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**CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF SOIL IN PARTS OF
DHAMTARI DISTRICT OF CHHATTISHGARH**

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ABSTRACT

An investigation was carried out to study the soil properties at the kurud block. The main objectives of this study is to collect information of soil type, slope, acidity viz. of the soil causes trace element deficiencies, N, P and K deficiencies, to study the physical and chemical properties, to know what soil pH & conductivity is and how it is calculated, Crop fertility, Understand and analyze the soil quality of Kurud block. For this study 5 sampling points were selected those are Anwari, Kulhadi, Gatapar, Thuha, and Kodapar. In this study we observed that there are four types of Soil in kurud block which are kanhar, Bhata, Matasi, & Dorsa, Soil contain various element like N, P, K, Al³⁺, Mg²⁺ etc. By analyzing the taken Soil Sample, soil was Loamy Soil, which is also called Matasi, it have mixture of sand, slit and clay. pH & electrical conductivity of soil depends on the basis of mobility of ions and also the importance of soil depends on the basis of pH. By Studying to this soil sample we measure that the productivity of rice, oilyseeds (ground nut, musterd) is best in this area. Maximum Matasi Soil Samples of Kurud block have low water retention capacity & low fertility status. The non saline nature of soil is due to the presence of carbonates & bicarbonates of Na⁺Ca²⁺,Mg²⁺,K⁺ and acidic nature is determined by the presence of chloride or sulphate salts of Na⁺ Mg²⁺ etc. High correlation between pH & Conductivity in soil is that pH values affect the conductivity. Conductivity based on salt ion mobility of soil. A decrease in the pH value decreases E.C. or any change in pH value induces a change or variability in the E.C With the help of this study we found the pH & conductivity of the soil. Moreover we also get to know about the nature of the soil (acidic or basic) and the type of ions found in it. So we concluded that the pH of this area is mainly below 6.5 to 8.5. This causes soil acidity and low productivity, whereas electrical conductivity of this area is mainly below to 1, which are well within the limit for the normal crop growth and it suggests that soil is not salty.

Keywords: Deficiencies Toxicity, Loamy Soil, Parameters, Conductivity.

INTRODUCTION

A vast region of Chhattisgarh is covered by red & yellow soil. There are a number of types of soil found in Kurud area but there are four major types namely Kanhar, Matasi, Dorsa and Bhata, which cover major portion of the total land area. The red colour of soil is generally related to unhydrated ferric oxide, and partially hydrated ions oxides. The yellow colour in soil is also due to oxides of iron [1-3]. The soils of the region are deficient in important mineral nutrients like nitrogen, phosphorous, lime and potash, which are concentrated in the lower parts of the soil layer. However, the tropical red and yellow

soils or the red sandy soils of the region possess texture suitable for growing crops. Data on area under different soil types was available from fifteen areas. We have derived data for the other areas from our maps. For the state as a whole, the predominant soil type is red and yellow loamy Soil. The percolation/water retention capacity, as well as the productive capacity of different soils, varies [4-6].

The following types of soils are found in Chhattisgarh:

Kanhar (clayey): A low-lying deep bluish black soil with high moisture retention capacity. It is well suited

for rabi crops, particularly wheat.

Matasi (sandy loamy): This is a yellow sandy soil, with an admixture of clay [7,8]. It has limited moisture retention capacity. Though used for paddy, Dorsa (clay-loam): This type of soil is intermediate in terms of soil moisture retention between kanhar and matasi [9-12]. This is best described as loamy, and is a colour between brown and yellow. Bhata (laterite): This soil is a coarse-textured, red sandy-gravelly soil, found on upland tops. It is deficient in minerals and other productivity enhancing nutrients [13-16].

