

Effect of Potassium Humate and Bentonite on some Soil Chemical Properties under Different Rates of Nitrogen Fertilization

Wafaa M. T. El-Etr and Wagida Z. Hassan

Soil, Water and Environ. Res. Inst., Agric. Res. Center, Giza, Egypt



ABSTRACT

A field experiment was carried out at Ismailia Agric. Res. Station, ARC during the successive winter growing seasons of 2015 and 2016. Wheat crop (*Triticum aestivum* L.) was cultivated under sprinkler irrigation system to study the effect of soil amendments (bentonite and potassium humate) on soil chemical properties of sandy soil, under different nitrogen doses (100, 75 and 50% N), along with wheat productivity and nutrients uptake. Results revealed no significant effect of mean pH values of different treatments compared to control. Conversely of results indicated increases of OM and CEC under effect of either bentonite or potassium humate; no significant effect was obtained among rates of nitrogen. Results, generally, showed positive responses of available N, P and K compared to control treatments. Finally, results revealed significant positive responses of total yield (straw and grains) along with total content of nutrient elements. From the present study, soil conditioner (combination of bentonite and potassium humate) was favorable for soil parameters of chemical soil properties of sandy soil which reflects on increase soil fertility. Use of 75 or 50 % N rates instead, of 100% N, being suggested whose difference was not significant

Keywords: bentonite, potassium humate, chemical soil properties, plant growth and wheat crop.

INTRODUCTION

Sandy soils exist on a large scale in the world, it has to be cultivated. Therefore, it should be raise the fertility increase by adding soil amendments either organic or natural inorganic, which is reflected on the improvement of physical and chemical properties

The coarse textured soils, due to their low content of clay, are infertile because they usually contain little humus, nutrients and water. (Crocker, *et al.*, 2004). Therefore, sandy soils are characterized by very low fertility and water holding capacity (Goa, *et al.*, 1998), and a very limited microbial activity (Morsli, *et al.*, 2004). This low fertility is one of the constraints in this region of limiting agricultural production mainly cereals which require improvement by industrial fertilizers to increase crop yields. Therefore, the technical means to improve the nitrogen content of these soils are limited due to the low presence of clay, and improper physico-chemical conditions and mineral nutrition of wheat (Le Houerous, 1993).

Thus, the important step in the process of improving soil chemical characteristics of these degraded soils is to address the problem of declined nutrient and cation holding capacity (i.e., CEC) associated with a reduction in soil organic matter. A possible approach to remediating the fundamental exchange properties of these degraded soils may reside in the use of natural materials or industrial waste products, both of which could represent cost to the farmer. Ideally, improvement of soil would include improvements for both the chemical and physical characteristics. (Crocker, *et al.*, 2004)

In this perspective, introducing clay-rich bentonite can improve the physical and chemical characteristics of these soils. This action will increase cation exchange capacity (Deiou, 1987), and improve soil structure leading to good water and nutrients retention and better soil ventilation (Raimund and Dietmar 1996). Aleem *et al.*, (2000) suggested that added bentonite to sand soil allow to improvement of the physical, chemical and hydrous characteristics on account of high capacity to keep back the water and its strong exchange cationic capacity and thus to increase the agricultural yield. A further benefits of bentonite its

capacity to increase plant available water (PAW) as a function of increasing porosity (Soda *et al.*, 2006).

In order to complete the vision to improve the properties of sandy soil, add of organic conditioner such as potassium humate. Khaled and Fawy (2011) found that humic acids are an important soil component that can improve nutrient availability and impact on other important physical, chemical and biological properties of soils. Humic substances have started to be given to soil in Egypt and other parts of the world as to improve the crop yield. Gümü and Seker (2015) pointed out that HA (humic acid) applications at the rate of 4% significantly increased both mean soil total nitrogen content and aggregate stability after three incubation periods ($p < 0.05$); HA has the potential to improve the structure of soil in short term.

Foliar application of organic fertilizers can supply nutrients more rapidly than methods involving root uptake which made the local growers use foliar fertilizers to supplement soil applied nutrients and compensate for decreased root activity. Humic substances may be absorbed by the roots and transported to shoots, thus enhancing the growth of the whole plant (Shahein *et al.*, 2015). Humic substances may be classified into three categories; humic acid, fulvic acid and humin (Solange and Rezende, 2008). Potassium humate is the salt of humic acid and water soluble. Humic acid influences the plant growth both directly and indirectly; the indirect effect of humic acid is improvement of physical, chemical and biological conditions of soil. Its direct effects are attributed to effect on metabolic activity in plant growth (Tejada *et al.*, 2006). Therefore when plants were treated with potassium humate, chlorophyll contents were increased. Also, entering in plant cell, the functional group of humic and fulvic acids can serve as supplementary source of respiratory catalysts. (Ryosuke *et al.*, 2006)

