 8.2), Andhra Pradesh (pH 7.7) and Tamil Nadu (pH 7.9). The electrical conductivity (EC) of the soils were also measured and it was found that the values were ranged between 0.15 and 0.40 d S m^{-1} signifying low level of salinity which could not affect the jute seed production in general. It was a matter of concern that the organic carbon (OC) status of all the jute seed producing soils was low to medium. The OC values were 0.49, 0.50 and 0.70% for Guntur, Erode and Ahmednagar districts, respectively. Regarding the available nitrogen status of the soils, it was observed that except Guntur (564 kg ha^{-1}) all other places were low in nitrogen (152.g kg for Maharashtra and 14S kg for Tamil Nadu). Whereas, available phosphate status were high in Tamil Nadu (27 kg ha^{-1}) and low in Maharashtra (a kg ha ha^{-1}) and Andhra Pradesh (9.6 kg ha^{-1}). Unlike nitrogen and phosphorus, potassium status were medium (275 kg ha^{-1}in Maharashtra and 255.7 kg ha^{-1} in Andhra Pradesh) to high (311.3 kg ha^{-1}in Tamil Nadu) in all the soils studied.