Study Area

Coordinates: 22°04'N 81°41'E, Chattisgarh, India. The climate of Kurud block in Chhattisgarh is mostly dry. The summer season is mostly warm and dry while the winter season is cool and pleasant. The ideal time for traveling to kurud is during the autumn and winter seasons when the weather is fine. It is situated between 200 42' N Latitude and 810 33' Longitude. The total area of the district is 2029 km² and it is 305 meters above the sea level. In the east, Satpura range is located. It is popularly known as Sihawa pahad.

Selection of Sampling Points

For this study 5 sampling points were selected those are

| Sampling Point | Code |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Anwari | SN ₁ |
| Kulhadi | SN ₂ |
| Gatapar | SN ₃ |
| Thuha | SN ₄ |
| Kodapar | SN ₅ |

Sampling and Analysis

Different type of equipments can be used for sampling. Soil auger tube or knife or Khurpi and polythene bags are used for taking samples. Firstly Divide the field in to area so that each sample represents an area. A sample should be collected separately from areas which differ in soil colour. Clean the site from where soil sample is to be collected by removing undecomposed organic materials, garbage, etc. Scrap away the surface litter and insert sampling tube to a plough depth (above 15 cm) dig a V-shaped hole to a plough depth. Take at least 05 samples randomly distributed over each area in a polythene.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Analysis results of Physical and chemical parameters of Soil samples of are mentioned in the below Table.

pH

The pH values were in the range of low 5.5 to high 6.0. Minimum pH was observed from Thuha soil and

a maximum pH was observed from Kodapar village. The acceptable limit of pH value is between 6.5 to 8.5.

Electrical Conductivity

Electrical conductivity is a measure of the ability of solution to conduct electricity. It is related to the amount of conduct electricity. It is related to the amount of dissolved substance (or ions) in soil solution. It gives an indication of which minerals are present. Changes in conductivity over time may indicate changing soil quality. Soils have at least small amounts of various soluble salts in them. These salts may be acidic, neutral or basic. They may arise from different sources such as-

1. Primary minerals found in soil and in the exposed rocks of the earth crust and
2. Surface and ground waters.

The EC values were in the range of .05 to 0.34. Minimum EC was .05 observed from Kodapar village, and a maximum of .34 was observed from Anwari village. Beyond this range it will not affect the crop production.

Organic Carbon

Organic carbon are used to assess the amount of organic matter in soils. Increasing soil organic carbon (SOC) can improve soil health and can help to mitigate climate change. Carbon consists of inorganic and organic carbon. The inorganic carbon, present as carbonate or bicarbonate ions, must be removed or quantified prior to the analysis of organic carbon. Once the inorganic carbon is removed, subsequent analysis of the sample aliquot assumes that all carbon remaining is organic. On the basis of different percentage of organic carbon it can be divided in to low, medium and high. The organic carbon values were in the range of .20 to .25. Minimum was observed from Anwari village and maximum was observed from Kodapar. The organic carbon was lower in Anwari & high in Kodapar so the organic carbon value is medium effect; beyond this range the soil will affect crop productivity.

Phosphorus

Phosphorus (P) is an essential element classified as a macronutrient because of the relatively large amounts of P required by plants. Phosphorus is one of the three nutrients generally added to soils in fertilizers. One of the main roles of P in living organisms is in the transfer of energy. The Phosphorus values were in the range of 2.50 to 5.00. Minimum P was observed from Awari and maximum was observed from Jurda. So the Phosphorus value is low. Beyond this range the soil will affect crop fertility. On the basis of different percentage of phosphorus it can be divided in to low, medium and high.

Potassium

Potassium (K) is an essential nutrient for plant growth. Because large amounts are absorbed from the root

zone in the production of most agronomic crops, it is classified as a macronutrient. Potassium is associated with movement of water, nutrients, and carbohydrates in plant tissue. If K is deficient or not supplied in adequate amounts, growth is stunted and yields are reduced. Some crops exhibit characteristic deficiency symptoms when adequate amounts of K are not available for growth and

development. Potassium is mobile in plants and will move from lower to upper leaves. For corn, the margins of the lower leave turn brown. On the basis of different percentage of potassium it can be divided in to low, medium and high. The Potassium values were in the range of 75 to 272. Minimum k was observed from Kulhadi and maximum K was observed from Anwari.