Bacilio *et al.*, (2003) found that potassium humate act a humic acid applied in proper concentrations may be able to enhance root growth. Fong *et al.*, (2007). Decided that humic acid can be produced an availability to be in the form of inexpensive soluble salts, referred to as potassium humate. Gadimov *et al.*, (2007). Added that potassium

humate causes an increase in crop quality and tolerance of plant to drought, saline, cold, diseases and pests stresses. The goal of this research was to evaluate chemical properties of the sandy soil under the influence of each of the bentonite and potassium humate along with nitrogen rates, all being reflected on the increase of sandy soil fertility and thus reduce the required nitrogen fertilizer, in addition to improving the productivity of grown wheat crop.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A field experiment was carried out at Ismailia Agric. Res. Station, ARC during the successive winter growing seasons of 2015 and 2016. Wheat crop (*Triticum aestivum* L.) was cultivated under sprinkler irrigation system to study the effect of soil amendments (bentonite and Potassium humate) on soil chemical properties of sandy soil, using nitrogen doses (100, 75 and 50% N), wheat productivity and nutrients uptake being also evaluated. The institute farm is located at 30° 35' 41.9" N Latitude and 32° 16' 45.8" E longitude. The soil under study was analyzed according to methods described by Cottenie *et al.*, (1982) as shown in Table (1); relative chemical properties of bentonite and potassium humate are described in Tables (2 and 3). The experiment was designed in a randomized complete block design with three replications.

Table 1. Physical and chemical properties of the experimental soil

| parameters | Value |
|---|-------|
| Particle size distribution % | |
| Coarse Sand | 50.4 |
| Fine Sand | 40.4 |
| Silt | 3.20 |
| Clay | 6.00 |
| Texture class | Sandy |
| Chemical properties | |
| CaCO ₃ % | 1.40 |
| pH(Suspension 1: 2.5) | 7.92 |
| EC dS/m (saturated past extract) | 0.37 |
| Organic matter % | 0.40 |
| Soluble cations and anions (meq L ⁻¹) | |
| Ca ⁺⁺ | 0.95 |
| Mg ⁺⁺ | 0.89 |
| Na ⁺ | 1.51 |
| K ⁺ | 0.45 |
| CO ₃ ⁻ | - |
| HCO ₃ ⁻ | 1.42 |
| Cl ⁻ | 1.02 |
| SO ₄ ⁻ | 1.36 |
| Available nutrients (mg kg ⁻¹) | |
| N | 66.0 |
| P | 12.0 |
| K | 45.6 |

The applied rates of nitrogen were mixed once with bentonite (5ton /Fed⁻¹), the other with potassium humate (30 L/ Fed⁻¹) and finally, such rates with bentonite + potassium humate (bento +KH) together. The treatments were 100 % N, 100% N + bento, 100% N+ KH and 100% N+ (bento + KH). The same treatments were mixed with either 75% N or 50% N.

Mineral fertilizer were applied at recommended dose for wheat crop. Phosphorus was added in the form of (15 % P₂O₅) at a rate of 200 Kg fed.⁻¹ basically before sowing; potassium was added in the form of potassium sulfate (48 % K₂O) at 50 Kg fed.⁻¹, nitrogen was added in the form ammonium nitrate (33 % N) rates at 360 Kg fed.⁻¹. The dose of nitrogen was added at three times 15, 30 and 60 days from sowing. Bentonite was added before cultivation and mixed with soil surface 20 cm. Potassium humate was sprayed on soil surface three times at 20, 40 and 60 days from sowing.

Table 2. Selected chemical properties of potassium humate.

| Parameters | Values | Parameters | values |
|------------|--------|-----------------------|--------|
| pH | 8.10 | P mg L ⁻¹ | 9.60 |
| OC % | 0.63 | Ca mg L ⁻¹ | 400 |
| OM % | 1.08 | Mg mg L ⁻¹ | 336 |
| C/N | 1.21 | Fe mg L ⁻¹ | 10.9 |
| N % | 0.52 | Mn mg L ⁻¹ | 1.70 |
| K % | 4.00 | Zn mg L ⁻¹ | 0.30 |
| Na % | 0.83 | Cu mg L ⁻¹ | 0.50 |

Table 3. Selected chemical properties of the natural bentonite

| pH | EC dSm ⁻¹ | OC % | OM % | CEC C mol kg ⁻¹ | N mg kg ⁻¹ | P mg kg ⁻¹ | K mg kg ⁻¹ |
|------|----------------------|------|------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 8.01 | 3.77 | 0.79 | 1.36 | 64 | 350 | 8.38 | 783 |

At maturity, plants were harvested after 120 day to evaluate yield components (grains and straw) and nutrient status. Plant samples were oven dried at 70 °C until constant dry weight, then ground and digested using H₂SO₄ and H₂O₂ mixture described in Page *et al.* (1982). Soil chemical parameters including pH, organic matter, CEC and available N, P and K along with analyses for natural minerals were evaluated according to the procedures described by Cottenie *et al.* (1982). Obtained results were subjected to statistical analysis according to Snedecor and Cochran (1982), and the treatments were compared by using the least significant difference (L.S.D) at 0.05 level of probability.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Soil characteristics.

