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# Studies on the effect of sulphur with and without FYM on yield and quality of mustard crop in Vertisols

**Vaishali Sharma, BL Sharma, GD Sharma and Arpit Suryawanshi**

### Abstract

An experiment was conducted at the field of Department of Soil Science and Agril. Chemistry, JNKVV, Jabalpur (M.P) during *Rabi* season of 2013-14 and 2014-15 under AICRP on MSN in a Factorial randomized block design with three replications and ten treatments comprising viz., T<sub>1</sub> (Control), T<sub>2</sub> (15 Kg S ha<sup>-1</sup>), T<sub>3</sub> (30 Kg S ha<sup>-1</sup>), T<sub>4</sub> (45 Kg S ha<sup>-1</sup>), T<sub>5</sub> (60 Kg S ha<sup>-1</sup>), T<sub>6</sub> (FYM 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>), T<sub>7</sub> (15 Kg S ha<sup>-1</sup>+ FYM 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>), T<sub>8</sub> (30 Kg S ha<sup>-1</sup> + FYM 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>), T<sub>9</sub> (45 Kg S ha<sup>-1</sup> + FYM 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) and T<sub>10</sub> (60 Kg S ha<sup>-1</sup> + FYM 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>). The results obtained from the present investigation clearly indicated that yield of seed and straw increased significantly with enhancing sulphur up to highest level of 60 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + FYM 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>. S X FYM interaction showed significant difference in seed protein content. Treatment combination of Sulphur 60 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + FYM 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup> recorded maximum percentage of protein (18.85%) and oil (41.29%) content in seed. However, better improvements in yields were exhibited when S and FYM were integrated together. This increase might be due to steady decomposition of FYM and release of nutrients throughout the crop growth period coupled with better assimilation of nutrients. Highest seed (1684.70 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) and Stover (4739.82 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) yields was recorded with the application of Sulphur 60 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + FYM 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup> over rest of the treatments.

**Keywords:** Mustard, Sulphur, FYM, Yield, Quality

### Introduction

Mustard is the third most important oilseed crop after groundnut and soybean in India. In Indian agricultural economy, oilseeds are important next to cereals in terms of area, production and value with accounting for about 1.5% of gross domestic production and 8% of value of all agricultural products (Hegde, 2009) [13]. Sulphur is best known for its role in the synthesis of proteins with the formation of amino acids methionine (21% S) and cysteine (27% S), chlorophyll, oil content of the seeds and nutritive quality of forages (Jamal *et al.*, 2005) [16]. Integrated use of sulphur and farmyard manure improves the availability of sulphur in soils and plays a significant role in improving quality and seed development (Ghosh *et al.*, 2002) [12]. Sulphur uptake and assimilation in rapeseed-mustard are crucial for determining yield, oil, quality and resistance to various stresses. Among the oilseed crops, rapeseed-mustard has the highest requirement of sulphur. Sulphur increases the yield of mustard by 12 to 48% under irrigated and 17 to 24% under rain-fed condition (Aulakh and Pasricha, 1988) [2]. More sulphur is therefore, required need for their oil and protein synthesis in oilseed crops. Sulphur nutrition in oilseeds indicated a considerable increase in yield and quality of oilseeds (Chauhan *et al.*, 2002) [6]. Sulphur deficiency in crops is gradually becoming widespread in different soils of the country due to use of high analysis sulphur-free fertilizers coupled with intensive cropping, higher crop yields and higher sulphur removals. Because of its involvement in vital function in the plant metabolism, sulphur deficiency would lead to adverse effect on growth and yield of many crops. However, organic manures, particularly FYM are important components of integrated nutrient management (Patra *et al.*, 1998) [27] not only supply macronutrients but also meet the requirement of micronutrients, besides improving soil health. Keeping this in view, the present investigation was planned to studies on the effect of sulphur with and without FYM on yield and quality of mustard crop in Vertisols.

