

EVALUATION OF MATON ROCKPHOSPHATE IN THE ACID RICE SOILS OF KERALA

By

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THESIS

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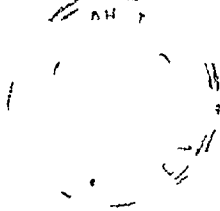
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I hereby declare that the thesis entitled "Evaluation of Maton rockphosphate in the acid rice soils of Kerala" is a bonafide record of research work done by me during the course of research and that the thesis has not previously formed the basis for the award to me of any degree diploma fellowship associateship or other similar title of any other university or society

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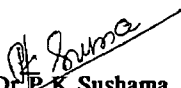
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Dedicated to my parents

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE STUDY

MTRP	Maton rockphosphate
MRP	Mussoorie rockphosphate
SSP	single superphosphate
DAP	diammonium phosphate
C	control
MT	maximum tillering
PI	panicle initiation
H	harvest
K	Kuttanad alluvium
L	laterite
B	Bray I
M	Mathew s triacid extractant

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Introduction

INTRODUCTION

Rice productivity has to be enhanced and sustained at a high level for achieving the target food grain production of the country as 240 million tonnes by 2000 AD (Anon 1996a). Increased application of high analysis fertilisers alone will not help in this task as evidenced from multiple nutrient deficiency and stagnating yields in the lowland rice environments. Besides there is a widening gap between the demand and supply of fertiliser nutrients in the country. Unless steps are taken to bridge this gap, large scale imports may become necessary imposing severe strains in India's economy and food security. Recently the subsidy on indigenous phosphatic fertiliser was increased to Rs 3000/tonnes from Rs 1000/tonnes with a view to promote the use of local reserves of phosphorus (Anon 1996b). In this context the use of indigenous phosphorus (P) carriers for crop production has gained more and more importance as the efficient use of this cheaper source may lead the farmers receiving the best possible returns from their expenditure.

Efficiency in the management of any system requires the fullest information of the properties of the major components of the system—soil, crop and fertilisers. But the effective P nutrition to wetland rice is very difficult due to three main reasons—low P content of the soil, less availability of native P and fixation of added P. So to increase the availability of P to rice, its fixation has to be reduced. This can be achieved by the judicious application of rockphosphates which are widespread, significant and economically attractive.

The major rice growing tracts of Kerala are acidic in nature where the direct application of rockphosphates has a great potential. The sedimentary rock

phosphates are the most suitable ones for direct application as they are more reactive and become easily available to crop plants. The reactivity of rockphosphate is correlated with its chemical composition particularly with the degree of isomorphous substitution of carbonate ion with phosphate. We have already recognised the popularity of Mussoorie rockphosphate over the chemically processed fertilisers which is a carbonate substituted francolite with 1.14% organic carbon and 24% P_2O_5 . But the source of P from the mines of Mussoorie is getting exhausted. Many new deposits are being mined in different parts of the country and Maton rock phosphate is one from the mines that occurs in the Aravally hills of Rajasthan. It is exclusively associated with algal stromatolite structure which has 1.5% organic carbon and about 24% P_2O_5 (Anon 1994). Hindustan Zinc (Ltd), (A Government of India undertaking) is mining and producing rockphosphate and the suitability of the same for crop cultivation is being evaluated in different parts of the country. The efficiency of this rockphosphate has not been evaluated in Kerala soils.

The cropping pattern of the major rice growing tracts consists of one or two paddy crops followed by either pulses or oilseeds. So these paddy fields with many edaphoclimatological peculiarities is considered as a problem area with respect to P fertilisers. By the same reason lack of response to P in lowland rice have been reported even after intensive fertilisation particularly under conditions of light textured soils. Kuttanad alluvium and laterites that develop under high rainfall areas of our state.

Transformation of P under waterlogged condition will result in large amount of P becoming available to flooded rice crop and this knowledge is necessary for evaluating the efficiency of commercial phosphatic fertilisers. Further the

residual effect which refers to the carryover benefit of an application available to the succeeding crop is a promising property of P treatment to the soil. So a study bringing out information on pattern of release of P and residual effect are therefore of much practical utility.

Balance sheet of P in India shows that removal of crop is several times greater than amount supplied by current inputs (Tandon 1987). The situation cannot of course continue for a long time and therefore proper use of P sources is inevitable for profitable agriculture on a sustained way. Such an approach necessarily involves a strategic shift from the overdependence of costly and imported P fertilisers to that of local P resources emphasising low energy input system.

It is under this context the problem entitled "Evaluation of Maton rockphosphate in the acid rice soils of Kerala" was taken up with the following main objectives:

- 1 To evaluate the effectiveness of Maton rockphosphate as a source of P compared to single superphosphate, diammonium phosphate and indigenous rockphosphate in acid rice soils of Kerala.
- 2 To study the pattern of release of phosphorus from all the above sources of P.

Review of Literature

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Phosphorus deficiency is very widespread in Kerala soils especially in the rice growing tracts of coastal Kuttanad region and laterite belt of middle lands. Fertilisers in the form of insoluble P sources have a major role in minimising the nutrient depletion and ensuring better residual effect for an intensive cropping. Since India has got large reserves of low grade phosphate rocks it calls for the encouragement of direct application of rockphosphates. Literature regarding these various aspects have been reviewed and classified as under

- 1 Status of P in rice soils of Kerala with special reference to Kuttanad alluvium and laterite soils
- 2 Phosphorus release and transformation in rice soils
- 3 Movement of P in soil
- 4 Availability of major nutrients as affected by P nutrition of rice
- 5 Comparison of rockphosphates with other water soluble phosphatic fertilisers
- 6 Residual effect of rockphosphates

1 Status of P in rice soils of Kerala

1.1 Kuttanad alluvium

Kuttanad soils were found to be very low in P content (Venugopal 1969, Varghese *et al* 1970 and Ghosh *et al* 1973). Mathews (1985) recorded total P of 793.4 ppm in Kari soils of which only 3.84 ppm was found to be as available fraction. Among the different inorganic fractions there was predominance of Fe-P and Al-P. According to Vijayan (1993) the total P content of Kuttanad

alluvium varied from 178.0 to 1490.80 ppm of which only 4.53 per cent was found to be available. The predominant inorganic fractions were Fe-P, Al-P, Ca-P and saloid P.

1.2 Laterite soil

Koshy and Thomas (1972) reported that laterite soils in general were poor in available P and had high P fixing capacity. Mathews (1985) reported total P content of 887.2 ppm of which only 4.79 per cent was available. The predominant inorganic fraction was Fe-P followed by Al-P. The total reserve of P_2O_5 was found to be very low in laterite soils of Kerala due to domination of quartz in sand fraction (Jacob 1987; Krishnakumar 1991). The total P content of laterite soil varied from 468.3 to 1806.0 ppm and the available P was only 13.28 ppm (1.34% of total P). In laterite soils Ca-P was dominant followed by Fe-P, Al-P, saloid P (Vijayan 1993).

2 Phosphorus release and transformation in rice soils

2.1 Available P release under submergence

Patrick and Mahapatra (1968) reported that waterlogging released native P and hence lowland rice did not respond to additions of P fertilizers. Islam (1970) reported that levels of soil P first increased and then decreased with time of submergence under rice cropping. With increase in moisture content, Turner and Gilliam (1976) noticed ten fold increase in P diffusion in the soil system.

Mandal and Khan (1977) in their study on the transformation of fixed P in soils under waterlogged conditions reported that the applied P which was left in the soil in the fixed form after the crop harvest could significantly contribute to the

pool of available P in the succeeding season especially during the initial period of plant growth

According to Mohanty and Patnaik (1977) submergence increased available P for 30 days because of reduction of Fe and Mn compounds and afterwards there was a decrease because of precipitation of phosphates. Khalid *et al* (1979) found the relationship between rice yield and soil P. They reported that soils exhibiting higher P sorption had a greater yield response to P under reduced conditions. Flooded condition increased the efficiency of phosphatic fertilisers (Sharma and Sinha 1979). In waterlogged soils large amount of CO₂ and organic acids were formed which would convert insoluble tricalcium phosphate to more soluble di or monocalcium phosphate thereby the P availability was increased (Mandal 1979). According to Boro (1980) continuous submergence of rice was an effective management practice for increasing the efficiency of P fertilisers.

According to Mathews and Jose (1984) flooding the soil resulted in an increase in the content of available P which was high in laterite compared to Kari soil. Mathews (1986) reported that submergence resulted in the release of native P in rice soils of Kerala. Reduction of free hydrous iron oxide during flooding and liberation of sorbed and co precipitated P resulted in a rise in extractable P (Willet 1989).

2.2 Transformation of inorganic P as influenced by periods of incubation and waterlogging

2.2.1 Fate of native P

Mahapatra and Patrick (1969) found that waterlogging generally increased Al P and Fe P decreased reductant soluble P and did not much affect the

Ca P Jose (1973) reported a decrease in available P saloid bound P and Al P with increasing periods of incubation Singh and Bahaman (1976) found that there was an increase in available P Fe P and Al P decrease in Ca P and negligible changes for saloid bound P with the advancement of periods under submergence

De Datta (1981) summarised the P transformation in submerged soil as follows

- 1 Reduction m soluble ferric phosphate to a more soluble ferrous phosphate
- 2 Hydrolysis of aluminium and iron phosphate at a higher soil pH
- 3 The dissolution of apatite because of the higher CO₂ pressure in the soil solution
- 4 Desorption of P from clay and oxides of Al and Fe
- 5 Release of occluded phosphate by reduction of hydrated ferric oxide coating
- 6 Displacement of phosphate from ferric and aluminium phosphate by organic anions

Verma and Thripathi (1982) observed that all the native inorganic P fractions increased upon waterlogging with the maximum increase of 70.7 per cent in Fe P The fractions of P increased upto panicle initiation and then decreased till the stage of harvest (Saravanan *et al* 1984)

2.2.2 Reaction products of added P fertilisers

Minhas and Kick (1974) reported that major part of the added rock phosphate was transformed into water soluble P and loosely bound Al P and Fe P Experiments of Singh and Ram (1977) recorded an increase m Fe P and a decrease in Al P with advancement of the period of incubation According to Sarangamath *et al* (1977) application of water soluble and citrate soluble P to acid soils increased

the Al P and Fe P fractions whereas application of rockphosphates increased Ca P. Similar observations were recorded by Menhhal and Mahapatra (1979) and Chandrappa (1990).

According to Dhillon and Dev (1986) the applied P would be converted into saloid bound P and Al P at the initial stages and later to Fe P with time of incubation.

Kumaraswamy and Sreeramulu (1992) reported the fate of added P with the advancement of the stages under incubation as the transformation of Al P into Fe P in soils originally predominant in Fe P and into Ca P in the soils originally predominant in Ca P. Bhatta (1993) found that MTRP application resulted in a higher Ca P while superphosphate recorded higher Al P.

2.3 Contributions of various inorganic P fractions to available P

The P uptake by plants was highly correlated with the amount of Fe P and not with the amount of other fractions (Singlachar and Samanego 1973). Jose (1973) observed a close correlation between labile phosphorus, Al P and Fe P. Puranik and Bapat (1977) observed positive correlation between available P, Al P and Ca P. Mandal and Khan (1977) found that 60 to 75 per cent of the applied phosphate was fixed as Fe P, Al P and Ca P after the harvest of rice and they stated that these fractions significantly contributed to available phosphorus of the succeeding crop.

3 Movement of P in soil

Since P was immobile in the soils, it would move little from the site of

application. But a number of results were becoming available which showed that downward movement of P would take place under certain conditions (Tandon 1987)

Due to P application it was found that there was an increase in available P for the sandy loams under coconut cultivation at a depth of 45 to 60 cm (Mulyar and Wahid 1973). Based on the analysis of run off water Padmaja and Koshy (1978) reported that compared to N and K losses of P was negligible. Maximum loss of two per cent was found to occur on the third day after fertilizer application. According to Rao and Datta (1979) in soils with high P fixing capacity there was no tangible accumulation of ^{32}P in the leachate. Nisha (1995) reported that significant leaching loss of P occurred only in the early periods of rice crop.

4 Availability of major nutrients as affected by P nutrition to rice

Ramanathan *et al* (1973) observed an increase in the uptake of N by straw in the presence of added P. According to Ramaswami and Raj (1979) P and K uptake by the straw was enhanced by P application. Venkataramah (1979) observed an increase in the uptake of K in the presence of added P. Mathews and Jose (1984) reported that application of P resulted in better utilisation of major nutrients by the rice plant. However the uptake of N, P and K by the straw was significantly higher in treatments receiving superphosphate.

The concentration of P in rice grains did not increase proportionately to the amount of P applied especially through rockphosphate whereas concentration of calcium in rice grains increased with increasing levels of rockphosphate apparently through higher quantum of Ca from rockphosphate (Mathur and Lal 1987). Sushama (1990) reported a higher availability of N and K for the rice crop with

increased levels of P application. According to Policegowder (1991) MTRP recorded higher content of Ca and lower content of Mg as compared to superphosphate in the soil after the harvest of paddy crop. However, K content was on par with SSP, TSP and DAP. Srinivasamurthy *et al* (1995) reported a higher availability of N when rockphosphate was applied to an acid soil seven days before transplanting.

5 Comparison of rockphosphate with water soluble P fertilisers

5.1 Performance of fertilisers in acid soils

Mandal and Khan (1972) observed that within fifteen days of application more than 86 per cent of the P added as superphosphate was converted to the unavailable form in acid soil whereas rockphosphate maintained a higher amount of available P. Singh and Datta (1973) observed that citrate solubility of rock phosphate and pH of the soil were the most important factors governing the P availability. Ground rockphosphate had been considered as a good source of P in acid soils due to its easy dissolution (Patnaik *et al* 1974, Sarangamath and Shunde 1977, Nair 1978, Kadrekar *et al* 1983 and Luthra *et al* 1983).

Singh and Datta (1974) reported that MRP was as good as superphosphate in acid soil of Coorg using paddy as test crop. Nair (1977) conducted experiments to assess the suitability of MRP to rice in six acid soils of Kerala viz. Karı, Kayal, Karappadam, Kole, Pokkali and Lateritic alluvium. In all these soils performance of rockphosphate was found to be as good as superphosphate. Khaswaneh and Doll (1978) reported that phosphate rock was most effective when used in acid soils that were extremely deficient in P. Nair and Aiyer (1979) stated that in acid soils of Kerala where paddy respond to P, both MRP and SSP were found to be equally good.

According to Chaudhary and Mishra (1980) transformation of rock phosphate in soil was mainly related to soil acidity and phosphate potential as these two parameters accounted for 94 per cent of variation in the degree of transformation of rockphosphate Zende (1983) reported that percentage recovery of P added through rockphosphate was low or negligible in calcareous soil but it was fairly high in acid soils

Bank and Mukhopadhyay (1986) studied the dissolution characteristics of MRP with SSP in the acidic laterite soil of West Bengal Higher amount of increase in available P was observed in superphosphate than rockphosphate treated soils They observed a gradual increase in the amount of exchangeable Ca with time of incubation in rockphosphate treated soils indicating solubilisation of added P source

According to Subramanian (1986) the Ca P present in the phosphatic rock was found to be less stable and hence easily acidulated by the soil acidity and organic acids Mackay *et al* (1986) reported that phosphate rock dissolution increased as exchangeable Ca decreased and P sorption capacity of soil increased Results of multilocation trials involving indigenous source of P including MRP under varying agroclimatic condition indicated the possibility of substituting more soluble chemically processed P sources with MRP for direct application in acid soils (Pillai *et al* 1986) Jagadesan *et al* (1986) experimenting in an acid sandy loam soil of pH 5.7 with rice observed higher efficiency of MRP over SSP in influencing rice yield Pandurangaiah *et al* (1986) and Guruprasad *et al* (1988) reported that in low pH soils MRP was found to be equally good or even better than single superphosphate

Kanabo and Gilkes (1987) reported that phosphate rock dissolution increased linearly with decreasing pH. According to Rajaram *et al* (1988) rice crop responded to rockphosphate sources than superphosphate in acidic soils of Moncoinpu (pH 5.1) and Pattambi (pH 5.8). They concluded that rice crop responded favourably to P applied as rockphosphate in soils of pH range below 5.5 and that increase in yield followed a linear pattern with acidity. According to Policegowder *et al* (1994) MTRP can be used in place of SSP as a source of P for rice in low pH soils. Prakash and Badrinath (1995) concluded that rockphosphate could be used as potential source of P and Ca under acidic condition owing to their steady release of P, fairly high Ca content and cost effectiveness. Jose *et al* (1995) reported that the performance of rockphosphate in acid rice soils of Kerala was almost equivalent to that of water soluble phosphatic fertilizer.

5.2 Availability and uptake of P by rice

Panda (1986) reported that higher available P concentration in soil solution was due to steady dissolution of rockphosphate and reduction of Fe and Al activity through liming effect of the rockphosphate. Policegowder (1991) reported that MTRP recorded more available P as compared to SSP and DAP at the harvest of rice in acid soil. Bhatta (1993) reported that there was gradual increase in the available P content by MTRP with the period for incubation days in an acid soil while for SSP there was a decline. According to Shivanna *et al* (1995) MTRP maintained a steady level of P fraction and release throughout the incubation period in acid soils of pH 4.5.

Mathews and Jose (1986) reported a significant increase in the uptake of P by rice in treatments receiving superphosphate. On an average Rajasthan rock phosphate and Mussoorie rockphosphate were 92.43 and 93.18 per cent as effective as superphosphate with regard to the total uptake of P and grain yield by rice. Sharma and Sinha (1989) observed a higher P uptake by rice due to application of SSP followed by rockphosphate in a rice grain rotation of an acid soil. Bhujbal *et al* (1992) reported that P derived by rice shoot and grain was the highest from DAP followed by SSP and ammonium polyphosphate and it was in lower amounts from rockphosphates. Srinivasamurthy *et al* (1995) reported a higher P uptake by rice plant when rockphosphate was applied to an acid soil seven days before transplanting.

5.3 Crop growth and yield of rice

Mussoorie rockphosphate was evaluated in comparison with superphosphate for rice in Kerala. No significant difference was observed for the response of different crops to different sources of phosphate which indicated that indigenous rockphosphate can substitute superphosphate as a source of P (KAÚ 1987). Mathur and Lal (1987) conducted a field experiment on clay loam soil to test the response of rice to rockphosphate as compared with superphosphate and reported a significant difference among P sources in increasing the yield of rice. But no significant difference in yield was noticed by them among the levels of P of the same sources.

According to Venugopal *et al* (1988) there was superiority of MRP over DAP in increasing the yield of rice in the acidic soils of Goa. Dwivedi *et al* (1989) reported that performance of MRP was always superior to SSP in crop yield and

phosphate availability of an acid soil. Farm trials conducted by University of Agricultural Sciences Bangalore showed that MTRP and partially acidulated rock phosphate were superior to SSP for both grain and straw yield of rice (Anon 1994). Sahu and Acharya (1995) reported that grain and straw yield increased significantly with increased levels of phosphate and the yield between SSP, DAP and insoluble phosphate sources were statistically at par.

5.4 Fertiliser use efficiency

Jaggi (1986) concluded that the value of additional crop response obtained for MRP in acid soils varied from 0-10 per cent over water soluble sources on equal P_2O_5 application rate. Economic efficiency is the increase in profit per unit investment of P (Tandon 1987). According to Krishnappa *et al* (1988) MRP recorded the highest cost benefit ratio and DAP the least for paddy in acid soils of Karnataka. Awasthi (1988) reported that rockphosphate gave more monetary gains through larger crop production with low investment on fertilizer as compared to processed phosphate fertilizers. Rockphosphates had a better profitability and fertilizer use efficiency as compared to superphosphate. Devi *et al* (1993) reported that MTRP alone or 25 per cent acidulation or mixing of MTRP with SSP (3:1) gave comparable Benefit Cost ratio (12.7 to 14.1) as against 6.7 with SSP. MTRP recorded more P use efficiency as compared to superphosphate.

6 Residual effect of rockphosphates

De Datta *et al* (1966) observed that only 8 to 27 per cent of the total P in the rice plant was derived from the applied P while 80 to 90 per cent of the applied P remained in the soil for the succeeding crop. Panda and Panda (1969)

reported that short term evaluation of rockphosphate would be meaningless in case of lateritic soil as the residual effects were more important than the immediate effect. According to Motsara and Datta (1971) superphosphate and rockphosphate gave same yield for rice when applied at the same dose. However rockphosphate was found to have a better residual effect. Lehr and Mccellan (1972) reported good yield of rice from first crop by rockphosphate application but poor yield from second and third crops.

Singh and Datta (1973) observed that the availability of P from rock phosphate increased with its time of contact with the soil. Ramaswamy (1981) reported that superphosphate recorded a slightly higher paddy production and P uptake than MRP in the case of direct effect while in the residual effect the two sources were statistically on par. Sarkar and Sarkar (1982) suggested that the fertilizer value of rockphosphate in rice rice cropping system must be assessed on the basis of residual effect. Response of residual rockphosphate was curvilinear (Gupta *et al* 1983). Ramaswamy and Arunachalam (1983) reported that super phosphate was found to be slightly superior for the main crop of paddy but for the second crop of paddy MRP gave better yield. Considering the total uptake of P for both the crops there was no significant difference between the two forms of P fertilizers at the same level of phosphorus.

Goedert (1984) while evaluating the comparative residual effect of rockphosphate under field conditions for six years reported that about 20 per cent of the P as rockphosphate remained in apatite and the efficiency of rockphosphate ranged from 69 to 89 per cent. According to Mathews (1985) considerable amount of P applied as rockphosphate remained in the soil after growing rice for two

seasons and therefore it was possible that the availability of P to third and subsequent crops could be better in soils receiving rockphosphate as compared to superphosphate Omana (1986) reported that the rice crop that followed the main crop of cowpea was benefitted by the residual effect of rockphosphate than that of superphosphate alone applied to cowpea and rice

Rabindra (1995) and Patil *et al* (1995) rockphosphate had better residual effect than single superphosphate in an acid soil Paulraj and Velayudham (1995) reported that residual effect of rockphosphate was more than SSP in rice blackgram sequence

Material and Methods

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study entitled "Evaluation of Maton rockphosphate for the acid rice soils of Kerala" was conducted at the College of Horticulture Vellanikkara during the period 1994-96 consisted of two experiments

- 1) An incubation experiment in order to study the transformation of P from four different sources at three levels using laterite and Kuttanad alluvial soils of Kerala
- 2) A pot culture experiment with the same sources and levels as in the incubation experiment using rice as test crop grown continuously for two seasons in order to study the direct and residual effect of Maton rockphosphate in comparison with superphosphate diammonium phosphate and Mussoorie rockphosphate

3.1 Collection of soil sample

Laterite soil was collected from Mudikodu (Trichur district) and Kuttanad alluvium from Nedumudy (Allepey district). Taxonomical classification of these soil types are provided in Appendix I. The soils were collected from a depth of 0-15 cm, dried in shade, powdered and used for the experiments.

3.2 Experimental details

Incubation study

Sources

- i) Maton rockphosphate supplied by Hindustan Zinc Ltd. Udaipur
- ii) Mussoorie rockphosphate

- iii) Single superphosphate
- iv) Diammonium phosphate

The data regarding the composition of fertilisers are provided in Appendix II

Levels

- i) 22.5 kg P_2O_5 /ha
- ii) 45.0 kg P_2O_5 /ha
- iii) 67.5 kg P_2O_5 /ha

Soils

- 1) Laterite
- 2) Kuttanad alluvium

Design Completely Randomised Design

Replication 3

The treatment combinations are as follows

Treatment No	Notation		Forms and level of P_2O_5 kg ha ⁻¹	
1	2		3	
1	MTRP	P ₁	MTRP	22.5
2	MTRP	P ₂	MTRP	45.0
3	MTRP	P ₃	MTRP	67.5
4	MRP	P ₁	MRP	22.5
5	MRP	P ₂	MRP	45.0
6	MRP	P ₃	MRP	67.5
7	SSP	P ₁	SSP	22.5
8	SSP	P ₂	SSP	45.0

Contd

1	2		3	
9	SSP	P ₃	SSP	67.5
10	DAP	P ₁	DAP	22.5
11	DAP	P ₂	DAP	45.0
12	DAP	P ₃	DAP	67.5
13	C		Control (without P fertiliser)	
14	SSP (P ₂ + P ₂)		SSP (45 + 45) P was given twice on the 1st and 120th day of incubation	

The same treatments were imposed for both the soil types under study

3.3 Experimental procedure

About 500 g soil was transferred to incubation dishes. The phosphatic fertilisers were incorporated in the soil as described in 3.2. The soils were incubated at room temperature. A water level of 2 cm was maintained uniformly throughout the experimental period of 240 days. Soil samples were drawn at an interval of 30 days for the analysis of pH and available nutrient status of N, P, K, Ca and Mg. Fractions of P namely aluminium phosphate, iron phosphate and calcium phosphate were also estimated for the two soil types before and after the experiment.

3.4 Analytical procedure

Mechanical analysis

Mechanical analysis of the soil was carried out by the International Pipette Method (Piper 1942).

Soil pH

Soil pH was measured in 1:2.5 soil water suspension using Elco pH meter (Jackson 1973)

Available nitrogen

Available nitrogen content of the soil was determined by alkaline potassium permanganate method (Subbaiah and Asija 1956)

Available phosphorus

The available phosphorus of the wet sample was extracted using Bray No 1 (0.03 N NH_4F in 0.025 N HCl) (Bray and Kurtz 1945) and Mathews extractants (0.06 N H_2SO_4 + 0.06 N HCl + 0.05 N Oxalic acid) (Mathews 1979) and estimated by Ascorbic acid Blue colour method (Watnabe and Olsen 1965). Necessary moisture corrections were made by calculating the moisture content of soil samples and the corresponding volume was adjusted in the added extractants.

Available potassium

Available potassium was determined flame photometrically in the neutral normal ammonium acetate extract of the soil (Jackson 1973)

Available calcium and Available magnesium

Available calcium and available magnesium were determined by EDTA titration method (Hesse 1971)

Fractions of P

Fraction of P was carried out using the modified procedure as described by Hesse (1971)

3.5 Pot culture experiment

A pot culture experiment was conducted using Jaya variety of rice as a test crop as per the details given in 3.2

Design CRD

Replication 3

The treatment combinations were same as that of the incubation study as detailed in section 3.2

Earthen pots were filled with 10 kg soil and each pot was fitted with outlets for collecting the leachate. Fertilisers were applied as per package of practice recommendation (KAU 1993). The crops were grown under waterlogged condition for the first and second crop season. Twenty five day old rice seedlings were planted at the rate of three hills per pot and after the harvest of first crop the same pots were utilised for raising the residual crop. Periodical prophylactic measures were taken against pest and disease attack. Plant and soil samples were drawn at the maximum tillering, panicle initiation and harvest stages of the crop. At these stages of crop growth changes in pH, available nutrient status of N, P, K, Ca and Mg of the soil were also monitored. Dry matter yield was recorded for the two consecutive crops under study. Leachate samples were collected for analysis.

3 6 Analytical procedure

Soil samples were subjected to the analysis as outlined in section 3 4

Plant sample

Nitrogen content was determined by the microkjeldahl digestion and distillation method as described by Jackson (1973)

The phosphorus content from the diacid extract (HNO_3 HClO_4 as 2 1) was determined colorimetrically by the vanadomolybdophosphoric yellow colour method in nitric acid system (Jackson 1973) For potassium the extract was diluted and read in EEL flame photometer (Jackson 1973)

Available calcium and available magnesium was determined by EDTA titration method (Hesse 1971)

Leachate sample

Leachate sample was collected uniformly from all the pots and were analysed for nitrogen by alkaline permanganate method phosphorus by ascorbic acid blue colour method and potassium using flame photometric method (Jackson 1973)

Fertiliser sample

The fertilisers were analysed for major components such as N P K Ca Mg Fe Al Na Si and the fractions of P (Chopra and Kanwar 1982)

3 7 Statistical analysis

Statistical analysis of the data was carried out by adopting the standard methods as outlined by Panse and Sukhatme (1985) The correlations were also worked out (Snédecor and Cochran 1967)

Results and Discussion

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In order to evaluate the effectiveness of Maton rockphosphate (MTRP) as a source of P compared to Mussoorie rockphosphate (MRP) single superphosphate (SSP) and diammonium phosphate (DAP) in acid rice soils of Kerala an incubation study and pot culture experiments for two consecutive seasons were conducted. The results are presented and discussed as follows.

General characteristics of the soil types under study

The physico-chemical properties of Kuttanad alluvium and laterite soils are presented in Table 1. Kuttanad alluvium was a sandy loam soil with a pH of 3.75 and organic carbon content of 1.80 per cent. Laterite soil of sandy loam texture had a pH of 4.75 and organic carbon of 1.14 per cent. The total P content of laterite soil was high (0.078%) as compared to Kuttanad alluvium (0.066%). Available P content of both the soil types belonged to low fertility class. The available P content registered a value of 4.70 and 16.26 kg ha⁻¹ respectively with Bray No 1 and Mathew's triacid extractant for the Kuttanad alluvium. But for the laterite the values were slightly high as 9.40 and 20.6 kg ha⁻¹. Available N, K, Ca and Mg status were relatively higher for Kuttanad alluvium as compared to laterite soil. Fractionation of inorganic P revealed that Fe-P was the predominant form followed by Al-P and Ca-P in both the soil types. Though the contents of Fe-P and Al-P were higher for laterite the Ca-P content was lower than that of Kuttanad alluvium.

Table 1 Physico chemical characteristics of the soil

Characteristics	Kuttanad alluvium	Laterite
Coarse sand (%)	5.88	8.80
Fine sand (%)	67.45	50.20
Silt (%)	15.00	34.80
Clay (%)	12.50	6.20
pH	3.75	4.75
Organic carbon (%)	1.80	1.14
Available N (kg ha ⁻¹)	476.60	363.60
Available P (kg ha ⁻¹) (Bray 1)	4.70	9.40
Available P (kg ha ⁻¹) (Mathew's extractant)	16.26	20.60
Available K (kg ha ⁻¹)	476.00	125.60
Available Ca (kg ha ⁻¹)	440.00	140.40
Available Mg (kg ha ⁻¹)	480.00	120.00
Total P (%)	0.06	0.07
Fe P (ppm)	245.40	310.50
Al P (ppm)	211.20	215.70
Ca P (ppm)	80.60	63.81

4 1 Incubation study

4 1 1 Kuttanad alluvium

4 1 1 1 Soil reaction

Soil reaction as influenced by the treatments at different periods of incubation are provided in Table 2. The values of soil pH ranged from 3.90 to 5.08 with a mean value of 4.44.

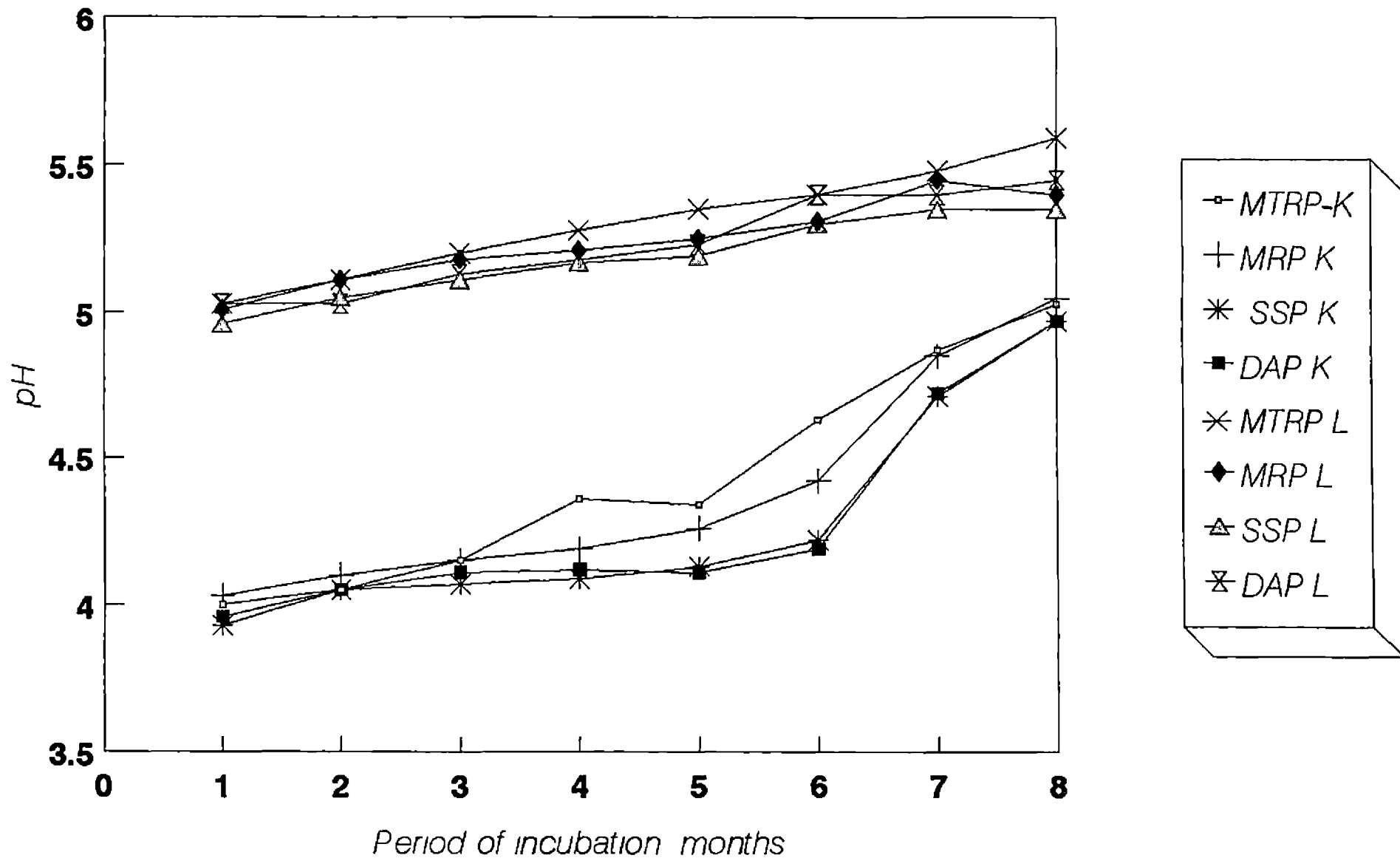
The pH of the soil gradually increased with periods of incubation irrespective of the treatments including the control. There was no significant difference in values of soil pH among the various treatment combinations in all the periods under study. Though there was significant difference in pH of the soil due to the different levels of P application, the trend was not found to be uniform throughout the incubation period.

The relationship between pH values recorded by different sources of fertilizers under different periods of incubation is illustrated in Fig 1. In general, the rock phosphates maintained significantly higher pH as compared to water soluble P sources throughout the incubation period. Between the rock phosphates, MTRP recorded significantly higher pH value than MRP at the 4th, 5th and 6th months of incubation. However, at the last two periods, the values were on par for both MRP and MTRP.

The increase in pH with increasing periods of incubation was because of the reduced condition provided during the experimental period. The pH buffering action of submerged soil was due to the Fe and Mn redox systems and the formation of carbonic acid (Ponnamperuma *et al* 1965). Due to this reason, the pH

Table 2 The influence of treatments on pH of Kuttanad alluvium at different period of incubation

Treatment		Period of incubation months							
No	Notation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	MTRP P ₁	4 00	4 05	4 10	4 35	4 30	4 60	4 85	5 00
2	MTRP P ₂	4 00	4 05	4 20	4 35	4 40	4 70	4 90	5 05
3	MTRP P ₃	4 00	4 05	4 15	4 40	4 33	4 60	4 87	5 05
4	MRP P ₁	4 00	4 10	4 10	4 13	4 42	4 65	4 87	5 08
5	MRP P ₂	4 10	4 10	4 15	4 20	4 35	4 15	4 93	5 00
6	MRP P ₃	4 00	4 10	4 20	4 25	4 00	4 45	4 75	5 08
7	SSP P ₁	3 90	4 10	4 10	4 10	4 05	4 35	4 73	5 05
8	SSP P ₂	4 00	4 05	4 20	4 10	4 10	4 10	4 80	4 93
9	SSP P ₃	3 90	4 00	4 10	4 02	4 12	4 20	4 60	4 98
10	DAP P ₁	3 95	4 05	4 10	4 10	4 40	4 15	4 63	5 00
11	DAP P ₂	3 90	4 00	4 15	4 10	4 10	4 20	4 73	4 90
12	DAP P ₃	4 00	4 10	4 10	4 15	4 07	4 00	4 80	4 95
13	C	3 90	4 00	4 10	4 10	4 00	4 30	4 70	4 75
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	3 90	4 00	4 15	4 40	4 05	4 10	4 75	4 96
CD(0 05)		NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Source									
MTRP		4 00	4 05	4 15	4 37	4 34	3 1	4 87	5 03
MRP		4 03	4 10	4 15	4 19	4 26	4 42	4 85	5 05
SSP		3 93	4 05	4 07	4 09	4 13	4 22	4 71	4 97
DAP		3 96	4 05	4 11	4 12	4 11	4 19	4 72	4 97
CD(0 05)		0 05	0 05	0 05	0 05	0 05	0 05	0 05	0 05
Level									
P ₁		3 96	4 08	4 10	4 17	4 29	4 44	4 77	5 03
P ₂		4 00	4 05	4 18	4 19	4 24	4 29	4 84	4 97
P ₃		3 97	4 06	4 14	4 00	4 13	4 31	4 75	5 02
CD(0 05)		0 04	0 03	0 04	0 04	0 04	0 05	0 05	0 04



The pH of Kuttanad alluvium & laterite soil at different periods of incubation as influenced by sources of P

of the soil was almost maintained at 5.0. The increase in pH by rockphosphate as compared to SSP and DAP may be attributed to the liming action of Ca and Mg carbonate content of the same. The findings of Mathur and Lal (1986) are also in line with this.

4.1.1.2 Available nitrogen

Available N (kg ha^{-1}) as influenced by the treatments at different periods of incubation are presented in Table 3. Available N content ranged from 357.5 kg ha^{-1} (control) to 1122.60 kg ha^{-1} (DAP P_3) with a mean value of 740.1 kg ha^{-1} .

In general there was decrease in available N content with increasing periods of incubation in all the treatment combinations. The control treatment always registered a lower content of available nitrogen as compared to other treatments. The values registered by SSP (P_2+P_2) were found to be on par with that of SSP applied at P_2 level.

All the sources showed significant variation in nitrogen release. The higher levels of DAP registered significantly higher available N as indicated by DAP at P_3 (1122.60 kg ha^{-1}) and P_2 level (1059.95 kg ha^{-1}) followed by SSP and MRP treatments. Among the sources MTRP recorded the lowest values. There was significant increase in available N content with increased doses of P at the 1st, 5th, 6th and 7th period of incubation.