Data in Tables (4 and 5) show the effect of potassium humate and bentonite along with bentonite + potassium humate as a combination on soil parameters of pH, OM, CEC, and available nutrients (N, P and K) under impact of nitrogen rates at the two seasons.

1- Soil pH.

Results revealed no significant response of mean pH values to nitrogen rates of 100, 75 or 50% of N compared to control treatments. Generally, the same results were observed among other treatments at the two studied seasons. This may be due to that potassium humate works as a buffer which help to stabilize soil against strong pH changes created from fertilizer application. This agrees with resultant of Campitelli *et al.*, (2008)

2- Organic matter.

Results indicated that significant positive responses were observed with OM mean values obtained with nitrogen

rates of either 100 or 75 along with 50 % compared to control treatments under impact of either potassium humate (HK) or bentonite (Bento). On the other hand, there were no significant responses among all rate of nitrogen. The superior treatment was, however, observed at treatment in a combination with (HK+ Bento) of each rates of nitrogen because potassium humate works as organic matter which promote of microorganisms in soil. (Khaled and Fawy 2011). Of course, high-clay of bentonite, should improve the physical and chemical properties of sandy soils. This simulates resultant of Yssaad and Belkhodja (2007) who found that addition of bentonite to sandy soil allow improving of physical and chemical properties.

3- Cation exchange capacity (CEC)

Results revealed that significant positive responses for CEC with effectiveness all treatments compared to control treatments. Also, there were significant responses of nitrogen rates fertilizer 100 or 75 as well as 50 % of N. The superior treatment was obtained at bentonite + potassium humate which being shown the effect favorable of organic and mineral soil conditioner on chemical and physical soil properties. Due to the HK which is rich in carboxylic, phenolic groups, and aromatic nature provide favorable soil conditioners. Also, it has been biological activity; chemical reactions and physical improvement of soil its promoting chemical reaction for cation exchange capacity. (Dejou 1987 and Amjad *et al.* 2010). Also, Croker *et al.* (2004) decided that bentonite was considered a 2:1 clay mineral which increases in the CEC simply as a consequence of yhier high net permanent negative charged in soil. Therefore, it can also improve the retention and availability preferable to add bentonite to sandy soil.

4 - Available nutrients in soil.

Results, generally, showed positive responses of N, P and K available with compared to control treatments. For indicated that the effect of bentonite, potassium humate as well as bentonite + potassium humat as a combination. On the other hand, there are no significant responses under effect of nitrogen rates either 100 or 75 along with 50 % N. Corresponding the superior treatments of nutrients available were the (HK+ Bento) which being the best effect. This may

be related with the increases of CEC when added the soil conditioner (HK+ Bento) to the soil the along with improving the chemical properties of sandy soil (Reguieg *et al.*, 2011). Also, Czaban *et al.*, (2013) found that the minerals of 2:1 types can adsorb greater amounts of element and organic materials than 1:1 type due to large specific and high- charge densities in 2:1 type clays. In regard to the potassium humate products are usually available in the form of soluble salts. Furthermore, Croker *et al.*, (2004) applied that bentonite can improve the retention and availability of nutrients, enhancing agricultural productivity and improving fertiliser use efficiency (Fonge *et al.*, 2007). This is true because the K- humate enhancing the availability of essential plant nutrients N, p and K. Whereas, its containing basically humic acid when added as individual treatment or combined with other soil conditioners surpassed the other treatments (Abdel-Razek *et al.*, 2011)

Plant growth

1- Total yield, grains and straw of wheat crop

The treatments had significant effect on mean values of total yield, grains and straw in both seasons were shown in Table 6 and Fig1 compared to control treatments. Concerning nitrogen rates, results indicated that no significant increases between them 100, 75 or 50 % of nitrogen. This is favorable for soil because soil amendments were playing a good role in improvement of soil properties either chemical or physical which increase soil fertility. This is reflected on yield of wheat crop when applied the 75 or 50 % of N which had to the decrease consumption of nitrogen fertilizer. This may able to indirect and direct effecting on the physical system of grown plant under impact of potassium humate treatments. Its provide minerals encourage the micro- organism population; provide biochemical substances which reflected on crop growth (Young *et al.*, 2006). Moreover, the addition of bentonite and HK as a combination was playing an important role in sandy soil whereas the bentonite improved the physical soil properties epically soil aggregates and water holding capacity. (Croker *et al.*, 2004)