The following methods are used for analysis of Soil samples

| S. No. | Nutrient | Method adopted |
|--------|-----------------------|--|
| 1 | Soil Reaction(pH) | Glass Electrode(1:2.5 soil water suspension) |
| 2 | Soluble salts(EC) | Conductivity Bridge(1:2 soil water Suspension) |
| 3 | Organic Carbon | Colorimetric method(Datta et.al.,1962) |
| 4 | Available Phosphorous | Brays and Kurtz P1 method(1945) |
| 5 | Available Potassium | Ammonium acetate extraction method |

| S. No. | Sampling site | pH | E.C(ds/m) | Nutrients | | |
|--------|---------------|-----|-----------|-------------|----------|----------|
| | | | | O.C.(Kg/ha) | P(Kg/ha) | K(Kg/ha) |
| 1 | SN1 | 5.7 | 0.34 | 0.20 | 2.50 | 272 |
| 2 | SN2 | 5.6 | 0.07 | 0.22 | 3.00 | 75 |
| 3 | SN3 | 5.5 | 0.13 | 0.24 | 4.00 | 111 |
| 4 | SN4 | 5.5 | 0.07 | 0.21 | 5.00 | 179 |
| 5 | SN5 | 6.0 | 0.05 | 0.25 | 3.50 | 168 |

Details of the same physico - chemical parameters determined in the soil from various sources of the different 5 soil samples are described below.

CONCLUSION

1. There are four types of Soil in kurud block which are kanhar, Bhata, Matasi, & Dorsa.,Soil contain various element like N, P, K, Al³⁺,Mg²⁺ etc.
2. By analyzing the taken Soil Sample, soil was Loamy Soil, which is also called Matasi, it have mixture of sand , slit , and clay .
3. pH & electrical conductivity of soil depends on the basis of mobility of ions and also the importance of soil depends on the basis of pH.
4. By Studying to this soil sample we measure that the productivity of rice, oilyseeds (ground nut, musterd) is best in this area.
5. Maximum Matasi Soil Samples of Kurud block have low water retention capacity & low fertility status.
6. The non saline nature of soil is due to the presence of carbonates & bicarbonates of Na⁺,Ca²⁺,Mg²⁺,K⁺ and acidic nature is determined by the presence of chloride or sulphate salts of Na⁺ Mg²⁺ etc.
6. High correlation between pH & Conductivity in soil is that pH values affect the conductivity. Conductivity based on salt ion mobility of soil. A decrease in the pH value decreases E.C. or any change in pH value induces a change or variability in the E.C

With the help of this study we find out that the pH value & conductivity of the soil. Moreover we also get to

know about the nature of the soil (acidic or basic) and the type of ions found in it .The measurement of pH value is important because it is helpful in growing crops as they show proper and maximum growth at optimum pH . If the pH of the soil is found to be acidic then in order to neutralize its acidity farmers are advised to use CaCO₃ in their land and if the pH is found to be basic then they are advised for the use of Gypsum for neutralizing the alkalinity of the soil. With the help of conductivity measurement we can find out the amount of soluble salts present in the soil .If it is above 3 then it hampers the process of seed germination as the soil becomes smooth and fine .In order to decrease the amount of salts in soil farmers are advised to have more and more amount of water so that its conductivity would decrease significantly .The pH value also helps to determine the presence of toxic elements present in the soil .Further more it tells about the effect of such element in the fertility of the soil. With the help of conductivity and alkalinity of the soil, presence of some elements and their effect on plant growth .Its increased content in soil produces toxic effect in plants. So we concluded that the pH of this area is mainly below 6.5 to 8.5. This causes soil acidity and low productivity, whereas electrical conductivity of this area is mainly below to 1, which are well within the limit for the normal crop growth and it suggests that soil is not salty.

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