The high N content in DAP treatments may be due to the nitrogen present in the fertilizer itself (Appendix II). The decreasing trend observed with periods of incubation may be attributed to the losses of nitrogen through denitrification and volatilisation under waterlogged condition (Patrick and

Table 3 Available N (kg ha^{-1}) as influenced by treatments at different periods of incubation (Kuttanad alluvium)

Treatment		Period of incubation months							
No	Notation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	MTRP P ₁	627 73	652 20	558 24	581 20	595 85	526 83	495 42	508 05
2	MTRP P ₂	746 30	589 54	520 52	639 70	633 43	558 25	478 75	413 90
3	MTRP P ₃	871 81	777 75	702 43	721 25	740 00	595 83	551 90	491 22
4	MRP P ₁	815 30	915 70	765 10	752 65	708 73	602 14	545 63	551 90
5	MRP P ₂	896 80	898 90	710 82	706 65	640 23	564 45	528 92	365 85
6	MRP P ₃	972 15	723 32	646 50	411 83	627 25	526 80	497 51	622 10
7	SSP P ₁	953 35	821 60	721 21	752 62	707 80	639 75	570 73	564 45
8	SSP P ₂	972 15	664 83	545 65	570 73	652 25	614 65	551 93	539 33
9	SSP P ₃	990 90	752 65	694 18	708 73	727 50	663 05	589 54	508 00
10	DAP P ₁	990 90	702 42	685 70	708 73	727 50	643 95	520 25	489 23
11	DAP P ₂	1059 95	775 60	740 00	727 50	765 10	671 18	539 33	451 53
12	DAP P ₃	1122 60	815 32	702 43	727 50	880 18	689 90	564 45	501 70
13	C	606 82	545 63	484 80	413 90	432 73	395 18	372 15	357 50
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	966 38	656 40	537 32	568 63	658 50	610 40	550 80	533 10
CD(0 05)		11 28	12 77	12 56	15 70	12 70	11 28	12 54	13 90
Source									
MTRP		748 61	673 16	598 73	647 35	656 42	560 30	508 69	471 05
MRP		894 75	845 97	707 47	623 71	658 73	564 46	524 02	513 28
SSP		972 13	746 36	653 68	677 36	695 85	639 15	570 73	537 26
DAP		1057 81	764 44	709 37	721 24	790 92	668 34	541 34	480
CD(0 05)		6 51	7 37	7 25	9 10	7 36	6 52	7 23	8 08
Level									
P ₁		846 82	772 98	682 56	698 8	684 97	603 16	537 77	528 40
P ₂		918 8	732 21	629 24	661 14	672 75	602 13	624 73	442 65
P ₃		989 36	767 26	686 38	642 32	743 73	618 89	550 85	530 75
CD(0 05)		5 63	6 39	6 28	7 80	6 38	5 64	6 27	6 98

Mahapatra 1968) Though the exact mechanism for the increased rate of N mineralisation due to P additions was not clear the biological activity might have geared up resulting in more mineralisation of organic matter The high N availability and simultaneously lesser immobilisation under submerged condition must have favoured the anaerobic bacteria functioning at lower level of energy release (Tisdale 1975)

4.1.1.3 Available P

The available P of the soil was determined with the use of two extractants namely Bray 1 and Mathew's triacid extractants The variations in available P as influenced by different treatment is given in Table 4 and Table 5 Available P of the soil using Bray 1 was found to range from 4.98 (C) to 13.73 kg ha⁻¹ (SSP P₃) with a mean of 9.35 kg ha⁻¹ while for Mathew's extractant it ranged from 25.31 (C) to 49.79 kg ha⁻¹ (SSP P₃) with mean of 37.55 kg ha⁻¹

The continuous release of available P under the influence of different periods of waterlogging is presented in Fig 2 (Bray 1) and Fig 3 (Mathew's triacid extractant) In general there was a continuous increase in available P content of the soil upto 6th month (varying with source) followed by a decrease as indicated by the values From this it is inferred that the transformation of added P to different inorganic fractions has taken place But its contribution to the available phosphate pool is considerably low

Additions of P fertilisers had a marked influence on P availability This is evident from the low values registered by the control The maximum value recorded by control treatment was only 7.25 kg ha⁻¹ (Bray 1) and 34.57 kg ha⁻¹

Table 4 Available P (kg ha⁻¹) as influenced by treatments at different periods of incubation Bray (Kuttanad alluvium)

Treatment		Period of incubation months							
No	Notation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	MTRP P ₁	5 71	5 96	6 94	7 97	8 33	8 48	8 33	7 73
2	MTRP P ₂	6 36	6 38	7 57	8 89	9 67	10 19	10 34	9 56
3	MTRP P ₃	7 97	7 19	8 49	9 87	12 03	12 03	12 03	11 11
4	MRP P ₁	6 78	6 74	6 89	8 02	8 17	7 97	7 80	6 47
5	MRP P ₂	8 02	8 33	8 60	8 80	8 99	9 50	9 00	7 66
6	MRP P ₃	9 25	9 56	9 56	9 88	10 03	10 25	10 39	9 88
7	SSP P ₁	8 33	9 60	10 19	10 51	9 25	8 17	7 10	6 36
8	SSP P ₂	10 19	11 11	11 67	12 34	11 67	10 60	8 95	7 94
9	SSP P ₃	11 94	12 81	13 73	13 73	11 98	11 03	10 35	8 97
10	DAP P ₁	9 52	9 76	9 92	10 19	8 65	7 79	6 95	6 65
11	DAP P ₂	11 22	11 76	12 01	12 50	10 75	8 93	8 05	6 94
12	DAP P ₃	12 85	12 65	12 90	13 22	12 12	11 92	10 11	8 32
13	C	4 98	5 40	6 32	7 25	7 23	7 20	6 27	6 27
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	10 23	11 11	12 87	12 03	11 94	12 03	10 34	9 13
CD(0 05)		0 57	0 53	0 47	0 47	0 47	0 46	0 85	0 47
Source									
MTRP		6 67	6 51	7 66	8 91	10 01	10 23	10 23	9 47
MRP		8 02	8 22	8 35	8 90	9 04	9 24	9 13	9 00
SSP		10 15	11 17	11 86	12 19	10 96	9 93	8 80	7 75
DAP		11 19	11 39	11 61	11 97	10 50	9 54	8 37	7 30
CD(0 05)		0 33	0 30	0 27	0 27	0 27	0 26	0 49	0 32
Level									
P ₁		7 58	8 02	8 48	9 17	8 60	8 10	7 54	6 80
P ₂		8 94	9 39	9 96	10 63	10 27	9 80	9 08	8 03
P ₃		10 50	10 55	11 17	11 67	11 54	11 30	10 72	9 57
CD(0 05)		0 28	0 26	0 24	0 24	0 24	0 23	0 43	0 26

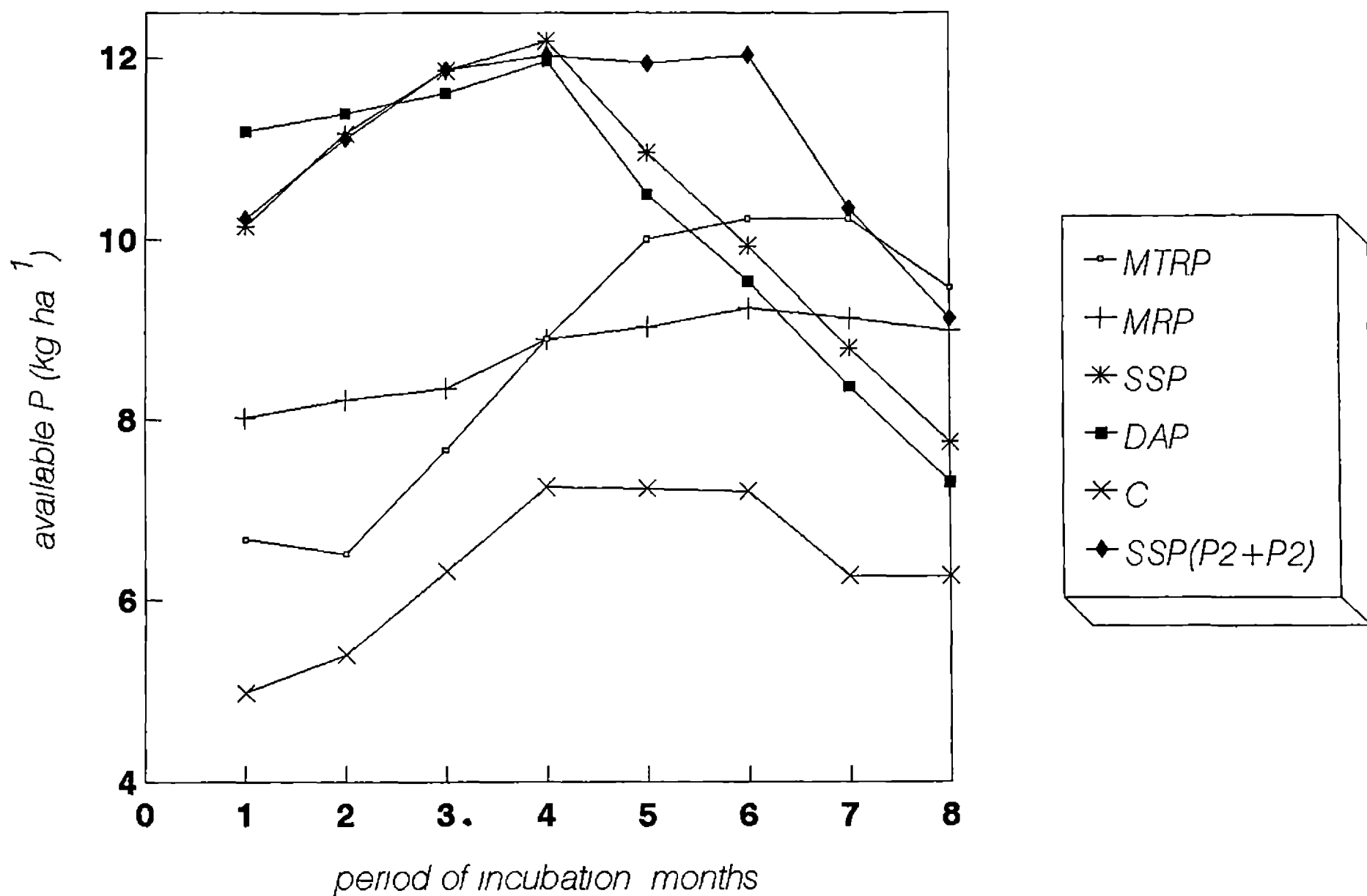


Fig. 2 Available P as influenced by sources of P at different periods of incubation Bray 1 (Kuttanad alluvium)

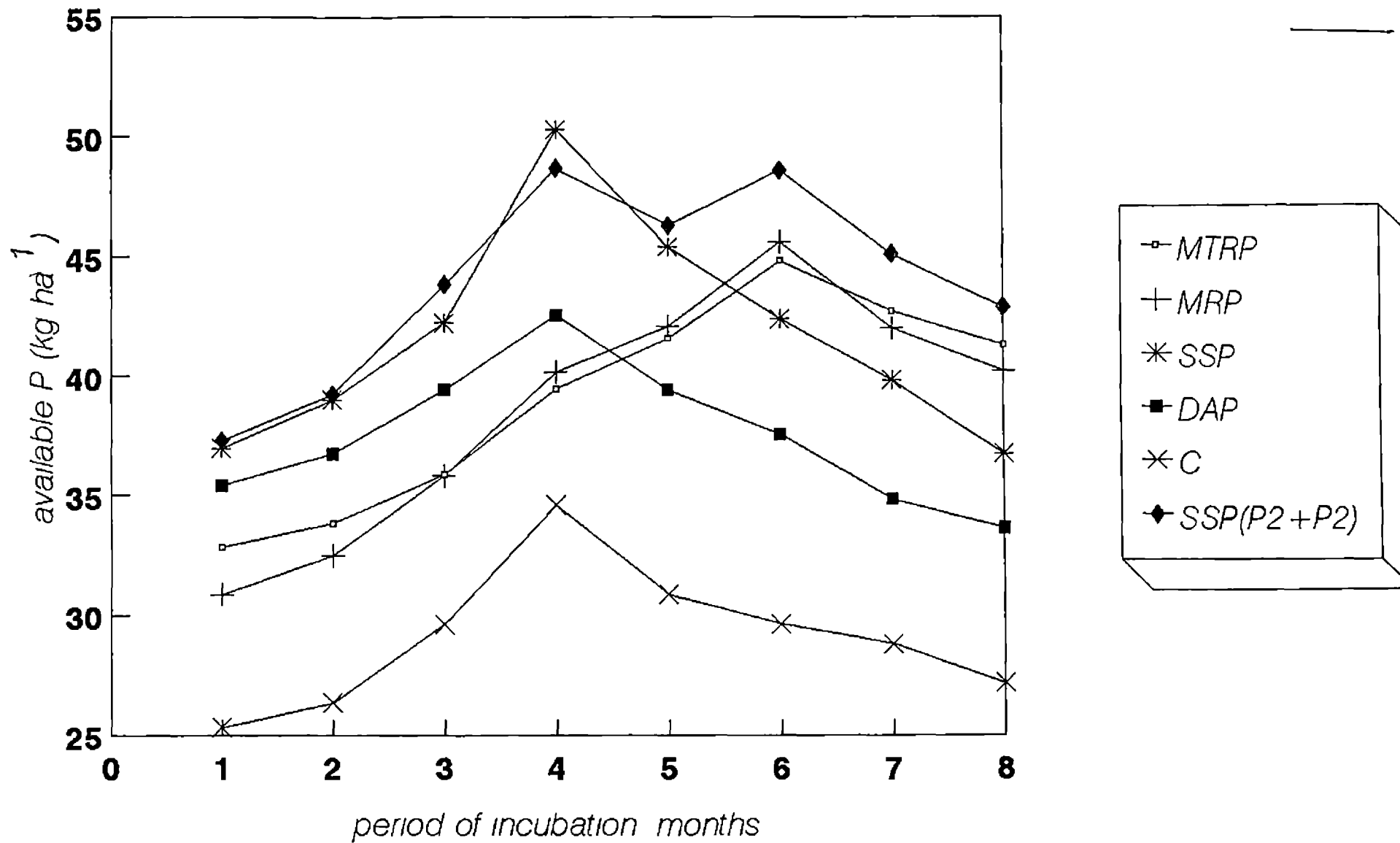
(Mathew's extractant) at the 4th month of incubation. In the SSP (P_2+P_2) treatment the second application on 120th day (4th period) resulted in significantly higher P release at the 6th period as compared to SSP P_2 . However, it was found to be on par with MTRP P_3 . In the 7th and 8th period there was a steady decrease as that of SSP P_2 and was found to be on par with MTRP P_2 and MRP P_3 while MTRP P_3 was significantly higher.

In general the treatments of SSP and DAP were significantly higher than MRP and MTRP up to the 4th month of incubation. From the 5th period onwards rockphosphates were significantly superior for the available P content of the soil. The peak contents of available P released by SSP and DAP were observed in the 4th period after which there was a steady decrease. The rockphosphates registered maximum release at the 5th and 6th period after which there was slight decrease. Between the rockphosphates MTRP was significantly higher. The release of available P as influenced by different sources of P fertilisers at the 4th and 8th month of incubation is illustrated in Fig 4. It is clear that at 120th day (4th month) SSP, DAP and SSP P_2+P_2 were similar in P release and were considerably higher than MTRP and MRP. At 240th day (8th month) there was drastic decrease for SSP and DAP while for MTRP and MRP there was slight increase as compared to 120th day release and were higher as compared to SSP and DAP. Among the rock phosphates MTRP was superior to MRP. From Table 4 it is also evident that increased levels of P had significant influence on P availability.

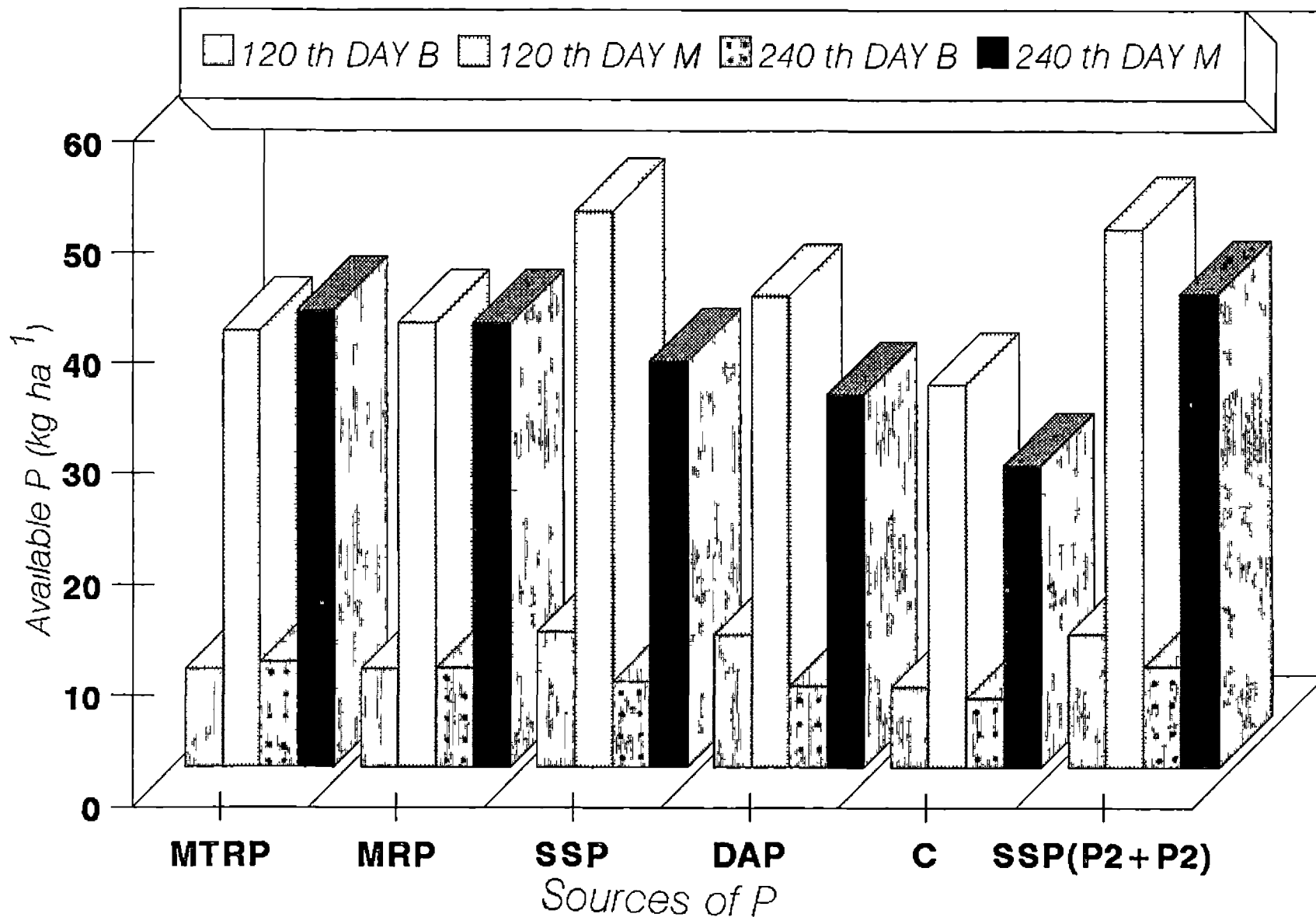
The increase in available P on waterlogging may be due to the release of native P by reduction of free hydrous Fe, Al and Mn oxide and higher solubilities of $FePO_4 \cdot 2H_2O$ and $AlPO_4 \cdot 2H_2O$ due to the increased soil pH. The retention of

Table 5 Available P (kg ha^{-1}) as influenced by treatments at different periods of incubation Mathew's triacid extractant (Kuttanad alluvium)

Treatment		Period of incubation months							
No	Notation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	MTRP P ₁	30 55	31 38	33 33	35 19	38 65	40 50	39 33	38 72
2	MTRP P ₂	32 73	33 95	35 19	40 12	41 26	44 20	42 60	41 17
3	MTRP P ₃	35 19	36 10	38 88	43 01	45 06	49 79	46 30	44 20
4	MRP P ₁	28 40	29 63	32 95	34 12	37 53	41 97	39 82	37 25
5	MRP P ₂	30 87	32 61	35 19	42 40	43 30	45 27	41 26	39 51
6	MRP P ₃	33 35	35 19	39 20	42 98	45 67	49 79	45 07	43 84
7	SSP P ₁	34 27	36 42	37 25	43 84	41 26	39 51	37 05	34 50
8	SSP P ₂	37 05	39 40	44 20	49 79	45 06	42 66	39 51	36 30
9	SSP P ₃	39 51	41 17	45 27	57 21	49 79	45 07	42 89	39 51
10	DAP P ₁	31 78	32 61	34 56	39 40	35 82	33 95	31 49	30 24
11	DAP P ₂	33 95	34 98	36 42	42 60	39 52	38 28	34 56	34 30
12	DAP P ₃	36 93	38 59	39 04	45 67	42 98	40 34	37 25	36 30
13	C	25 31	26 34	29 63	31 49	34 57	29 63	28 80	27 16
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	37 25	39 20	43 84	48 69	46 30	48 59	45 10	42 89
CD(0 05)		0 88	0 90	1 11	1 21	1 29	1 28	1 06	1 20
Source									
MTRP		32 82	33 82	35 81	39 45	41 60	44 80	42 70	41 30
MRP		30 87	32 48	35 77	40 16	42 10	45 60	42 00	40 20
SSP		36 94	38 99	42 24	50 29	45 40	42 39	39 82	36 70
DAP		35 39	36 69	39 42	42 56	39 40	37 52	34 82	33 60
CD(0 05)		0 51	0 52	0 64	0 69	0 74	0 74	0 61	0 74
Level									
P ₁		31 25	32 51	34 52	38 14	38 32	38 98	36 92	35 18
P ₂		33 65	35 23	37 75	43 72	42 28	42 60	39 48	37 82
P ₃		36 24	37 76	40 59	47 22	45 87	46 25	42 87	40 96
CD(0 05)		0 44	0 45	0 55	0 59	0 64	0 64	0 53	0 55



3 Available P as influenced by sources of P at different periods of incubation
Mathew's extractant-Kuttanad alluvium



4 Available P as influenced by sources of P at 120th & 240th day with Bray 1 & Mathews extractant-Kuttanad alluvium

released P gradually in the form of less soluble Fe P in the solid phase may be the reason for the decrease in the later periods. The water soluble sources recorded peak values at the earlier phase of incubation period as compared to rockphosphates. This is because of slow dissolution rate of rockphosphates. The high fixation of water soluble P resulted in drastic decrease after the 4th period while in the case of rock phosphate it was at a slower rate as the insoluble form of P present in them is subjected to least fixation. The high P content at the 8th month indicates the gradual dissolution of rockphosphates especially that of MTRP. Mathew's triacid extracted more amount of available P than Bray 1 from the soil. This may be due to the presence of an organic acid (oxalic acid) in the extractant which is capable of extracting more P. Similar observation was recorded by Devi (1986).

4.1.1.4 Available K

The contents of available K (kg ha^{-1}) in the soil as influenced by treatments at different periods of incubation are presented in Table 6. The values ranged from 459.2 (control) to 683.20 (kg ha^{-1}) (MTRP P_3) with a mean value of 571.2 kg ha^{-1} .

In general waterlogging increased the available K content. With advancement of period of incubation there was decrease in available K content. The control treatment recorded a maximum available K of 582.4 kg ha^{-1} at the 2nd month of incubation. Among the other treatments SSP (P_2+P_2) maintained the same trend as that of SSP P_2 . It can be inferred that even after the application P after 120 days there was a decrease in contents of available K and the values were found to be on par with SSP P_1 at the 5th and 6th period of incubation.

Table 6 Available K (kg ha⁻¹) as influenced by treatments at different periods of incubation (Kuttanad alluvium)

Treatment		Periods of incubation months							
No	Notation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	MTRP P ₁	545 00	533 80	533 80	526 40	601 00	638 40	537 60	537 60
2	MTRP P ₂	563 70	526 40	492 80	530 10	634 60	586 10	515 20	526 40
3	MTRP P ₃	545 00	526 40	518 90	541 30	683 20	608 50	548 80	339 70
4	MRP P ₁	597 30	552 50	448 00	399 40	526 40	616 00	530 10	522 60
5	MRP P ₂	526 40	545 00	507 70	537 60	530 10	616 00	515 20	526 40
6	MRP P ₃	567 40	571 20	462 90	601 00	675 70	582 40	537 60	507 70
7	SSP P ₁	593 60	563 70	567 40	537 60	627 20	567 40	571 20	560 00
8	SSP P ₂	560 00	518 90	552 50	533 80	675 70	597 30	526 40	582 00
9	SSP P ₃	537 60	545 00	500 20	593 60	616 00	638 40	526 40	537 60
10	DAP P ₁	582 40	556 20	462 90	563 70	638 40	675 60	481 60	481 60
11	DAP P ₂	537 60	589 80	433 00	518 90	586 10	571 20	538 80	537 60
12	DAP P ₃	571 20	586 10	526 40	530 10	675 70	459 20	470 40	462 90
13	C	571 80	582 40	507 70	552 50	530 10	571 20	526 40	530 10
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	574 90	567 40	511 40	537 60	612 20	574 90	459 20	470 40
CD(0 05)		16 15	12 41	14 51	15 29	14 79	17 08	17 55	13 07
Source									
MTRP		551 23	528 86	515 16	532 60	639 60	611 00	533 86	467 90
MRP		563 70	556 23	472 86	512 66	577 40	604 80	527 63	518 90
SSP		563 73	542 53	540 03	555 00	639 63	601 03	541 33	559 86
DAP		563 73	577 36	474 10	531 56	633 40	568 66	496 93	494 03
CD(0 05)		9 30	7 16	8 38	8 83	8 54	9 86	10 13	7 54
Level									
P ₁		579 57	551 55	503 02	506 77	598 25	624 35	530 12	525 45
P ₂		546 92	545 02	496 50	530 10	606 62	592 65	523 90	543 10
P ₃		555 30	557 17	502 10	566 50	662 65	572 12	520 80	461 97
CD(0 05)		8 05	6 20	7 25	7 64	7 39	8 54	8 77	6 54

There was no specific trend in available K release by the different treatments. In general the sources did not differ significantly in available K content. The source MRP was superior in K content in early stages of incubation followed by MTRP, SSP and DAP. This may be due to the original K content of the fertilizer (Appendix II). Though there was significant difference in available K content of the soil due to the different levels of P application, the trend was not found to be uniform.

In submerged soil, large amount of Fe^{2+} ion and Mn^{2+} ion are brought into solution which displace K^+ in soil solution (Ponnamperuma, 1972). This accounted for the high availability of K during incubation. The high value registered by the control was due to the high content of K in the original soil.

4.1.1.5 Available Ca

Available Ca ($kg\ ha^{-1}$) contents of the soil as influenced by treatments at different periods of incubation are tabulated in Table 7. It ranged from 496.0 (control) to 1744.6 $kg\ ha^{-1}$ (MTRP P_3) with a mean value of 1120.3 $kg\ ha^{-1}$.

Submergence increased the Ca content in soil solution. Maximum Ca release was observed at the 5th and 6th period and decreased after these periods.

The control treatment recorded a maximum value of 626.8 $kg\ ha^{-1}$ at the 4th month of incubation. All the treatments were significantly higher than control at all the periods of incubation. The second application of SSP (P_2+P_2) recorded only a marginal increase of Ca as compared to SSP P_2 as the values indicated by these treatments were not statistically significant.

Table 7 Available Ca (kg ha⁻¹) as influenced by treatments at different periods of incubation (Kuttanad alluvium)

Treatment		Period of incubation months							
No	Notation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	MTRP P ₁	1015.4	1299.2	1373.8	1388.8	1702.4	1642.4	1344.0	1254.0
2	MTRP P ₂	1254.4	1358.9	1344.0	1478.4	1478.4	1657.6	1344.0	1299.0
3	MTRP P ₃	1209.6	1254.4	1344.0	1448.5	1744.6	1478.4	1209.6	1120.0
4	MRP P ₁	1254.4	1344.0	1488.5	1478.4	1523.2	1642.4	1388.0	1284.2
5	MRP P ₂	1269.3	1388.0	1418.0	1433.0	1523.2	1657.6	1329.0	1299.0
6	MRP P ₃	1329.1	1388.0	1478.0	1523.0	1702.4	1657.6	1329.0	1299.0
7	SSP P ₁	896.0	940.8	955.7	1080.4	1120.0	1299.0	1075.0	1030.4
8	SSP P ₂	901.5	940.8	1015.4	1120.0	1284.0	1344.0	1299.0	1120.0
9	SSP P ₃	896.0	955.7	1179.7	1299.0	1388.0	1344.0	1373.0	1299.0
10	DAP P ₁	646.6	658.9	696.7	721.8	741.6	681.3	660.5	633.0
11	DAP P ₂	646.6	661.3	676.4	721.8	741.6	778.9	681.5	660.0
12	DAP P ₃	658.9	661.3	676.4	741.6	741.6	763.2	702.0	698.0
13	C	506.8	565.6	590.0	626.8	512.4	500.9	496.0	496.0
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	901.5	940.8	1015.4	1075.4	1299.0	1388.8	1344.0	1299.0
CD(0.05)		73.86	68.34	66.41	76.5	80.5	65.18	73.81	85.9
Source									
MTRP		1159.8	1304.1	1353.9	1438.5	1641.8	1592.8	1299.2	1224.3
MRP		1284.2	1373.3	1461.5	1478.1	1582.9	1652.5	1348.6	1294.0
SSP		897.8	945.7	1050.2	1166.4	1264.0	1329.0	1249.0	1149.8
DAP		650.7	660.5	683.1	728.4	741.6	741.1	681.3	663.6
CD(0.05)		42.61	39.45	38.31	4.61	46.49	37.63	42.61	49.64
Level									
P ₁		953.1	1060.7	1128.6	1167.3	1271.8	1316.2	1116.8	1050.4
P ₂		1017.9	1087.2	1113.4	1188.3	1256.8	1359.5	1163.3	1094.5
P ₃		1023.4	1064.8	1169.5	1253.0	1394.1	1310.8	1153.4	1104.0
CD(0.05)		36.91	34.17	33.21	38.68	40.27	32.59	36.91	42.99

All the treatments of MTRP and MRP were significantly higher than that of SSP and DAP due to the calcium content of the fertilizers (Appendix II) The lowest value was registered by DAP whereas the sources MTRP and MRP were on par at P₃ level for the 5th period while MTRP was significantly higher at the P₁ and P₂ level Rockphosphate fared well in the release of available Ca in the soil as compared to SSP

4 1 1 6 Available Mg

Available Mg (kg ha^{-1}) of the soil influenced by treatments are furnished in Table 8 The values ranged from 770.5 (control) to 1666.5 kg ha^{-1} (MRP P₃) with a mean of 1218.5 kg ha^{-1}

There was higher Mg availability due to submergence Higher release was observed in the early periods of incubation and there was gradual decrease towards the later periods The control treatment recorded 1415.6 kg ha^{-1} at the 1st period which was reduced to 770.5 kg ha^{-1} at the 8th period Addition of SSP twice at P₂ level did not have any influence on Mg release

The sources did not indicated any constancy in Mg release with different months of incubation At the first period of incubation MTRP (1535.1 kg ha^{-1}) MRP (1498.5 kg ha^{-1}) and SSP (1511.0 kg ha^{-1}) were on par Among the sources DAP (1451.4 kg ha^{-1}) recorded the lowest Levels of P had no influence on Mg availability

The high values recorded by the control treatment was due to the high content of available Mg in Kuttanad soil as indicated in Table 1 In submerged soils

Table 8 Available Mg (kg ha⁻¹) as influenced by treatments at different periods of incubation (Kuttanad alluvium)

Treatment		Period of incubation months							
No	Notation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	HTRP P ₁	1487 3	1720 3	1379 8	1317 1	1308 2	1182 7	1388 8	1335 0
2	HTRP P ₂	1576 9	1550 0	1469 4	1084 2	1344 0	1254 4	1200 6	1272 3
3	HTRP P ₃	1541 1	1603 4	1352 9	1155 8	1361 9	1209 6	1460 4	1146 8
4	MRP P ₁	1576 9	1442 5	1164 8	1191 6	1173 7	1209 6	1263 3	1263 3
5	MRP P ₂	1556 8	1299 2	1254 4	1290 2	1236 4	1182 7	1173 7	1137 9
6	MRP P ₃	1361 9	1666 5	1326 0	1155 8	1370 8	1299 2	1200 6	1209 6
7	SSP P ₁	1630 7	1478 4	1057 2	1173 7	1200 6	1200 6	1433 6	1203 0
8	SSP P ₂	1505 2	1585 9	1344 0	1146 8	1194 6	1173 7	1173 7	1361 9
9	SSP P ₃	1397 7	1559 0	1299 2	1254 4	1370 8	1308 1	1227 5	1209 6
10	DAP P ₁	1352 9	1478 4	1200 6	1308 2	1344 0	949 7	1227 5	1227 5
11	DAP P ₂	1559 0	1550 0	1084 1	1236 4	1352 9	797 4	1245 4	1317 2
12	DAP P ₃	1442 5	1684 4	1361 9	1102 0	1406 7	1137 9	1209 6	1272 3
13	C	1415 6	1326 0	1245 4	1200 6	1245 4	1191 6	1388 8	770 5
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	1505 2	1585 9	1344 0	1146 8	1194 6	1182 7	1173 7	1335 0
CD(0 05)		66 25	63 07	49 28	56 24	41 34	97 61	63 74	101 30
Source									
HTRP		1535 1	1624 5	1400 7	1185 7	1338 0	1215 5	1349 8	1251 3
MRP		1498 5	1469 4	1248 4	1212 5	1260 3	1230 5	1212 5	1203 6
SSP		1511 2	1541 1	1233 4	1191 6	1255 3	1227 4	1278 2	1258 2
DAP		1451 4	1570 9	1216 5	1215 5	1367 8	961 6	1244 1	1272 3
CD(0 05)		38 25	36 37	28 45	56 20	41 41	56 45	36 80	17 50
Level									
P ₁		1511 9	1529 9	1200 6	1247 6	1256 6	1135 5	1328 3	1257 2
P ₂		1549 4	1496 3	1287 9	1189 4	1281 9	1102 1	1198 4	1272 3
P ₃		1435 8	1628 3	1336 0	1167 0	1377 5	1238 7	972 1	1209 5
CD(0 05)		33 12	31 50	24 64	35 30	35 80	48 80	31 87	51 77

the large amount of Fe^{2+} and Mn^{2+} brought into solutions displace cations from the clay composition increasing the concentration of Mg^{2+} in the soil solution

4 1 2 Laterite soil

4 1 2 1 Soil reaction

Soil pH values as influenced by the treatments at different periods of incubation are provided in Table 9. The values ranged from 4.90 (control) to 5.65 (MTRP P₃).

The pH of the soil gradually increased on incubation irrespective of the treatments including the control. The control treatment recorded a maximum value of 5.30 at the 8th month of incubation. There was no significant difference between SSP (P₂+P₂) and SSP P₂ throughout the incubation period of 240 days.

With regard to pH there was no significant difference among the treatments. The relationship between pH values recorded by different sources of fertilizers under different periods of incubation is presented in Fig 1. It can be seen that rockphosphates maintained higher pH as compared to water soluble P sources throughout the incubation period. The source MTRP recorded higher value than other treatments such as MRP, DAP and SSP. At the 7th period MTRP and MRP were on par. Though there was significant difference in pH of the soil due to the different levels of P, the trend was not found to be uniform.

The probable reasons for the hike in pH due to waterlogging are discussed in 4 1 1 1.

Table 9 The influence of treatments on the pH of laterite soil at different periods of incubation

Treatment		Period of incubation months							
No	Notation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	MTRP P ₁	5 00	5 10	5 20	5 35	5 40	5 50	5 55	5 65
2	MTRP P ₂	5 05	5 10	5 15	5 22	5 30	5 36	5 45	5 55
3	MTRP P ₃	5 05	5 15	5 25	5 28	5 35	5 40	5 45	5 57
4	MRP P ₁	5 00	5 15	5 20	5 25	5 30	5 35	5 45	5 50
5	MRP P ₂	5 00	5 10	5 20	5 23	5 25	5 30	5 45	5 50
6	MRP P ₃	5 05	5 10	5 15	5 15	5 20	5 25	5 45	5 50
7	SSP P ₁	4 95	5 00	5 05	5 07	5 10	5 20	5 30	5 35
8	SSP P ₂	5 00	5 15	5 15	5 20	5 23	5 30	5 35	5 45
9	SSP P ₃	4 95	5 05	5 15	5 25	5 35	5 40	5 40	5 45
10	DAP P ₁	5 00	5 10	5 15	5 20	5 25	5 35	5 40	5 45
11	DAP P ₂	5 05	5 10	5 15	5 25	5 30	5 35	5 45	5 50
12	DAP P ₃	5 05	5 05	5 10	5 10	5 15	5 35	5 35	5 40
13	C	4 90	5 00	5 10	5 10	5 15	5 30	5 30	5 30
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	5 00	5 10	5 15	5 15	5 13	5 30	5 35	5 35
CD(0 05)		NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Source									
MTRP		5 03	5 11	5 2	5 28	5 35	5 4	5 48	5 59
MRP		5 01	5 11	5 18	5 21	5 25	5 31	5 45	5 50
SSP		4 96	5 05	5 11	5 17	5 19	5 30	5 35	5 35
DAP		5 03	5 08	5 13	5 18	5 23	5 40	5 40	5 45
CD(0 05)		0 04	0 05	0 05	0 05	0 05	0 05	0 05	0 05
Level									
P ₁		4 98	5 08	5 15	5 23	5 26	5 35	5 43	5 49
P ₂		5 03	5 11	5 16	5 22	5 27	5 33	5 43	5 50
P ₃		5 03	5 09	5 16	5 19	5 26	5 35	5 41	5 48
CD(0 05)		0 04	0 04	0 05	0 05	0 05	0 05	0 04	0 04

4.1.2.2 Available N

The values for available N (kg ha^{-1}) in soil as influenced by treatments at different periods of incubation are presented in Table 10. The values ranged from 302.40 (control) to 740.10 kg ha^{-1} (DAP P_3) with mean of 521.2 kg ha^{-1} .

Waterlogging increased the N content of the soil and the peak values were recorded at the 1st month of incubation. With increase in periods of incubation, a decrease in available N was observed.

All the treatment combinations were significantly higher than control. The control treatment recorded a maximum value of 420.20 kg ha^{-1} at the 1st month of incubation. In SSP ($P_2 + P_2$) the second application did not have significant additional influence.

The DAP treatments released higher N in the first period followed by the other sources such as SSP, MTRP and MRP. At P_3 level SSP was found to be significantly higher than DAP P_3 at the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 7th period. But it was on par with DAP P_3 at the 5th and 8th period. Similarly MTRP P_3 was on par with DAP P_3 at the 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 8th period. With increase in levels of P, there was significant increase in nitrogen content.

The high available N content of DAP treatments recorded at the initial periods of incubation may be attributed to the N present in the fertiliser itself. The losses of N by denitrification and volatilisation may be the reason for the decrease in available N with periods of incubation.