Table 4. Effect of soil applied conditioners on pH, OM, CEC and available elements under the studied rates of nitrogen fertilizer (first season).

| Treatments | | Ph (1:2suspension) | %OM | Cmol kg ⁻¹ | | Mg kg ⁻¹ | | |
|------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|--|
| N rates | Soil conditioners. | | | CEC | N | P | K | |
| 100 | Cont | 8.01 _{AE} | 0.12 _{CD} | 12.3 _{CD} | 158 _B | 75 _{AB} | 65 _B | |
| | Bent | 7.98 _{BE} | 0.29 _{BC} | 35.7 _{AC} | 163 _{AB} | 78 _{AB} | 66 _B | |
| | HK | 8.09 _{CE} | 0.33 _{AC} | 36.7 _{AB} | 172 _{AB} | 81 _{AB} | 67 _B | |
| | Bentont+HK | 8.10 _{AE} | 0.39 _{AC} | 49.3 _A | 177 _{AB} | 99 _{AB} | 79 _B | |
| Mean | | 8.04 _A | 0.29 _A | 36.0 _A | 168 _A | 83 _A | 69 _B | |
| 75 | Cont | 8.07 _{AC} | 0.55 _D | 19.0 _D | 168 _{AB} | 70 _{AB} | 75 _B | |
| | Bent | 7.87 _E | 0.81 _{AB} | 28.3 _{B,D} | 172 _{AB} | 90 _{AB} | 139 _A | |
| | HK | 8.09 _{AB} | 0.81 _A | 25.3 _{B,D} | 186 _A | 91 _{AB} | 157 _A | |
| | Bentont+HK | 8.07 _{AE} | 0.94 _{AB} | 36.7 _{AB} | 186 _A | 109 _A | 147 _A | |
| Mean | | 8.02 _A | 0.53 _A | 27.3 _B | 178 _A | 90 _A | 129 _A | |
| 50 | Cont | 8.02 _{AE} | 0.46 _{AC} | 15.0 _D | 163 _{AB} | 61 _B | 143 _A | |
| | Bent | 8.16 _A | 0.78 _{AB} | 19.7 _D | 172 _{AB} | 79 _{AB} | 154 _A | |
| | HK | 8.09 _{AB} | 0.53 _{AC} | 16.0 _D | 172 _{AB} | 76 _{AB} | 152 _A | |
| | Bentont+HK | 8.14 _{AB} | 0.60 _{AC} | 34.3 _{BC} | 182 _{AB} | 88 _{AB} | 169 _A | |
| Mean | | 8.01 _A | 0.59 _A | 21.2 _C | 172 _A | 76 _A | 154 _A | |

Table 5. Effect of soil applied conditioners on pH, OM, CEC and available elements under the studied rates of nitrogen fertilizer (second season).

| N rates | Soil conditioners | pH (1:2 suspension) | %OM | Cmol kg ⁻¹ | | Mg kg ⁻¹ | |
|---------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| | | | | CEC | N | P | K |
| 100 | Cont | 8.26 _A | 0.37 _C | 15 _F | 191 _B | 27 _C | 31 _B |
| | Bent | 7.95 _{BC} | 0.78 _{BC} | 22 _E | 207 _{AB} | 38 _C | 46 _{AB} |
| | HK | 7.94 _{BC} | 0.64 _{BC} | 26 _B | 191 _B | 56 _B | 31 _B |
| | Bentont+HK | 8.08 _{AC} | 0.80 _{BC} | 30 _A | 210 _{AB} | 56 _B | 48 _{AB} |
| Mean | | 8.06 _A | 0.65 _B | 23 _A | 200 _A | 44 _B | 39 _{AB} |
| 75 | Cont | 8.07 _{AC} | 0.34 _C | 17 _F | 191 _B | 56 _B | 31 _B |
| | Bent | 8.05 _{AC} | 0.78 _{BC} | 15 _F | 201 _B | 72 _A | 40 _{AB} |
| | HK | 8.16 _{AB} | 0.71 _{BC} | 26 _D | 210 _{AB} | 71 _{AB} | 36 _{AB} |
| | Bentont+HK | 8.00 _{AC} | 0.67 _A | 32 _B | 219 _{AB} | 74 _A | 40 _{AB} |
| Mean | | 8.07 _A | 0.88 _A | 23 _B | 205 _A | 68 _A | 37 _B |
| 50 | Cont | 7.95 _{AC} | 1.78 _{BC} | 15 _F | 191 _B | 56 _B | 31 _B |
| | Bent | 8.26 _A | 1.78 _{BC} | 15 _F | 201 _B | 68 _{AB} | 49 _{AB} |
| | HK | 8.16 _{AB} | 1.71 _{BC} | 15 _F | 196 _B | 62 _{AB} | 40 _{AB} |
| | Bentont+HK | 8.15 _{AB} | 2.26 _{AC} | 32 _C | 233 _A | 66 _{AB} | 51 _A |
| Mean | | 8.12 _A | 1.88 _A | 20 _C | 205 _A | 63 _A | 43 _A |