### Material and Methods

The field experiment was conducted on Research Farm of the Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya, Jabalpur (MP) during

Rabi 2013-14 and 2014-15. The studies on the effect of sulphur with and without FYM were studied on attributes yield of mustard crop in a Vertisol. The soil *Typic Haplustert*, clayey in texture has pH 7.72, EC 0.24 dSm<sup>-1</sup>, organic carbon 6.48 g kg<sup>-1</sup>, available N 299.62 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, available P 20.5 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, available K 360 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> and available S 15.6 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>. The experiment was laid out in a Factorial randomized block design with 10 treatments comprising different combinations of sulphur fertilizers alone and with organic manure in three replications. The details of the treatments were T<sub>1</sub> (Control), T<sub>2</sub> (15 Kg S ha<sup>-1</sup>), T<sub>3</sub> (30 Kg S ha<sup>-1</sup>), T<sub>4</sub> (45 Kg S ha<sup>-1</sup>), T<sub>5</sub> (60 Kg S ha<sup>-1</sup>), T<sub>6</sub> (FYM 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>), T<sub>7</sub> (15 Kg S ha<sup>-1</sup>+ FYM 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>), T<sub>8</sub> (30 Kg S ha<sup>-1</sup> + FYM 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>), T<sub>9</sub> (45 Kg S ha<sup>-1</sup> + FYM 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) and T<sub>10</sub> (60 Kg S ha<sup>-1</sup> + FYM 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>). The sources of NPK fertilizers were nitrogen through urea (46% N), phosphorus through single super phosphate (16% P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>), potash through murate of potash (60% K<sub>2</sub>O) and sulphur through single super phosphate (12% S). FYM @ 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup> was applied prior to sowing in the concerning treatments. Mustard (Pusa Tarak) was sown during fourth week of October and harvested in the last week of February (2013-14 and 2014-15). At harvest samples were collected, oven dried, processed. The chemical analysis of the plant sample was carried out by wet digesting with HNO<sub>3</sub>:HClO<sub>4</sub> (4:1) di-acid mixture as per the procedure outlined by (Jackson, 1973) [14] and to determine concentrations of N, P, K and S at harvest using procedure described by (Jackson, 1973) [14]. The grain and straw yield of mustard were recorded from collected soil samples (0–15 cm) of each plot after harvesting. These samples analyzed for pH using 1:2.5 soil: water suspension, electrical conductivity by conductivity meter. Organic carbon by rapid titration method (Walkley and Black, 1934) [36], Available N estimated by alkaline permanganate method (Subbiah and Asija, 1956) [35], available P by Olsen's method (Olsen *et al.*, 1954 [23]), available K by ammonium acetate extraction method (Jackson, 1967) [14] and available S by turbid metric method (Chesnin and Yien, 1950) [8].

## Result and Discussion

### Effect of Sulphur and FYM on Grain and Straw yield of Mustard crop

#### Seed Yield

The data on seed yield per hectare in different treatments is given in Table 1. In the application of sulphur 60 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> (S<sub>4</sub>) was significantly superior over other treatment which was recorded maximum 1754.67, 1799.17 and 1776.92 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> seed yield per hectare followed by S<sub>3</sub> (1702.83, 1796.67 and 1749.75 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) at first year, second year and pooled, respectively S<sub>3</sub> & S<sub>4</sub> were at par with each other. Lowest yield (1159.17, 1256.83 and 1208.0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) was observed with control at first year, second year and pooled, respectively. Highest percent increase in (51.4, 43.2 and 47.1%) seed yield was observed with S<sub>4</sub> over control (S<sub>0</sub> Sulphur 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) at first year, second year and pooled, respectively. The application of 5.0 tonnes FYM ha<sup>-1</sup> (F<sub>1</sub>) exhibited significantly maximum yield of 1645.47, 1723.93 and 1684.70 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> and minimum 1340.38, 1411.80 and 1376.07 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> seed yield with treatment F<sub>0</sub> at first year, second year and pooled, respectively. In case of interaction, the treatment combination of S<sub>4</sub>F<sub>1</sub> (Sulphur 60 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>+ FYM 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) recorded significantly higher yield (1645.47, 1723.93 and 1684.70 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) seed yield per hectare and the minimum (933.33, 1036.33 and 984.83 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) seed yield was recorded in the treatment combination of S<sub>0</sub>F<sub>0</sub> (Sulphur 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>+ FYM 0 t ha<sup>-1</sup> i.e. control) at first year, second year and pooled.

This may be due to application of sulphur attributed to the stimulatory effect in cell division, cell elongation and setting of cell structure and also higher dose may be responsible for increased leaf area and chlorophyll content causing higher photosynthesis and assimilation, metabolic activities responsible for overall reproductive phase and ultimately improved the seed and stover yield. Similar findings have been reported by Sharawat *et al.* (2002) [31], Dongarkar *et al.* (2005) [9], Katkar *et al.* (2009) [18], Sharma *et al.* (2009) [32], Parmar *et al.* (2010) [25], Kapur *et al.* (2010) [17], Chattopadhyay (2012) [6], Neha *et al.* (2014) [22], Alam *et al.* (2014) [4] and Ray *et al.* (2014) [29] for seed yield per hectare.