Table 10 Available N (kg ha⁻¹) as influenced by treatments at different periods of incubation (laterite)

Treatmet		Period of incubation months							
No	Notation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	MTRP P ₁	497 57	459 04	451 58	474 50	482 94	393 05	319 87	307 30
2	MTRP P ₂	533 12	476 67	476 67	505 95	512 22	413 95	363 78	334 49
3	MTRP P ₃	589 57	514 30	497 57	491 30	510 12	426 50	386 78	370 05
4	MRP P ₁	470 40	426 50	497 57	436 96	470 40	401 41	319 87	288 51
5	MRP P ₂	526 85	464 13	420 22	439 04	514 30	426 49	351 23	288 51
6	MRP P ₃	589 57	539 39	426 50	480 55	520 58	426 49	357 50	351 23
7	SSP P ₁	549 85	468 32	457 87	407 68	462 04	376 32	332 42	332 42
8	SSP P ₂	646 02	602 11	420 23	489 20	508 03	424 41	376 32	355 42
9	SSP P ₃	663 50	620 93	514 30	564 48	526 85	432 77	420 22	386 78
10	DAP P ₁	589 57	514 30	413 95	476 67	510 12	451 58	426 50	380 50
11	DAP P ₂	620 93	564 48	459 94	466 21	476 67	432 77	432 77	382 59
12	DAP P ₃	740 10	589 57	499 68	505 95	520 58	441 12	407 68	378 42
13	C	420 20	405 57	382 50	370 00	342 70	363 70	307 30	302 40
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	650 19	589 56	455 70	491 30	510 12	432 70	386 70	343 78
CD(0 05)		12 42	11 50	13 43	15 04	14 87	24 39	11 28	10 81
Source									
MTRP		540 08	483 33	475 30	490 58	501 76	411 20	356 81	337 28
MRP		528 94	476 67	448 09	452 20	501 76	418 10	342 80	309 41
SSP		619 79	563 78	464 10	487 12	493 90	411 20	376 30	358 20
DAP		650 20	556 21	457 85	482 94	5 2 40	441 80	422 30	380 50
CD(0 05)		7 01	6 64	7 75	8 68	8 58	14 08	6 51	6 24
Level									
P ₁		526 84	467 04	453 24	448 95	481 37	405 59	349 66	327 18
P ₂		581 73	526 80	444 26	475 10	502 80	424 40	381 03	340 25
P ₃		645 68	566 04	484 51	510 57	519 53	431 72	393 04	371 62
CD(0 05)		6 07	5 75	6 72	7 52	7 44	12 19	5 64	5 41

4.1.2.3 Available P

The contents of available P (kg ha^{-1}) as influenced by treatments at different periods of incubation are presented in Table 11 and Table 12. Available P using Bray 1 ranged from 10.49 (C) to 29.0 kg ha^{-1} (SSP P₃) with mean value of 13.16 kg ha^{-1} while with Mathew's triacid it ranged from 26.12 (C) to 64.54 (SSP P₃) with an average of 45.33 kg ha^{-1} .

The release of available P (Bray) under the influence of different periods of incubation are illustrated in Fig 5 (Bray 1) and Fig 6 (Mathew's extractant). In general there was continuous increase in available P upto the 6th period. The rockphosphate treatments registered higher release of available P at the 6th month where as the water soluble sources at the 4th month of incubation.

The control treatment recorded a maximum value at the 4th period after which there was a decrease. All the treatments were statistically superior to control. The second application of P as in the treatment SSP (P₂+P₂) resulted in a small increase in available P at the 5th period. This was found to be significantly higher than SSP P₂. However at the 6th, 7th and 8th period it was on par with SSP P₂.

The comparative release of available P as recorded by the different P sources at 4th and 8th month of incubation is depicted in the Fig 7. From this it is evident that SSP and DAP were superior to rockphosphates. The source SSP was superior followed by DAP at the 4th month whereas MTRP and MRP were on par. At the 8th month however MTRP, DAP and SSP were on par and superior to MRP. There was significant increase in available P with increase in levels of P.

Table 11 Available P (kg ha⁻¹) as influenced by treatments at different periods of incubation Bray 1 (laterite)

Treatment		Period of incubation months							
No	Notation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	MTRP P ₁	12 85	12 96	14 20	16 66	16 97	17 89	16 35	16 66
2	MTRP P ₂	14 71	15 12	16 06	18 92	19 55	19 75	18 21	18 52
3	MTRP P ₃	17 29	17 60	19 15	21 61	22 84	22 73	20 98	20 36
4	MRP P ₁	12 65	13 88	14 15	15 43	17 89	16 57	15 74	15 50
5	MRP P ₂	15 32	15 32	16 06	18 92	20 87	20 87	16 66	16 03
6	MRP P ₃	16 66	17 38	18 92	22 22	23 26	23 87	19 75	19 55
7	SSP P ₁	15 20	15 74	17 89	21 60	20 22	17 89	17 38	13 88
8	SSP P ₂	17 20	17 60	20 98	25 31	24 11	20 36	18 12	14 15
9	SSP P ₃	18 30	20 65	23 96	29 00	28 63	24 28	20 61	16 06
10	DAP P ₁	13 88	15 51	16 35	22 12	19 73	19 61	13 27	12 26
11	DAP P ₂	16 66	18 38	19 12	23 80	20 73	20 68	15 50	14 62
12	DAP P ₃	18 83	19 52	21 60	26 39	23 28	23 23	17 38	16 36
13	C	10 49	11 42	12 65	14 81	14 40	13 60	12 80	12 20
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	16 97	17 59	20 37	24 69	25 90	19 75	18 82	18 54
CD(0 05)		0 82	1 89	1 00	1 14	1 12	0 97	0 87	1 07
Source									
MTRP		14 95	15 22	16 47	19 06	19 79	20 12	18 51	18 51
MRP		14 87	15 53	16 37	18 85	20 67	20 54	17 38	17 03
SSP		16 90	17 99	20 94	25 30	23 98	19 84	18 70	18 05
DAP		16 45	17 80	19 02	24 10	21 25	21 17	15 38	14 41
CD(0 05)		0 47	1 09	0 57	0 66	0 65	0 56	0 50	0 62
Level									
P ₁		13 64	14 52	15 64	18 95	18 70	17 99	15 68	14 57
P ₂		15 96	16 60	18 05	21 73	21 32	20 41	17 12	15 83
P ₃		17 77	18 78	20 90	24 80	24 50	23 52	19 68	18 08
CD(0 05)		0 41	0 95	0 50	0 57	0 56	0 49	0 44	0 53

Table 12 Available P (kg ha¹) as influenced by treatments at different periods of incubation Mathews triacid extractant (laterite)

Treatment		Period of incubation months							
No	Notation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	MTRP P ₁	33 95	34 87	38 16	42 08	45 07	43 20	41 10	39 80
2	MTRP P ₂	36 42	38 59	45 10	49 47	52 06	51 86	50 95	47 71
3	MTRP P ₃	39 82	41 05	48 42	61 03	56 38	55 27	54 20	51 70
4	MRP P ₁	32 49	35 72	38 42	44 28	46 50	44 10	42 20	39 80
5	MRP P ₂	35 95	37 10	44 97	49 07	53 22	54 72	48 21	44 21
6	MRP P ₃	38 42	40 59	48 65	52 50	55 32	54 10	53 80	49 18
7	SSP P ₁	38 79	41 60	46 97	54 24	51 24	47 03	46 03	40 40
8	SSP P ₂	42 08	45 97	49 44	57 16	55 39	53 70	51 60	46 40
9	SSP P ₃	44 75	46 61	54 11	64 54	60 95	59 29	55 65	53 90
10	DAP P ₁	36 42	38 59	43 11	49 28	47 30	45 13	43 50	39 80
11	DAP P ₂	40 74	42 29	46 06	54 93	53 56	51 80	49 18	46 71
12	DAP P ₃	42 89	45 72	51 45	56 29	55 55	52 24	50 64	48 22
13	C	26 12	29 50	35 47	39 39	38 25	36 94	34 68	32 70
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	41 98	44 20	48 50	56 30	57 16	54 10	52 30	46 40
CD(0 05)		0 93	0 80	1 39	1 46	1 36	1 28	1 87	1 75
Source									
MTRP		36 73	38 17	43 89	47 52	51 17	50 11	48 75	46 40
MRP		35 62	37 80	44 01	48 62	51 68	50 97	48 07	44 39
SSP		41 87	44 73	50 17	58 65	55 86	53 34	51 09	46 23
DAP		40 02	42 20	46 87	53 50	52 13	49 72	47 78	44 91
CD(0 05)		0 53	0 46	0 81	0 85	0 78	0 74	1 08	1 01
Level									
P ₁		35 41	37 69	41 66	47 47	47 53	44 86	43 21	39 95
P ₂		38 79	40 98	46 39	52 65	53 55	53 02	49 98	46 27
P ₃		41 47	43 49	50 65	58 59	57 05	55 23	53 57	50 25
CD(0 05)		0 46	0 40	0 69	0 72	0 67	0 64	0 93	0 87

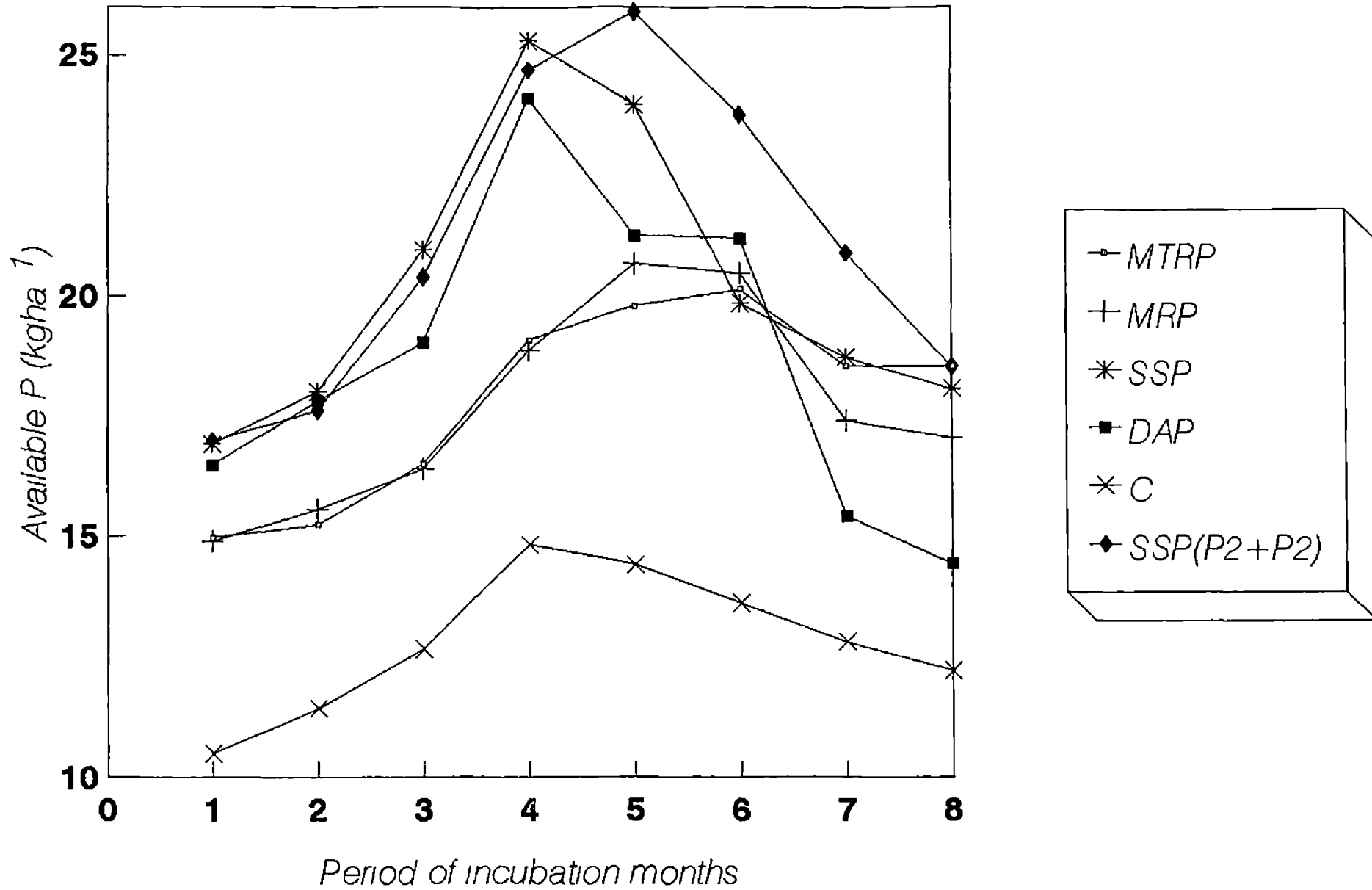
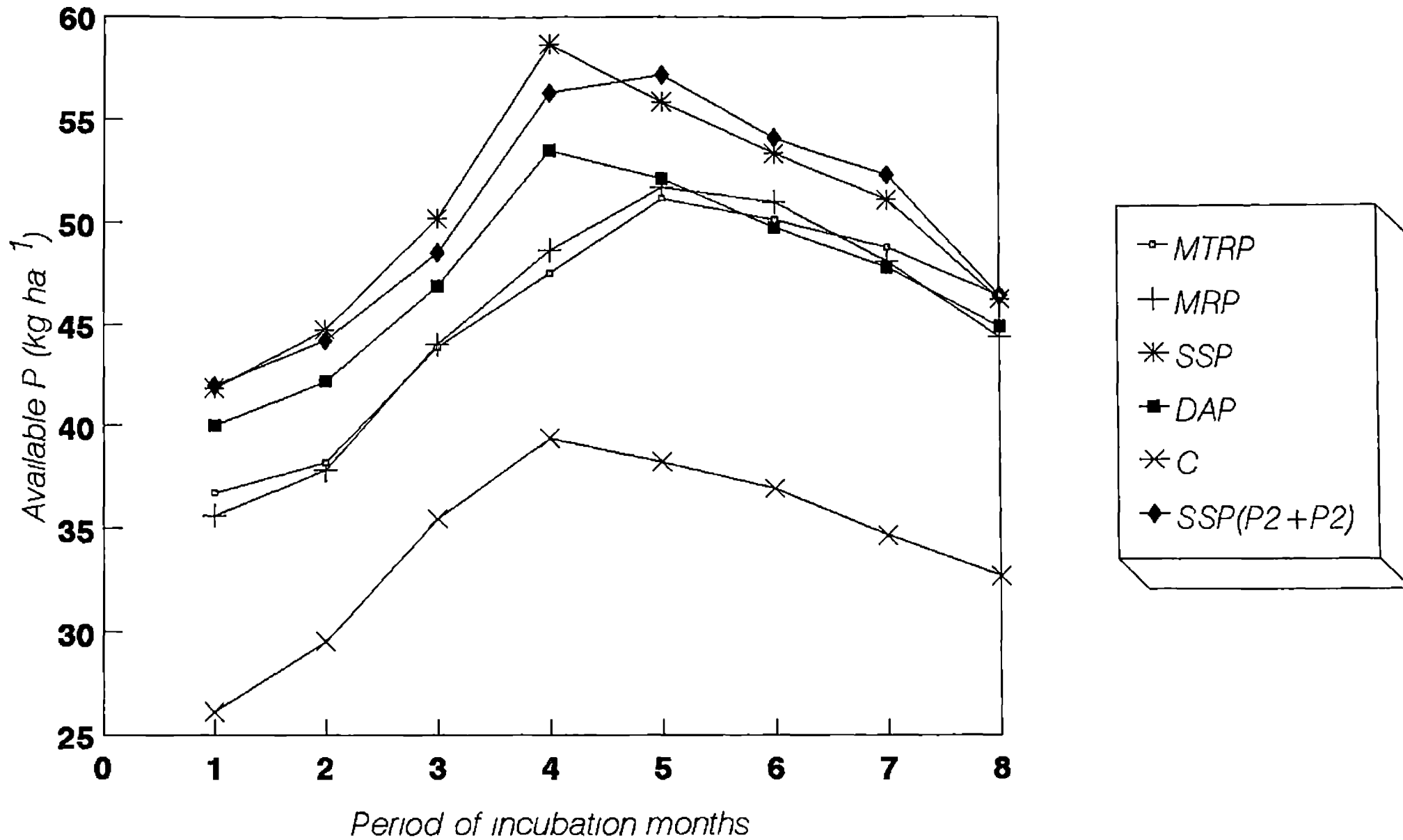
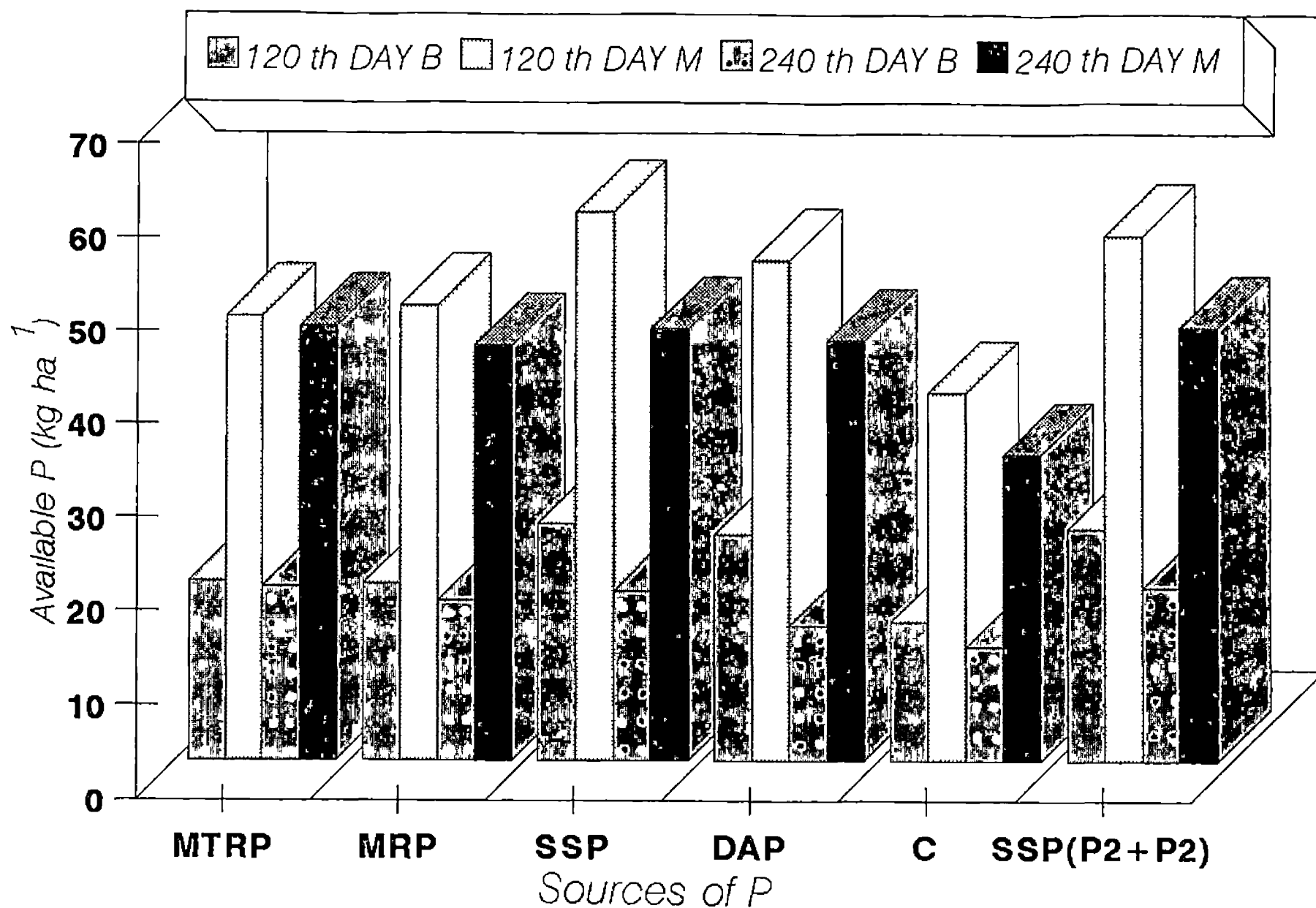


Fig. 5 Available P as influenced by sources of P at different periods of incubation Bray 1



6 Available P as influenced by sources of P at different periods of incubation Mathew's extractant (laterite)



⁷ Available P as influenced by sources of P at 120th & 240th day with Bray 1 & Mathew's extractant (laterite)

Due to the highly oxidised nature of laterite soil the reduction reactions occurring as a result of flooding might have helped in the release of available P (Tandon 1987) The less release of P from rockphosphate as compared to water soluble sources may be due to the higher pH values of laterite soil as compared to Kuttanad alluvium

4.1.2.4 Available K

Available K (kg ha^{-1}) of soil as influenced by different treatments at different periods of incubation are furnished in Table 13 The values of available K ranged from 110.4 kg ha^{-1} (C) to 185.9 kg ha^{-1} (MRP P_1) with a mean of 98.7 kg ha^{-1}

Waterlogging increased the K content and maximum value was recorded at the 2nd and 3rd month of incubation after which there was gradual decrease There was slight increase at the 8th month of incubation

The control treatment recorded a maximum value of 156.8 kg ha^{-1} at the 2nd period after which it decreased to 110.4 kg ha^{-1} at the 8th period For the treatment SSP (P_2+P_2) a decrease in available K at the 5th 6th and 8th month of incubation was noticed

In general MRP released more available K at the initial period of incubation followed by MTRP SSP and DAP But there was no specific trend for this change with advancement of period of incubation Eventhough there was significant difference in available K content between levels of P the increase and decrease was not uniform

Table 13 Available K (kg ha⁻¹) as influenced by treatments at different periods of incubation (laterite)

Treatment		Period of incubation months							
No	Notation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	MTRP P ₁	172.4	178.4	162.0	142.6	161.3	141.1	114.2	132.1
2	MTRP P ₂	171.7	165.7	174.7	123.9	136.6	159.0	118.7	136.6
3	MTRP P ₃	175.4	168.7	163.5	143.3	132.1	117.2	117.5	127.6
4	MRP P ₁	139.6	185.9	153.8	161.2	165.7	119.4	116.4	132.2
5	MRP P ₂	152.3	179.1	181.4	159.0	168.0	129.9	118.7	141.1
6	MRP P ₃	159.0	165.7	159.0	154.5	138.1	136.6	125.4	123.2
7	SSP P ₁	154.5	170.2	156.8	139.6	165.7	133.6	110.4	150.0
8	SSP P ₂	168.0	159.0	156.8	152.3	143.3	141.8	118.7	136.6
9	SSP P ₃	152.9	170.9	167.2	170.2	150.0	132.8	130.6	134.4
10	DAP P ₁	130.9	142.7	148.6	141.2	152.3	120.9	118.7	123.2
11	DAP P ₂	133.6	142.4	172.4	159.7	144.8	114.2	114.2	132.2
12	DAP P ₃	134.5	171.7	161.2	150.0	142.6	135.1	118.7	134.4
13	C	130.6	156.8	152.3	150.8	147.0	120.9	120.9	110.4
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	150.4	174.4	182.1	160.5	144.1	124.6	118.7	116.5
CD(0.05)		3.32	5.31	3.78	4.19	4.37	4.34	3.77	3.86
Source									
MTRP		173.1	170.9	166.7	136.6	143.3	139.4	116.8	132.1
MRP		150.3	176.9	164.7	158.2	157.2	128.6	120.2	132.1
SSP		158.4	166.7	160.2	154.0	153.0	136.1	119.9	140.3
DAP		133.0	152.3	160.7	150.3	146.5	123.4	117.2	129.9
CD(0.05)		3.32	3.07	2.18	2.42	1.47	2.50	2.18	2.23
Level									
P ₁		149.4	169.3	155.3	146.1	161.2	128.7	114.9	134.4
P ₂		156.4	161.5	171.3	148.7	148.2	136.2	117.5	136.6
P ₃		155.4	169.2	162.7	154.5	140.7	130.4	123.0	129.9
CD(0.05)		2.87	2.65	1.88	2.09	2.18	2.17	1.88	1.93

4.1.2.5 Available Ca

Available Ca (kg ha^{-1}) of soil as influenced by treatments at different periods of incubation are provided in Table 14. The values ranged from 521.3 (control) to 1075.2 kg ha^{-1} (MRP P₂ and MRP P₃) with an average value of 798.2 kg ha^{-1} .

Available Ca content increased under continuous submergence. Maximum content was observed at the 3rd month of incubation. There was decrease towards the later periods of incubation.

The control treatment recorded a maximum value of 716.8 kg ha^{-1} at the 1st and 2nd month of incubation and it reduced to 521.3 kg ha^{-1} at the 8th month. For the treatment SSP (P₂+P₂) the application of SSP after 120 days resulted in numerical increase of Ca content as compared to SSP P₂. But the values were not statistically significant.

The treatments of MRP were superior throughout the incubation period. It was found that the values recorded by MTRP and SSP were on par. The source DAP recorded the lowest. There was significant difference between levels of P but the increase was not uniform.

The presence of Ca P in rockphosphate and SSP might have attributed to higher Ca release as compared to DAP. Similar observations were also recorded and discussed for Kuttanad alluvium in section 4.1.1.5.

Table 14 Available Ca (kg ha⁻¹) as influenced by treatments at different periods of incubation (laterite)

Treatment		Period of incubation months							
No	Notation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	MTRP P ₁	806.4	866.1	761.6	716.8	672.0	627.2	612.2	612.2
2	MTRP P ₂	806.4	851.2	716.8	716.8	627.2	627.2	612.2	612.2
3	MTRP P ₃	851.2	881.2	831.2	806.4	746.0	672.0	627.2	627.2
4	MRP P ₁	970.6	985.6	1075.2	940.8	881.1	851.2	806.4	761.6
5	MRP P ₂	955.7	985.6	1075.2	880.9	806.4	761.6	716.8	716.8
6	MRP P ₃	910.9	940.8	970.6	851.2	806.4	791.4	761.6	716.8
7	SSP P ₁	880.9	880.9	761.6	761.6	716.8	672.0	627.2	627.2
8	SSP P ₂	806.4	880.9	806.4	761.6	716.8	672.0	672.0	627.2
9	SSP P ₃	806.4	880.9	716.8	716.8	627.0	612.2	612.2	606.3
10	DAP P ₁	761.6	768.9	716.8	672.0	627.0	612.2	606.3	586.0
11	DAP P ₂	761.6	768.9	716.8	627.2	627.0	612.2	612.2	586.0
12	DAP P ₃	761.6	776.5	716.8	672.0	627.0	612.2	606.3	586.0
13	C	716.8	716.8	672.0	612.2	612.2	606.3	537.6	521.3
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	806.4	880.9	806.4	761.6	761.6	716.8	716.8	672.0
CD(0.05)		58.25	65.18	75.55	72.03	68.33	60.26	73.81	72.03
source									
MTRP		828.8	866.2	769.8	761.6	681.7	649.6	619.7	619.7
MRP		945.7	963.2	1040.3	890.9	831.3	801.4	761.6	739.2
SSP		831.2	880.9	761.6	739.2	671.9	642.1	637.1	616.7
DAP		761.6	772.7	716.8	649.6	627.0	612.2	609.3	586.0
CD(0.05)		44.6	37.63	43.62	41.59	39.45	34.79	42.61	41.59
Level									
P ₁		854.8	875.3	828.8	772.8	724.2	690.6	668.0	646.7
P ₂		832.5	871.6	828.8	746.6	694.3	668.2	653.3	635.5
P ₃		832.5	869.8	808.8	761.6	701.6	672.9	651.8	634.0
CD(0.05)		38.62	32.58	37.76	36.02	34.17	30.14	36.91	36.02

Table 15 Available Mg (kg ha⁻¹) as influenced by treatments at different periods of incubation (laterite) 51

Treatment		Period of incubation months							
No	Notation	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	MTRP P ₁	358 4	421 1	349 4	322 5	358 4	340 4	376 3	403 2
2	MTRP P ₂	376 3	479 5	430 1	188 1	259 8	232 9	259 8	403 2
3	MTRP P ₃	340 4	206 0	241 9	286 7	206 0	127 5	304 6	313 6
4	MRP P ₁	286 7	421 1	358 4	152 3	224 0	268 8	322 5	322 5
5	MRP P ₂	474 8	268 8	304 6	152 3	224 0	259 8	340 5	394 2
6	MRP P ₃	304 6	385 2	367 4	143 4	215 0	250 8	143 4	322 5
7	SSP P ₁	215 0	340 4	268 8	206 1	268 8	277 7	394 2	331 5
8	SSP P ₂	358 4	331 5	304 6	206 1	206 0	188 2	358 4	367 3
9	SSP P ₃	313 6	421 1	331 5	241 9	134 4	295 6	385 3	349 4
10	DAP P ₁	286 7	448 0	322 5	340 5	224 0	206 1	313 6	403 2
11	DAP P ₂	349 4	510 7	304 6	179 2	129 9	232 9	340 5	313 6
12	DAP P ₃	412 2	322 7	385 2	134 4	232 9	188 2	358 4	376 3
13	C	304 6	295 6	349 9	232 9	241 9	232 9	268 8	349 4
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	340 4	349 4	341 9	250 8	224 0	152 5	322 5	340 5
CD(0 05)		44 28	58 78	64 10	54 67	63 09	61 12	60 74	71 02
Source									
MTRP		358 3	368 8	340 4	265 7	274 7	233 6	313 5	373 3
MRP		355 3	358 3	343 4	149 3	221 0	259 8	263 8	346 4
SSP		295 6	364 3	301 6	218 0	253 8	253 8	379 3	349 4
DAP		349 4	427 1	346 5	218 0	209 06	209 1	337 5	364 3
CD(0 05)		25 57	33 94	37 00	31 56	36 42	35 28	35 06	41 0
Level									
P ₁		286 7	407 6	324 7	255 3	268 8	273 2	351 6	365 1
P ₂		389 7	397 6	336 9	181 4	204 9	228 4	324 8	369 5
P ₃		342 7	333 7	331 5	201 6	197 1	215 5	297 9	340 4
CD(0 05)		22 14	29 39	32 05	27 34	31 55	30 56	30 37	35 51

4 1 2 6 Available Mg

Available Mg (kg ha^{-1}) content as influenced by treatments at different periods of incubation are presented in Table 15. The content of available Mg ranged from 127.5 (MTRP P_3) to 510.7 kg ha^{-1} (DAP P_2) with a mean value of 319.1 kg ha^{-1} .

Waterlogging increased the Mg content. There was slight decrease at the 4th period of incubation after which it again increased.

The control treatment registered a maximum value of 349.9 kg ha^{-1} at the 3rd month after which it decreased to 232.9 kg ha^{-1} at the 6th period and again increased to 349.9 kg ha^{-1} at the 8th period. The treatment SSP (P_2+P_2) was found to be on par with SSP P_2 throughout the incubation period.

There was no specific trend among the sources during the different periods of incubation for the release of available Mg in the soil.

The transformation of added P into different P fractions

Kuttanad alluvium

Data pertaining to the contents of Fe-P, Al-P and Ca-P at 120th and 240th day of incubation are given in Table 16. The effect of different treatments on the transformation of different fractions of P was studied for two specific stages of incubation experiment which corresponds to harvest stage of first and second crop. Graphical illustrations are presented in Fig. 8 to 13.

Table 16 Fractions of P (ppm) as influenced by treatments at 120th and 240th day of incubation (Kuttanad alluvium)

	120th day			240th day		
	Fe P	Al P	Ca P	Fe P	Al P	Ca P
MTRP P ₁	316.6	236.6	56.6	332.4	245.6	53.6
MTRP P ₂	326.2	245.6	58.7	341.8	252.3	54.9
MTRP P ₃	334.2	251.2	61.0	346.3	259.0	56.2
MRP P ₁	319.5	236.1	57.7	335.2	245.6	53.7
MRP P ₂	324.4	238.8	59.7	344.0	247.8	56.2
MRP P ₃	329.8	245.6	62.5	349.3	256.8	58.7
SSP P ₁	340.3	256.8	54.9	345.2	265.7	52.6
SSP P ₂	343.3	268.0	57.9	349.1	276.9	54.0
SSP P ₃	344.1	274.7	58.8	358.6	285.9	55.8
DAP P ₁	321.0	261.2	52.3	337.4	268.0	50.8
DAP P ₂	330.4	265.7	54.4	350.8	272.4	52.6
DAP P ₃	341.5	274.7	55.8	355.3	285.9	54.0
C	306.0	216.4	40.3	316.2	232.1	34.1
SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	542.3	268.0	57.9	349.1	276.9	54.0

120th day

The table revealed that Fe P ranged from 306 (C) to 344.1 ppm (SSP P₃) Al P ranged from 216.4 (C) to 274.7 ppm (SSP P₃) and Ca P from 40.3 (C) to 62.5 ppm (MRP P₃). As discussed in Table 1 Fe P was dominant fraction in Kuttanad alluvium soil. On waterlogging as more and more water soluble P released in the soil the fixation of P started to increase in presence of Fe and Al.

The maximum content of Fe P was recorded by SSP P₃ closely followed by DAP P₃. The release from MRP and MTRP were almost same. From this it is clear that P from the water soluble source readily undergoes transformation to Fe P but for the rockphosphates the immediate fixation was found to be comparatively less. Predominance of Fe P on addition of SSP is conceivable in view of the high solubility product of Fe P compared to other fractions. Aluminium phosphate found in the initial stage of incubation might have been converted into stable Fe-P. It is clear that incremental doses of P also resulted in release of Fe P irrespective of the various source of P.

With regard to Al P from a native content of 211.20 ppm it increased to 216.4 ppm in the control treatment due to waterlogging. As compared to other treatments control treatment registered the least content of Al P. Just like Fe-P the treatments SSP P₃ and DAP P₃ dominated in raising the contents of Al P of the soil. This also suggests the probable fixation of readily available P sources into Al P.

Due to the effect of different treatments the value of Ca P increased from 40.3 to 62.5 ppm (MRP P₃). The CO₂ released by microbial activity might be

having a solubilising effect both on the native Ca P and the Ca P in the added phosphate. In contrast to the release of Fe P and Al P the maximum content of Ca P were recorded by the higher levels of MTRP and MRP. The source SSP also followed the rockphosphate in raising the contents of Ca P as it is a Ca rich source. Due to the same reason rockphosphates are steady releasers of Ca P (Appendix II). The source DAP recorded the least content of Ca P as indicated by the values in Table 16.

240th day

The transformation of residual P to various inorganic fractions were compared with control and SSP (P_2+P_2) and the data are presented in Table 16.

Almost the same pattern of release of Fe P was observed at 240th day of incubation. But there was a raise in the content of Fe P released in the soil. Due to waterlogging even in the control treatment Fe P was raised to 326.2 ppm. Maximum content was registered by the treatment SSP P_3 which was closely followed by DAP P_3 . Comparatively lower values were recorded by the rockphosphate sources. In the case of SSP (P_2+P_2) the same trend was noticed as that of SSP P_2 . From this it is clear that residual P content is less for the water soluble sources due to the high fixation and it is more for rockphosphate as there is a slow dissolution rate and less fixation.

The fixation of P into Al P form was found to be maximum for the treatments of SSP P_3 and DAP P_3 which was found to be greater than other interactions and control. The native Al P content as indicated by the control treatment must have undergone transformation due to H_2O logging as the values were raised from

216.4 to 232.1 ppm. As the levels of P increased the conversion to Al-P fraction was also found to be raised from levels P_1 to P_3 . On clear examination it is indicated that values of Al-P were less than that of Fe-P for all the treatment combinations. The increase in fixation of Al-P that was noticed at 120th and 240th day of incubation was comparatively less as that of Fe-P which was also released under the same period. Obviously the H_2O soluble form of P that were initially transformed into Al-P might have been changed to Fe-P due to prolonged periods under water logging.

As compared to other fraction the fixation of P as Ca-P was found to be comparatively less as indicated by the values registered at 240th day of incubation. The decrease in Ca-P has been attributed to the decrease in CO_2 concentration as a result of which some of the ferrous compounds formed earlier undergo changes and oxidation to ferric oxide which absorbed some of the soluble phosphate. Due to the application of Ca containing fertilizers Ca-P was raised from 34.1 (C) to a maximum value of 58.7 (MRP P_3). As indicated in the Appendix II only DAP was devoid of Ca. As the Ca content was higher for MRP the release of Ca-P was also higher. This was followed for other fertilisers such as MTRP and SSP. Just like the control treatment release of Ca-P was reduced from 120th to 240th day of incubation. Even for the control it was reduced from 40.3 ppm to 34.1 ppm indicating the probable transformation of Ca-P fractions to other fractions.

Laterite

The Table 17 represents the various fractions such as Al-P, Fe-P and Ca-P as influenced by the treatments at 120th and 240th days of incubation. Graphical illustration are depicted in Fig 8 to 13.

Table 17 Fractions of P (ppm) as influenced by treatment at 120th and 240th day of incubation (laterite)

	120th day			240th day		
	Fe P	Al P	Ca P	Fe P	Al P	Ca P
MTRP P ₁	316.6	252.3	43.0	321.3	256.8	37.7
MTRP P ₂	327.0	256.8	45.7	329.2	263.5	40.0
MTRP P ₃	334.8	265.7	49.1	341.7	272.5	42.4
MRP P ₁	319.5	261.2	46.3	323.4	263.5	39.2
MRP P ₂	324.4	268.0	49.8	331.3	272.5	42.4
MRP P ₃	331.6	276.9	51.8	338.5	281.4	44.3
SSP P ₁	340.4	281.4	41.8	346.2	290.4	39.3
SSP P ₂	345.0	288.1	45.7	351.1	299.4	41.2
SSP P ₃	348.6	292.6	48.6	356.4	303.8	42.9
DAP P ₁	315.0	285.9	40.1	329.0	292.6	37.1
DAP P ₂	332.7	288.1	43.6	341.9	294.8	40.0
DAP P ₃	341.9	297.1	46.1	346.2	306.6	42.4
C	307.7	236.6	35.4	317.8	252.3	29.5
SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	345.0	288.1	45.7	349.3	296.5	41.2

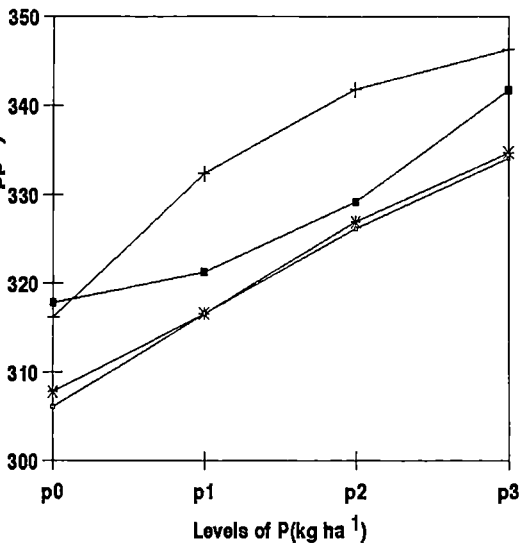
Among the different treatments lowest value of Fe P was recorded by control (307.7 ppm) and maximum by SSP P₃ (348.6 ppm). Again the nature of fixation was same as that of Kuttanad alluvium as there was more fixation of P into Fe P form. Since laterite soil contained more Al and Fe hydroxide under waterlogged condition the change into Fe P and Al P fractions is more visible. Both water soluble and water insoluble forms recorded considerable amount of Fe P at 120th day of incubation.

With regard to Al P the trend in the release was almost same as that of Fe-P at 120th day of incubation but the value were found to be much less. The lowest content was recorded by control (236.6) which was higher than initial content. Among the sources DAP treatment recorded the maximum closely followed by SSP. As the levels of P increased the change into Al P fraction was also found to be raised.