Table 6. Effect of soil conditioners on grains and straw yields of wheat crop under the studied rates of nitrogen fertilizer (first and second seasons).

| N rates | Soil conditioners. | First season kg Fed ⁻¹ | | Second season kg Fed ⁻¹ | |
|---------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| | | Grains | straw | Grains | straw |
| 100 | Cont | 1676 _C | 1943 _B | 1562 _{BC} | 2491 _E |
| | Bent | 1955 _{BC} | 2729 _B | 2540 _A | 2528 _E |
| | HK | 1938 _{BC} | 2227 _B | 2614 _A | 3909 _{AD} |
| | Bentont+HK | 2671 _A | 3362 _A | 2820 _A | 4144 _{AD} |
| Mean | | 2060 _A | 2565 _A | 2384 _A | 3268 _A |
| 75 | Cont | 1638 _C | 1293 _B | 1268 _C | 3226 _{CE} |
| | Bent | 2106 _{AC} | 2420 _B | 2624 _A | 3341 _{BE} |
| | HK | 2318 _{AB} | 3214 _B | 2660 _A | 3712 _{AE} |
| | Bentont+HK | 2642 _A | 3783 _B | 2920 _A | 5024 _A |
| Mean | | 2176 _A | 2678 _A | 2368 _A | 3970 _A |
| 50 | Cont | 1648 _C | 1956 _B | 1236 _C | 3011 _{DE} |
| | Bent | 1820 _{BC} | 2786 _B | 1596 _{BC} | 4563 _{AC} |
| | HK | 2054 _{AC} | 2511 _B | 1884 _B | 3693 _{AE} |
| | Bentont+HK | 2250 _{AC} | 2804 _B | 2436 _A | 4611 _{AB} |
| Mean | | 1943 _A | 2514 _A | 1788 _B | 3970 _A |

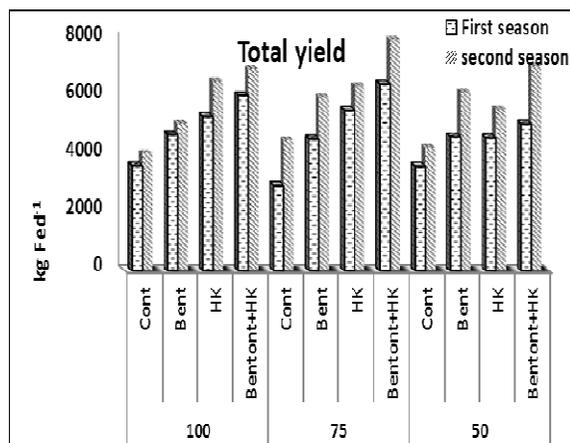


Fig. 1. Effect of soil conditioners on total yield of wheat crop under the studied rates of nitrogen fertilizer (first and second seasons).

2- N, P and K status in wheat plant

The total content of N, P and K in both straw and grain of grown wheat crop as affected by bentonite and potassium humate under different applied rates of nitrogen fertilizer in both studied seasons are shown in Tables (7 - 8). Data noticed that total content of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium was significant increase of mean values to applied treatments compared to control treatments; the superior treatments were observed in combination of (bento + HK) conditioner. On the other hand, there is no significant increase between treatments of nitrogen rates. These favorable effects may be related to the status of soil fertility with relatively ample which nutrients availability for plant (Wanas, 1996). Also, Mackowiak *et al.*, (2001) and Madlain and Salib (2002) reported that, the great function of K- humate which improve the efficiency of nutrients uptake particularly when using sprinkling technique.

Table 7. Effect of soil conditioners on total content of nutritional element under the studied rates of nitrogen fertilizer (first season).

