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Effect of micronutrients on yield and fruit quality of Banana (*Musa paradisica* L.) cv. BASRAI under pair row planting method

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ABSTRACT

A field experiment on the effect of micronutrients on yield and fruit quality of banana cv. BASARAI was carried out at Fruit Research Station, Navsari Agricultural University, Gandevi. Six treatment combinations of foliar spray and soil application of micronutrients *viz.*, Fe and Zn with control were tried. The foliar application of $ZnSO_4$ (0.5%) + $FeSO_4$ (0.5%) was found to be best treatment for bunch weight (23.85 kg), bunch length (93.50 cm), bunch girth (114 cm), number of hands per bunch (11.70) and yield (149.078 t/ha). Foliar as well as soil application of $ZnSO_4$ (0.5%) + $FeSO_4$ (0.5%) treatments effectively increased the ascorbic acid content (25 mg/100 g) and total soluble solids (22.0325) in banana fruits. Higher cost benefit ratio (1:1.94) was obtained in foliar spray of $ZnSO_4$ (0.5%) + $FeSO_4$ (0.5%) treated plots.

Key words : Banana, Pair row method, Micronutrients, Yield, Fruit quality, Economics