#### Straw yield

The stover yield increased significant due to the different levels of sulphur and FYM on mustard. The data on stover yield in different treatments is given in Table 2. The application of sulphur 60 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> (S<sub>4</sub>) was significantly superior which recorded maximum yield of stover 4387.0, 4486.75 and 4436.88 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> followed by S<sub>3</sub> (4084.17, 4209.33 and 4146.75 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) at first year, second year and pooled, respectively S<sub>3</sub> & S<sub>4</sub> were statistically at par with each other. Lowest yield (2640.33, 2919.83 and 2780.08 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) was recorded in S<sub>0</sub> (Sulphur 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) at first year, second year and pooled, respectively Treatment S<sub>4</sub> (60.0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) was recorded highest 66.2, 53.7 and 59.6% increase stover yield per hectare over control (S<sub>0</sub> Sulphur 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) at first year, second year and pooled, respectively. As regards to FYM, the application of 5.0 tonnes FYM ha<sup>-1</sup> (F<sub>1</sub>) exhibited significantly maximum (3904.4, 4049.17 and 3976.78 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) stover yield per hectare, however, minimum (3369.4, 3537.0 and 3453.20 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) stover yield in treatment F<sub>0</sub> (FYM 0 ha<sup>-1</sup>) at first year, second year and pooled, respectively. In case of interaction, the treatment combination of S<sub>4</sub>F<sub>1</sub> (Sulphur 60 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>+ FYM 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) was recorded significantly maximum (4683.33, 4796.50 and 4739.82 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) stover yield per hectare and the minimum (2336.0, 2725.33 and 2530.67 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) stover yield per hectare was recorded in the treatment combination of S<sub>0</sub>F<sub>0</sub> (Sulphur 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>+ FYM 0 t ha<sup>-1</sup> i.e. control) at first year, second year and pooled, respectively. Dongarkar *et al.* (2005) [9], Sharma *et al.* (2009) [32], Parmar *et al.* (2010) [25], Kapur *et al.* (2010) [17] and Neha *et al.* (2014) [22] for stover yield. However, better improvements in yields were exhibited when S and FYM were integrated together. This increase might be due to steady decomposition of FYM and release of nutrients throughout the crop growth period coupled with better assimilation of nutrients.

#### Oil content in seed

Data pertaining to oil content in seed (%) presented in Table 3 revealed that oil content in mustard seed was significantly affected due to sulphur and FYM application. However the interaction effect between levels of sulphur and FYM did not exhibit marked differences in oil content (%). The increase in levels of sulphur showed increasing trend in the oil content (%) in seed However, the maximum oil content (40.58, 42.0 and 41.29%) was recorded in treatment S<sub>4</sub> (60.0 kg S ha<sup>-1</sup>) followed by S<sub>3</sub> (45.0 kg S ha<sup>-1</sup>) (40.03, 41.38 and 40.70%) and the minimum oil content (35.23, 36.0 and 35.62%) with the lowest sulphur application i.e. 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> (S<sub>0</sub>) in first year, second year and pooled, respectively and treatment S<sub>4</sub> and S<sub>3</sub> were at par. Treatment S<sub>4</sub> (60.0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) was recorded 15.2, 16.7 and 15.9% more oil content in seed over control (S<sub>0</sub> Sulphur 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) in first year, second year and pooled, respectively. Application of FYM with increasing rates

showed a significant increasing trend in oil content (%) in seed. However, the maximum 39.22, 40.39 and 39.80% oil content (%) in seed was recorded with the application of 5 t FYM ha<sup>-1</sup> (F<sub>1</sub>) and the minimum (37.66, 38.82 and 38.24% oil content) with 0 FYM ha<sup>-1</sup> (F<sub>0</sub>) in first year, second year and pooled, respectively. It was apparent from the results that the treatment combination of S<sub>4</sub>F<sub>1</sub> (Sulphur 60 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>+ FYM 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) recorded maximum 41.07, 42.93 and 42.0% oil content in seed, while, it was recorded lowest 34.53, 35.79 and 35.16% in treatment S<sub>0</sub>F<sub>0</sub> (Sulphur 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>+ FYM 0 t ha<sup>-1</sup> i.e. control) in first year, second year and pooled, respectively. The increase in oil content with increase in S level might be due to the involvement of sulphur in electron transport chain and increase in glucoside formation (allysiothiocyanate) and also sulphur as a constituent of multi enzyme complex. The findings are in corroborative with earlier findings of Ahmad and Abadin (2000) [3], Abdin *et al.* (2003) [1], Singh *et al.* (2005) [33], Piri and Sharma (2006) [28], Basumatary *et al.* (2006) [5], Faujdar *et al.* (2008) [11], Zizale *et al.* (2008) [37], Kumar *et al.* (2011) [21], Kumar and Trivedi (2012) [19] and Pachauri *et al.* (2012) [24].