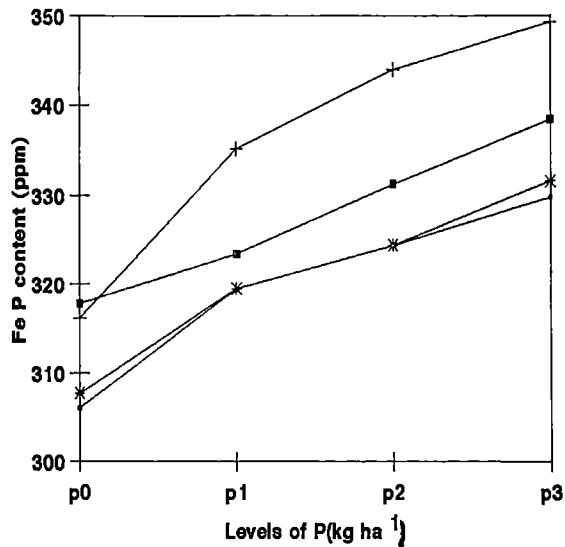
On examination of the values recorded as Ca P at 120th day of incubation the range was indicated from 35.5 ppm in control to a maximum of 51.8 ppm in MRP P₃. In contrast to Fe P and Al P formation there was more Ca P formation for the rockphosphates (MRP and MTRP) as that of water soluble ones (SSP and DAP).

240th day

As observed in Kuttanad alluvium there was increase in Fe P content at 240th day. The continuous waterlogging increased Fe P from 236.6 ppm (120th day) to 252.3 ppm in the case of control. There was also increase in the case of other treatments. Among the treatments maximum content of Ca P was observed in SSP.



MTRP

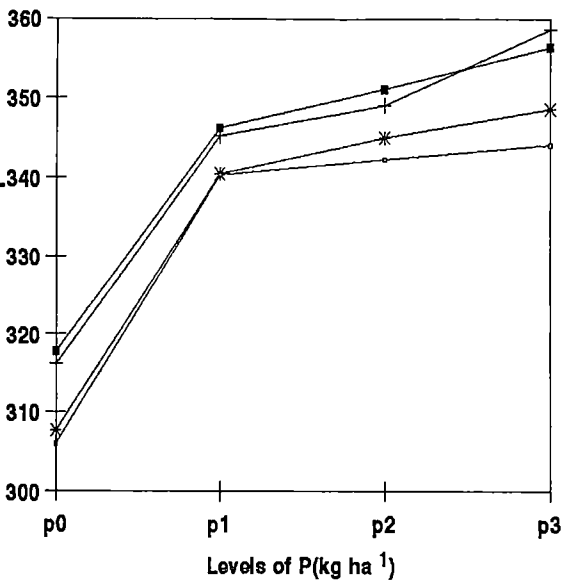


MRP

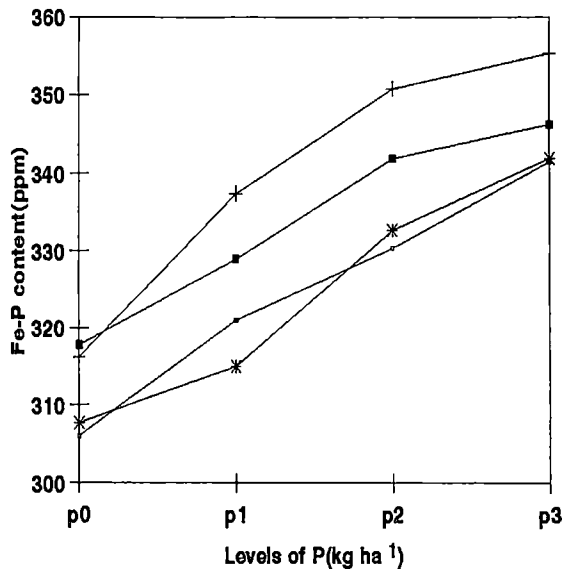
□ 120th day K * 240th day K

+ 120th day L ■ 240th day L

Fig 8 Fractions of Fe-P in Kuttanad alluvium & laterite soil as influenced by levels of P



SSP

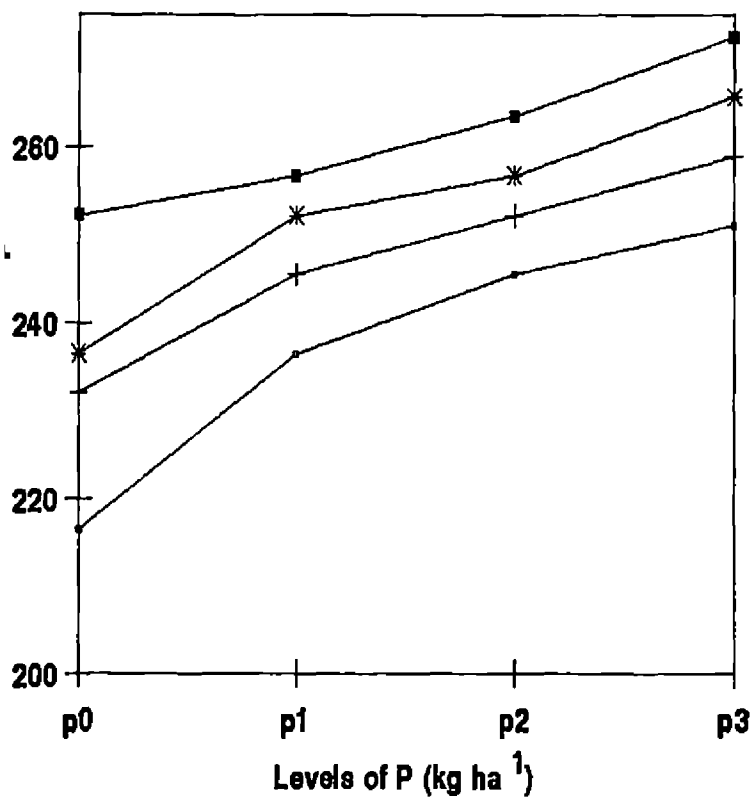


DAP

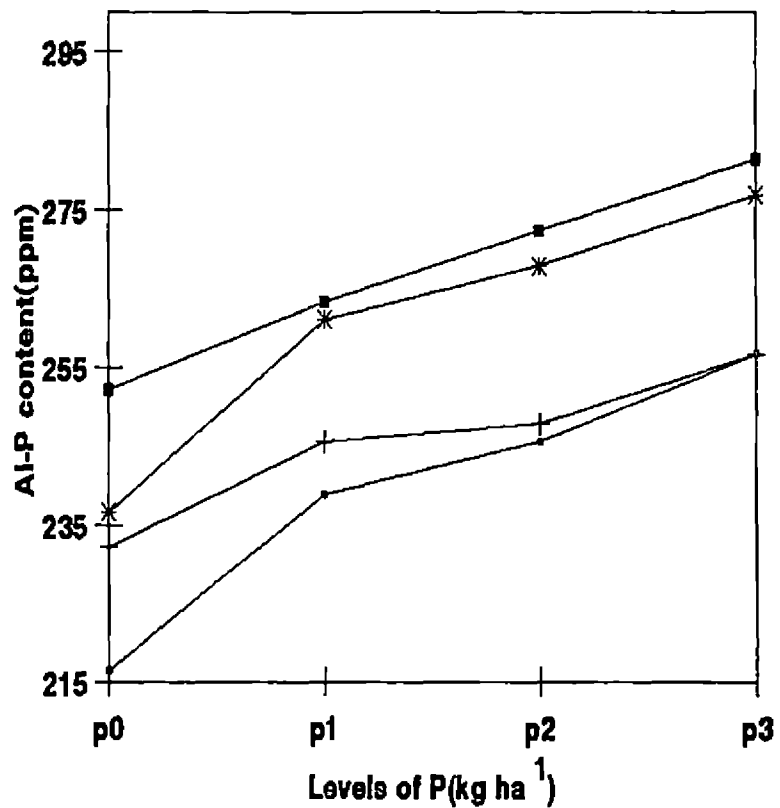
□ 120th day-K * 240th day-K

+ 120th day-L ■ 240th day-L

Fig.9 Fractions of Fe-P in Kuttanad alluvium & laterite soil as influenced by levels of P



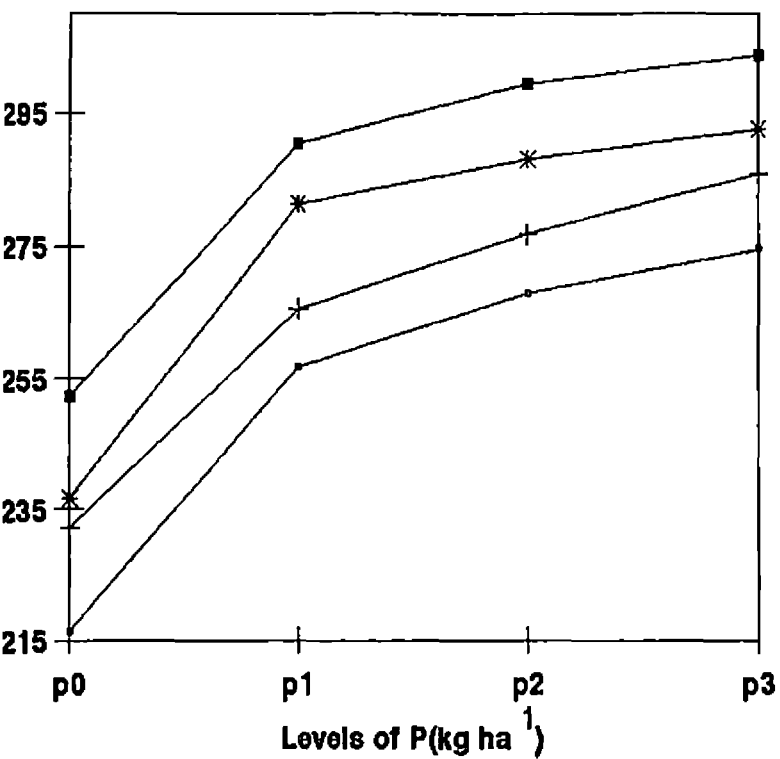
MTRP



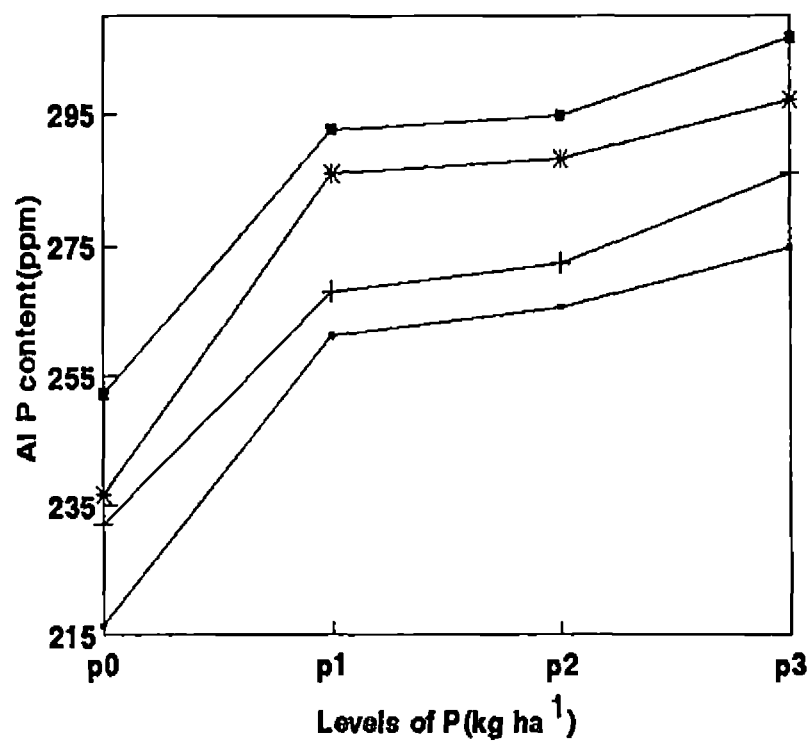
MRP

□ 120th day-K ✱ 240th day-K
 + 120th day-L ■ 240th day-L

Fig.10 Fractions of Al-P in Kuttanad alluvium & laterite soil as influenced by levels of P



SSP

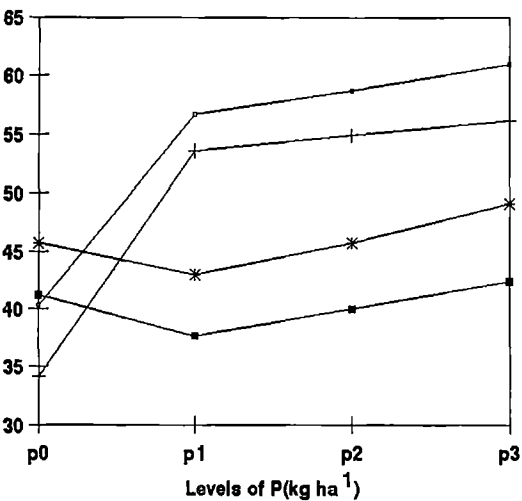


DAP

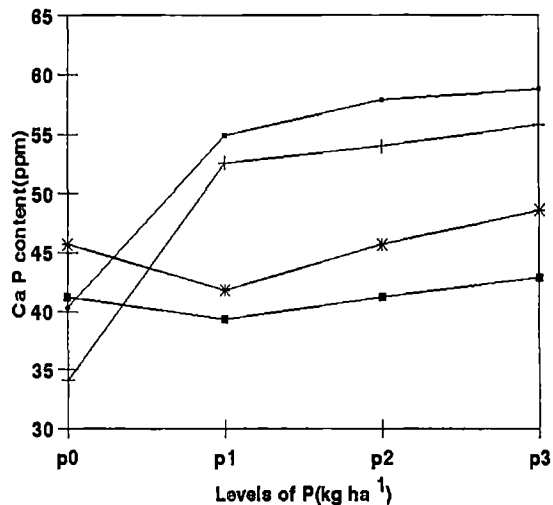
□ 120th day-K * 240th day-K

+ 120th day-L ■ 240th day-L

Fig.11 Fractions of Al-P in Kuttanad alluvium & laterite soil as influenced by levels of P



MTRP

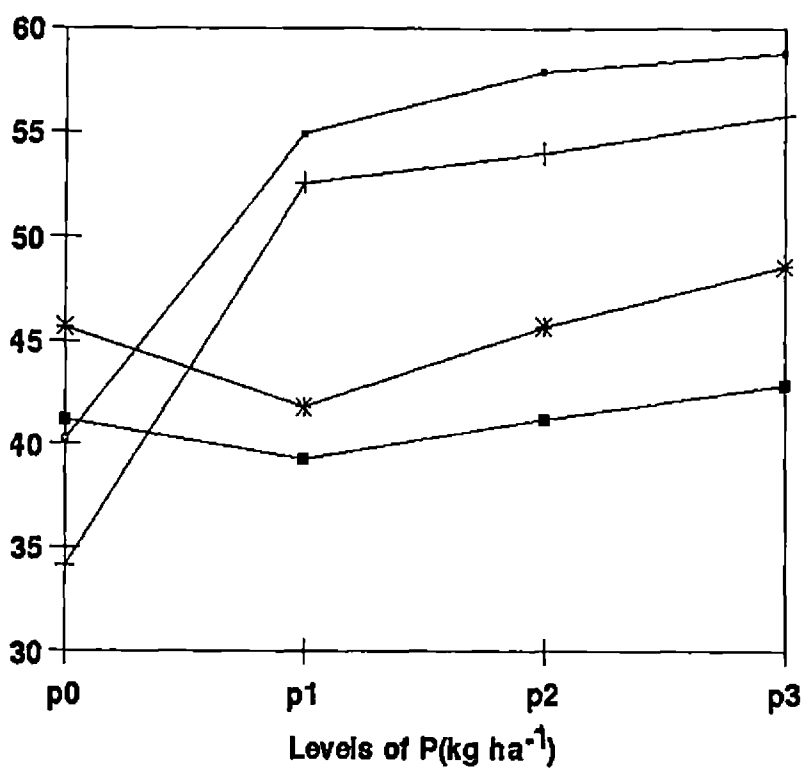


MRP

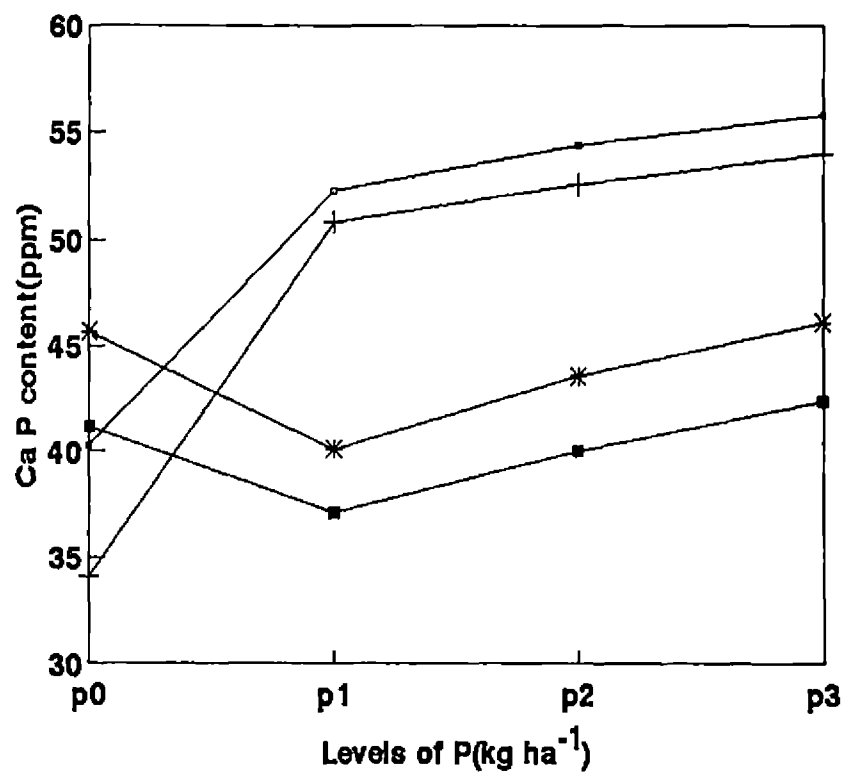
□ 120th day-K ✱ 240th day-K

+ 120th day-L ■ 240th day-L

Fig.12 Fractions of Ca-P in Kuttanad alluvium & laterite soil as influenced by levels of P



SSP



DAP

□ 120th day-K * 240th day-K
 + 120th day-L ■ 240th day-L

Fig.13 Fractions of Ca-P in Kuttanad alluvium & laterite soil as influenced by levels of P

P₃ (356.4 ppm) followed by DAP P₃ (346.2 ppm). The rockphosphates recorded the lowest

The control treatment recorded the lowest value of 252.3 ppm while DAP P₃ registered the maximum (306.6 ppm). Again the rockphosphates recorded lower content of Al P as compared to water soluble sources. The Ca P content was higher for rockphosphates followed by SSP treatments. The interactions of DAP recorded the lowest. The high Ca content in the sources of MTRP, MRP and SSP may be the reason attribute for the increase. The highest value was observed in MRP P₃ (44.3 ppm).

4.2 Pot culture experiment

4.2.1 Kuttanad alluvium

4.2.1.1 Nutrient release, uptake and leaching loss of N different stages of crop growth

First crop

On perusal of the data presented in Table 18, it was observed that the values of available N ranged from 181.8 to 752.6 kg ha⁻¹, the uptake values ranged from 0.19 to 0.75 g pot⁻¹ and leaching loss varied from 3.27 to 19.60 ppm.

Available N content was found to decrease with crop growth. At all the stages of crop growth, the control treatment recorded the lowest content of available N, which decreased from 309.4 kg ha⁻¹ at maximum tillering to 231.9 kg ha⁻¹ at panicle initiation and at harvest, the value was found to be 181.8 kg ha⁻¹. Among the other treatments, DAP P₃ (752.6 kg ha⁻¹) recorded significantly higher content of available N at maximum tillering stage, followed by DAP P₂ (746.3 kg ha⁻¹). The same trend was observable at panicle initiation and harvest stages. The NH₄ N

Table 18 Nutrient release uptake and leaching loss of N in the first crop of rice as influenced by treatments (Kuttanad alluvium) 60

Treatment No	Notation	Maximum tillering			Panicle initiation			Harvest		
		Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm
1	HTRP P ₁	568.6	0.28	11.20	403.4	0.34	8.87	278.9	0.49	4.20
2	HTRP P ₂	572.8	0.30	11.20	420.4	0.39	7.00	288.6	0.56	5.13
3	HTRP P ₃	589.5	0.32	12.60	426.4	0.45	7.93	307.3	0.60	5.13
4	MRP P ₁	570.7	0.28	11.20	415.7	0.37	9.80	272.5	0.49	3.27
5	MRP P ₂	581.2	0.30	11.67	422.3	0.42	11.20	288.6	0.59	4.67
6	MRP P ₃	593.6	0.35	14.00	436.9	0.48	10.07	295.3	0.62	5.60
7	SSP P ₁	583.2	0.30	12.60	411.8	0.42	9.80	275.9	0.55	3.73
8	SSP P ₂	576.9	0.35	14.00	426.4	0.48	11.20	298.9	0.59	6.07
9	SSP P ₃	589.5	0.39	16.53	432.7	0.50	12.60	307.3	0.65	6.07
10	DAP P ₁	730.8	0.34	8.87	533.1	0.54	7.00	295.0	0.61	3.73
11	DAP P ₂	746.3	0.39	12.60	564.4	0.58	10.73	422.3	0.68	5.13
12	DAP P ₃	752.6	0.41	19.60	589.5	0.60	13.07	445.3	0.75	6.03
13	C	309.4	0.19	9.33	231.9	0.25	7.47	181.8	0.40	6.0
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	572.8	0.33	12.4	422.3	0.48	11.60	288.6	0.60	6.0
CD(0.05)		15.21		4.73	17.68		3.94	19.7		2.01
Source										
HTRP		576.9	0.30	11.66	416.7	0.39	7.93	291.6	0.55	4.82
MRP		581.8	0.31	12.29	424.9	0.42	10.36	285.4	0.57	4.51
SSP		583.2	0.35	14.31	423.6	0.46	11.20	294.0	0.59	5.29
DAP		743.2	0.38	13.69	562.3	0.57	10.26	387.5	0.68	4.96
CD(0.05)		11.27		2.73	8.18		2.27	7.67		1.16
Level										
P ₁		613.3	0.30	10.96	441.0	0.42	8.86	280.6	0.54	3.73
P ₂		619.3	0.33	12.36	458.3	0.47	10.03	219.0	0.61	5.25
P ₃		631.3	0.36	15.63	471.4	0.51	10.91	338.8	0.66	5.70
CD(0.05)		7.60		2.36	8.88		1.97	9.34		1.00

present in the fertiliser (Appendix II) might have been contributed towards the increased contents of available N at all these critical stages of crop growth

Regarding the uptake of N the control treatment registered the lowest content as there was not much increase in dry matter content. The higher levels of DAP were superior in uptake at all the three stages of crop growth. The values were 0.41, 0.60 and 0.75 g pot⁻¹ at maximum tillering, panicle initiation and harvest stages. In general, the uptake value increased with crop growth.

The leaching loss of N was found to be maximum for DAP P₃ followed by SSP P₃ at maximum tillering stage while at panicle initiation and harvest stages there was no significant difference in leaching loss. This may be due to the high availability of the native N content of the soil.

The nutrient release and leaching loss of N as influenced by different sources are illustrated in Fig 14. In general, DAP was superior in available N release at the different stages of crop growth. The release from other sources were found to be almost similar. The leaching losses were higher for DAP followed by SSP, MRP and MTRP. It is clear that the difference in availability of N due to different sources also reflected in the uptake and leaching loss of the same element. Compared to P and K, the N loss may be more for paddy soils where N was applied as NH₄ N or urea form. Reduction reactions in the waterlogged soil might have released ferrous and manganese ions which displace ammonium from the exchange complex to the soil solution where it is more subjected to removal. An appreciable loss of ammonium ions by leaching from a submerged soil was detected by Ponnamperuma (1965). Moreover, formation of nitrate in the deeper reductive soil layers subsequently undergo denitrification and loss from the soil.

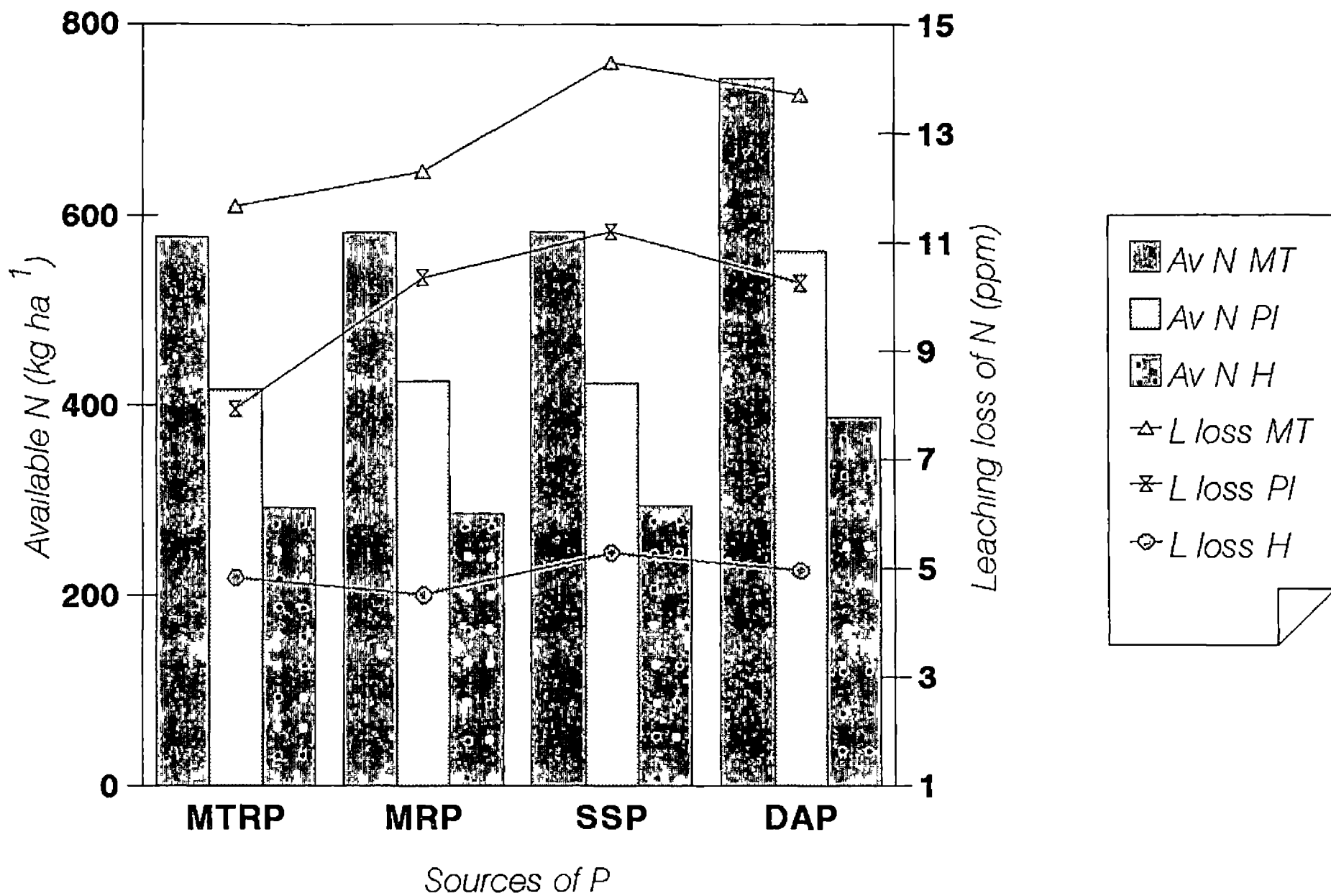


Fig 14 Nutrient release & leaching loss of N as influenced by sources of P at critical stages of

Second crop

The data pertaining to the release of available N in the soil uptake and leaching loss are presented in Table 19. The values of available N ranged from 108.7 to 884.6 kg ha⁻¹, uptake from 0.20 to 0.80 g pot⁻¹ and leaching loss from 1.87 to 11.20 ppm.

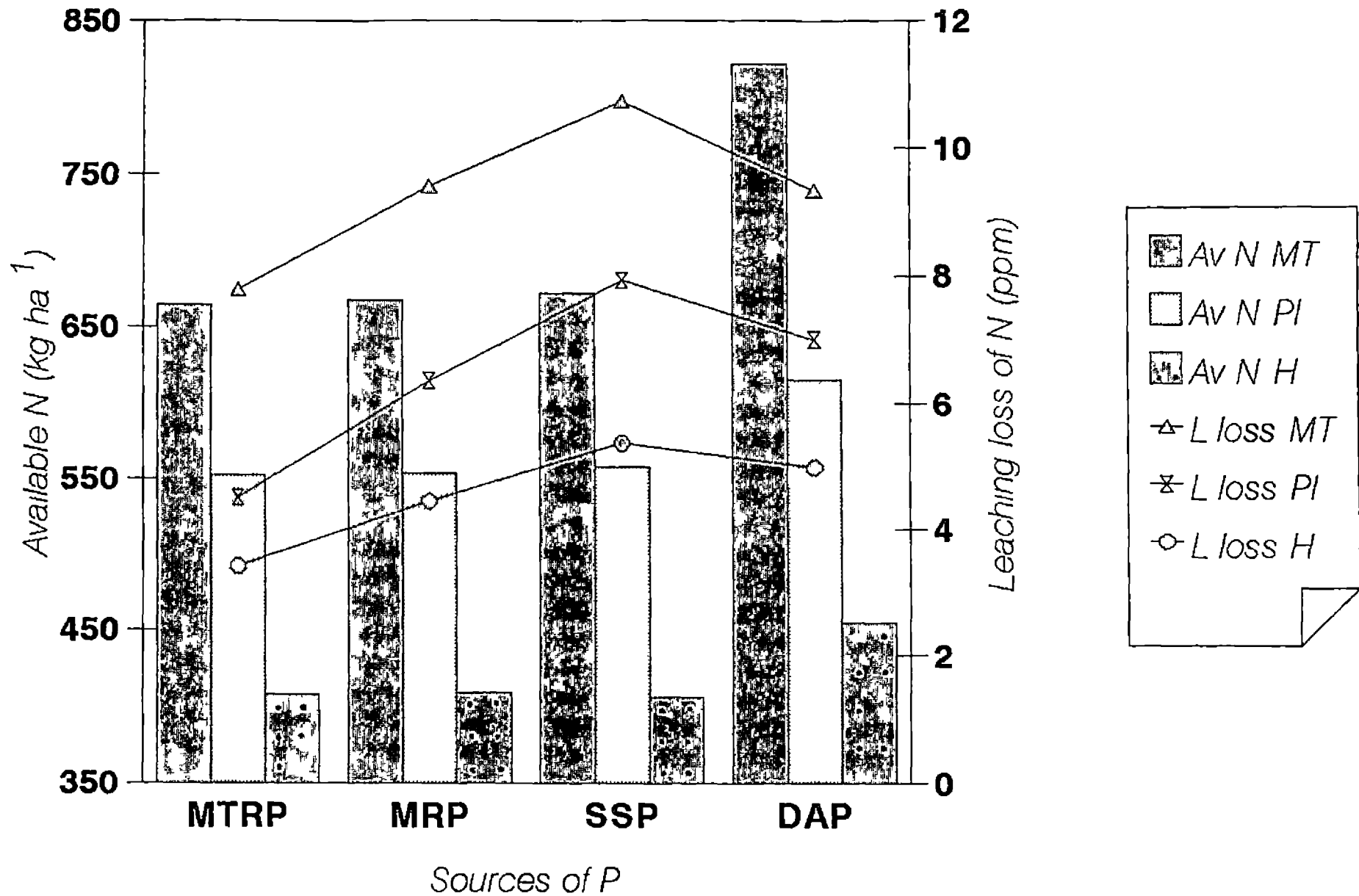
As there was continuous application of N to all the treatments under study, the availability was found to be more pronounced at the second crop stage. The uptake also showed increase with advancement of crop growth. Compared to first crop, the leaching loss of N was at a minimal rate during the second crop period due to the thick mat of roots formed in the pot culture study.

Regarding the available N content of the soil, the control treatment always registered the least amount. It decreased from 320.6 kg ha⁻¹ at maximum tillering to 108.7 kg ha⁻¹ at harvest. The triggering effect of P was necessary for the release of N from native organic matter of the soil. Even for the microbial mineralisation of organic matter, the additive source of P was necessary (Mengel and Kirkby, 1978). As in the case of first crop, the higher levels of DAP were superior in available N release at all the critical stages of crop growth. In SSP (P₂+P₂) there was no significant increase in available N content as compared to other treatments.

In the case of crop uptake of N, the least values were registered by the control treatment which recorded 0.20, 0.31 and 0.41 g pot⁻¹ at maximum tillering, panicle initiation and harvest stages respectively. A decrease in the uptake of N in

Table 19 Nutrient release uptake and leaching of N in the second crop of rice as influenced by treatments (Kuttanad alluvium)

Treatment		Maximum tillering			Panicle initiation			Harvest		
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm
1	MTRP P ₁	647.8	0.28	4.67	533.2	0.43	3.73	386.0	0.60	1.87
2	MTRP P ₂	660.6	0.35	8.87	551.9	0.47	4.67	411.8	0.75	3.73
3	MTRP P ₃	685.7	0.40	9.80	572.8	0.52	5.13	426.4	0.79	4.67
4	MRP P ₁	646.0	0.28	8.87	533.2	0.43	4.67	384.6	0.60	3.73
5	MRP -P ₂	664.0	0.36	8.87	547.7	0.49	6.47	409.7	0.75	4.67
6	MRP P ₃	693.5	0.39	10.73	581.2	0.50	7.93	432.7	0.79	4.93
7	SSP P ₁	656.4	0.28	9.80	541.5	0.45	7.47	395.2	0.60	5.13
8	SSP P ₂	673.2	0.36	11.20	556.8	0.47	7.93	405.5	0.73	5.13
9	SSP P ₃	686.8	0.40	11.20	576.9	0.52	8.40	418.0	0.79	5.87
10	DAP P ₁	777.7	0.27	8.87	589.5	0.47	6.07	439.0	0.63	4.67
11	DAP P ₂	802.8	0.37	9.80	610.4	0.52	7.93	451.0	0.75	5.13
12	DAP P ₃	884.6	0.43	9.33	646.0	0.55	7.00	476.6	0.80	5.13
13	C	320.6	0.20	8.87	252.2	0.31	6.77	108.7	0.41	4.8
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	685.7	0.40	9.45	551.9	0.54	7.0	409.7	0.79	4.93
CD(0.05)		19.53		2.19	14.17		1.58	14.96		1.69
Source										
MTRP		664.7	0.34	7.78	552.6	0.47	4.51	408.0	0.71	4.32
MRP		667.8	0.34	9.49	554.0	0.47	6.36	409.0	0.71	4.44
SSP		672.1	0.35	10.73	558.4	0.48	7.93	406.2	0.71	5.38
DAP		821.7	0.36	9.33	615.3	0.51	7.0	455.5	0.73	4.98
CD(0.05)		11.27		1.26	1.26		0.9	8.18		0.97
Level										
P ₁		681.9	0.28	8.05	549.3	0.45	5.48	401.2	0.60	3.85
P ₂		700.2	0.36	9.7	566.7	0.48	6.75	419.5	0.74	4.66
P ₃		737.6	0.41	10.26	594.2	0.52	7.12	438.4	0.79	5.5
CD(0.05)		9.76		1.09	1.08		0.79	7.48		0.84



15 Nutrient release & leaching loss of N as influenced by sources of P at critical stages of second crop of rice Kuttanad alluvium

the absence of added P was also reported by Ramanathan *et al* (1973) Among the treatment combinations DAP P₃ was superior in uptake followed by SSP P₃ and DAP P₂ at all the three stages of crop growth The uptake value of SSP (P₂+P₂) was slightly superior to SSP P₂ The immediate root proliferation by the water soluble sources of P might have enhanced more N uptake

With reference to the leaching loss of N the control treatment recorded the values of 8.87 ppm at tillering 6.77 ppm at panicle initiation and 4.8 ppm at harvest The loss was found to be at the minimum for the interaction MTRP P₁ throughout the cropping period In contrast to this SSP P₂ and SSP P₃ recorded the maximum loss at these critical stages of crop growth

The nutrient release and leaching loss of N as influenced by sources are provided in Fig 15 From this it is evident that DAP was superior while other sources were on par in N release In crop uptake and leaching loss also this trend was noticed

4.2.1.2 Nutrient release uptake and leaching loss of P at different stages of crop growth

First crop

The values with respect to nutrient release uptake and leaching loss of P (Bray 1) are provided in Table 20 and Table 22 Available P content using Bray 1 ranged from 7.27 to 26.96 kg ha⁻¹ while for Mathew's triacid it ranged from 10.93 to 49.30 kg ha⁻¹ the uptake varied from 0.003 to 0.138 g pot⁻¹ and the leaching loss from 0.03 to 0.16 ppm

Table 20 Nutrient release uptake and leaching loss of P in the first crop of rice as influenced by treatments Bray 1 (Kuttanad alluvium)

Treatment		Maximum tillering			Panicle initiation			Harvest		
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm
1	MTRP P ₁	13 16	0 005	0 12	11 14	0 008	0 09	9 99	0 072	0 06
2	MTRP P ₂	15 54	0 006	0 13	13 69	0 009	0 10	11 42	0 082	0 07
3	MTRP P ₃	17 13	0 009	0 14	15 97	0 011	0 10	12 32	0 109	0 07
4	MRP P ₁	18 39	0 007	0 09	11 58	0 007	0 07	6 02	0 074	0 04
5	MRP P ₂	18 70	0 007	0 10	12 76	0 009	0 10	11 08	0 093	0 07
6	MRP P ₃	19 46	0 008	0 13	13 50	0 011	0 10	12 32	0 097	0 07
7	SSP P ₁	24 15	0 010	0 12	14 69	0 011	0 06	12 47	0 132	0 06
8	SSP P ₂	25 33	0 012	0 13	14 58	0 013	0 10	13 95	0 137	0 08
9	SSP P ₃	26 96	0 017	0 16	16 42	0 019	0 22	14 98	0 139	0 16
10	DAP P ₁	20 18	0 007	0 8	13 84	0 006	0 08	10 96	0 08	0 05
11	DAP P ₂	21 36	0 010	0 11	14 04	0 008	0 09	12 96	0 108	0 06
12	DAP P ₃	22 56	0 012	0 13	14 20	0 011	0 15	14 24	0 113	0 07
13	C	11 57	0 003	0 08	9 30	0 005	0 05	7 27	0 064	0 03
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	25 52	0 009	0 13	14 20	0 015	0 12	13 16	0 126	0 08
CD(0 05)		0 27		0 11	0 57		0 13	0 35		5 0
Source										
MTRP		15 27	0 007	0 13	13 60	0 009	0 097	11 24	0 09	0 07
MRP		18 85	0 007	0 11	12 61	0 009	0 09	9 81	0 09	0 06
SSP		25 48	0 013	0 14	15 23	0 014	0 13	13 8	0 14	0 10
DAP		21 70	0 010	0 11	14 03	0 008	0 11	12 72	0 10	0 06
CD(0 05)		0 32		0 05	0 29		0 06	1 17		0 02
Level										
P ₁		18 97	0 007	0 10	12 81	0 008	0 07	9 86	0 08	0 05
P ₂		20 23	0 008	0 11	13 76	0 009	0 09	13 25	0 10	0 07
P ₃		21 52	0 011	0 14	15 02	0 013	0 14	13 46	0 11	0 09
CD(0 05)		0 27		0 05	0 29		0 06	1 17		0 02

Table 22 Nutrient release uptake and leaching loss of P in the first crop of rice as influenced by treatments Mathew s extractant (Kuttanad alluvium)