| Treatments | | N kg fed ⁻¹ | | P kg fed ⁻¹ | | K kg fed ⁻¹ | |
|------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| N rates | Soil conditioners | Straw | Grains | straw | Grains | straw | Grains |
| 100 | Cont | 44.1 _B | 45.1 _D | 9.41 _B | 14.4 _B | 16.1 _B | 4.14 _E |
| | Bent | 40.1 _B | 49.7 _D | 8.60 _B | 16.7 _B | 17.7 _B | 5.10 _{CE} |
| | HK | 49.9 _B | 51.9 _D | 9.56 _B | 16.3 _B | 16.1 _B | 6.44 _{AC} |
| | Bentont+HK | 57.8 _A | 73.4 _A | 72.2 _A | 23.3 _B | 31.6 _A | 7.75 _A |
| Mean | | 48.0 _A | 55.0 _A | 24.9 _A | 17.7 _B | 20.4 _A | 5.86 _A |
| 75 | Cont | 19.9 _B | 45.3 _D | 3.93 _B | 16.6 _B | 7.70 _B | 4.48 _{DE} |
| | Bent | 46.3 _B | 65.3 _A | 7.50 _B | 19.6 _B | 15.9 _B | 5.49 _{CE} |
| | HK | 48.3 _B | 64.9 _B | 9.92 _B | 23.0 _B | 20.6 _B | 5.94 _{BD} |
| | Bentont+HK | 66.3 _B | 80.6 _A | 14.0 _B | 35.0 _A | 25.4 _B | 7.57 _{AB} |
| Mean | | 45.2 _A | 64.0 _A | 8.84 _A | 23.5 _A | 17.4 _A | 5.87 _A |
| 50 | Cont | 27.8 _B | 44.4 _D | 3.61 _B | 13.5 _B | 11.3 _B | 4.41 _{CE} |
| | Bent | 41.6 _B | 51.0 _D | 9.69 _B | 15.8 _B | 18.9 _B | 5.09 _{CE} |
| | HK | 35.8 _B | 52.5 _D | 9.52 _B | 17.1 _B | 14.8 _B | 5.31 _{CE} |
| | Bentont+HK | 43.9 _B | 63.9 _C | 8.86 _B | 21.8 _B | 17.0 _B | 5.92 _{CD} |
| Mean | | 37.3 _A | 52.9 _A | 7.92 _A | 17.1 _B | 15.5 _A | 5.18 _A |

Table 8. Effect of soil conditioners on total content of nutritional element under the studied rates of nitrogen fertilizer (second season).

| Treatments | | N kg fed ⁻¹ | | P kg fed ⁻¹ | | K kg fed ⁻¹ | |
|------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| N rates | Soil conditioners. | Straw | Grains | Straw | Grains | straw | Grains |
| 100 | Cont | 20.9 _E | 30.7 _{DF} | 6.76 _D | 10.3 _{DE} | 11.0 _E | 4.15 _{EF} |
| | Bent | 23.3 _{CE} | 55.8 _{AB} | 8.27 _{CD} | 16.8 _{BC} | 13.6 _{CE} | 7.15 _{BD} |
| | HK | 38.4 _{AE} | 65.4 _A | 18.36 _{BC} | 17.4 _{BC} | 20.8 _{BC} | 7.10 _{CD} |
| | Bentont+HK | 52.3 _{AC} | 63.6 _A | 22.7 _{AB} | 21.5 _{AB} | 23.9 _B | 9.25 _{AB} |
| Mean | | 33.7 _A | 53.9 _A | 14.03 _A | 16.5 _{AB} | 17.3 _A | 6.91 _A |
| 75 | Cont | 22.7 _{CE} | 23.9 _{EF} | 9.3 _{CD} | 6.10 _E | 14.8 _{CE} | 3.45 _F |
| | Bent | 30.0 _{CE} | 53.0 _{AB} | 11.5 _{BD} | 17.2 _{BC} | 19.5 _{BD} | 7.62 _{AD} |
| | HK | 36.9 _{AE} | 52.4 _{AB} | 15.5 _{BD} | 22.6 _{AB} | 19.2 _{BD} | 8.08 _{AC} |
| | Bentont+HK | 63.2 _A | 62.5 _A | 30.3 _A | 26.3 _A | 37.7 _A | 9.55 _A |
| Mean | | 38.2 _A | 48.0 _{AB} | 16.7 _A | 18.1 _A | 22.8 _A | 7.17 _A |
| 50 | Cont | 21.5 _{DE} | 20.2 _F | 11.6 _{BD} | 7.30 _E | 12.7 _{DE} | 3.04 _F |
| | Bent | 50.9 _{AD} | 36.5 _{CE} | 13.4 _{BD} | 7.30 _E | 22.5 _B | 4.67 _{EF} |
| | HK | 33.2 _{BE} | 42.7 _{BD} | 14.4 _{BD} | 14.4 _{CD} | 18.5 _{BE} | 5.72 _{DE} |
| | Bentont+HK | 60.4 _{AB} | 52.0 _{AC} | 21.5 _{AB} | 17.2 _{BC} | 34.6 _A | 7.27 _{BD} |
| Mean | | 41.5 _A | 37.9 _B | 15.2 _A | 11.5 _B | 22.1 _A | 5.18 _B |