### Protein content in seed

Data presented in Table 4 indicated that the various levels of sulphur, FYM and their interaction significantly affected the seed protein content (%). Application of sulphur with increasing rates up to the highest dose i.e. 60 kg S ha<sup>-1</sup> (S<sub>4</sub>) significantly increased the protein content (18.55, 19.16 and 18.85%) in seed followed by S<sub>3</sub> (45.0 kg S ha<sup>-1</sup>) (18.11, 18.67

and 18.39%) and the minimum protein content (13.18, 14.63 and 13.90%) with the lowest sulphur application i.e. 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> (S<sub>0</sub>) in first year, second year and pooled, respectively and treatment S<sub>4</sub> and S<sub>3</sub> were at par. Treatment S<sub>4</sub> (60.0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) was recorded highest 40.7, 31.0 and 35.6% increase protein content in seed over control (S<sub>0</sub> Sulphur 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) in first year, second year and pooled, respectively (Table-4). Application of FYM with the increasing rates significantly increased protein content (%) in seed. Treatment F<sub>1</sub> noted maximum seed protein (18.75, 19.32 and 19.03%) and the minimum (14.48, 15.71 and 15.09% protein content) with 0 FYM ha<sup>-1</sup> (F<sub>0</sub>) in first year, second year and pooled, respectively. S X FYM interaction showed significant difference in seed protein content percentage. Treatment combination of S<sub>4</sub>F<sub>1</sub> (Sulphur 60 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + FYM 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) recorded maximum 20.94, 21.29 and 21.12% protein content in seed followed by S<sub>3</sub>F<sub>1</sub> (Sulphur 45 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + FYM 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) (20.71, 21.06 and 20.89%) and S<sub>2</sub>F<sub>1</sub> (Sulphur 30 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> + FYM 5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) (19.72, 19.98 and 19.85%), while, it was recorded lowest 13.13, 14.44 and 13.78% in treatment S<sub>0</sub>F<sub>0</sub> (Sulphur 0 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>+ FYM 0 t ha<sup>-1</sup> i.e. control) in first year, second year and pooled, respectively and treatment S<sub>4</sub>F<sub>1</sub>, S<sub>3</sub>F<sub>1</sub> and S<sub>2</sub>F<sub>1</sub> were at par. Reason for increase in protein content due to sulphur fertilization are amply clear because proteins are long chain compounds of a number of amino acids bound together through peptide linkage. The findings are in close harmony with the result of Abdin *et al.* (2003) [1], Basumatary *et al.* (2006) [5], Singh *et al.* (2010) [33], Kumar *et al.* (2011) [21] and Neha *et al.* (2014) [22].

**Table 1:** Seed yield (kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) in mustard as influence by various doses of sulphur and FYM at first year, second year and pooled

Treat. Symb.	Seed yield per hectare (kg ha <sup>-1</sup> ) at									% increase over control		
	2013			2014			Pooled			2013	2014	Pooled
S levels	F0	F1	Mean	F0	F1	Mean	F0	F1	Mean			
S <sub>0</sub>	933.33	1385.00	1159.17	1036.33	1477.33	1256.83	984.83	1431.17	1208.00	-	-	-
S <sub>1</sub>	1243.33	1501.67	1372.50	1314.67	1568.67	1441.67	1279.00	1535.17	1407.08	18.4	14.7	16.5
S <sub>2</sub>	1313.33	1637.33	1475.33	1391.33	1698.67	1545.00	1352.33	1668.00	1510.17	27.3	22.9	25.0
S <sub>3</sub>	1575.67	1830.00	1702.83	1642.67	1950.67	1796.67	1609.17	1890.33	1749.75	46.9	43.0	44.8
S <sub>4</sub>	1636.00	1873.33	1754.67	1674.00	1924.33	1799.17	1655.00	1898.83	1776.92	51.4	43.2	47.1
Mean	1340.33	1645.47		1411.80	1723.93		1376.07	1684.70				
	S levels	FYM levels	FxS	S levels	FYM levels	FxS	S levels	FYM levels	FxS			
SEm±	66.38	41.98	93.88	68.94	43.60	97.50	61.20	38.70	86.55			
CD at 5% level	195.85	123.86	N.S.	203.38	128.63	N.S.	180.54	114.18	N.S.			