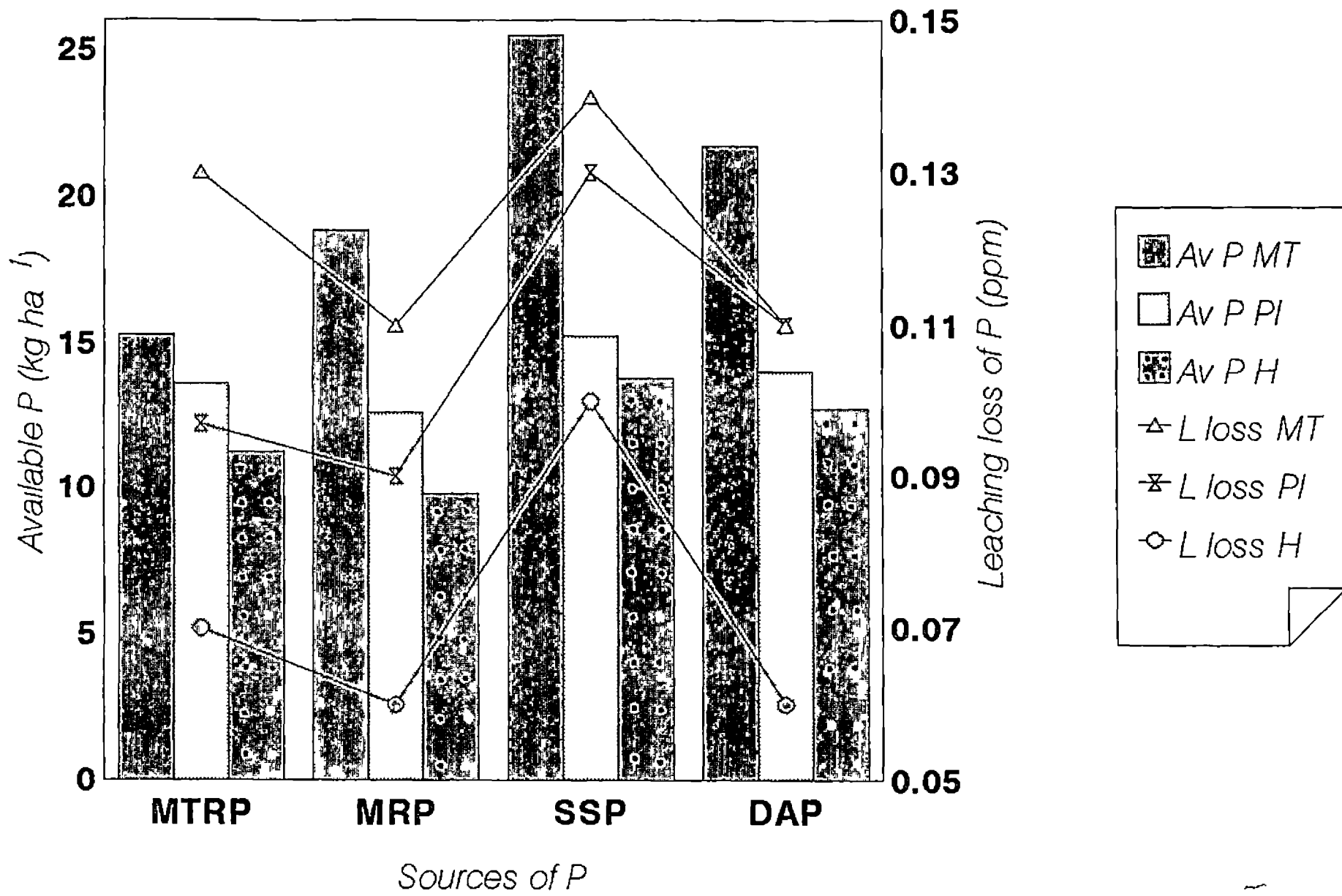
Treatment		Maximum tillering			Panicle initiation			Harvest		
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm
1	MTRP P ₁	30.28	0.005	0.12	27.80	0.008	0.09	25.37	0.072	0.06
2	MTRP P ₂	31.36	0.006	0.13	28.31	0.009	0.10	26.74	0.084	0.07
3	MTRP P ₃	32.63	0.009	0.14	29.50	0.011	0.10	27.30	0.109	0.07
4	MRP P ₁	31.48	0.007	0.9	30.30	0.007	0.07	26.12	0.074	0.04
5	MRP P ₂	32.48	0.007	0.10	27.60	0.009	0.10	25.26	0.093	0.07
6	MRP P ₃	34.14	0.008	0.13	31.80	0.011	0.10	25.32	0.097	0.07
7	SSP -P ₁	48.87	0.010	0.12	41.78	0.011	0.06	28.67	0.132	0.06
8	SSP P ₂	52.5	0.012	0.13	43.50	0.013	0.10	29.55	0.137	0.08
9	SSP P ₃	57.14	0.017	0.16	48.20	0.019	0.22	31.39	0.139	0.16
10	DAP P ₁	47.86	0.007	0.08	42.74	0.006	0.08	27.57	0.08	0.05
11	DAP P ₂	50.75	0.010	0.11	45.00	0.008	0.09	25.05	0.113	0.06
12	DAP P ₃	54.09	0.012	0.13	49.30	0.011	0.15	24.52	0.108	0.07
13	C	16.55	0.083	0.08	13.10	0.005	0.05	10.93	0.064	0.03
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	49.66	0.010	0.13	44.90	0.005	0.12	25.05	0.082	0.08
CD(0.05)		3.60		0.11	0.67		0.13	0.57		5.0
Source										
MTRP		31.42	0.006	0.13	28.53	0.009	0.09	26.47	0.111	0.06
MRP		32.70	0.007	0.11	29.90	0.009	0.09	25.56	0.088	0.06
SSP		52.83	0.013	0.14	44.49	0.014	0.13	29.87	0.136	0.10
DAP		50.9	0.009	0.11	45.68	0.008	0.11	25.71	0.100	0.06
CD(0.05)		8.17		0.06	0.39		0.07	0.33		0.02
Level										
P ₁		39.62	0.007	0.10	35.65	0.008	0.07	26.93	0.08	0.05
P ₂		41.77	0.008	0.11	36.10	0.009	0.09	26.65	0.10	0.07
P ₃		44.50	0.011	0.14	39.70	0.013	0.14	27.13	0.11	0.09
CD(0.05)		7.08		0.05			0.06			0.02

The control treatment registered 11.57 kg ha^{-1} as available P content of the native soil which was the lowest among the different treatments. It is clear that available contents of P reduced in the soil as the rate of uptake increased which is evident from the decrease to 9.30 kg ha^{-1} at panicle initiation and 7.27 kg ha^{-1} at harvest stages for the control. The highest P release was recorded by the treatment SSP P₃. In the case of SSP (P₂+P₂) the P release was on par with SSP P₂.

The control treatment recorded the lowest uptake value of as $P 0.003$, 0.005 and $0.0064 \text{ g pot}^{-1}$ at maximum tillering, panicle initiation and harvest stages respectively. As in the case of available P release the other treatment combinations registered higher P uptake values. The uptake of P by the treatment SSP (P₂+P₂) was same as that of SSP P₂ at all the critical stages of crop growth. The treatments SSP P₂ and SSP P₃ were superior to the other treatments in all the stages of crop growth. In general uptake was higher for SSP and DAP as compared to other sources.

The control treatment recorded the lowest leaching loss. In general the leaching loss was found to decrease with crop growth. Maximum leaching loss was recorded by SSP P₃ in all the stages of crop growth. The leaching loss in SSP (P₂+P₂) was found to be similar to that of SSP P₂.

Graphical illustration for available P and leaching losses are provided in Fig 16. It is evident that the P availability in the soil was found to be maximum for the water soluble sources SSP and DAP throughout the crop period. These results are in confirmation with that discussed in section 4.1.1.3. Leaching losses were high for the source SSP as the availability was maximum.



g 16 Nutrient release & leaching of P as influenced by sources of P at critical stages of first crop of rice Kuttanad alluvium

Irrespective of sources of P the increased levels of P application always resulted in an increase in available P content and leaching losses. There was no significant change in leaching loss of P for the incremental levels of P.

Second crop

The data corresponding to nutrient release, uptake and leaching loss of P are presented in Table 21 and Table 23. Available P ranged from 3.26 to 11.38 kg ha⁻¹ (Bray 1) and from 5.3 to 23.4 kg ha⁻¹ (Mathew's triacid) whereas value of P uptake varied from 3.26 to 11.38 g pot⁻¹. Leaching loss of P ranged from 0.02 to 0.12 ppm.

As there was no P application except for the treatment SSP (P₂+P₂) P release was less for the second crop as compared to first crop. This change also reflected in the value of P uptake. Again the availability of P decreased with crop growth while the P uptake was maximum at the harvest stage. As compared to first crop P uptake was high especially for the water insoluble sources which reflects their long term effect of P release.

The lowest available P content was registered by the control treatment which recorded 6.13, 4.40 and 3.26 kg ha⁻¹ at maximum tillering, panicle initiation and harvest stages respectively. The treatments MTRP P₃ and MRP P₃ were on par and significantly superior to other treatments at maximum tillering and panicle initiation stages. While at harvest MTRP P₃ was significantly higher than others. This is in confirmation with the results presented and discussed in section 4.1.1.3. The continuous application of P to the treatment SSP (P₂+P₂) resulted in available higher

Table 21 Nutrient release uptake and leaching loss of P in the second crop of rice as influenced by treatments Bray 1 (Kuttanad alluvium)

Treatment		Maximum tillering			Panicle initiation			Harvest		
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm
1	MTRP P ₁	9.20	0.091	0.03	8.02	0.192	0.03	5.35	0.374	0.03
2	MTRP P ₂	10.18	0.064	0.05	9.20	0.218	0.04	6.22	0.425	0.04
3	MTRP P ₃	11.38	0.103	0.08	10.08	0.253	0.05	7.57	0.467	0.04
4	MRP P ₁	8.96	0.073	0.04	7.35	0.136	0.04	2.97	0.383	0.03
5	MRP P ₂	10.08	0.055	0.05	8.07	0.221	0.05	4.70	0.425	0.03
6	MRP P ₃	11.00	0.068	0.08	9.50	0.234	0.06	6.38	0.391	0.03
7	SSP P ₁	5.04	0.039	0.06	5.94	0.105	0.03	4.25	0.237	0.03
8	SSP P ₂	6.72	0.052	0.08	6.87	0.136	0.06	5.60	0.169	0.05
9	SSP P ₃	8.02	0.065	0.12	8.31	0.192	0.07	6.27	0.228	0.05
10	DAP P ₁	5.48	0.041	0.03	3.76	0.105	0.04	3.22	0.274	0.03
11	DAP P ₂	6.83	0.05	0.05	5.89	0.124	0.05	3.51	0.230	0.04
12	DAP P ₃	7.72	0.063	0.08	6.63	0.124	0.06	4.61	0.200	0.04
13	C	5.13	0.080	0.02	4.40	0.096	0.03	3.26	0.136	0.07
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	6.27	0.063	0.08	4.78	0.192	0.06	5.14	0.228	0.04
CD(0.05)		0.59		5.01	0.78		1.9	0.49		1.9
Source										
MTRP		10.25	0.09	0.05	9.1	0.22	0.04	6.38	0.422	0.04
MRP		10.04	0.07	0.06	8.3	0.19	0.05	4.68	0.399	0.03
SSP		6.59	0.05	0.09	7.0	0.14	0.05	5.37	0.211	0.04
DAP		6.67	0.05	0.05	5.4	0.12	0.05	3.58	0.244	0.04
CD(0.05)		1.7		0.005	0.37		0.009	0.24		0.009
Level										
P ₁		7.17	0.06	0.04	6.26	0.134	0.03	3.94	0.317	0.03
P ₂		8.62	0.05	0.05	7.50	0.174	0.05	5.00	0.312	0.04
P ₃		9.55	0.07	0.09	8.63	0.200	0.06	6.05	0.329	0.04
CD(0.05)		0.28		0.05	0.37		0.009	0.24		0.009

Table 23 Nutrient release uptake and leaching loss of P in the second crop of rice as influenced by treatments Mathew s extractant (Kuttanad alluvium)

Treatment		Maximum tillering			Panicle initiation			Harvest		
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm
1	MTRP P ₁	21.3	0.103	0.03	17.36	0.192	0.03	15.34	0.374	0.03
2	MTRP P ₂	23.3	0.064	0.05	18.65	0.218	0.04	14.53	0.425	0.04
3	MTRP P ₃	23.3	0.091	0.08	19.37	0.253	0.05	15.90	0.467	0.04
4	HRP P ₁	20.9	0.074	0.04	16.55	0.136	0.04	13.31	0.383	0.03
5	HRP P ₂	21.3	0.055	0.05	17.44	0.221	0.05	14.58	0.425	0.03
6	HRP P ₃	23.4	0.068	0.08	18.60	0.234	0.06	15.93	0.390	0.03
7	SSP P ₁	21.3	0.039	0.06	13.34	0.105	0.03	7.86	0.237	0.03
8	SSP P ₂	22.6	0.052	0.08	14.90	0.136	0.06	8.90	0.169	0.05
9	SSP P ₃	20.9	0.065	0.12	15.70	0.192	0.07	10.51	0.228	0.05
10	DAP P ₁	20.5	0.091	0.03	10.57	0.105	0.04	6.95	0.274	0.03
11	DAP P ₂	19.5	0.097	0.05	11.90	0.124	0.05	7.50	0.230	0.04
12	DAP P ₃	18.7	0.093	0.08	13.67	0.124	0.06	9.88	0.230	0.04
13	C	8.64	0.052	0.02	7.21	0.096	0.03	5.30	0.136	0.02
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	23.5	0.063	0.08	12.60	0.192	0.06	8.41	0.228	0.04
CD(0.05)		0.80		5.01	1.64		1.9	1.7		1.9
Source										
MTRP		22.63	0.086	0.05	18.46	0.221	0.04	15.25	0.422	0.035
HRP		21.86	0.065	0.05	17.53	0.197	0.04	14.60	0.399	0.03
SSP		21.60	0.052	0.08	14.64	0.144	0.05	9.09	0.211	0.043
DAP		19.56	0.093	0.05	12.04	0.117	0.05	8.11	0.244	0.035
CD(0.05)		0.46		0.05	2.99		0.011	0.40	0.011	0.01
Level										
P ₁		21.0	0.06	0.04	14.45	0.134	0.03	10.86	0.317	0.03
P ₂		21.67	0.05	0.05	15.72	0.174	0.05	11.37	0.312	0.04
P ₃		21.57	0.07	0.09	16.83	0.200	0.06	13.05	0.329	0.04
CD(0.05)		0.40		0.005	4.32		0.009	0.35		0.009

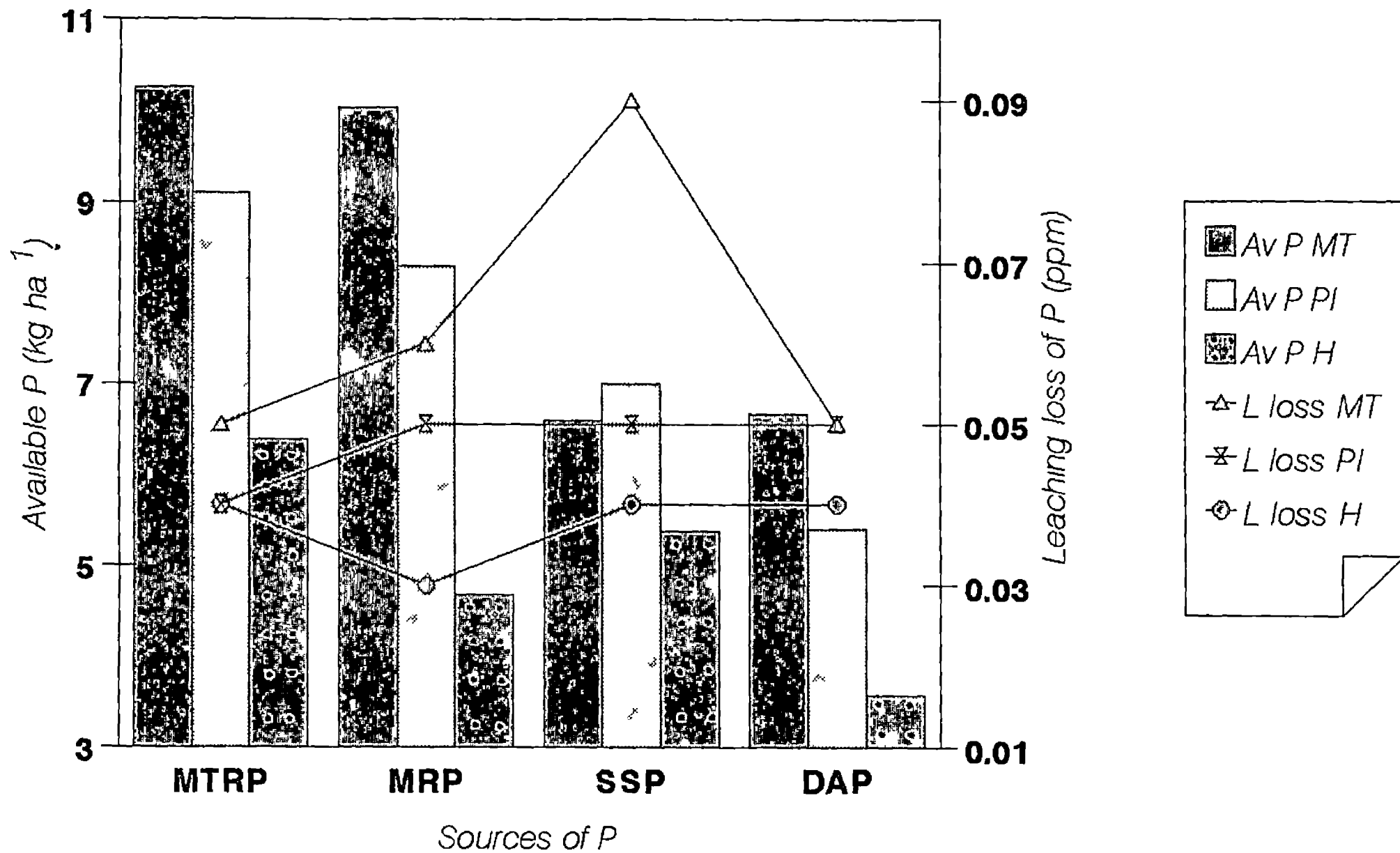


Fig 17 Nutrient release & leaching loss of P as influenced by sources of P at critical stages of second crop of rice Kuttanad alluvium

P content of the soil that was on par with that of SSP P₂ at maximum tillering while at panicle initiation there was significant increase in P content in the former that was on par with MTRP P₁ MRP P₁ MRP P₂ and SSP P₃

All the treatment combinations registered higher uptake as compared to control. The highest P uptake was registered by MTRP P₃ at all the critical stages of crop growth. This was closely followed by MRP P₃. The increased P uptake may be due to the relatively lower rate of fixation of gradually released P from rock phosphate. As a result the slowly released P remained in available form for a longer time for succeeding crop. The P uptake values of SSP (P₂+P₂) was similar to that of SSP P₃. However it was lower than that from rock phosphate. From this it is clear that the continuous P application using a water soluble source may be substituted by the use of water insoluble source for the first crop as the removal was found to be better in the case of water insoluble source.

The values of nutrient release and leaching losses are depicted in Fig 17. Both of the water insoluble sources MTRP and MRP maintained superiority over water soluble sources SSP and DAP in available P release by the soil. There was no significant difference between the sources in leaching loss of P. It was found that Mathew's extractant correlated better with P uptake as compared to Bray 1 extractant (Appendix III).

4 2 1 3 Nutrient release uptake and leaching loss of K
First crop

The values for nutrient release uptake and leaching loss are provided in Table 24. The range was recorded as 102.6 to 539.72 kg ha⁻¹ for available K.

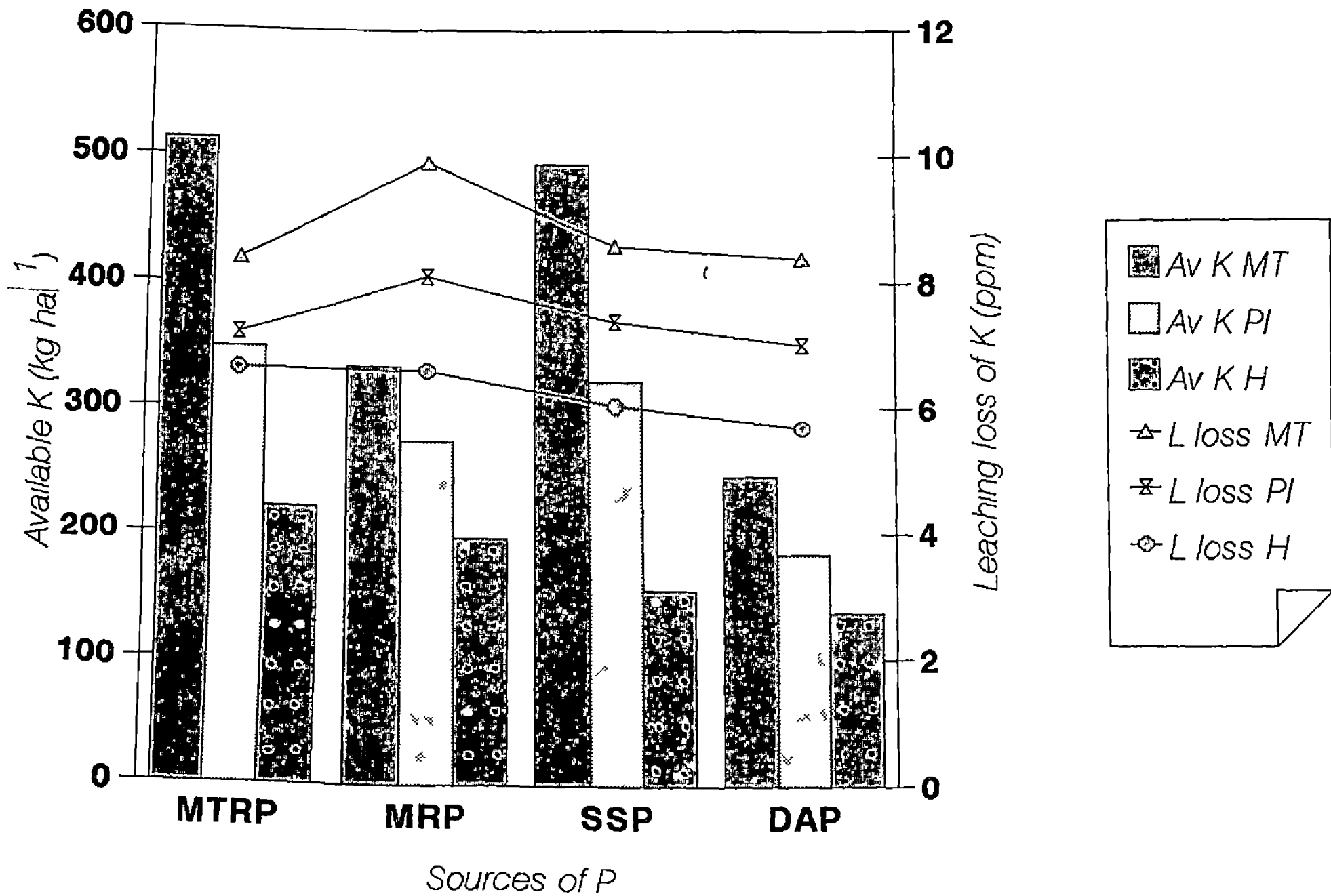
Table 24 Nutrient release uptake and leaching loss of K in the first crop of rice as influenced by treatments (Kuttanad alluvium)

Treatment	No	Notation	Maximum tillering			Panicle initiation			Harvest		
			Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm
	1	MTRP P ₁	466.6	0.089	8.80	252.0	0.125	8.03	149.3	0.323	7.67
	2	MTRP P ₂	513.3	0.095	7.33	364.0	0.054	7.33	233.3	0.373	7.43
	3	MTRP P ₃	560.0	0.103	9.07	429.3	0.153	6.40	280.0	0.370	4.80
	4	MRP P ₁	280.0	0.095	8.63	196.0	0.136	6.80	143.3	0.337	5.67
	5	MRP P ₂	326.6	0.103	10.07	261.3	0.110	8.50	168.0	0.411	6.63
	6	MRP P ₃	392.0	0.118	11.00	364.0	0.162	9.03	280.0	0.354	7.43
	7	SSP P ₁	392.0	0.109	7.83	224.0	0.161	6.67	149.3	0.384	7.27
	8	SSP P ₂	504.0	0.151	9.30	322.0	0.167	7.97	121.3	0.420	6.07
	9	SSP P ₃	588.0	0.151	8.60	420.0	0.181	7.63	196.0	0.489	4.83
	10	DAP P ₁	168.6	0.161	9.83	112.0	0.148	6.83	102.6	0.467	5.03
	11	DAP P ₂	242.5	0.179	10.13	186.6	0.166	8.33	130.6	0.235	7.67
	12	DAP P ₃	326.6	0.155	5.17	252.0	0.166	5.90	177.3	0.563	4.37
	13	C	189.0	0.045	10.73	177.3	0.071	7.63	102.6	0.245	6.59
	14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	401.31	0.144	10.53	280.0	0.217	7.26	168.0	0.401	6.07
		CD(0.05)	36.04		2.26	42.85		3.21	38.98		1.94
Source											
		MTRP	513.3	0.09	8.4	348.4	0.11	7.20	220.8	0.36	6.63
		MRP	332.8	0.11	9.9	273.7	0.14	8.10	197.1	0.37	6.60
		SSP	494.6	0.14	8.6	322.0	0.17	7.40	155.5	0.43	6.05
		DAP	245.9	0.17	8.4	183.6	0.16	7.02	136.8	0.42	5.69
		CD(0.05)	77.9		1.30	24.7		1.85	22.51		1.12
Level											
		P ₁	326.8	0.114	8.77	196.0	0.142	7.08	136.1	0.377	6.41
		P ₂	396.6	0.132	9.20	283.4	0.124	8.03	163.3	0.359	6.95
		P ₃	466.6	0.131	8.46	366.3	0.165	7.24	233.3	0.444	5.33
		CD(0.05)	67.51		1.13	21.43		1.61	19.49		0.97

Uptake of K varied from 0.045 to 0.489 g pot⁻¹ and leaching loss from 3.80 to 11.0 ppm

The control treatment recorded available K content of 189.0 kg ha⁻¹ at maximum tillering which reduced to 177.3 kg ha⁻¹ at panicle initiation and 102.6 kg ha⁻¹ at harvest. All the other treatments registered significantly higher amount of K content as compared to control. Just like in the control a decreasing trend for available K content was observed from tillering to harvest stage. This is due to the continuous removal of K as reflected by the values of K uptake. The availability was found to be maximum for MTRP at P₃ level (560.0 kg ha⁻¹) which was on par with SSP P₃ (588.0). The same trend was followed at panicle initiation but at harvest these treatments were on par with MRP P₃. This indicates that P sources rich in Ca may be able to release more exchangeable as well as available K from the soil. The various treatment combinations of DAP released comparatively lesser quantities of K from the soil. These results may be substantiated from the data provided in Appendix II on the elemental composition of fertilizers.

For the control treatment uptake value at maximum tillering was 0.045 g pot⁻¹ which increased to 0.071 g pot⁻¹ at panicle initiation and to 0.401 g pot⁻¹ at harvest respectively. The control treatment recorded the lowest uptake. The probable reason may be due to the slow diffusion of K from the soil as their uptake is very much dependent on the proximity of rooting surface. It is not surprising therefore that depletion of P from the soil may affect the healthy root system in the upper layers. These findings can be supported from the high uptake of DAP P₂ at maximum tillering, SSP P₂ at panicle initiation and DAP P₃ at harvest. It can be observed that the immediate release of P from water soluble sources resulted in more K uptake. These findings are in line with that of Mathews and Jose (1984).



Release and leaching loss of K as influenced by sources of P at critical stages of

Regarding the leaching loss of K the control treatment recorded 10 53 ppm at maximum tillering which reduced to 7 63 ppm at panicle initiation and 6 59 ppm at harvest There was no significant difference between the various treatments in leaching loss of K at all the three stages of crop growth

The nutrient release and leaching loss of K as influenced by sources are illustrated in Fig 18 This clearly indicates that availability of K was high for MTRP at all the three critical stages The least values were recorded by the source DAP The leaching losses were high in MRP treatment at maximum tillering stage while at harvest stage SSP and DAP were on par and significantly higher than MTRP and MRP There was no significant difference among the sources at panicle initiation stage In general loss of nutrient through leaching decreased with crop growth The basal application of K to the crop might have resulted in the immediate loss of the same from light textured Kuttanad alluvium

The increased level of P in general resulted in more K content in the soil This was due to the triggering mechanism of P in releasing more K content from the soil and so more loss from the soil as in the case of N which was discussed in section 4 2 1 1

Second crop

The results are presented in Table 25 Available K ranged from 42 5 to 195 6 kg ha⁻¹ uptake varied from 0 16 to 0 77 g pot⁻¹ Leaching loss ranged from 3 07 to 10 33 ppm

Table 25 Nutrient release uptake and leaching loss of K in the second crop of rice as influenced by treatments (Kuttanad alluvium)

Treatment		Maximum tillering			Panicle initiation			Harvest		
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake ₁ g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake ₁ g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake ₁ g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm
1	WTRP P ₁	183.6	0.393	7.23	188.1	0.472	6.40	95.5	0.536	6.30
2	WTRP P ₂	182.6	0.376	5.53	183.6	0.513	4.57	88.0	0.572	4.03
3	WTRP P ₃	188.8	0.329	9.27	182.9	0.430	7.50	100.0	0.635	3.30
4	MRP -P ₁	180.7	0.274	9.70	172.4	0.308	7.10	85.1	0.582	3.17
5	MRP P ₂	185.9	0.279	10.33	111.1	0.416	6.20	89.6	0.663	4.00
6	MRP P ₃	195.6	0.323	9.63	174.7	0.345	6.10	86.6	0.587	3.97
7	SSP P ₁	169.5	0.438	9.23	140.3	0.387	5.17	109.7	0.691	4.23
8	SSP P ₂	165.7	0.433	10.20	182.1	0.358	7.50	104.5	0.707	3.97
9	SSP P ₃	182.1	0.448	8.23	175.4	0.386	6.43	94.0	0.589	3.07
10	DAP P ₁	154.5	0.280	6.27	91.8	0.555	6.03	71.6	0.605	3.40
11	DAP P ₂	163.5	0.319	8.97	91.8	0.559	5.50	78.4	0.608	4.23
12	DAP P ₃	164.2	0.375	5.33	98.5	0.624	4.60	85.1	0.595	4.00
13	C	89.6	0.160	9.00	60.4	0.393	5.80	42.5	0.318	4.06
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	176.9	0.319	7.40	193.3	0.483	61.10	99.2	0.618	4.83
CD(0.05)		3.86		2.59	42.60		0.85	5.31		0.33
Source										
WTRP		185.0	0.532	7.34	184.9	0.48	6.2	94.5	0.581	4.54
MRP		187.4	0.292	9.90	152.7	0.36	6.5	87.1	0.610	3.71
SSP		172.4	0.439	9.22	165.9	0.38	6.4	102.7	0.663	3.80
DAP		160.7	0.324	6.86	94.03	0.58	5.4	78.4	0.603	3.90
CD(0.05)		22.3		1.49	24.64		0.49	3.06		0.19
Level										
P ₁		172.07	0.346	8.10	148.1	0.430	6.17	90.4	0.603	4.27
P ₂		174.42	0.351	8.75	142.1	0.461	5.94	90.1	0.637	4.05
P ₃		182.67	0.365	8.11	157.8	0.446	6.15	91.4	0.601	3.58
CD(0.05)		1.93		1.29	21.34		0.42	2.65	-	0.16

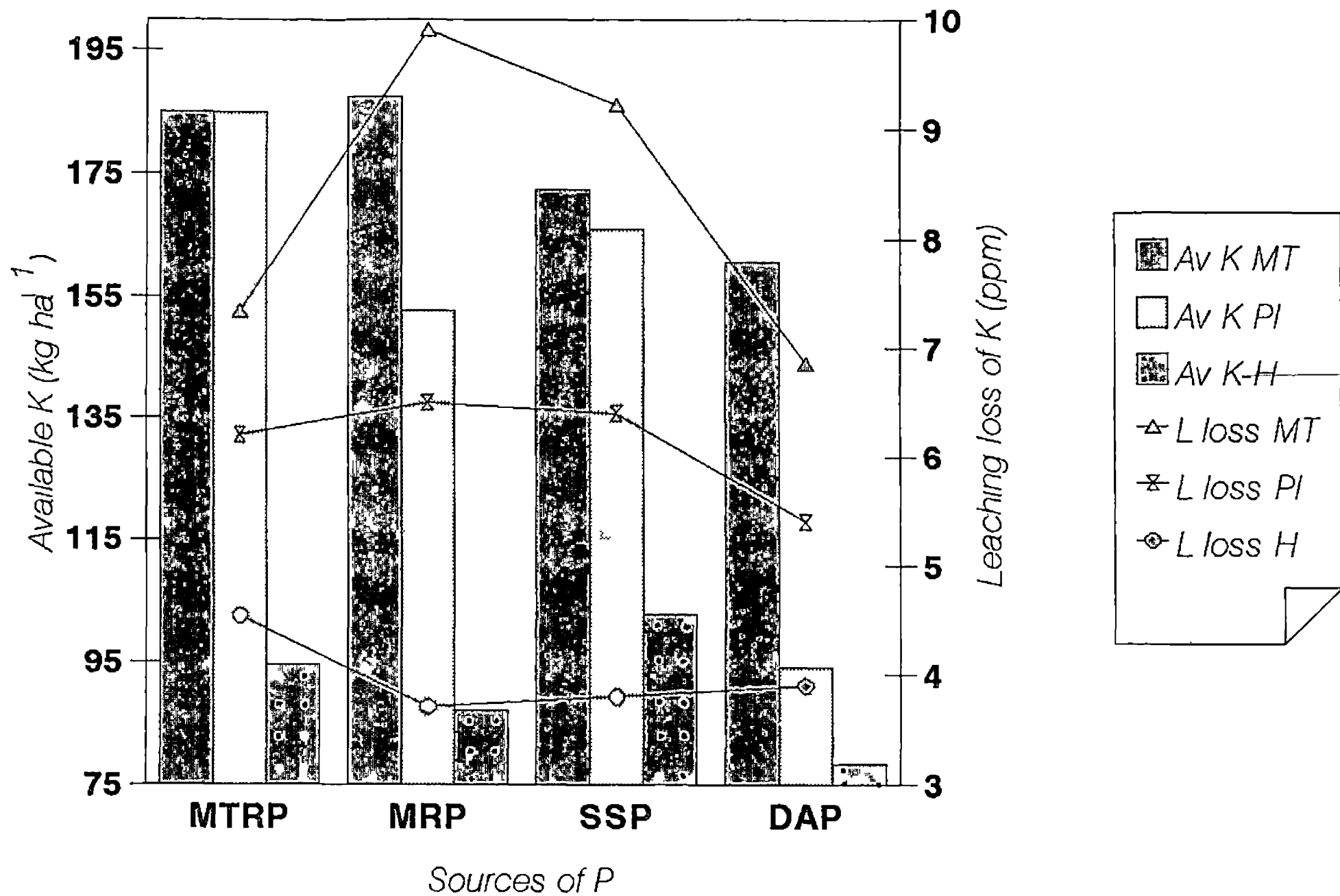


Fig 19 Nutrient release & leaching loss of K as influenced by sources of P at critical stages of second crop of rice-Kuttanad alluvium

As compared to first crop availability index was low for second crop. This may be due to the less retention of K in the soil though there was continuous application of K for the second crop. The uptake of K increased with crop growth while leaching loss was found to decrease with advancement of crop growth as reported for the first crop.

The lowest value of available K in the soil was recorded by the control treatment which reduced from 89.6 to 60.45 kg ha⁻¹ at panicle initiation and to 42.5 kg ha⁻¹ at harvest. As in the case of first crop rockphosphate tended to release more K from the soil at maximum tillering and panicle initiation while at harvest SSP P₁ and SSP P₂ were on par and recorded highest available K content in the soil. This was closely followed by MTRP at P₃ level.

The control treatment registered lowest uptake at all the stages of crop. At maximum tillering stage MTRP was superior while at panicle initiation DAP recorded higher uptake. At harvest stage MRP, SSP and DAP were almost similar in K uptake.

The graph illustrating nutrient release and leaching loss of K are provided in Fig 19. With reference to the influence of different sources of P on availability it is clear that water soluble sources had no remarkable influence on the release pattern as that of rockphosphate. The leaching loss of K from DAP treatments were comparatively low.

4.2.1.4 Nutrient release and uptake of Ca

The data are presented in Table 26. The available Ca values ranged from 701.0 to 2672.9 kg ha⁻¹ while uptake varied from 0.005 to 0.227 g pot⁻¹.

Table 26 Nutrient release and uptake of Ca in the first crop of rice as influenced by treatments (Kuttanad alluvium) 77

Treatment		Maximum tillering		Panicle initiation		Harvest	
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹
1	MTRP P ₁	1732.2	0.015	1805.2	0.05	1478.4	0.124
2	MTRP P ₂	1836.8	0.015	1941.3	0.056	1657.6	0.131
3	MTRP P ₃	1971.2	0.012	2090.5	0.046	1702.4	0.175
4	MRP P ₁	2090.5	0.011	2254.9	0.039	1560.0	0.147
5	MRP P ₂	2180.2	0.013	2434.1	0.086	1657.6	0.227
6	MRP P ₃	2240.0	0.009	2672.9	0.089	1899.2	0.150
7	SSP P ₁	1358.9	0.010	1478.4	0.037	1164.8	0.127
8	SSP P ₂	1462.7	0.007	1657.6	0.033	1358.7	0.116
9	SSP P ₃	1568.0	0.012	1702.4	0.035	1462.7	0.124
10	DAP P ₁	940.8	0.011	866.6	0.024	763.0	0.085
11	DAP P ₂	940.8	0.010	896.0	0.028	716.8	0.081
12	DAP P ₃	970.6	0.015	896.0	0.030	785.0	0.101
13	C	985.6	0.050	896.0	0.13	701.0	0.091
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	1805.2	0.010	971.4	0.032	970.6	0.120
CD (0.05)		162.39		142.61		187.8	
Source							
MTRP		1846.7	0.011	1945.6	0.071	1708.2	0.174
MRP		2170.2	0.009	2453.9	0.035	1328.7	0.122
SSP		1463.2	0.014	1612.8	0.051	1612.8	0.128
DAP		950.7	0.012	886.2	0.027	754.9	0.089
CD (0.05)		136.02		142.61		108.45	
Level							
P ₁		1530.6	0.011	1601.2	0.037	1243.5	0.112
P ₂		1605.1	0.011	1732.2	0.050	1347.6	0.136
P ₃		1687.4	0.010	1840.4	0.050	1462.3	0.137
CD (0.05)		31.19		36.91		93.92	

The available Ca content was found to be decreased with crop growth. The control registered a maximum content at maximum tillering stage 985.6 kg ha^{-1} which decreased to 896.0 kg ha^{-1} at panicle initiation and 701.0 kg ha^{-1} at harvest. Among the treatment combinations maximum Ca content was present in MRP P₃ at all the stages of crop growth. This recorded $2240.0 \text{ kg ha}^{-1}$ at maximum tillering, $2672.9 \text{ kg ha}^{-1}$ at panicle initiation and $1299.2 \text{ kg ha}^{-1}$ at harvest respectively. The source MRP was significantly higher as compared to others at tillering and panicle initiation while at harvest MTRP and SSP were significantly superior.