CONCLUSION

The results of this study indicate that soil conditioners (combination of bentonite and potassium humate) were favorable to soil parameters including pH, organic matters, cation exchange capacity and nutrient availability. In other words, it rise the fertility of sandy. The same trend was observed for plant growth and nutritional elements content. Also, results suggested that, the possibility of using either 75 or 50 % N rate instead of 100% N; therefor saving the consumption of nitrogen fertilizer

REFERENCES

- Abdel-Razek K.M. Mona, Hemeid M. Nadia and R. N. Habashy (2011) Effect of some organic soil-conditioning agents for improving sandy soil productivity under sprinkler irrigation system. *Austra. J. of Basic and Applied Sci.* 5: 12-20,
- Aleem, A. M.M., N.S. Hanna and S.R.S. Sabry, (2000). Relationship between wheat root characteristics and grain yield in sandy and clay soils. *Ann. Agric. Sci.*, 3: 977-995.
- Amjad, A.S.A., Y.M.A. Khanif, H.A. Aminuddin, O.A. Radziah and H.A. Osumanu, (2010). Impact of potassium humate on selected chemical properties of an acidic soil. 19th World Congress of Soil Science, Soil Solutions for a Changing World 1- 6 August 2010, Brisbane, Australia.
- Bacilio, M., P. Vazquez and Y. Bashan, (2003). Alleviation of noxious effects of cattle ranch composts on wheat seed germination by inoculation with *Azospirillum* spp. *Biol Fertil Soils*, 38: 261-266.
- Campitelli, P.S., Velasco, M.I. and S.B. Ceppi, (2008). Chemical and physicochemical characteristics of humic acids extracted from compost, soil and amended soil. *Talanta* 69: 1234-1239.
- Cottenie, A., M. Verloo, L. Kiek, G. Velghe and R. Camerlynck, (1982). "Chemical Analysis of Plants and Soils" Lab. Anal. and Agroch. State Univ., Ghent, Belgium.
- Croker, J. R. Poss, C. Hartmann, and S. Bhuthorndharaj (2004). Effects of recycled bentonite addition on soil properties, plant growth and nutrient uptake in a tropical sandy soil. *Plant and Soil* 267: 155-163.

- Czaban, J., G. Siebielec, F., Czyż, and J. Niedźwiecki. (2013). Effects of bentonite addition on sandy soil chemistry in a long-term plot experiment (i); effect on organic carbon and total nitrogen Pol. J. Environ. Stud. 22: 1661-1667.
- Dejou, J.(1987). The specific surface of clay, its measurement, relationship with the CEC and its agronomic importance, in: Proc. Symp. AFES,72-83.
- Fong, S.S., L. Seng and H.B. Mat, (2007). Reuse of nitric acid in the oxidative pretreatment step for preparation of humic acids from low rank coal of Mukah. Sarawak. J. Braz. Chem. Soc., 18: 41-46.
- Gadimov, A., N. Ahmaedova and R.C. Alieva, (2007). Symbiosis nodules bacteria Rhizobium leguminosarum with Peas (Pisum sativum) nitrate reductase, salinification and potassium humus. Azarbayjan National Academy of Sciences. International Humic Substances Society. What are humic substances? [http:// ihss. gatech. edu/ihss2 /whatarehs.html](http://ihss.gatech.edu/ihss2/whatarehs.html).
- Goa, S., W.L. Pan and R.T. Koeining (1998). Integrated root system age in relation to plant nutrient uptake activity, J. Agron. 90:505-510.
- Gümü, s., and C. Şeker (2015). Influence of humic acid applications on modulus of rupture, aggregate stability, electrical conductivity, carbon and nitrogen content of a crusting problem soil. Solid Earth, 6: 1231–1236.
- Khaled, H. and H. A. Fawy, (2011). Effect of different levels of humic acids on the nutrient content, plant growth, and soil properties under conditions of salinity. Soil and Water Res., 6: 21–29.
- Le Houerou, H.N. (1993). Climate change and desertification, Sécheresse 2: 95-111.
- Mackowiak, C.L., P.R. Grossl, and B.G. Bugbee, (2001). Beneficial effects of humic acids on micronutrient availability to wheat. Soil Sci. Soc. Am. J. 65:1744-1750.
- Madlain, M. and M. Salib, (2002). The integrated effect of humic acid and micronutrients in combination with effective micro-organisms on wheat and peanut grown on sandy soils. Zagazig J. Agric. Res., 29: 2033- 2050.
- Morsli, B., M. Mazour, N. Medjedel and A. Hamoudi (2004). Influence of using soils on the risk of runoff and erosion on the semi-arid slopes of Northwestern Algeria, Sécheresse 15: 96-104.
- Page, A.L., R.H. Miller and D.R. Keeney, (1982). "Methods of soil analysis" Amer. Soc. Agron. ,Madison, Wisconsin, U.S.A
- Raimund, S., and S. Dietmar, (1996). Properties of soils under different types of management developed in a sandy substrate covering boulder clay at Mecklenburg (north eastern Germany), in: Sci. of Soils.
- Reguieg, H.Y., M. Belkhdja and A. Chibani (2011). Effect of bentonite on the sandy soils of arid regions: study of behavior of an association of wheat and chickpea. J. Environ. Sci. 5:1668-1677.
- Ryosuke T., M. Shigenori and A. Junie (2006). Distribution pattern of root nodules in relation to root architecture in two loading cultivars of peanut (Aruchis hypogaca L.) in Japan. J. Plant Production Sci. 9: 249-255.
- Shahein M.M., M.M. Afifi, and A.M.Algharib (2015). Study the effects of humic substances on growth, chemical constituents, yield and quality of two lettuce cultivars (cv.s. dark green and big bell) J. Mater. Environ. Sci. 6: 473-486.
- Snedecor, j.p., Cochran, w., (1982). "Statistical methods" 7th ed. Aims, USA, The Iowa State University Press. 507pp.
- Soda, W., AD, Noble, S., S, Suzuki, R., Simmons, L., Sindhusen and S. Bhuthorndharaj. (2006) Composting of acid waste bentonites and their effects on soil properties and crop biomass. J. Environ. Quality 35: 2293–2301.
- Solange L.M and Rezende M.O. (2008). Capillary Electrophoresis (CE): A powerful tool to characterize humic acid (HA). J. the Brazil. Chemi. Soc.19: 24-28.
- Tejada M., M. Hernandez and C. Garcia, (2006). Application of two organic amendments on soil restoration: Effects on the soil Biological Properties. J. Environ. 35: 1010-1017.
- Wanas, Sh. A., (1996). Improvement of sandy soil by the use of hydrogels derived from agricultural and industrial wastes. Ph. D. Thesis, Fac. Agric., Moshtohor, Zagazig Univ., Egypt.
- Young, C.C., P.D. Rekha, Wei-An Lai and A.B. Arun, (2006) Encapsulation of plant growth-promoting bacteria in alginate beads enriched with humic acid. Biotech. and Bioengineer., 37: 76-83.
- Yssaad, H.R. and M. Belkhdja (2007).The effect of bentonite on the physic-chemical characteristics of sandy soils in Algeria.J. Applied Sci., 7: 2641- 2645.

