

high yield production practices. The NPK uptake ratio was about 1:0.42:2.85 at the full ripe stage. Although total K uptake increased throughout the growing period, peak K uptake appeared between the milk and dough stages. The amount of K uptake during this time was 68.6 percent of the total K accumulated. These data point to the need for high levels of available K throughout the growing season.

The concentration of K in the stem and leaf was observed to be 3.2 to 6.5 times higher than levels found in grain. Therefore, the practices of recycling crop residue and adequate K fertilization should be combined to maintain high soil K levels, as well as to maximize crop yields.

Available soil K was influenced by fertilizer treatment, corn growth, and season. Potash application increased available soil K before July, which was subsequently reduced by greater plant uptake after July. Available soil K was higher in summer than in spring and autumn due to higher temperatures and abundant rainfall. **BCI**

The authors are staff of the Soil and Fertilizer Institute of the Liaoning Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Shenyang, Liaoning, People's Republic of China.

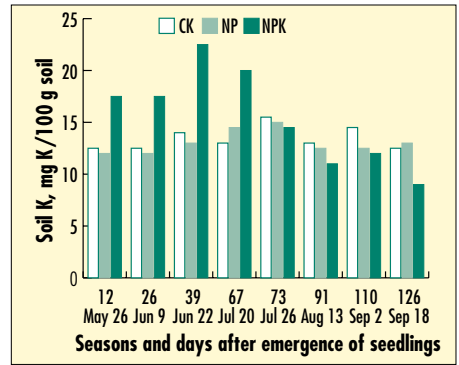


Figure 3. Seasonal fluctuations in available soil K, Liaoning, China.

Dr. Kaushik Majumdar Joins PPIC Staff as Deputy Director, India Programme

Dr. Kaushik Majumdar has joined the staff of PPIC-India Programme as Deputy Director, Eastern India. He will work from the newly inaugurated office in Calcutta, West Bengal. Dr. Majumdar received his B.Sc. (Ag) Hons. degree at Visva-Bharati University in 1984. He continued with graduate study at Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya (BCKV) and earned his M.Sc. (Ag) degree in Agricultural Chemistry and Soil Science in 1987. He joined Rutgers University, in the U.S., in 1988 as a Teaching/Research Assistant and completed his Ph.D. in Soil Mineralogy/Soil Chemistry in 1993.

In 1994, Dr. Majumdar rejoined BCKV as a Research Associate, and later moved on to the Potash Research Institute of India (PRII) in 1995 as a Soil Mineralogist. During his tenure as Soil Mineralogist at PRII, Dr. Majumdar did extensive work on potassium dynamics of Indian soils. Dr. Majumdar will direct programmes in agronomic research and education related to market development for potash and phosphate in West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, and Assam of eastern India and the north eastern states of India. **BCI**