The control treatment recorded the lowest uptake. The Ca uptake by the crop was found to be gradually increasing with stages of crop growth as in the case of control treatment where it increased from 0.005 g pot^{-1} at maximum tillering to 0.013 g pot^{-1} at panicle initiation and 0.091 g pot^{-1} at harvest. At maximum tiller mg stage almost the same uptake value of 0.01 g pot^{-1} was recorded by the various treatments. At panicle initiation it increased to 0.089 g pot^{-1} and to 0.086 g pot^{-1} by the treatment MRP P₃ and MRP P₂ respectively. At harvest MRP P₃ recorded 0.227 g pot^{-1} followed by MTRP P₃ (0.175 g pot^{-1}).

In general available Ca content was higher for the sources MRP, MTRP and SSP due to the contents of Ca as detailed in Appendix II while DAP registered the lowest. This was followed in uptake also.

Second crop

The data pertaining to nutrient release and uptake of Ca are provided in Table 27. Available Ca ranged from 164.2 (C) to $1806.0 \text{ kg ha}^{-1}$ (MRP P₃) and uptake ranged from 0.014 to 0.187 g pot^{-1} .

Table 27 Nutrient release and uptake of Ca in the second crop of rice as influenced by treatments (Kuttanad alluvium) 79

Treatment		Maximum tillering		Panicle initiation		Harvest	
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹
1	MTRP P ₁	792.0	0.015	1731.5	0.099	806.4	0.109
2	MTRP P ₂	881.6	0.049	1806.0	0.088	1030.4	0.112
3	MTRP P ₃	1056.3	0.025	1866.6	0.125	1254.4	0.112
4	MRP P ₁	1612.8	0.028	1585.2	0.081	896.0	0.091
5	MRP P ₂	1731.5	0.026	1612.4	0.131	970.6	0.131
6	MRP P ₃	1806.0	0.032	1731.5	0.085	1164.8	0.087
7	SSP P ₁	1358.9	0.045	1164.8	0.070	940.8	0.136
8	SSP P ₂	1478.0	0.027	1299.2	0.067	1164.8	0.090
9	SSP P ₃	1612.8	0.026	1478.4	0.068	1284.2	0.108
10	DAP P ₁	698.0	0.045	601.0	0.056	540.0	0.113
11	DAP P ₂	685.0	0.036	610.9	0.063	525.0	0.159
12	DAP P ₃	673.0	0.023	592.6	0.082	560.0	0.187
13	C	672.0	0.014	403.2	0.049	164.2	0.134
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	1731.5	0.022	1612.8	0.062	806.4	0.108
CD (0.05)		162.39		164.42		170.21	
Source							
MTRP		943.3	0.029	1801.3	0.104	1030.4	0.111
MRP		1716.7	0.028	1642.8	0.099	1010.4	0.103
SSP		1483.2	0.032	1314.1	0.068	1129.9	0.111
DAP		685.3	0.034	601.5	0.067	541.6	0.153
CD (0.05)		136.01		137.19		140.53	
Level							
P ₁		1115.4	0.033	1270.3	0.076	795.8	0.112
P ₂		1219.0	0.034	1332.2	0.087	922.7	0.123
P ₃		1287.0	0.026	1417.2	0.090	1065.8	0.123
CD (0.05)		31.19		32.21		35.10	

The trend of results were same as in the case of first crop Available Ca content decreased with crop growth The control treatment recorded 0 014 g pot¹ at maximum tillering which increased to 0 049 g pot¹ at panicle initiation and 0 134 g pot¹ at harvest The interaction MRP P₃ recorded 1731 5 kg ha¹ at maximum tillering which decreased to 1584 2 kg ha¹ at panicle initiation and 1254 4 at harvest In SSP (P₂+P₂) there was numerical increase in Ca content but was not statistically significant

The Ca uptake as compared to that of control ranged from 0 014 to 0 091 g pot¹ The treatment MRP P₃ registered the highest uptake value for Ca at all the three stages (0 049 g pot¹ at maximum tillering 0 125 g pot¹ at panicle initiation and 0 187 g pot¹ at harvest)

4 2 1 5 Nutrient release and uptake of Mg

First crop

The data are presented in Table 28 Available Mg content ranged from 444 0 to 1298 5 kg ha¹ while uptake ranged from 0 01 to 0 351 g pot¹

Available Mg decreased with crop growth The control treatment recorded higher content of available Mg (1218 5 kg ha¹) at maximum tillering which was significantly higher than other treatments except DAP P₃ This may be attributed to the high Mg content in the original soil as indicated in Table 1 The levels of P did not have much influence on Mg availability

With respect to uptake there was increase with advancement of crop growth In general high uptake was noticed in DAP treatments The control treatment registered the lowest uptake

Table 28 Nutrient release and uptake of Mg in the first crop of rice as influenced by treatments (Kuttanad alluvium)

Treatment		Maximum tillering		Panicle initiation		Harvest	
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹
1	MTRP P ₁	1140 0	0 030	833 0	0 040	444 0	0 230
2	MTRP P ₂	1209 0	0 019	789 9	0 037	489 5	0 225
3	MTRP P ₃	1146 0	0 022	791 3	0 024	555 8	0 246
4	MRP P ₁	1173 0	0 018	985 6	0 039	582 4	0 219
5	MRP P ₂	1120 0	0 024	887 0	0 048	555 5	0 192
6	MRP P ₃	1059 2	0 024	789 6	0 029	600 3	0 202
7	SSP P ₁	1012 4	0 018	824 3	0 036	448 0	0 252
8	SSP P ₂	1184 5	0 032	976 6	0 025	563 8	0 286
9	SSP P ₃	1129 3	0 031	869 1	0 045	496 0	0 316
10	DAP P ₁	1080 3	0 032	806 0	0 065	582 4	0 297
11	DAP P ₂	1144 0	0 024	922 8	0 050	600 3	0 286
12	DAP P ₃	1298 6	0 028	763 4	0 058	600 3	0 351
13	C	1218 5	0 010	985 6	0 022	555 5	0 140
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	1194 5	0 035	922 8	0 020	555 5	0 246
CD (0 05)		70 58		53 5		50 66	
Source							
MTRP		1165 0	0 023	804 7	0 033	496 3	0 233
MRP		1116 7	0 022	887 4	0 038	579 4	0 204
SSP		1112 0	0 027	890 0	0 035	502 6	0 284
DAP		1174 2	0 028	830 7	0 057	594 3	0 311
CD (0 05)		70 58		31 5		29 26	
Level							
P ₁		1101 4	0 022	862 2	0 045	514 2	0 249
P ₂		1166 8	0 024	894 0	0 040	552 2	0 247
P ₃		1157 7	0 026	803 3	0 039	563 0	0 278
CD (0 05)		61 12		18 6		25 34	

Second crop

The data pertaining to nutrient release and uptake are provided in Table 29

The available Mg content in second crop was comparatively low as compared to first crop. This may be attributed to the continuous uptake by the crop. The trend of results were same as that of first crop. However, the available Mg content of MTRP was low as compared to other sources.

The uptake in second crop was higher than first crop. This was relatively higher for DAP treatments.

4.2.2 Laterite soil

4.2.2.1 Nutrient release, uptake and leaching loss of nitrogen at different stages of crop growth

First crop

On perusal of the data presented in Table 30, it was found that available N ranged from 169.3 (DAP P₁) to 809.0 kg ha⁻¹ (MTRP P₃) while uptake varied from 0.143 (c) to 0.992 g pot⁻¹ (MRP P₃). Leaching loss of N was considerably high and it ranged from 2.80 to 11.67 ppm.

The control treatment recorded a maximum of 418.1 kg ha⁻¹ as available N which reduced to 267.5 kg ha⁻¹ at panicle initiation and to 188.2 kg ha⁻¹ towards harvest. Maximum content of available N for all treatments was observed at maximum tillering which decreased with crop growth. This is due to the continuous

Table 29 Nutrient release and uptake of Mg in the second crop of rice as influenced by treatments (Kuttanad alluvium)

Treatment		Maximum tillering		Panicle initiation		Harvest	
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹
1	MTRP P ₁	573.4	0.04	412.1	0.191	322.5	0.334
2	MTRP P ₂	501.3	0.064	448.0	0.218	367.3	0.391
3	MTRP P ₃	618.2	0.091	412.1	0.253	322.5	0.367
4	MRP P ₁	609.2	0.073	555.5	0.136	448.0	0.383
5	MRP P ₂	645.1	0.055	582.4	0.221	396.0	0.425
6	MRP P ₃	680.9	0.068	573.4	0.233	421.3	0.390
7	SSP P ₁	600.3	0.039	412.1	0.237	322.5	0.386
8	SSP P ₂	680.9	0.052	512.6	0.168	412.1	0.408
9	SSP P ₃	591.0	0.065	582.4	0.228	367.3	0.412
10	DAP P ₁	618.2	0.091	355.5	0.274	396.0	0.403
11	DAP P ₂	645.1	0.097	573.4	0.230	412.1	0.451
12	DAP P ₃	618.2	0.093	573.4	0.230	423.2	0.473
13	C	645.1	0.052	582.4	0.166	412.1	0.278
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	645.1	0.063	555.5	0.215	396.0	0.364
CD (0.05)		33.6		29.8		15.9	
Source							
MTRP		594.3	0.065	424.0	0.220	337.4	0.364
MRP		546.0	0.065	570.4	0.196	421.7	0.399
SSP		624.0	0.052	502.3	0.211	367.3	0.402
DAP		627.1	0.093	567.4	0.244	410.4	0.442
CD (0.05)		13.2		20.6		18.9	
Level							
P ₁		600.2	0.060	483.8	0.209	372.2	0.376
P ₂		640.6	0.067	529.1	0.209	396.8	0.418
P ₃		642.5	0.079	535.3	0.236	383.5	0.410
CD (0.05)		8.9		17.6		17.2	

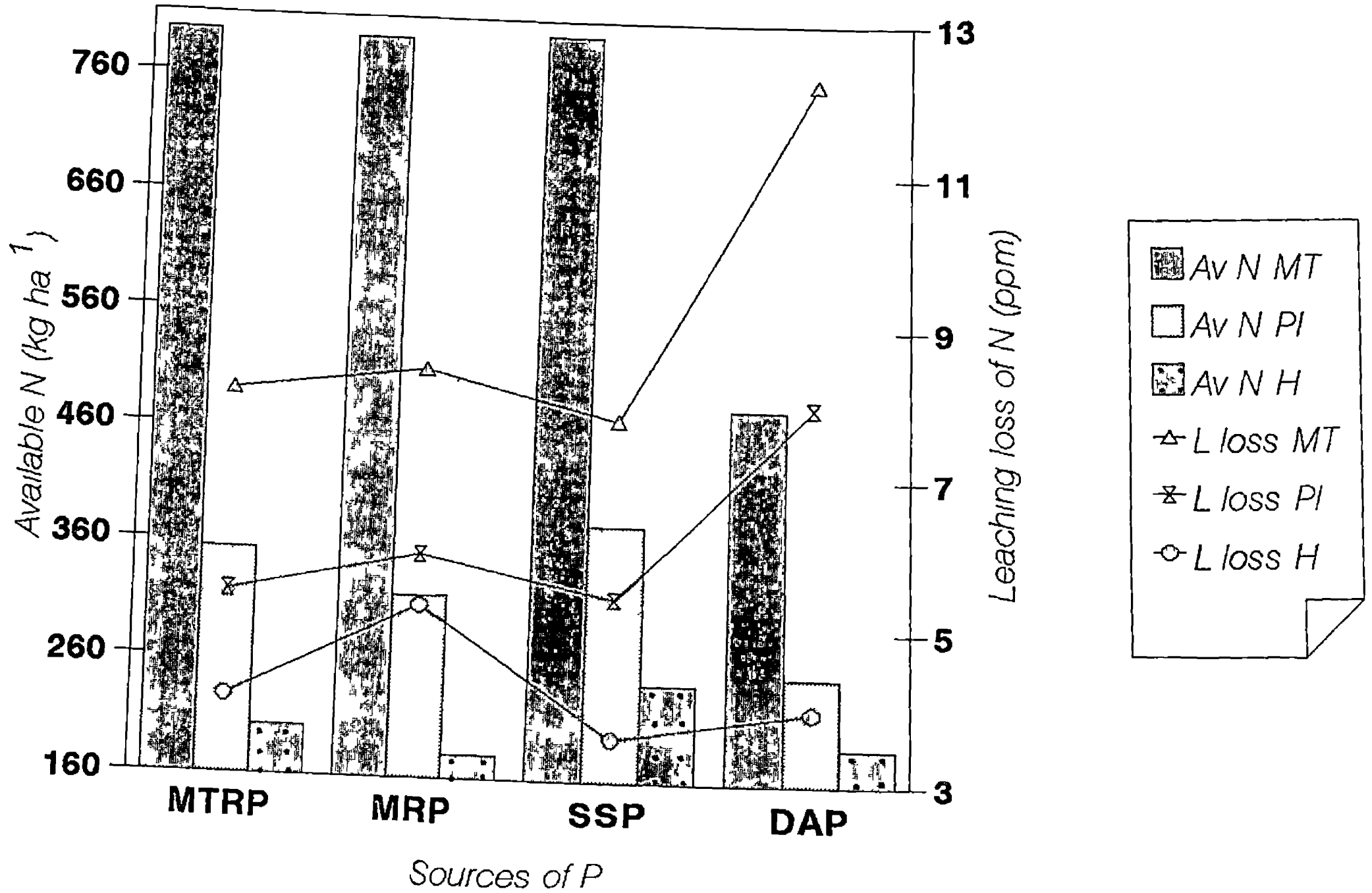
uptake by the crop. Among the treatments MTRP P₂, MTRP P₃, MRP P₃, SSP P₂ and SSP P₃ were on par and significantly superior to other interactions at tillering stage of crop. However, at panicle initiation and harvest stages, the interactions of SSP with different levels were significantly higher in available N release. In general, SSP treatments were found to be the best in available N build up of the soil.

The uptake of N was comparatively higher in laterite soil as compared to Kuttanad alluvium. With reference to uptake, the control treatment registered the lowest value in all the three critical stages of crop growth. Absence of applied P may be the reason for the poor uptake of N. These findings are in line with that of Ramanathan *et al.* (1973). From the table, it is evident that maximum uptake was registered at harvest stage. The higher dry matter production resulted in higher uptake of N by the crop at this stage. Maximum uptake was observed for SSP P₃ and MRP P₃ (0.40 g pot⁻¹) which was closely followed by MTRP P₃ (0.360) and SSP P₂ (0.376) at maximum tillering. The same trend was observed at harvest stage also with MRP P₃ (0.992 g pot⁻¹) and SSP P₃ (0.958 g pot⁻¹). At panicle initiation, MTRP P₃ was superior (0.547 g) which was closely followed by MRP P₃ (0.482 g pot⁻¹). From this, it is evident that higher levels of rockphosphates and superphosphate utilised more N due to the higher utilization of N along with more P. The relatively high uptake of N may be accounted for largely by the comparative ease with which NO₃ is translocated upward in the soil profile. The NO₃ form of nitrogen is completely mobile and within limits moves largely with the soil water.

The leaching loss of N in control treatment decreased from 9.30 ppm at tillering stage to 3.27 ppm at harvest. The same trend was followed in other treatments also. Maximum leaching loss was observed for DAP P₃ and DAP P₂.

Table 30 Nutrient release uptake and leaching loss of N in the first crop of rice as influenced by treatments (laterite) 85

Treatment		Maximum tillering			Panicle initiation			Harvest		
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm
1	HTRP P ₁	781.9	0.242	7.00	344.9	0.368	4.53	296.5	0.482	3.27
2	HTRP P ₂	796.5	0.352	8.34	351.2	0.437	5.20	200.7	0.802	3.73
3	HTRP P ₃	809.0	0.360	8.87	363.7	0.547	6.53	211.1	0.906	5.13
4	HRP P ₁	781.9	0.293	7.00	307.3	0.461	5.13	171.4	0.419	5.13
5	HRP P ₂	792.3	0.352	8.40	313.8	0.440	5.60	181.8	0.906	5.13
6	HRP P ₃	802.8	0.405	9.80	326.3	0.482	7.13	188.2	0.992	5.60
7	SSP P ₁	788.3	0.347	7.47	311.9	0.432	5.13	232.3	0.756	2.80
8	SSP P ₂	796.5	0.376	7.00	376.3	0.437	4.6	244.6	0.874	3.43
9	SSP P ₃	807.0	0.400	8.87	388.8	0.465	6.6	252.9	0.958	4.20
10	DAP P ₁	464.1	0.242	9.80	246.6	0.345	6.53	169.3	0.582	3.13
11	DAP P ₂	489.2	0.385	12.23	248.7	0.428	7.47	201.7	0.910	3.60
12	DAP P ₃	489.2	0.392	14.67	257.1	0.445	8.93	205.4	0.992	5.13
13	C	418.1	0.143	9.3	267.5	0.467	6.07	188.2	0.360	3.27
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	802.8	0.338	8.40	382.5	0.460	4.00	244.6	0.863	4.20
CD(0.05)		13.27		3.59	16.64		3.59	12.95		3.61
Source										
HTRP		795.8	0.32	8.07	353.2	0.45	5.42	202.7	0.73	4.04
HRP		792.3	0.35	8.4	315.8	0.46	5.95	180.4	0.77	5.28
SSP		797.2	0.37	7.78	379.1	0.44	5.40	243.2	0.87	3.58
DAP		480.8	0.34	12.23	250.8	0.41	7.97	192.1	0.83	3.95
CD(0.05)		7.66		2.07	9.60		2.07	7.47		2.08
Level										
P ₁		704.05	0.281	7.81	317.6	0.421	5.33	192.3	0.559	3.58
P ₂		718.62	0.366	8.99	322.5	0.435	5.71	207.1	0.873	4.04
P ₃		727.0	0.389	10.55	333.9	0.484	7.54	216.9	0.962	5.01
CD(0.05)		6.63		1.79	8.32		1.7	6.47		1.80



& leaching loss of N as influenced by sources of P at critical

followed by higher levels of rockphosphates and superphosphates at maximum tillering. The higher leaching loss observed in treatments may be due to the more loss of NH_4N immediately released from the same.

At panicle initiation and harvest the leaching losses from different treatments were on par.

Nutrient release and leaching loss of N are depicted in Fig 20. When the effect of sources were compared it was observed that MTRP, MRP and SSP were on par in N release at the maximum tillering stage. However at panicle initiation and harvest SSP was significantly superior followed by MTRP, MRP and DAP. At all the stages DAP recorded the lowest available N content in the soil. The leaching loss was significantly higher for DAP at tillering while at panicle initiation it was on par with MRP. At harvest there was no difference between the sources for the leaching loss of N.

Second crop

The availability, uptake and leaching loss of N are furnished in Table 31. Available N values varied from 219.5 (c) to 903.1 kg ha^{-1} (SSP P_3), uptake from 0.237 (c) to 0.715 (SSP P_3) and leaching loss from 2.80 (SSP P_1) to 17.79 (DAP P_3).

As observed for the first crop there was a decrease in available N content and leaching loss with increase in crop growth. In contrast to this the values for total N uptake indicated an increasing trend with advancement of crop growth. On perusal of the data it is clear that both the availability and loss of N were less for the second crop as compared to the first crop.

The available N content of control ranged from 219.5 to 505.9 kg ha⁻¹. All the other treatments recorded a significantly higher content of available N as compared to control. The interactions of SSP and higher level interaction of rock phosphates were on par and significantly superior to other combinations at maximum tillering and panicle initiation stages while at harvest MTRP P₃ was significantly superior. The treatments of DAP recorded the least. Second application of P did not lead to any additional increase in N content as compared to SSP P₂.

The control treatment recorded an uptake of N as 0.237 g pot⁻¹ at maximum tillering which increased slightly to 0.252 at panicle initiation and 0.356 g pot⁻¹ at harvest stage. In general SSP P₃ was superior in uptake followed by MRP P₃. The treatment SSP (P₂+P₂) registered higher uptake of N as compared to SSP-P₂ at maximum tillering while at panicle initiation and harvest they were found to be recording almost same values.

The leaching loss of N as 10.27 ppm was registered by the control treatment at maximum tillering which was later found to be decreased to 3.73 ppm at harvest. For the loss of N there was no significant difference between the treatments and control.

The illustration pertaining to N release and leaching losses are provided in Fig 21. The source SSP was superior to MTRP but par with MRP at tillering and panicle initiation stage while at harvest MTRP was superior followed by MRP, SSP and DAP.

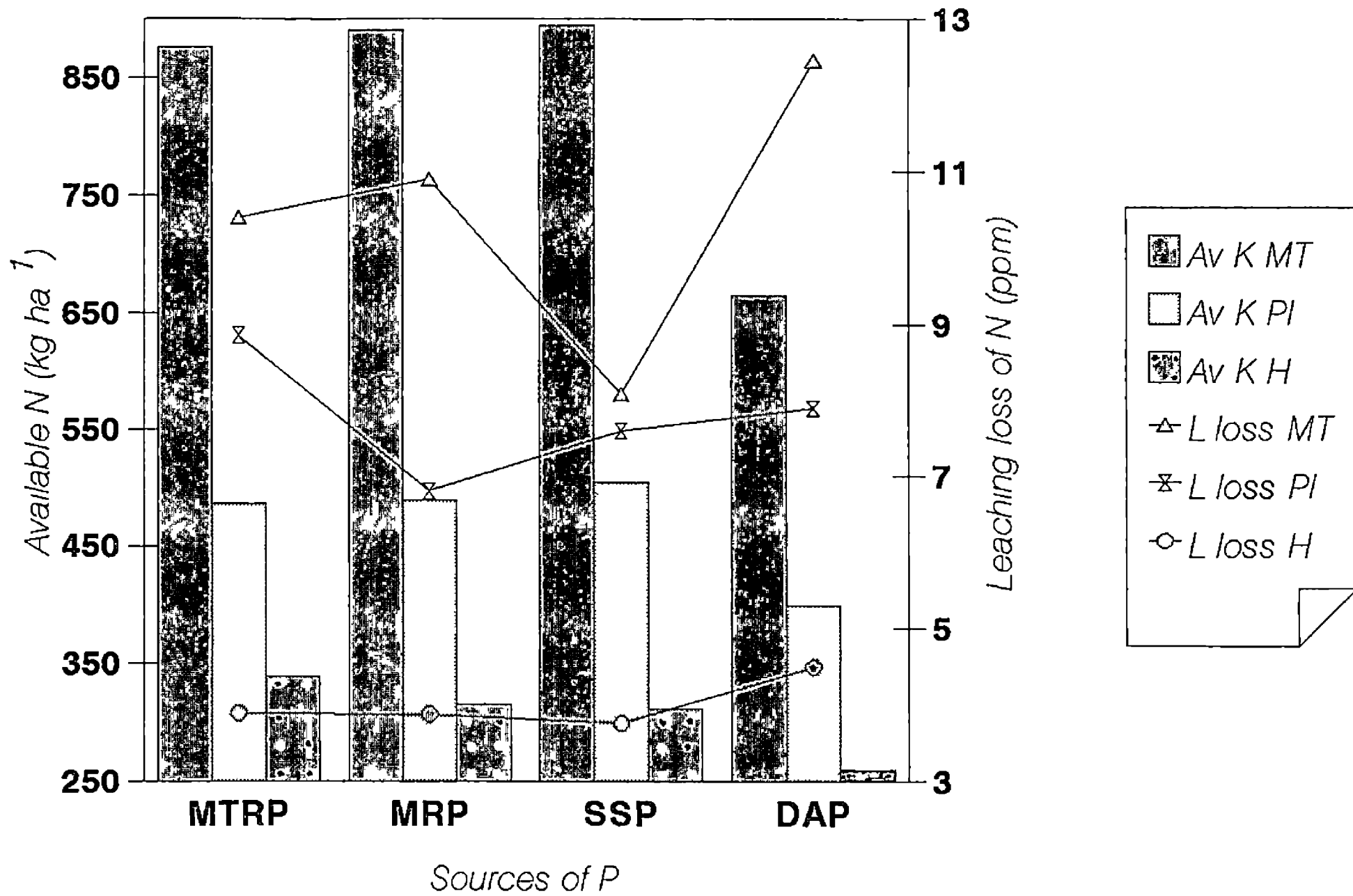


Fig 21 Nutrient release & leaching loss of N as influenced by sources of P at critical stages of second crop of rice laterite

The leaching loss was found to be at the same manner for the different sources at the different period of crop growth

4.2.2.2 Nutrient release uptake and leaching loss of P

From the data presented in Table 32 and Table 34 it was observed that available P using Bray 1 ranged from 6.15 to 24.84 kg ha⁻¹ and for Mathew's extractant ranged from 22.40 to 50.80 kg ha⁻¹ uptake ranged from 0.003 to 0.149 g pot⁻¹ and leaching loss from 0.03 to 0.20 ppm at different stages of crop growth

All the treatment combinations were significantly higher than control in available P release which recorded a maximum of 11.08 kg ha⁻¹ at maximum tillering. For all the treatments there was decrease in available P content with crop growth. It was found that SSP P₃ was the best releaser of available P in all the three stages followed by SSP P₂.

The control treatment recorded uptake value of 0.002 g pot⁻¹ at maximum tillering which gradually increased to 0.003 and 0.40 at panicle initiation and harvest stages respectively. At maximum tillering stage on uptake value of 0.02 g pot⁻¹ was recorded by higher levels of the different sources while at panicle initiation and harvest the treatment SSP P₃ recorded higher values of uptake as 0.040 and 0.169 g pot⁻¹. The increased uptake of P in treatments of water soluble sources may be due to the ready availability of this nutrient from these sources.

In general the leaching loss of P was considerably low as compared to that of N. The high fixation of applied P resulted in low leaching. The loss was found to be minimal towards harvest. The leaching loss of P in the control treatments was comparatively less. This may be attributed to the lack of applied P. The

Table 32 Nutrient release uptake and leaching loss of P in the first crop of rice as influenced by treatments Bray 1 (laterite)

Treatment		Maximum tillering			Panicle initiation			Harvest		
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm
1	MTRP P ₁	15.14	0.09	0.08	13.35	0.015	0.05	11.58	0.102	0.04
2	MTRP P ₂	16.91	0.14	0.14	15.34	0.028	0.09	13.35	0.112	0.08
3	MTRP P ₃	18.30	0.19	0.20	16.32	0.030	0.10	14.53	0.136	0.09
4	HRP P ₁	15.28	0.08	0.11	13.78	0.019	0.09	11.60	0.084	0.06
5	HRP P ₂	16.96	0.15	0.11	15.58	0.022	0.11	12.78	0.109	0.08
6	HRP P ₃	17.53	0.18	0.13	16.85	0.029	0.12	14.96	0.128	0.09
7	SSP P ₁	19.89	0.10	0.11	17.51	0.024	0.05	14.62	0.130	0.04
8	SSP P ₂	22.84	0.18	0.15	19.89	0.034	0.09	16.70	0.147	0.08
9	SSP P ₃	24.84	0.20	0.20	21.97	0.040	0.12	19.36	0.169	0.09
10	DAP P ₁	18.14	0.12	0.20	14.16	0.024	0.09	9.40	0.135	0.07
11	DAP P ₂	19.91	0.17	0.19	16.53	0.020	0.06	12.16	0.143	0.04
12	DAP P ₃	22.39	0.2	0.20	18.71	0.037	0.12	13.75	0.150	0.10
13	C	11.08	0.002	0.06	9.98	0.003	0.04	6.15	0.042	0.03
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₃)	22.39	0.018	0.11	19.91	0.029	0.07	16.53	0.126	0.05
CD(0.05)		0.85		5.09	0.86		0.04	0.65		2.61
Source										
MTRP		16.7	0.02	0.14	15.0	0.14	0.08	13.15	0.12	0.07
MRP		16.6	0.02	0.12	15.4	0.13	0.11	13.11	0.12	0.08
SSP		22.5	0.03	0.15	19.8	0.16	0.09	16.89	0.15	0.07
DAP		20.1	0.03	0.19	16.5	0.16	0.09	11.77	0.14	0.07
CD(0.05)		0.48		0.02	0.49		0.02	0.39		0.01
Level										
P ₁		17.11	0.09	0.13	14.7	0.02	0.07	11.8	0.11	0.05
P ₂		19.75	0.16	0.16	16.84	0.03	0.09	13.74	0.13	0.07
P ₃		20.76	0.19	0.18	18.46	0.03	0.12	15.65	0.15	0.09
CD(0.05)		0.42		0.02	0.43		0.02	0.33		0.01

Table 34 Nutrient release uptake and leaching loss of P in the first crop of rice as influenced by treatments Mathew s extractant (laterite)

Treatment		Maximum tillering			Panicle initiation			Harvest		
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available Kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm
1	HTRP P ₁	40.04	0.09	0.08	38.20	0.015	0.05	36.10	0.102	0.04
2	HTRP P ₂	42.90	0.14	0.14	40.10	0.028	0.09	38.90	0.112	0.08
3	HTRP P ₃	44.60	0.19	0.20	42.80	0.030	0.10	40.60	0.136	0.09
4	MRP P ₁	39.60	0.08	0.11	38.20	0.019	0.09	36.20	0.084	0.06
5	MRP P ₂	41.90	0.15	0.11	39.20	0.022	0.11	37.90	0.109	0.08
6	MRP P ₃	45.50	0.18	0.13	42.30	0.029	0.12	40.90	0.128	0.09
7	SSP P ₁	45.90	0.10	0.11	42.30	0.024	0.05	38.60	0.130	0.04
8	SSP P ₂	49.20	0.18	0.15	46.50	0.034	0.09	42.10	0.147	0.08
9	SSP P ₃	50.80	0.20	0.20	48.90	0.040	0.12	43.50	0.169	0.09
10	DAP P ₁	43.60	0.12	0.20	40.10	0.024	0.09	36.50	0.135	0.07
11	DAP P ₂	45.60	0.17	0.19	41.30	0.029	0.06	39.80	0.143	0.04
12	DAP -P ₃	49.60	0.20	0.20	43.40	0.037	0.12	41.20	0.150	0.10
13	C	29.50	0.002	0.06	25.60	0.003	0.04	22.40	0.042	0.03
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	49.60	0.18	0.11	45.90	0.029	0.07	42.90	0.126	0.05
CD (0.05)		1.12		5.09	0.98		0.04	1.01		2.61
Source										
HTRP		42.51	0.02	0.14	40.36	0.14	0.08	38.53	0.12	0.07
MRP		42.33	0.02	0.12	39.90	0.13	0.11	38.33	0.12	0.08
SSP		48.63	0.03	0.15	45.90	0.16	0.09	41.40	0.15	0.07
DAP		46.26	0.03	0.19	41.60	0.16	0.09	39.16	0.14	0.07
CD (0.05)		1.30		0.02	1.40		0.02	0.98		0.01
Level										
P ₁		42.28	0.09	0.13	39.70	0.02	0.07	36.85	0.11	0.05
P ₂		44.9	0.16	0.16	41.77	0.03	0.09	39.67	0.13	0.07
P ₃		47.62	0.19	0.18	44.35	0.03	0.12	41.55	0.15	0.09
CD (0.05)		1.05		0.02	1.15		0.02	0.90		0.01

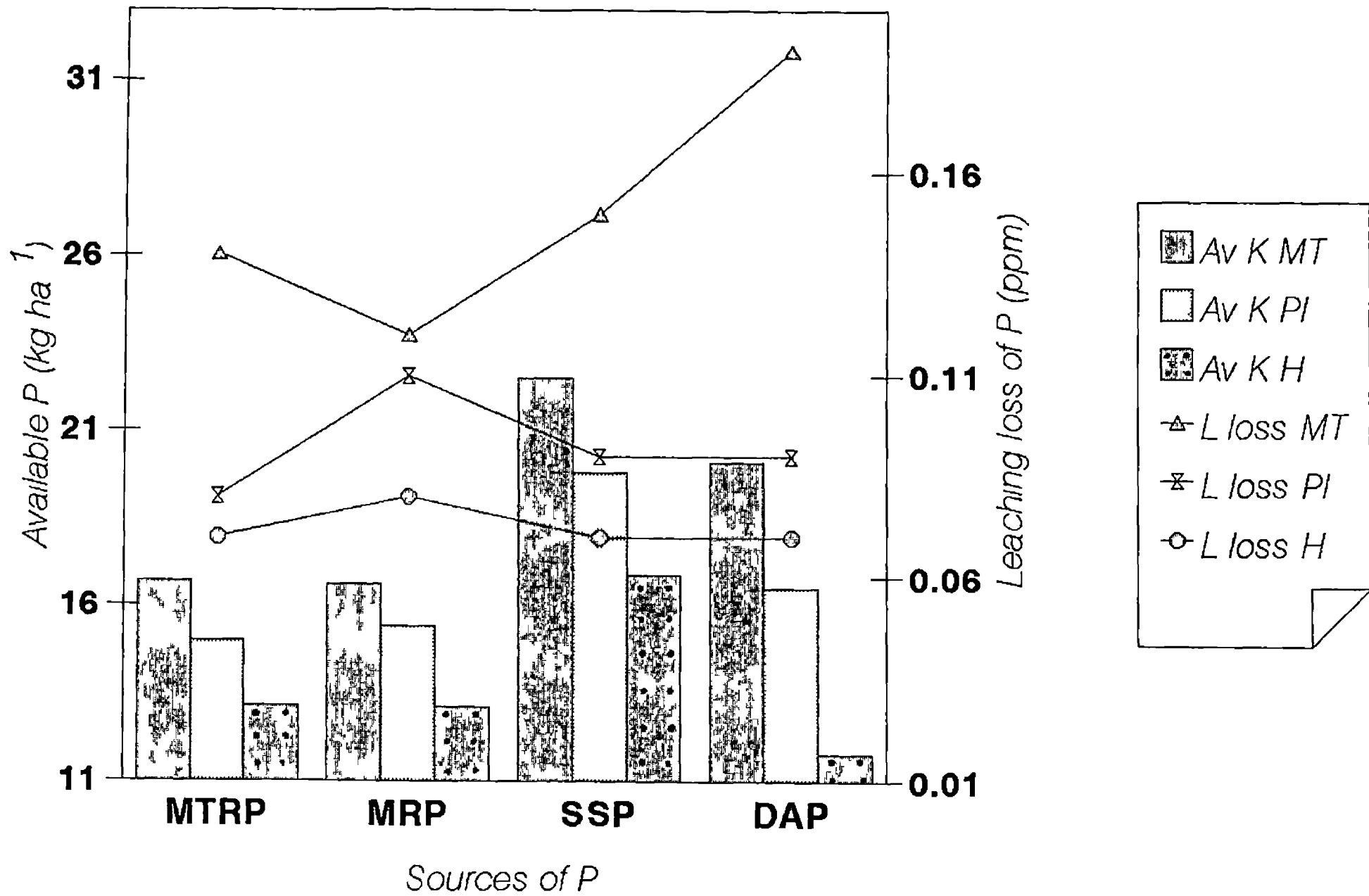


Fig 22 Nutrient release & leaching loss of P as influenced by sources of P at critical stages of first crop of rice laterite

highest leaching loss was observed in SSP P₃ and DAP P₃ treatments which recorded 0.2, 0.12 and 0.09 ppm at maximum tillering, panicle initiation and harvest stages. However, there was no significant difference between the various treatment combinations in leaching loss of P.

The nutrient release and leaching loss of P in the first crop are presented in Fig. 22. From this it is clear that SSP was superior in available P release and leaching loss, closely followed by DAP. In all the cases, the two rock phosphates followed a similar trend. These results are in line with that obtained in section 4.1.2.3. The quantity of P extracted by Mathew's triacid extractant was relatively higher. It was found that Mathew's triacid extracted P correlated with P uptake only at harvest stage ($r = 0.700^*$) as provided in Appendix III, while Bray 1 correlated at panicle initiation ($r = 0.500^*$) and harvest stages ($r = 0.700^*$).

Second crop

The data pertaining to the release, uptake and leaching loss are furnished in Table 33 and Table 35. The available P content ranged from 4.80 to 16.70 kg ha⁻¹ using Bray 1 and 13.20 to 39.90 kg ha⁻¹ for Mathew's extractant, while uptake varied from 0.011 to 0.149 g pot⁻¹ and leaching loss from 0.02 to 0.09 ppm.

The availability of P was lower in the second crop. Since P was not applied in the second season and was continuously taken up by the crop, this decrease occurred. It is interesting to note that though availability of P was higher from water-soluble sources in the first crop and in the initial stages of second crop, and towards the harvest stage, there was higher content in rock phosphate, especially MTRP. From

Table 33 Nutrient release uptake and leaching loss of P in the second crop of rice as influenced by treatments Bray 1 (laterite)

Treatment		Maximum tillering			Panicle initiation			Harvest		
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm
1	MTRP P ₁	10.39	0.035	0.04	9.20	0.050	0.04	8.40	0.130	0.03
2	MTRP P ₂	12.16	0.038	0.04	11.58	0.061	0.03	10.10	0.142	0.03
2	MTRP P ₃	13.35	0.044	0.04	12.16	0.077	0.03	11.17	0.146	0.03
4	HRP P ₁	10.41	0.038	0.04	9.22	0.053	0.03	7.53	0.129	0.03
5	HRP P ₂	12.40	0.039	0.03	10.32	0.065	0.04	8.72	0.136	0.03
6	HRP P ₃	13.39	0.049	0.04	12.80	0.070	0.04	10.39	0.149	0.03
7	SSP P ₁	12.53	0.044	0.04	9.58	0.054	0.04	6.12	0.130	0.03
8	SSP P ₂	14.32	0.489	0.04	11.58	0.066	0.04	7.53	0.141	0.03
9	SSP P ₃	16.70	0.056	0.05	12.16	0.070	0.03	9.90	0.149	0.02
10	DAP P ₁	9.40	0.018	0.03	6.12	0.040	0.03	5.35	0.088	0.03
11	DAP P ₂	10.32	0.021	0.05	7.58	0.048	0.03	7.02	0.110	0.02
12	DAP -P ₃	12.80	0.023	0.04	10.10	0.053	0.02	8.10	0.179	0.02
13	C	6.15	0.011	0.02	5.50	0.039	0.03	4.80	0.083	0.03
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	14.49	0.054	0.09	10.48	0.064	0.05	6.13	0.140	0.04
CD(0.05)		0.65		2.20	1.11		3.31	0.72	-	2.30
Source										
MTRP		11.96	0.04	0.06	10.98	0.06	0.03	9.89	0.14	0.03
HRP		12.06	0.04	0.04	10.78	0.06	0.04	8.88	0.14	0.03
SSP		14.5	0.05	0.04	11.11	0.06	0.04	7.87	0.14	0.03
DAP		10.8	0.02	0.04	7.93	0.05	0.03	6.8	0.10	0.02
CD(0.05)		0.37		0.01	0.64		0.01	0.60		0.01
Level										
P ₁		10.68	0.03	0.04	8.53	0.05	0.04	6.85	0.12	0.03
P ₂		12.3	0.04	0.04	10.26	0.06	0.04	8.35	0.132	0.03
P ₃		14.06	0.04	0.05	11.80	0.07	0.03	9.89	0.141	0.03
CD(0.050)		0.32		0.01	0.55		0.01	0.53		0.01

Table 35 Nutrient release uptake and leaching loss of P in the second crop of rice as influenced by treatments Mathew s extractant (laterite)

Treatment		Maximum tillering			Panicle initiation			Harvest		
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm
1	HTRP P ₁	35 10	0 035	0 04	32 80	0 064	0 04	30 26	0 130	0 03
2	HTRP P ₂	36 20	0 038	0 04	34 10	0 061	0 03	31 80	0 142	0 03
3	HTRP P ₃	38 80	0 044	0 04	35 90	0 047	0 03	33 20	0 146	0 03
4	HRP -P ₁	34 90	0 038	0 04	31 90	0 063	0 03	28 30	0 129	0 03
5	HRP P ₂	35 80	0 039	0 03	33 20	0 039	0 04	29 90	0 136	0 03
6	HRP P ₃	38 60	0 049	0 04	34 90	0 060	0 05	30 50	0 149	0 03
7	SSP P ₁	35 90	0 044	0 04	32 80	0 044	0 04	26 90	0 130	0 03
8	SSP P ₂	38 70	0 049	0 04	34 60	0 046	0 04	27 20	0 141	0 03
9	SSP P ₃	39 90	0 056	0 05	35 20	0 051	0 03	28 30	0 149	0 02
10	DAP P ₁	32 90	0 018	0 03	29 60	0 053	0 03	23 20	0 08	0 03
11	DAP P ₂	33 20	0 021	0 05	30 20	0 048	0 03	25 60	0 10	0 02
12	DAP P ₂	34 60	0 023	0 04	31 40	0 063	0 02	26 90	0 143	0 02
13	C	19 70	0 011	0 02	17 60	0 039	0 03	13 20	0 083	0 03
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	38 60	0 054	0 09	35 40	0 054	0 05	30 26	0 140	0 04
CD (0 05)		0 83		2 20	1 20	-	3 31	1 6		2 30
Source										
HTRP		36 70	0 04	0 06	34 26	0 06	0 03	31 75	0 14	0 03
HRP		36 43	0 04	0 04	33 33	0 06	0 04	29 56	0 14	0 03
SSP		38 16	0 05	0 04	34 20	0 06	0 04	27 36	0 14	0 03
DAP		33 56	0 02	0 04	30 40	0 05	0 03	25 23	0 10	0 02
CD (0 05) 0 90			0 01	0 85		0 01	1 13		0 01	
Level										
P ₁		34 70	0 03	0 04	31 77	0 05	0 04	27 16	0 12	0 03
P ₂		35 97	0 04	0 04	33 02	0 06	0 04	28 62	0 13	0 03
P ₃		37 97	0 04	0 05	34 35	0 07	0 03	29 72	0 14	0 03
CD(0 05)		0 78		0 01	1 12		0 01	1 05		0 01

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this it is clear that considerable amount of P was left in the rockphosphate applied treatments even after growing rice for two seasons and hence it is likely that their residual effect could be obtained subsequent crops also. These findings are in line with those of Mathews (1985). As in the case of previous crop the uptake of P increased with crop growth. The leaching loss of P reached almost a steady state in second crop.