تأثير هيومات البوتاسيوم والبنتونيت علي بعض الخواص الكيميائية للتربة الرملية تحت معدلات مختلفة من التسميد النيتروجيني

وفاء محمد طه العتر و وجيدة زكريا حسن

معهد بحوث الأراضي والمياه والبيئة - مركز البحوث الزراعية

أجريت تجربة حقلية خلال موسمي شتوي ٢٠١٥ و ٢٠١٦ على محصول القمح المنزرع في تربة رملية تحت نظام الري بالرش بمحطة بحوث الأسماعيلية - مركز البحوث الزراعية ، لدراسة تأثير محسنات التربة (البنتونيت وهيومات البوتاسيوم) علي بعض الخواص الكيميائية للتربة الرملية المضاف إليها معدلات التسميد النيتروجيني (١٠٠ و ٧٥ و ٥٠ %) بالإضافة إلي انتاجية وامتصاص العناصر المغذية لنبات القمح. أشارت النتائج بعدم وجود تأثير معنوي لدرجة حموضة التربة تحت تأثير المعاملات المضافة مقارنة بمعاملة الكنترول. كان ذلك عكسيا مع كل من المادة العضوية والسعة التبادلية الكاتيونية حيث دلت النتائج علي زيادة كل منهم تحت تأثير البنتونيت وهيومات البوتاسيوم بالرغم من عدم وجود زيادة معنوية بينهم تحت تأثير معدلات النيتروجين. تشير النتائج عموما إلي وجود تأثير إيجابي للمعاملات علي تيسر النيتروجين ، الفوسفور والبوتاسيوم في التربة مقارنة بالكنترول . كذلك اشارت النتائج إلي وجود تأثير معنوي إيجابي علي المحصول الكلي (القش والحبوب) بالإضافة الي المحتوي الكلي للنيتروجين ، الفوسفور والبوتاسيوم في النبات. من خلال هذه الدراسة يمكن أستنتاج أن أفضل معاملة كانت مخلوط البنتونيت وهيومات البوتاسيوم معا وذلك لتحسين خواص التربة الكيميائية التي تنعكس علي تحسين خصوبة التربة. كذلك أدي أستخدام المحسنات إلي توفير السماد النيتروجيني بحيث يمكن اقتراح استخدام معدلات ال ٧٥ و ٥٠ % بدلا من ١٠٠% من السماد النيتروجيني وذلك لعدم وجود اختلافات معنوية بينهم.