**Table 2:** Stover yield (kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) in mustard as influence by various doses of sulphur and FYM at first year, second year and pooled

Treat. Symbol	Stover yield (kg ha <sup>-1</sup> )									% increase over control		
	2013			2014			Pooled			2013	2014	Pooled
S levels	F0	F1	Mean	F0	F1	Mean	F0	F1	Mean			
S <sub>0</sub>	2336.00	2944.67	2640.33	2725.33	3114.33	2919.83	2530.67	3029.50	2780.08	-	-	-
S <sub>1</sub>	3104.33	3630.67	3367.50	3276.67	3788.67	3532.67	3190.50	3709.67	3450.08	27.5	21.0	24.1
S <sub>2</sub>	3450.33	3960.67	3705.50	3554.67	4079.00	3816.83	3502.50	4019.83	3761.17	40.3	30.7	35.3
S <sub>3</sub>	3865.67	4302.67	4084.17	3951.33	4467.33	4209.33	3908.50	4385.00	4146.75	54.7	44.2	49.2
S <sub>4</sub>	4090.67	4683.33	4387.00	4177.00	4796.50	4486.75	4133.83	4739.92	4436.88	66.2	53.7	59.6
Mean	3369.40	3904.40		3537.00	4049.17		3453.20	3976.78				
	S levels	FYM levels	FxS	S levels	FYM levels	FxS	S levels	FYM levels	FxS			
SEm±	150.76	95.35	213.20	157.44	99.57	222.66	126.86	80.23	179.41			
CD at 5% level	444.75	281.28	N.S.	464.47	293.75	N.S.	374.25	236.70	N.S.			

**Table 3:** Oil content in seed of mustard as influence by different levels of sulphur and FYM at first year, second year and pooled

Treat. Symbol	Oil content in seed (%)									% increase over control		
	2013			2014			Pooled			2013	2014	Pooled
S levels	F0	F1	Mean	F0	F1	Mean	F0	F1	Mean			
S <sub>0</sub>	34.53	35.93	35.23	35.79	36.20	36.00	35.16	36.07	35.62	-	-	-
S <sub>1</sub>	36.20	38.67	37.43	37.75	39.57	38.66	36.98	39.12	38.05	6.2	7.4	6.8
S <sub>2</sub>	38.27	39.57	38.92	38.90	41.10	40.00	38.59	40.33	39.46	10.5	11.1	10.8

S <sub>3</sub>	39.20	40.86	40.03	40.60	42.16	41.38	39.90	41.51	40.70	13.6	15.0	14.3
S <sub>4</sub>	40.10	41.07	40.58	41.07	42.93	42.00	40.58	42.00	41.29	15.2	16.7	15.9
Mean	37.66	39.22		38.82	40.39		38.24	39.80				
	S levels	FYM levels	FxS	S levels	FYM levels	FxS	S levels	FYM levels	FxS			
SEm±	0.356	0.562	0.795	0.399	0.631	0.892	0.267	0.423	0.598			
CD at 5% levels	1.057	1.671	NS	1.186	1.874	NS	0.767	1.659	NS			

**Table 4:** Protein content in seed in mustard as influence by different levels of sulphur and FYM at first year, second year and pooled

Treat. Symbol	Protein content in seed (%)									% increase over control		
	2013			2014			Pooled			2013	2014	Pooled
S levels	F0	F1	Mean	F0	F1	Mean	F0	F1	Mean			
S <sub>0</sub>	13.13	13.24	13.18	14.44	14.81	14.63	13.78	14.03	13.90	-	-	-
S <sub>1</sub>	13.59	19.13	16.36	14.98	19.46	17.22	14.29	19.30	16.79	24.1	17.7	20.8
S <sub>2</sub>	14.00	19.72	16.86	15.83	19.98	17.91	14.92	19.85	17.38	27.9	22.4	25.0
S <sub>3</sub>	15.52	20.71	18.11	16.27	21.06	18.67	15.89	20.89	18.39	37.4	27.6	32.3
S <sub>4</sub>	16.16	20.94	18.55	17.02	21.29	19.16	16.59	21.12	18.85	40.7	31.0	35.6
Mean	14.48	18.75		15.71	19.32		15.09	19.03				
	S levels	FYM levels	FxS	S levels	FYM levels	FxS	S levels	FYM levels	FxS			
SEm±	0.250	0.395	0.559	0.220	0.348	0.492	0.263	0.166	0.372			
CD at 5% levels	0.742	1.174	1.660	0.654	1.034	1.462	1.033	0.477	1.462			

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