All the treatments were significantly higher than control in P release. The control treatment registered a maximum value of 6.15 kg ha^{-1} at tillering stage which reduced to 5.50 kg ha^{-1} at panicle initiation and 2.80 kg ha^{-1} at harvest stage. This drastic decrease may be due to the high fixation process occurring in the soil. Among the treatment combinations SSP P_3 was significantly superior at maximum tillering while at panicle initiation the higher levels of SSP, MRP and MTRP were on par. At harvest MTRP P_3 was superior closely followed by MRP P_3 . The drastic reduction of SSP and DAP treatment in N release may be due to the high fixation of P from these sources. Whereas in the case of rockphosphates there was a slow and steady dissolution with time of submergence. In the case of SSP (P_2+P_2) there was significant increase in available P as compared to SSP P_2 while at panicle initiation it was found to be on par with SSP P_2 and MTRP P_2 . At harvest the treatment SSP (P_2+P_2) was on par with MRP P_1 . It can be inferred that continuous P application as in SSP (P_2+P_2) did not release much residual P in the soil. In fact the left over P after the first crop from rockphosphates were found to be superior. The results tend to conclude the economic use of rockphosphates for the continuous rice cropping system.

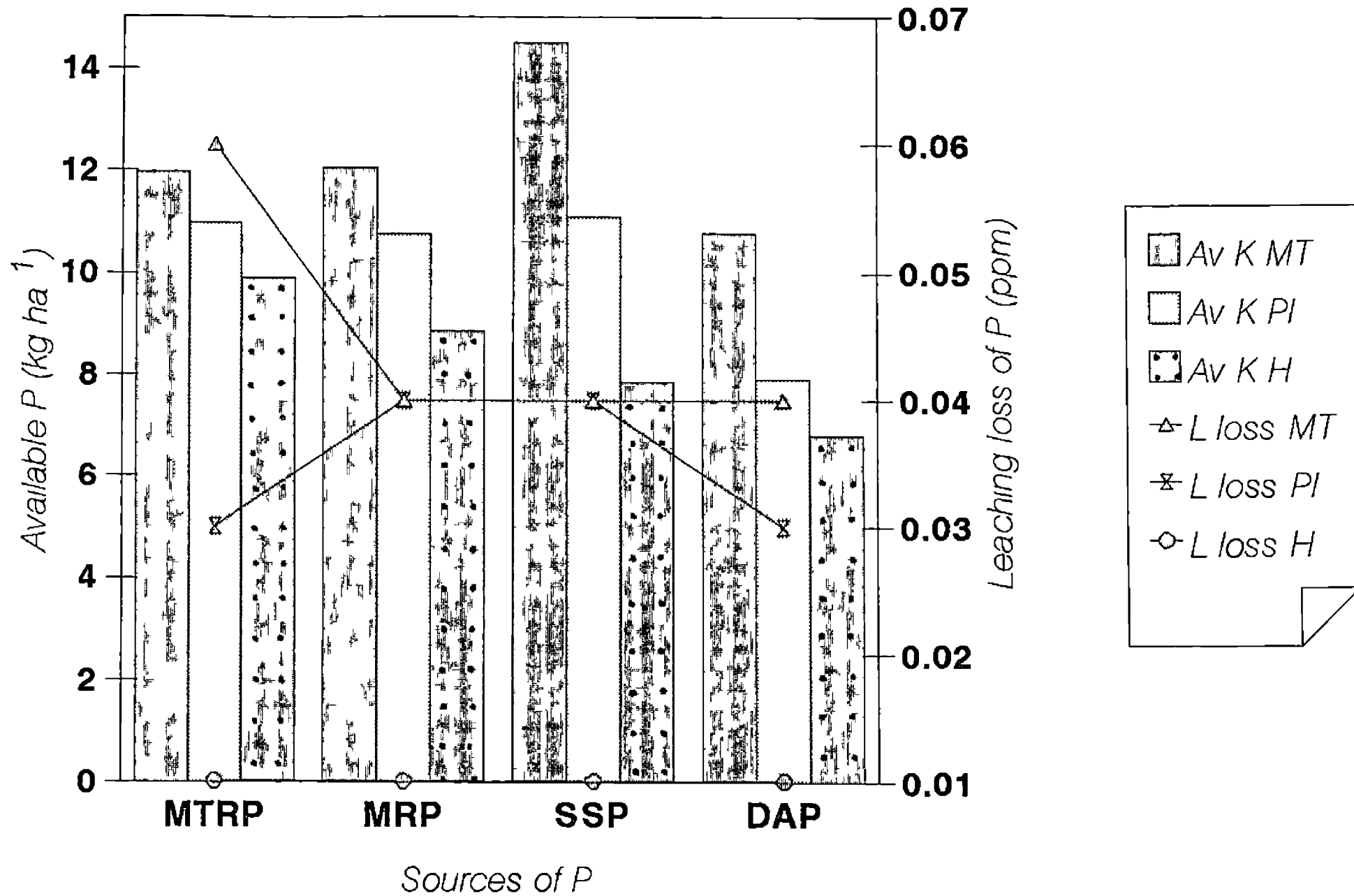


Fig 23 Nutrient release & leaching loss of P as influenced by sources of P at critical stages of second crop of rice laterite

The control treatment recorded the lowest P uptake which ranged from 0.011 at tillering stage to 0.083 at harvest. The high availability of P from SSP P₃ at tillering stage lead to its higher uptake of 0.056 g pot⁻¹ while at panicle initiation the highest levels of MTRP, MRP and SSP recorded 0.07 g pot⁻¹ as uptake. At harvest also these treatments were superior in uptake and they registered 0.149 g pot⁻¹ as P uptake.

There was no significant difference between treatments and with control in leaching loss of P at all the critical stages of crop growth. The loss was at a steady rate ranging from 0.03 to 0.04 ppm of P.

The illustration regarding nutrient release and leaching loss of P in second crop are provided in Fig 23. When the effect of sources was pooled together it was evident that SSP was superior in available P at tillering stage followed by MRP and MTRP which were on par. At panicle initiation SSP, MTRP and MRP were on par and at harvest MTRP was superior followed by MRP, SSP, DAP. In all the stages DAP recorded the lowest available P. The uptake of N was comparatively poor by the source of DAP. All the sources registered the same content of leaching loss. Both the extractants failed to register positive correlation with crop uptake of P by the second crop.

With increase in levels of P there was significant increase in P release. There was also increased uptake with increase in levels of P.

4.2.2.3 Nutrient release, uptake and leaching loss of K
First crop

The data are presented in Table 36. Available K ranged from 90.6 to

Table 36 Nutrient release uptake and leaching loss of K in the first crop of rice as influenced by treatments (laterite)

Treatment		Maximum tillering			Panicle initiation			Harvest		
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm
1	WTRP P ₁	149.3	0.139	6.0	123.3	0.205	4.70	112.0	0.298	2.60
2	WTRP P ₂	224.0	0.169	10.33	168.0	0.253	5.73	121.3	0.326	2.93
3	WTRP P ₃	280.0	0.227	11.00	177.3	0.269	6.50	158.6	0.419	3.87
4	MRP P ₁	224.0	0.149	7.0	177.3	0.235	5.20	149.3	0.354	3.53
5	MRP P ₂	272.5	0.194	10.0	252.0	0.269	6.10	233.3	0.469	3.56
6	MRP P ₃	298.3	0.229	14.0	280.0	0.275	8.10	252.0	0.489	3.27
7	SSP P ₁	121.3	0.134	10.10	112.0	0.154	2.90	93.3	0.278	3.27
8	SSP P ₂	194.0	0.156	9.20	177.3	0.172	2.77	121.3	0.388	2.70
9	SSP P ₃	224.0	0.219	9.20	196.0	0.205	3.90	186.6	0.409	3.97
10	DAP P ₁	112.0	0.130	7.83	102.6	0.183	4.17	93.3	0.257	3.93
11	DAP P ₂	130.6	0.139	7.87	112.0	0.213	3.23	102.6	0.354	2.60
12	DAP P ₃	177.3	0.196	7.40	121.3	0.213	3.8	107.9	0.388	3.87
13	C	102.6	0.127	7.17	98.5	0.156	5.1	90.6	0.194	2.93
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	220.0	0.150	7.27	168.0	0.169	3.90	119.5	0.380	2.90
CD (0.05)		49.32		3.12	37.6		1.4	40.26		3.12
Source										
WTRP		217.7	0.17	9.11	156.2	0.24	5.64	130.6	0.35	3.13
MRP		264.9	0.19	10.33	236.4	0.26	6.50	211.5	0.44	3.45
SSP		180.4	0.17	9.5	161.7	0.18	3.25	133.7	0.39	3.31
DAP		139.9	0.15	7.7	111.9	0.20	3.73	101.2	0.33	3.50
CD (0.05)		28.47		1.80	21.74		0.83	23.24		0.97
Level										
P ₁		151.60	0.14	7.73	128.8	0.194	4.24	111.9	0.290	3.23
P ₂		205.70	0.16	9.35	177.3	0.226	4.45	144.6	0.384	2.94
P ₃		244.90	0.22	10.40	193.6	0.255	5.57	129.5	0.426	3.82
CD (0.05)		24.66		1.56	18.83		0.72	20.13		1.12

298.3 kg ha⁻¹ and uptake varied from 0.127 to 0.489 g pot⁻¹. Leaching loss of K ranged from 2.60 to 14.0 ppm.

The control treatment of registered 102.6 kg/ha of available K at maximum tillering which reduced to 98.5 at panicle initiation and 90.6 kg ha⁻¹ at harvest stages of crop. As in the case of control, there was decrease in available K content towards harvest. The treatment MRP P₃ recorded higher content of available K in all the stages followed by MRP P₂ and MTRP P₃. But was not statistically significant. The increase availability of K due to different sources of P can be accounted to increased dissolution of Ca along with P. Monovalent K⁺ consequently get replaced from the clay lattice by the mass action of more divalent Ca²⁺ (Tisdale 1975).

The control treatment recorded an uptake value of 0.127 g pot⁻¹ at tillering stage which increased to 0.194 g pot⁻¹ at harvest stage. The uptake of K was very low by the control treatment which may be due to the absence of P. These findings are in line with those of Venkataramiah (1979). Higher uptake of K was observed in SSP P₃ (0.227 g pot⁻¹) followed by DAP P₃ (0.217 g pot⁻¹) although its availability was low as compared to rockphosphates. This may be attributed to the enhanced effect of available P from water soluble sources on K uptake.

Leaching loss of K decreased with crop growth. There was no significant difference in leaching loss of K among the various treatments and with control in all the stages of crop growth. Clay minerals of the kaolinite type do not absorb K⁺ selectively. High rates of K loss by leaching therefore has been observed in kaolinitic soils (Mengel and Kirky 1978).

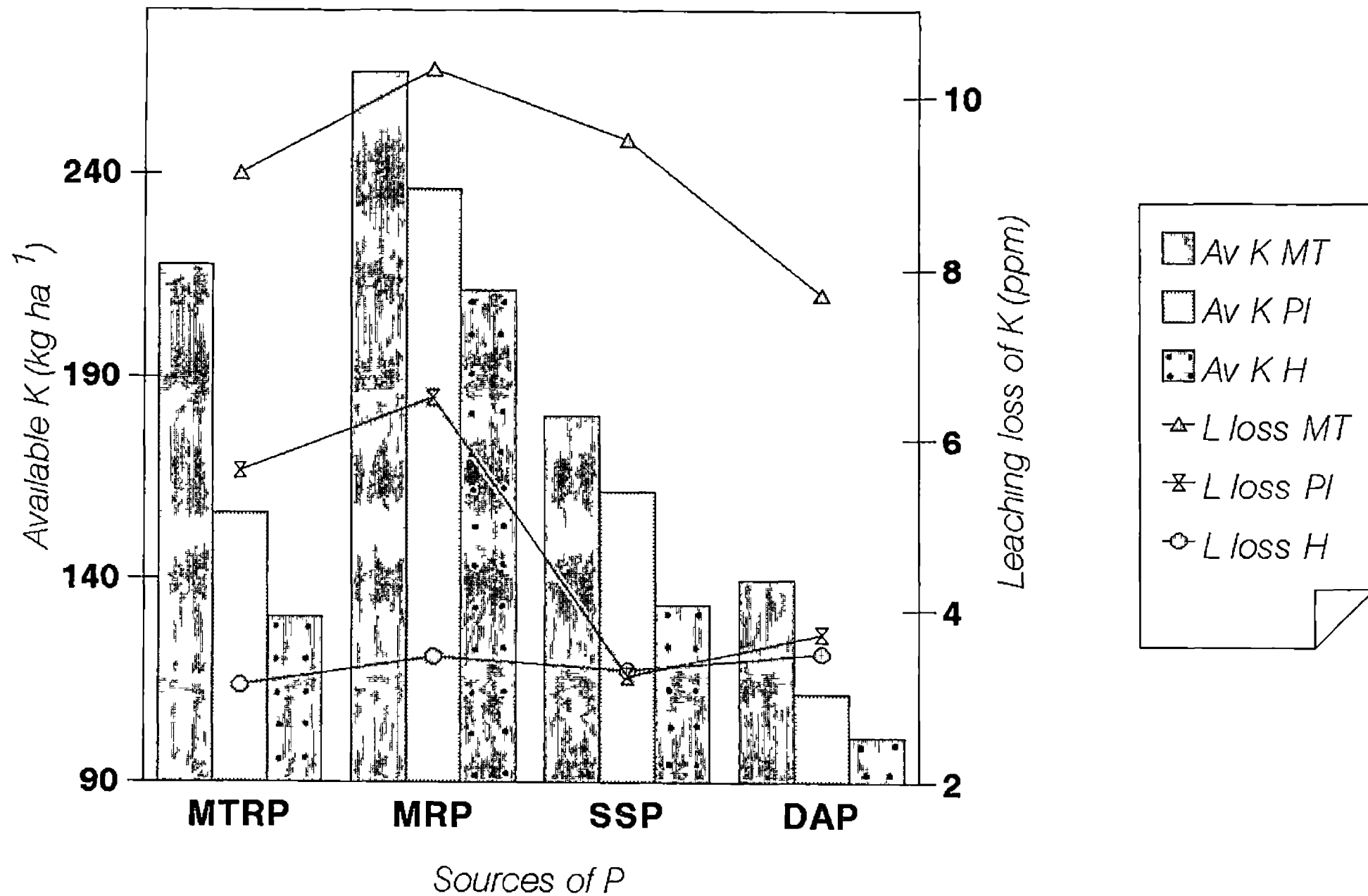


Fig 24 Nutrient release & leaching loss of K as influenced by sources of P at critical stages of first crop of rice laterite

The nutrient release and leaching loss of K are illustrated in Fig 24. In the case of available K it was more or less uniform in all the sources. The uptake values were higher for water soluble sources in all the stages of crop growth. Although there was slight increase in K with increase in levels of P the increase was not statistically significant.

Second crop

The data are presented in Table 37. Available K ranged from 15.7 to 134.9 kg ha⁻¹ while uptake varied from 0.262 to 0.759 g pot⁻¹. Leaching loss ranged from 1.27 to 7.10 ppm.

The control treatment registered the lowest content of available K which ranged from 70.4 at maximum tillering to 20.9 kg ha⁻¹ at harvest stage. The treatments MTRP P₃, MRP P₃ and SSP P₃ were superior which registered 188.10, 193.30 and 194.10 respectively but were on par. The same trend was seen at panicle initiation and harvest. The second application of P resulted in significantly higher availability of K at maximum tillering but at panicle initiation and harvest it was on par with SSP P₂.

Uptake of K increased with crop growth. The control treatment recorded an uptake value of 0.262 at tillering which increased to 0.297 at panicle initiation and 0.312 ppm at harvest stage. Among the treatments SSP P₃ was superior in K uptake closely followed by MRP P₃ and MTRP P₃. All the treatment combinations of DAP registered lower uptake. The uptake value of SSP (P₂+P₂) was same as that of SSP P₃ at maximum tillering.

Table 37 Nutrient release uptake and leaching loss of K in the second crop of rice as influenced by treatments (laterite) 100

Treatment		Maximum tillering			Panicle initiation			Harvest		
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Leaching loss ppm
1	HTRP P ₁	88.2	0.286	6.77	67.2	0.691	3.27	21.6	0.361	1.80
2	HTRP P ₂	103.6	0.351	6.90	73.9	0.759	3.30	22.4	0.383	2.77
3	HTRP P ₃	112.0	0.344	6.23	70.2	0.390	3.23	26.8	0.413	2.33
4	HRP P ₁	93.12	0.327	6.03	89.6	0.478	3.37	20.2	0.368	1.30
5	HRP P ₂	126.5	0.356	4.67	96.3	0.531	3.03	26.8	0.392	1.27
6	HRP P ₃	134.9	0.392	6.73	100.8	0.478	3.03	29.1	0.363	1.60
7	SSP P ₁	81.7	0.374	7.00	62.7	0.541	3.60	17.9	0.336	1.77
8	SSP P ₂	109.5	0.380	7.10	67.9	0.513	3.03	20.1	0.343	1.97
9	SSP P ₃	122.3	0.413	7.07	71.7	0.557	2.87	25.3	0.354	2.57
10	DAP P ₁	74.3	0.364	6.23	56.0	0.361	2.80	15.7	0.437	1.89
11	DAP P ₂	81.4	0.385	7.00	60.5	0.341	4.27	19.4	0.478	1.60
12	DAP P ₃	93.12	0.369	7.00	62.7	0.218	4.23	24.6	0.499	1.80
13	C	70.4	0.262	7.00	51.5	0.420	3.9	20.9	0.312	1.70
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	126.5	0.357	7.10	64.9	0.513	4.03	22.4	0.384	1.24
CD (0.05)		4.76		1.94	8.07		1.47	4.0		1.40
Source										
HTRP		101.2	0.33	6.6	70.4	0.61	3.26	23.6	0.39	2.3
HRP		118.2	0.35	5.8	95.5	0.49	3.14	25.4	0.37	1.4
SSP		104.5	0.39	7.0	67.4	0.54	3.16	21.1	0.34	2.10
DAP		82.9	0.37	6.7	59.7	0.31	3.76	19.9	0.47	1.76
CD (0.05)		4.66		1.12	2.75		0.85	2.33		0.81
Level										
P ₁		84.30	0.34	6.51	68.87	0.52	3.26	18.85	0.38	1.69
P ₂		105.25	0.37	6.42	74.65	0.54	3.36	22.17	0.39	1.90
P ₃		115.58	0.38	6.76	76.35	0.41	3.39	26.45	0.41	2.07
CD (0.05)		4.03		0.97	2.38		0.74	2.02		0.70

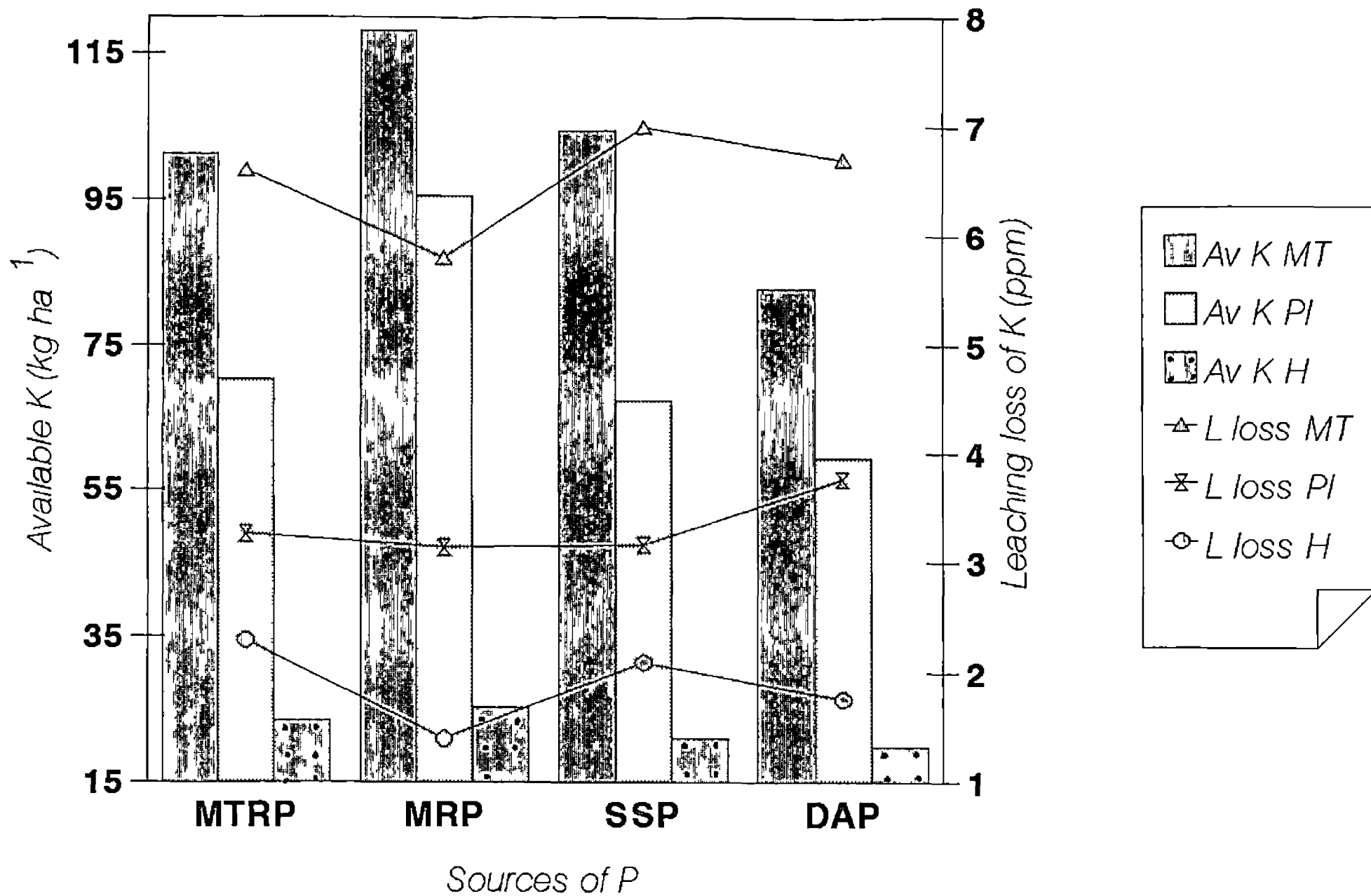


Fig 25 Nutrient release & leaching loss of K as influenced by sources of P at critical stages of second crop of rice laterite

Leaching loss of control treatment ranged from 7.0 at maximum tillering to 1.27 ppm at harvest stage. There was no significant difference among the various treatments in leaching loss of K.

The nutrient release and leaching of K are illustrated in Fig. 25. Among the sources MRP, MTRP and SSP were superior in available K content and DAP recorded the lowest in all the stages. The leaching loss of K was lower for MRP at different stages of crop growth.

4.2.2.4 Nutrient release and uptake of Ca at different stages of crop growth First crop

The data are provided in Table 38. Available Ca ranged from 238.7 kg ha⁻¹ to 969.9 kg ha⁻¹ and uptake varied from 0.026 to 0.150 g pot⁻¹.

The control treatment registered the lowest content of available Ca. It recorded 612.8 kg ha⁻¹ at maximum tillering which decreased to 238.7 kg ha⁻¹ at harvest. Among the treatments MRP P₃ was significantly superior to others and recorded 969.9 kg ha⁻¹ followed by MRP P₂ (876.6 kg ha⁻¹) at maximum tillering stage. In the other two stages also this trend was observed. In general MTRP and MRP were on par followed by SSP. The lowest content of available Ca was recorded by DAP.

The control treatment recorded uptake value of 0.026 at maximum tillering stage which increased to 0.048 at panicle initiation and 0.077 g pot⁻¹ at harvest. As in the case of control there was gradual increase in uptake towards harvest in all the other treatments. All the treatments of MTRP, SSP and MAP registered an average uptake value of 0.03, 0.09 and 0.150 g pot⁻¹ at maximum tillering panicle

Table 38 Nutrient release and uptake of Ca in the first crop of rice as influenced by treatments (laterite)

Treatment		Maximum tillering		Panicle initiation		Harvest	
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹
1	MTRP P ₁	822.5	0.010	544.0	0.07	216.8	0.14
2	MTRP P ₂	858.4	0.030	554.4	0.09	285.6	0.16
3	MTRP P ₃	861.4	0.035	568.0	0.10	373.2	0.17
4	MRP P ₁	851.2	0.010	532.9	0.07	294.1	0.13
5	MRP P ₂	876.3	0.020	573.9	0.10	313.6	0.16
6	MRP P ₂	969.9	0.030	582.4	0.10	403.2	0.18
7	SSP P ₁	752.0	0.017	448.0	0.07	208.5	0.14
8	SSP P ₂	798.0	0.028	492.8	0.09	285.3	0.15
9	SSP P ₃	821.0	0.038	524.0	0.10	343.3	0.17
10	DAP P ₁	618.5	0.010	432.9	0.04	796.0	0.09
11	DAP P ₂	652.9	0.015	492.8	0.07	238.7	0.12
12	DAP P ₃	696.3	0.028	432.9	0.08	283.7	0.13
13	C	612.8	0.010	537.0	0.04	238.7	0.07
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	797.7	0.026	472.0	0.09	367.3	0.16
CD (0.05)		5.65		4.93		4.50	
Source							
MTRP		847.4	0.025	555.4	0.086	291.8	0.156
MRP		899.1	0.020	562.8	0.09	336.9	0.156
SSP		790.3	0.027	488.2	0.08	278.9	0.153
DAP		655.9	0.017	452.8	0.06	239.4	0.113
CD (0.05)		5.13		4.26		4.01	
Level							
P ₁		761.05	0.056	489.40	0.062	228.7	0.125
P ₂		796.40	0.023	528.27	0.087	280.8	0.147
P ₃		837.15	0.033	526.82	0.095	350.8	0.162
CD (0.05)		4.20		4.0		3.96	

Table 39 Nutrient release and uptake of Ca in the second crop of rice as influenced by treatments (laterite)

Treatment		Maximum tillering		Panicle initiation		Harvest	
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹
1	MTRP P ₁	205.0	0.037	190.2	0.063	180.9	0.093
2	MTRP P ₂	265.9	0.063	245.1	0.085	192.8	0.150
3	MTRP P ₃	315.3	0.072	251.2	0.092	230.2	0.180
4	MRP P ₁	265.8	0.039	256.9	0.064	176.3	0.100
5	MRP P ₂	296.0	0.063	265.9	0.071	201.7	0.124
6	MRP P ₃	340.8	0.080	286.7	0.100	230.2	0.157
7	SSP P ₁	205.0	0.028	140.2	0.09	167.4	0.146
8	SSP P ₂	265.9	0.065	201.7	0.09	192.8	0.169
9	SSP P ₃	296.3	0.049	245.1	0.095	117.4	0.183
10	DAP P ₁	192.0	0.042	146.1	0.066	104.5	0.050
11	DAP P ₂	198.5	0.046	166.1	0.065	110.7	0.080
12	DAP P ₃	205.6	0.054	190.2	0.065	131.7	0.092
13	C	192.0	0.040	166.1	0.060	104.5	0.076
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	280.0	0.03	272.0	0.052	265.0	0.107
CD(0.05)		6.60		7.70		8.80	
Source							
MTRP		262.1	0.057	228.8	0.080	201.3	0.141
MRP		300.9	0.060	269.8	0.078	202.7	0.127
SSP		255.7	0.057	212.3	0.091	159.2	0.166
DAP		198.7	0.047	167.4	0.060	115.6	0.074
CD(0.05)		6.12		5.95		5.13	
Level							
P ₁		216.9	0.036	195.9	0.072	157.3	0.097
P ₂		256.5	0.059	219.7	0.078	174.5	0.130
P ₃		289.6	0.069	243.3	0.088	197.3	0.153
CD(0.05)		4.6		4.9		5.1	

initiation and harvest while DAP recorded 0.02, 0.06 and 0.11 g pot⁻¹. The sources MTRP, MRP and SSP are Ca rich sources and so they registered higher availability and uptake (Appendix II).

Second crop

The data pertaining to this are provided in Table 39. Since P was not applied in the second crop season and laterite soil being basically low in Ca content, the release of Ca was lower than the first crop. It ranged from 192.0 to 280.9 kg ha⁻¹ while uptake ranged from 0.042 to 0.179 g pot⁻¹.

The control treatment was found to be on par with the DAP treatments. It recorded available Ca content of 192.0 kg ha⁻¹ at maximum tillering which decreased to 166.1 at panicle initiation and 104.5 kg ha⁻¹ at harvest. The doses of SSP significantly increased the Ca content over the other combinations. This was followed by the highest level interaction of MTRP and MRP which were on par at all the 3 stages.

All the treatments registered more or less same uptake value. However, control and DAP treatments recorded an average of 0.04, 0.06 and 0.07 g pot⁻¹ while SSP, MTRP and MRP recorded 0.06, 0.08 and 0.14 g pot⁻¹ at maximum tillering, panicle initiation and harvest stages respectively.

4.2.2.5 Nutrient release and uptake of Mg at different growth stages

First crop

The results are presented in Table 40. The available Mg content varied from 241.9 to 473.0 kg ha⁻¹ while uptake ranged from 0.01 to 0.298 g pot⁻¹.

Table 40 Nutrient release and uptake of Mg in the first crop of rice as influenced by treatments (laterite) 105

Treatment		Maximum tillering		Panicle initiation		Harvest	
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹
1	MTRP P ₁	672.0	0.103	672.0	0.192	439.0	0.334
2	MTRP P ₂	421.0	0.064	716.0	0.218	250.0	0.391
3	MTRP P ₃	739.0	0.095	734.7	0.253	439.0	0.367
4	MRP P ₁	976.6	0.073	573.0	0.136	403.0	0.383
5	MRP P ₂	985.6	0.055	376.3	0.221	358.0	0.425
6	MRP P ₃	734.7	0.068	385.3	0.234	367.3	0.390
7	SSP P ₁	546.5	0.039	618.0	0.237	501.7	0.386
8	SSP P ₂	528.6	0.052	654.0	0.169	591.3	0.412
9	SSP P ₃	439.0	0.065	645.0	0.229	627.2	0.408
10	DAP P ₁	367.3	0.091	322.0	0.274	241.9	0.451
11	DAP P ₂	349.4	0.097	152.3	0.230	80.6	0.473
12	DAP P ₃	582.4	0.094	116.4	0.230	62.7	0.403
13	C	367.3	0.052	300.0	0.166	246.4	0.278
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	600.3	0.063	720.0	0.215	582.4	0.364
CD (0.05)		70.9		216.36		50.66	
Source							
MTRP		610.6	0.087	707.5	0.221	376.0	0.364
MRP		674.2	0.065	443.8	0.197	376.1	0.399
SSP		504.7	0.052	639.0	0.212	573.4	0.402
DAP		433.0	0.094	196.9	0.245	128.4	0.442
CD (0.05)		70.5		124.90		29.26	
Level							
P ₁		640.6	0.076	546.2	0.209	396.4	0.388
P ₂		571.0	0.067	474.6	0.209	319.9	0.425
P ₃		831.7	0.081	470.3	0.236	374.05	0.392
CD (0.05)		61.2		108.1		25.34	

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In general available Mg content decreased with crop growth. The control treatment registered 448.0 kg ha⁻¹ at maximum tillering which gradually reduced to 250.0 kg ha⁻¹ at harvest. The status of Mg was generally low in laterite soil as compared to Kuttanad alluvium (Table 1). It was observed that there was no significant difference between the various sources in all the stages of crop growth. The P sources did not have any influence on Mg availability.

Uptake of the nutrient increased with crop growth. The increase being drastic towards the harvest as high amount was taken by the grains. The control treatment recorded the lowest uptake (0.01 g pot⁻¹ at maximum tillering, 0.040 g pot⁻¹ at panicle initiation and 0.094 g pot⁻¹ at harvest period). All the treatment combinations had more or less same uptake and was higher than control. From this it may be inferred that P has influence on Mg uptake by the crop.

Second crop

The data pertaining to Mg availability and uptake are presented in Table 41. The available Mg ranged from 124.0 to 232.9 kg ha⁻¹ and uptake from 0.040 to 0.473 g pot⁻¹.

The availability of Mg further decreased in second crop season. As in the case of first crop there was no significant variation between the various sources in available Mg.

With respect to uptake the values were higher in second crop as compared to the first. The higher rooting intensity in the second crop season might have attributed to this increase. In all the three stages a slight depression in Mg

Table 41 Nutrient release and uptake of Mg in the second crop of rice as influenced by treatments (laterite) 107

Treatment		Maximum tillering		Panicle initiation		Harvest	
No	Notation	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹	Available kg ha ⁻¹	Uptake g pot ⁻¹
1	MTRP P ₁	206.1	0.064	179.2	0.192	152.3	0.425
2	MTRP P ₂	206.1	0.068	188.2	0.218	134.4	0.391
3	MTRP P ₃	224.0	0.075	179.2	0.253	127.5	0.473
4	MRP P ₁	215.0	0.073	196.9	0.192	143.4	0.412
5	MRP P ₂	224.0	0.065	179.2	0.221	143.4	0.408
6	MRP P ₃	206.1	0.064	188.2	0.234	127.5	0.403
7	SSP P ₁	215.0	0.065	172.6	0.237	152.3	0.412
8	SSP P ₂	215.0	0.063	172.6	0.169	152.3	0.451
9	SSP P ₃	232.9	0.063	179.2	0.229	143.4	0.408
10	DAP P ₁	206.0	0.071	188.2	0.276	134.4	0.391
11	DAP P ₂	206.1	0.063	188.2	0.179	139.6	0.367
12	DAP P ₃	215.0	0.055	172.6	0.184	152.3	0.383
13	C	215.0	0.040	152.3	0.152	124.0	0.278
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	215.0	0.065	179.2	0.172	134.4	0.451
CD (0.05)		7.50		12.76		18.6	
Source							
MTRP		212.06	0.069	182.2	0.221	138.0	0.429
MRP		215.03	0.067	188.1	0.215	138.1	0.407
SSP		220.9	0.064	168.1	0.211	149.3	0.423
DAP		209.06	0.063	183.0	0.179	139.1	0.380
CD (0.05)		3.60		6.80		10.56	
Level							
P ₁		210.5	0.068	184.2	0.224	145.6	0.410
P ₂		212.8	0.064	182.0	0.196	142.4	0.404
P ₃		219.5	0.064	179.8	0.225	137.6	0.416
CD (0.05)		3.10		5.66		5.59	

availability was observed for the DAP treatments. The low availability of P from DAP in the corresponding season might have retarded the uptake of the same.

Effect of different treatment combinations on grain and straw yield of rice

Kuttanad alluvium

First crop

The results are provided in Table 42. In the control treatment where the application of P was deleted, the grain and straw yields were minimum as indicated by the values 30.50 g pot⁻¹ and 19.58 g pot⁻¹ respectively. The highest grain yield was recorded by SSP P₃ (58.53 g pot⁻¹), MTRP P₃ (50.47 g pot⁻¹) and DAP P₃ (51.97 g pot⁻¹) which were on par and superior to other treatments. In the case of straw yield, DAP P₃ (36.20 g pot⁻¹), SSP P₃ (36.27 g pot⁻¹) and DAP P₂ (34.43 g pot⁻¹) were on par and significantly higher than other combinations. In SSP (P₂+P₂) the grain and straw yield were on par with that of SSP P₂.

The grain and straw yield was influenced by different sources of P in comparison to control and SSP (P₂+P₂) and are illustrated in Fig 26. It is evident that the water soluble sources fared well both in the case of grain and straw yield as compared to water insoluble sources. The source DAP was superior to SSP while MTRP was superior to MRP in the case of grain yield. While for straw both MTRP and MRP were similar, so were DAP and SSP. With incremental doses of P applied, there was significant increase in yield of grain and straw as illustrated in Fig 27.

The data provided and discussed in section 4.2 established that the uptake of nutrient such as N, P, K were maximum for the sources SSP and DAP during the first crop season. All these might have contributed to the increased yield of grain and straw recorded by these phosphatic fertilizers.

Table 42 Grain and straw yield (g pot⁻¹) as influenced by treatments in the first and second crop of rice (Kuttanad alluvium and laterite) 109

Treatment		Kuttanad alluvium				Laterite			
No	Notation	First crop		Second crop		First crop		Second crop	
		Grain yield	Straw yield	Grain yield	Straw yield	Grain yield	Straw yield	Grain yield	Straw yield
1	MTRP P ₁	41 87	24 13	40 37	32 53	39 37	26 50	35 27	23 90
2	MTRP P ₂	45 13	26 97	43 67	37 80	42 33	28 60	40 51	24 50
3	MTRP P ₃	50 47	28 87	48 50	39 20	47 30	31 30	44 70	27 60
4	MRP P ₁	40 30	26 07	39 04	31 00	37 97	27 83	35 54	22 60
5	MRP P ₂	42 53	24 03	43 45	35 00	43 20	26 63	43 78	24 0
6	MRP P ₃	46 27	29 67	45 99	40 33	46 77	29 97	44 02	25 50
7	SSP P ₁	43 73	30 40	37 62	32 94	49 53	30 80	43 53	24 30
8	SSP P ₂	47 60	32 50	40 97	34 80	52 33	33 21	44 80	28 43
9	SSP P ₃	53 53	36 27	43 19	36 21	56 17	35 43	47 87	31 37
10	DAP P ₁	46 30	32 27	38 47	35 20	41 57	31 37	32 67	27 57
11	DAP P ₂	49 33	34 43	41 80	37 33	44 92	35 47	37 93	29 85
12	DAP P ₃	51 97	36 20	43 47	40 80	46 92	38 59	38 0	34 50
13	C	30 50	19 58	26 50	21 09	35 06	22 6	29 40	20 67
14	SSP (P ₂ +P ₂)	47 90	35 00	43 61	34 5	52 56	33 2	44 90	27 0
CD(0 05)		1 89	2 66	2 14	3 05	1 58	2 50	2 17	2 39
Source									
MTRP		45 82	26 60	44 18	36 50	43 00	28 80	40 16	25 30
MRP		43 03	26 50	42 83	35 40	42 71	28 10	41 10	24 03
SSP		48 17	33 03	40 59	32 70	52 68	33 13	45 40	28 00
DAP		49 20	34 20	41 24	37 70	44 47	34 40	36 20	30 64
CD (0 05)		1 09	1 53	1 23	1 76	0 91	1 45	1 25	1 38
Levels									
P ₁		42 96	28 10	38 87	32 90	42 11	29 12	36 75	25 30
P ₂		46 15	29 40	42 57	35 70	45 69	30 40	41 75	27 40
P ₃		50 56	32 70	45 53	38 20	49 29	33 82	43 64	30 40
CD (0 05)		0 95	1 33	1 07	1 52	0 79	1 25	1 08	1 19

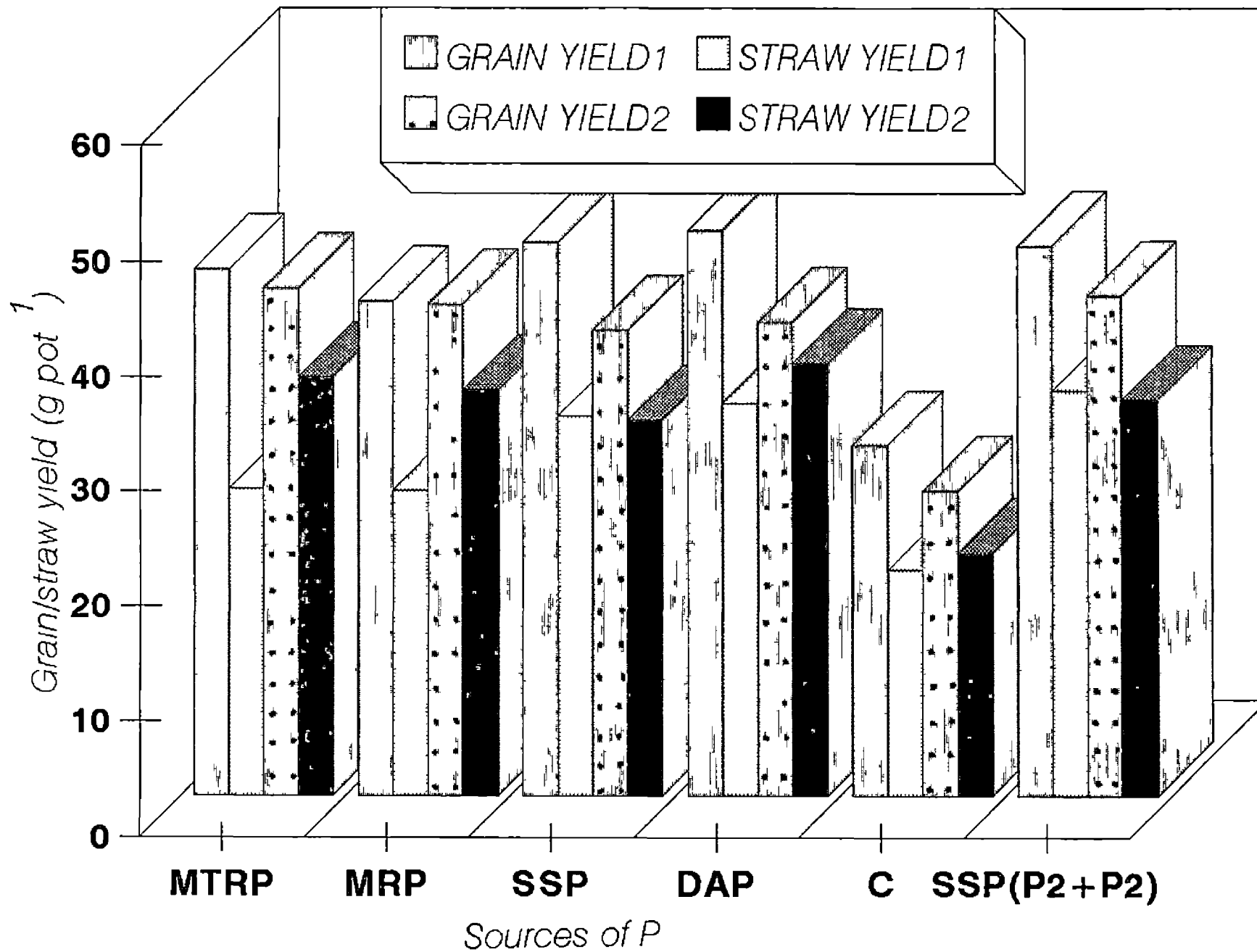


Fig 26 Grain & straw yield of first & second crop of rice as influenced by sources of P (Kuttanad alluvium)

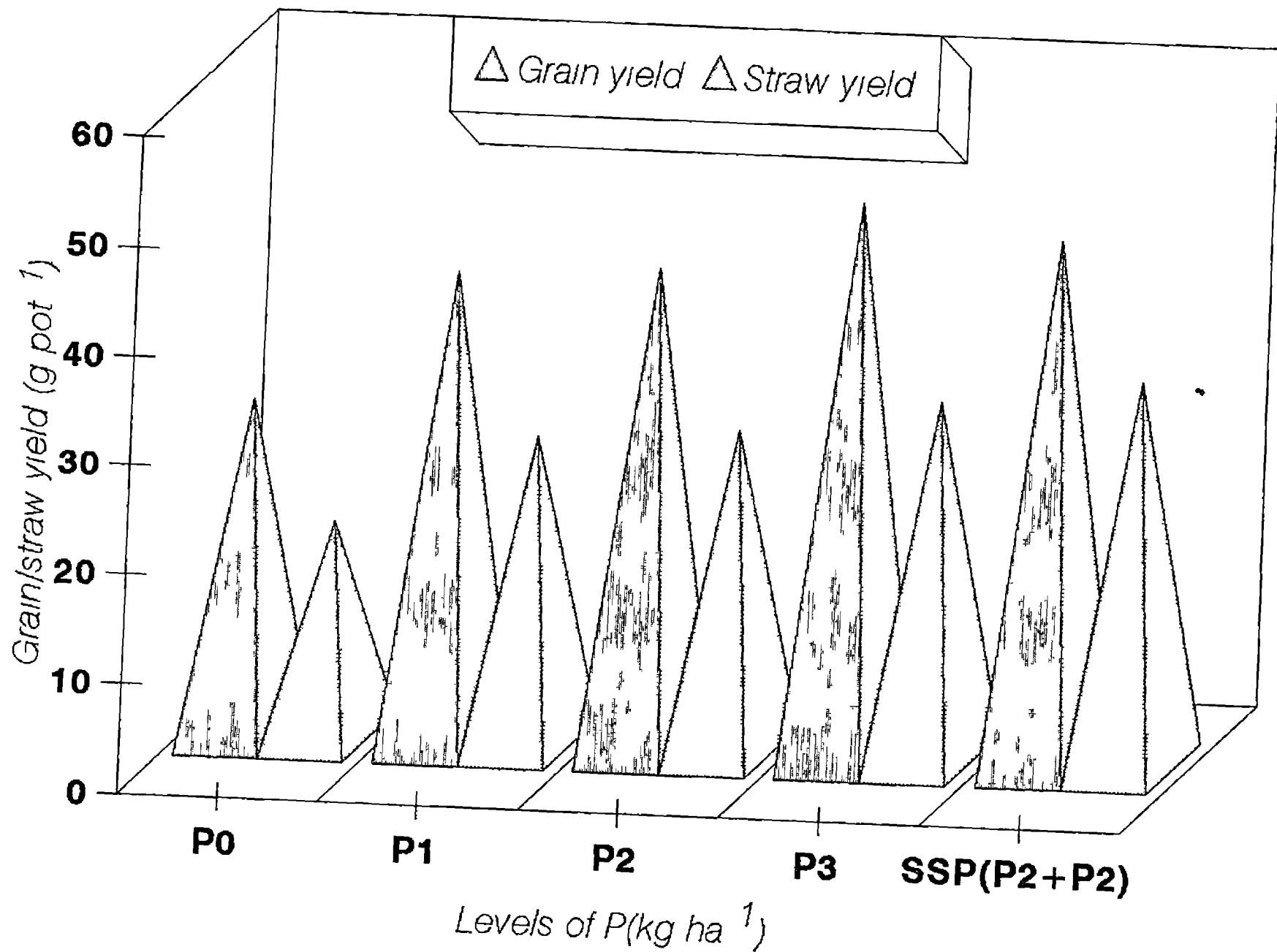


Fig 27 Grain & straw yield of first crop of rice as influenced by levels of P (Kuttanad alluvium)

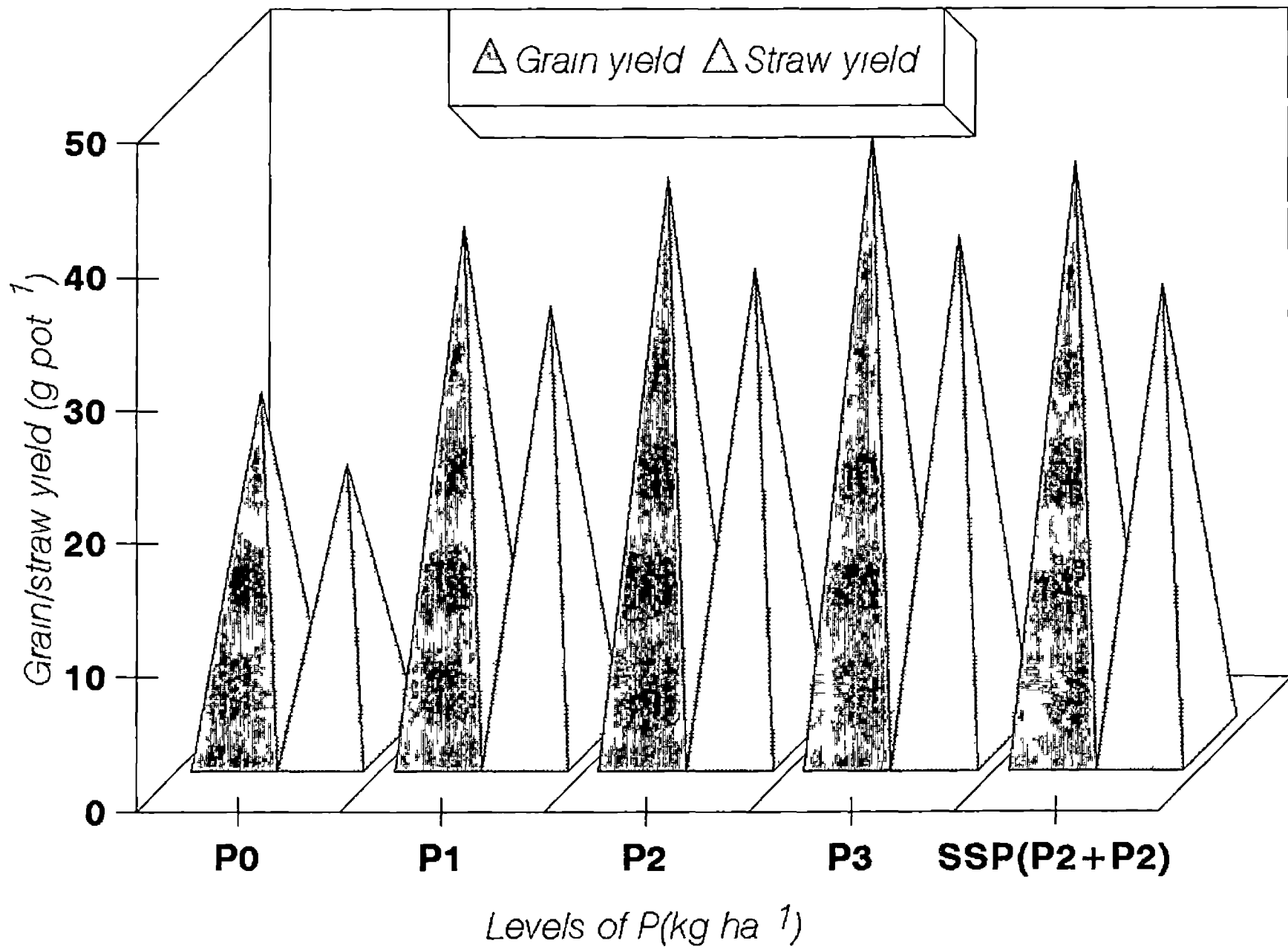


Fig 28 Grain & straw yield of second crop of rice as influenced by levels of P (Kuttanad alluvium)

Second crop

From the table it is evident that control treatment recorded the lowest grain yield (26 50 g pot¹) and straw yield (21 09 g pot¹) as compared to other treatments. The MTRP P₃ treatment was found to be the best and significantly higher than others in grain yield. This was followed by the treatments MRP P₃, DAP P₃ and SSP P₃. In the case of straw yield DAP P₃, MRP P₃ and MTRP P₃ were on par and significantly superior to others. In the case of SSP (P₂+P₂) the grain yield were found to be on par with SSP P₃, DAP P₃, MTRP P₂ and MRP P₂ while MTRP P₃ and MRP P₃ registered was significantly higher values. Straw yield recorded by the same treatments was on par with interactions of SSP.

From Fig 26 it is clear that MTRP was superior in grain yield followed by MRP, SSP and DAP. The water soluble sources, SSP and DAP recorded similar grain yield. In the case of straw yield DAP and MTRP were similar followed by MRP and SSP. The residual effect of phosphate added to a previous crop is much more apparent for rice than other crops. The availability of rice crop to utilize the residual P has been well documented (Patrick and Mahapatra 1968).

As in the case of first crop with increase in levels of applied P the yield of both grain and straw were found to be increased (Fig 28).

Laterite soil

The grain and straw yield of first and second crop as influenced by treatments are provided in Table 42.

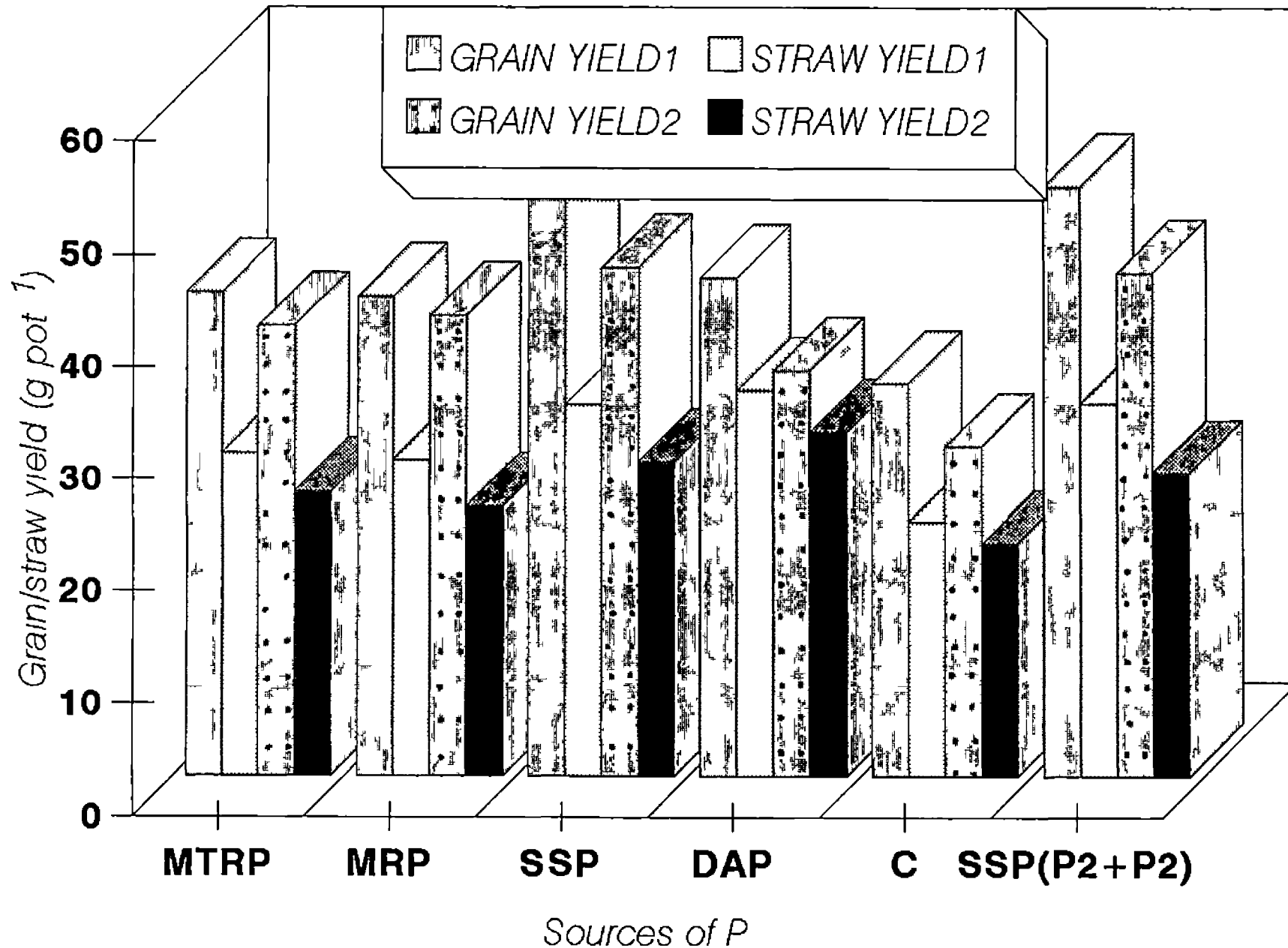


Fig 29 Grain & straw yield of first & second crop of rice as influenced by sources of P (laterite)

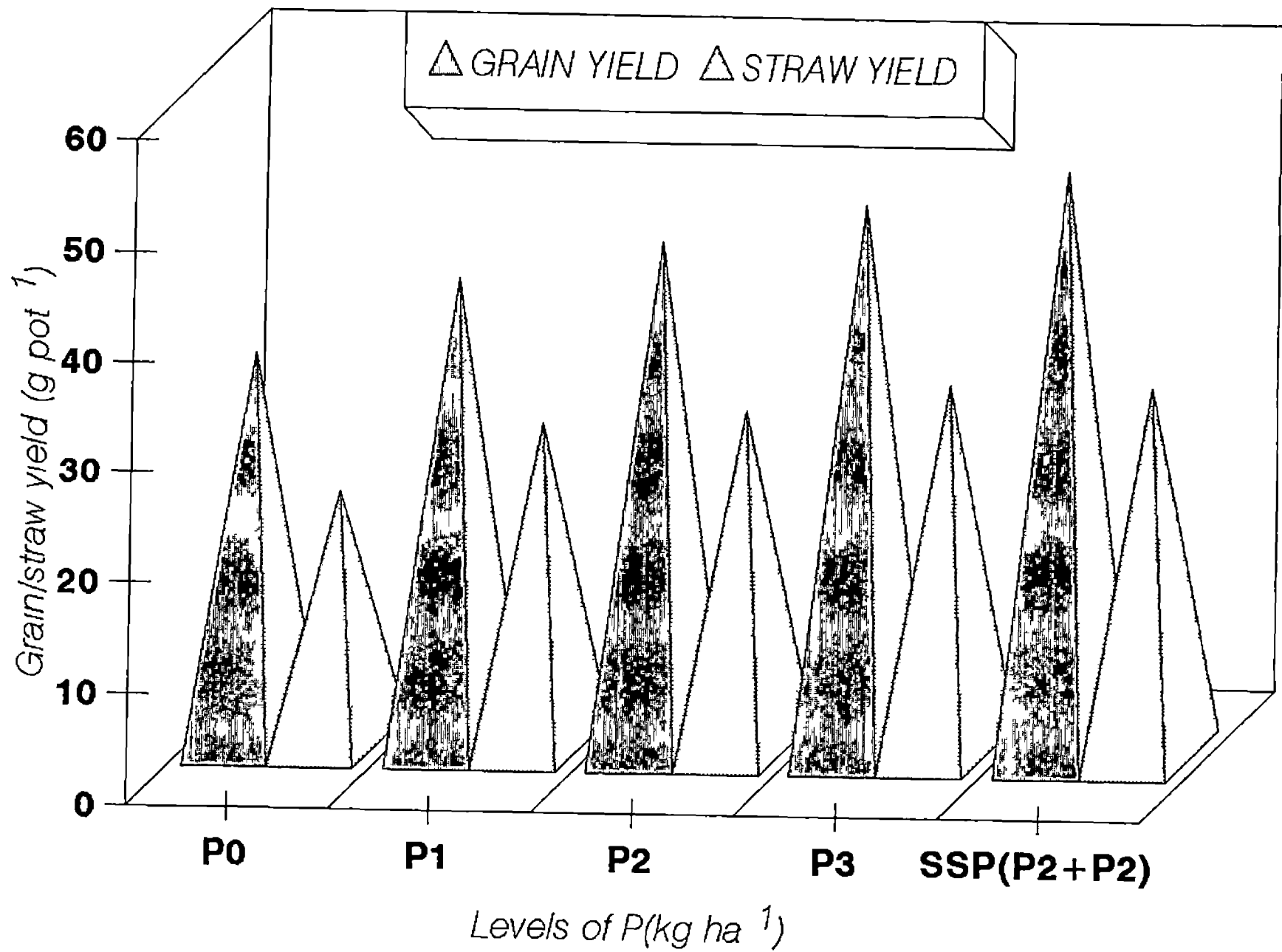


Fig 30 Grain & straw yield of first crop of rice as influenced by levels of P (laterite)

First crop

The control treatment registered the lowest grain yield (35.06 g pot⁻¹) and straw yield (22.67 g pot⁻¹) among the various treatment combinations. The absence of P along with poor uptake of other nutrients might have contributed for this drastic decrease in yield. Among the P applied treatments, SSP P₃ showed the best performance (56.17 g pot⁻¹). The treatments MTRP P₃, MRP P₃ and SSP P₃ were on par and were next to SSP P₃ in grain yield. With respect to straw yield, DAP P₃ was superior followed by SSP P₃. The treatment SSP (P₂+P₂) recorded almost the same yield as that of SSP P₂.

Mean values of grain and straw yield as influenced by sources in comparison to SSP (P₂+P₂) and control are provided in Fig 29. In general, SSP was superior in grain yield followed by the sources DAP, MTRP and MRP. While in straw yield, both SSP and DAP were on par and so were MTRP and MRP.

With increase in levels of P applied, there was a significant increase in grain and straw yield (Fig 31). The higher availability and uptake of P along with other nutrients might have increased the yield.

Second crop

From the data presented in Table 42, it was recognised that in general, there was a decrease in both grain and straw yield of the second crop as compared to the first. However, this decrease was more prominent with water-soluble sources.

The control treatment recorded 29.40 and 20.67 g pot⁻¹ as grain and straw yield respectively. The other treatments were significantly higher than control.

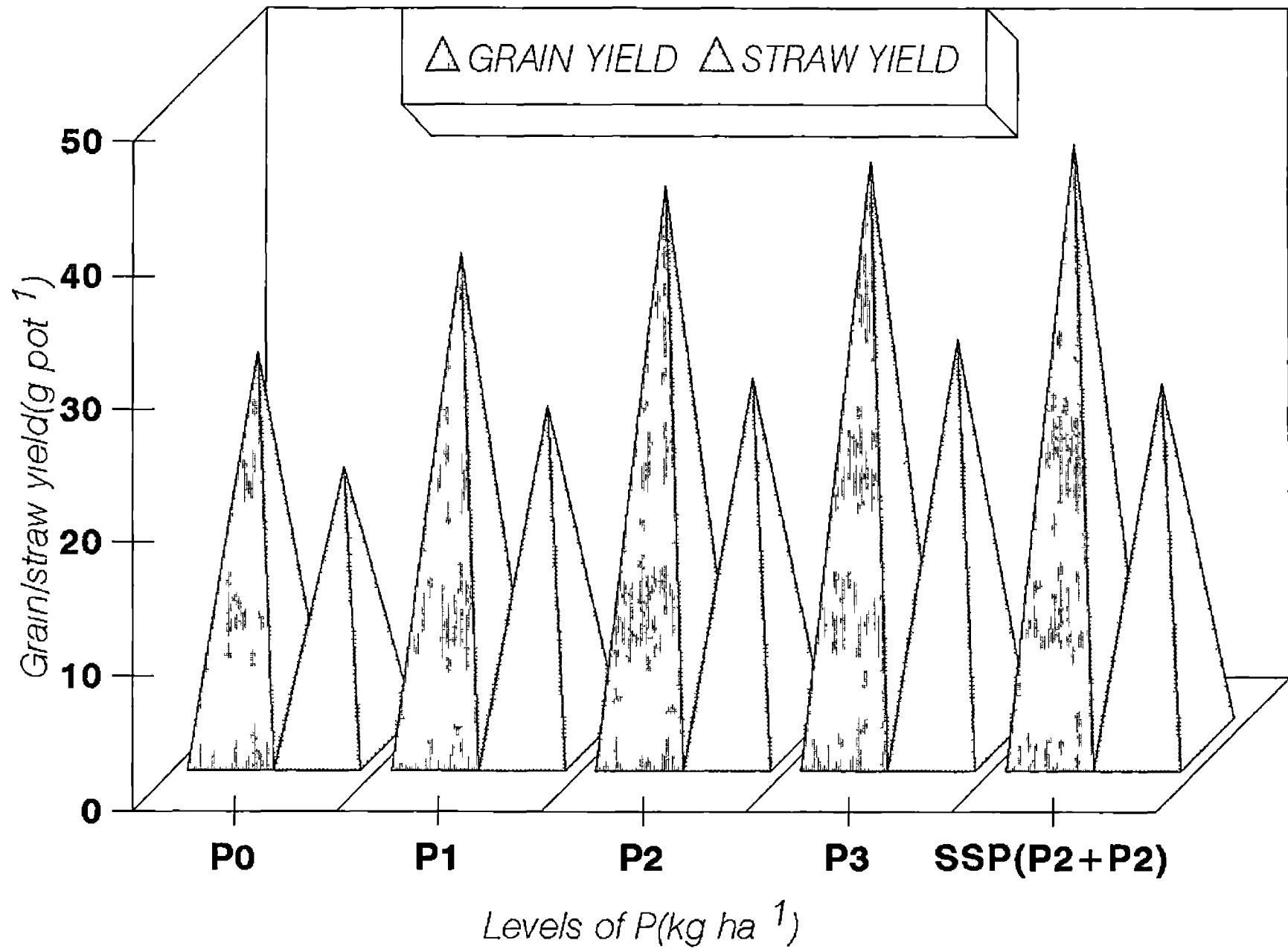


Fig 31 Grain & straw yield of second crop of rice as influenced by levels of P (laterite)

Among the treatments SSP P_3 was significantly superior (47.87 g pot⁻¹) followed by MTRP (44.70 g pot⁻¹) and MRP (44.02 g pot⁻¹) which were on par. Though the SSP was on par with other sources in available P at panicle initiation and harvest stages it was significantly higher than other sources. This may be the reason for increased yield registered by the same treatment. The crop uptake of P was maximum at the tillering stage and the P absorbed might have efficiently utilised for grain production. Phosphorus taken up beyond panicle initiation tended to accumulate in the grain straw and root with no advantage to the grain yield (Patnaik *et al* 1965). With regard to straw yield the treatment DAP P_3 was superior followed by SSP P_3 . The second addition of SSP (P_2+P_2) failed to give any additional yield as compared to SSP P_2 .

From Fig 29 it is evident that SSP was superior followed by MTRP, MRP and DAP for the grain yield of rice. In the case of straw yield DAP was superior followed by SSP, MTRP and MRP. Both the grain and straw yield indicated by the sources MTRP and MRP were almost similar.

With incremental dose of P there was increase in grain and straw yield (Fig 32).

Relative yield of rice as influenced by different treatments in Kuttanad alluvium and laterite soil types

Fertilisers form a significant input in intensive agriculture but they are energy and money exhaustive. Phosphorus occupies a key place in balanced fertiliser programmes and India's current P_2O_5 consumption is 2.88 million tonnes (Anon 1996). Conventional P sources like SSP and complex fertilisers like DAP are becoming costly and so alternate cheap sources of P for increased efficiency merit

significant importance. Any factor which can increase crop yields at a given level of input application will automatically increase fertiliser efficiency and in this process the cost of production per unit crop will be reduced.

In this context the fertiliser use efficiency of different P sources may be assessed based on relative yield. Since relative yield represents the per cent increase in yield over the conventional practice, the observed variation in relative yield values are explainable in the light of yield contributed by different phosphatic fertilisers. The yield, an important criteria to determine the efficiency of any fertiliser practice, is the ultimate reflectant of all the factors influencing the effective utilisation of nutrients.

Values based on relative yield for the first and second crop of rice in both the soil types are given in Table 43. Irrespective of the soil types, the control treatment recorded the lowest value for the first and second crop under study. On comparison of the treatments, it was observed that SSP P₃, DAP P₂, MTRP P₃ and DAP P₃ were superior to standard practice in the yield production of first crop under Kuttanad alluvium. However, the increase was more pronounced in SSP P₃ (111.7) and DAP P₃ (108.49). In the second crop of rice, MTRP P₂, MTRP P₃ and MRP P₃ were found to be superior to standard practice. In the laterite soil, SSP P₃ registered higher relative yield for both the first (106.86) and second crop (106.67) of rice.

The higher relative yield of water soluble P sources may be attributed to the high availability and uptake of major nutrients, especially P, during the first crop season. The increased availability of P must have enhanced the higher uptake of other nutrients as detailed in section 4.2.1. The poor relative yield of control may be due to the low uptake of nutrients owing to absence of P. In general, performance of

Table 43 Relative yield of rice as influenced by different treatments for the first and second crop season in Kuttanad alluvium and laterite

Treatment		Kuttanad alluvium		laterite	
No	Notation	First crop	Second crop	First crop	Second crop
1	MTRP P ₁	87 41	92 57	74 90	78 55
2	MTRP P ₂	94 21	100 13	80 53	90 22
3	MTRP P ₃	105 36	111 21	83 99	99 55
4	MRP P ₁	84 13	89 52	72 24	79 15
5	MRP P ₂	88 78	99 63	82 19	97 50
6	MRP P ₃	96 57	105 45	88 98	98 04
7	SSP P ₁	90 54	86 26	94 23	96 95
8	SSP P ₂	99 37	93 94	99 56	99 77
9	SSP P ₃	111 70	99 03	106 86	106 67
10	DAP P ₁	96 56	88 21	79 09	72 76
11	DAP P ₂	102 98	95 84	85 46	84 47
12	DAP P ₃	108 49	99 67	89 26	84 63
13	C	63 67	60 76	66 76	65 47

rockphosphates were better in Kuttanad alluvium as compared to laterite. This may be attributed to the high liming effect of these sources (section 4.1.1.5) and consequent better maintenance of higher concentration of P in the rhizosphere and subsequent less loss of nutrients through leaching.

The capability of laterite soil to buffer the P concentration of the soil solution might have governed the prolonged residual effect showed by the treatment SSP P₃. Nutrient availability depends not only on the concentration of soil solution present at any given time but also on the ability of the soil to maintain the nutrient concentration (Mengel and Kirkby^b 1978). This is particularly evident in the case of laterite with a good reserve of Fe-P and Al-P fraction (Table 17). All these fractions of P might have resulted in substantial replenishment of P in the soil solution from the solid phase of the soil. Due to the same reason, skipping of P for one or two seasons of rice may be possible for wetlands of laterite soil. In order to provide a satisfactory P concentration in the soil solution even after the harvest of first crop, the phosphate adsorption capacity should be higher as in the case of laterites.

These observations tend to conclude that rock phosphate especially MTRP is a better alternative to costly SSP and DAP for the wet land rice of Kuttanad alluvium and laterite. The performance of the crop was found to be much better for more acidic soils of Kuttanad alluvium. Almost all the sources of P provided an extended residual effect when the level of application was enhanced from 45 to 67.5 kg P₂O₅ ha⁻¹ during the first crop season of rice. There is a considerable residual effect from large applications of P fertilizer to high P sorbing soils like laterite. The efficiency of fertilizer P as well as soil P is increased when soils are limed with the use of rock phosphates.

Summary

SUMMARY

Study on the "Evaluation of Maton rockphosphate for the acid rice soils of Kerala" was conducted at the College of Horticulture during the period 1994-96 to evaluate the effectiveness of MTRP as a source of P compared to SSP, DAP and indigenous rockphosphate in acid rice soils of Kerala and to study the pattern of release of P from all the above sources. The investigation consisted of mainly two parts: an incubation study and a continuous pot culture experiment for two seasons. In order to ascertain the pattern of release of P under two typical rice soils of Kerala, Kuttanad alluvium and laterite, an incubation study was conducted for a period of eight months. The most important sources of phosphatic fertilisers used in the study were also compared with two treatments, i.e. no P treatment (native source) and continuous application of SSP (conventional practice). The pot culture experiment using Jaya variety of rice was conducted during Mundakan and Punja seasons so as to draw conclusions on the residual nature of P sources. The salient features of the results are summarised below:

1. The soil pH of Kuttanad alluvium and laterites were found to be gradually increased with periods of waterlogging irrespective of the treatments including the control. The pH of Kuttanad alluvium ranged from 3.90 to 5.08 and laterite from 4.90 to 5.65. In raising the pH of both the soil types, rockphosphates (MTRP and MRP) fared well as compared to water soluble phosphates (SSP and DAP).
2. Available nitrogen contents of the soil decreased with period of incubation irrespective of the treatments and it varied from 357.5 to 1122.60 kg ha⁻¹ in Kuttanad alluvium and from 302.40 to 740.10 kg ha⁻¹ in laterite soil.

- 3 Available P slightly increased with periods of incubation reached a maximum and then decreased. The peak content of available P in the water soluble phosphates was recorded on 120th day while for rockphosphates on 150th 180th day irrespective of the soil types
- 4 Between the two extracting agents Bray 1 (0.03 N NH_4F + 0.025 N HCl) and Mathew's triacid (0.06 N H_2SO_4 + 0.05 N oxalic acid + 0.06 N HCl) more available P was extracted by Mathew's triacid which was found to be following the same trend for both the soils under study
- 5 At 120th day of incubation maximum release of P was with SSP while at 240th day MTRP was superior for both the soil types
- 6 The release of available P increased with incremental doses of applied P from 22.5 to 67.5 kg P_2O_5 ha⁻¹
- 7 Available K decreased with periods of incubation. In Kuttanad alluvium it ranged from 459.2 to 683.20 kg ha⁻¹ while in laterite ranged from 110.4 to 185.9 kg ha⁻¹
- 8 In general maximum Ca release was registered at the 5th and 6th month of incubation after which it declined
- 9 In the case of Mg higher release was observed at the 1st two months of incubation and there was a gradual decrease towards the later periods
- 10 Higher content of available N, K, Ca and Mg were recorded in Kuttanad alluvium as compared to laterite soil

- 11 The most dominant P fraction was found to be Fe P followed by Al P and Ca P in both the soil types. There was increase in Fe P and Al P from 120th to 240th day while Ca P decreased. With application of different sources of P, Fe P and Al P was maximum with water soluble P at both 120th and 240th day while Ca P was maximum for rockphosphates followed by SSP.
- 12 With advancement of crop growth, available N, P, K, Ca and Mg decreased in both the soil types, whereas the uptake of these nutrients increased and the leachate losses were found to be decreased.
- 13 Uptake of P was higher in SSP and DAP treatments in first crop for both the soil types.
- 14 With respect to second crop, MTRP recorded relatively higher uptake in Kuttanad alluvium while in the case of laterite soil, SSP was superior in the initial stages but rockphosphates were found to be equally effective in the later periods.
- 15 There was no significant difference in leaching losses between the various sources irrespective of the soil types. The second crop recorded lower leaching loss of P as compared to first crop in both the soil types.
- 16 Among the nutrients, maximum leachate loss was recorded for N followed by K and P throughout the period of crop growth.
- 17 The grain yield in first crop in Kuttanad alluvium was higher for water soluble sources followed by MTRP and MRP while in the case of laterite, SSP was superior followed by DAP, MTRP and MRP. The sources MTRP and MRP were on par.

- 18 The grain yield in second crop of Kuttanad alluvium was significantly superior to MTRP followed by MRP SSP and DAP The sources SSP and DAP were on par In the case of laterite SSP was significantly higher followed by rock phosphates and DAP recorded the lowest yield The gram yield of SSP ($P_2 + P_2$) was found to be on par with MTRP P_2 and SSP P_3 while in laterite the yield was same as that of SSP P_2
- 19 With regard to straw yield in the first crop of both the soil types SSP and DAP were on par and were superior to rockphosphates
- 20 In the second crop in Kuttanad alluvium DAP and MTRP were on par while in laterite DAP was superior to other sources Straw yield in SSP ($P_2 + P_2$) was found to be on par with SSP P_2
- 21 With increase in levels of P applied there was significant increase in the grain and straw yield
- 22 The relative yield was higher for SSP P_3 in the first crop of both soil types In the second crop MTRP P_2 and MTRP P_3 and MRP P_3 registered higher relative yield in Kuttanad alluvium while in laterite soil SSP P_3 was superior

Plate 1 Crop stand in MTRP P₁ as compared to C and SSP P₁
in Kuttanad alluvium

Plate 2 Crop stand in MTRP P₂ as compared to C and MRP P₂
in Kuttanad alluvium

Plate 3 Crop stand in MTRP P₃ as compared to C and DAP P₃
in Kuttanad alluvium

1



2



3



**Plate 4. Crop stand in MTRP-P₂ as compared to C and SSP (P₂+P₂)
in Kuttanad alluvium**

Plate 5. Crop stand in MTRP-P₁ as compared to DAP-P₁ in laterite

Plate 6. Crop stand in MTRP-P₂ as compared to SSP-P₂ in laterite

4



5



6



Plate 7. Crop stand in MTRP-P₃ as compared to MRP-P₃ in laterite

Plate 8. Crop stand in MTRP-P₂ as compared to SSP (P₂+P₂) in laterite

Plate 9. Influence of MTRP-P₂ over C, MRP-P₂, SSP-P₂ and DAP-P₂ on panicle characteristics in Kuttanad alluvium

7



8



9

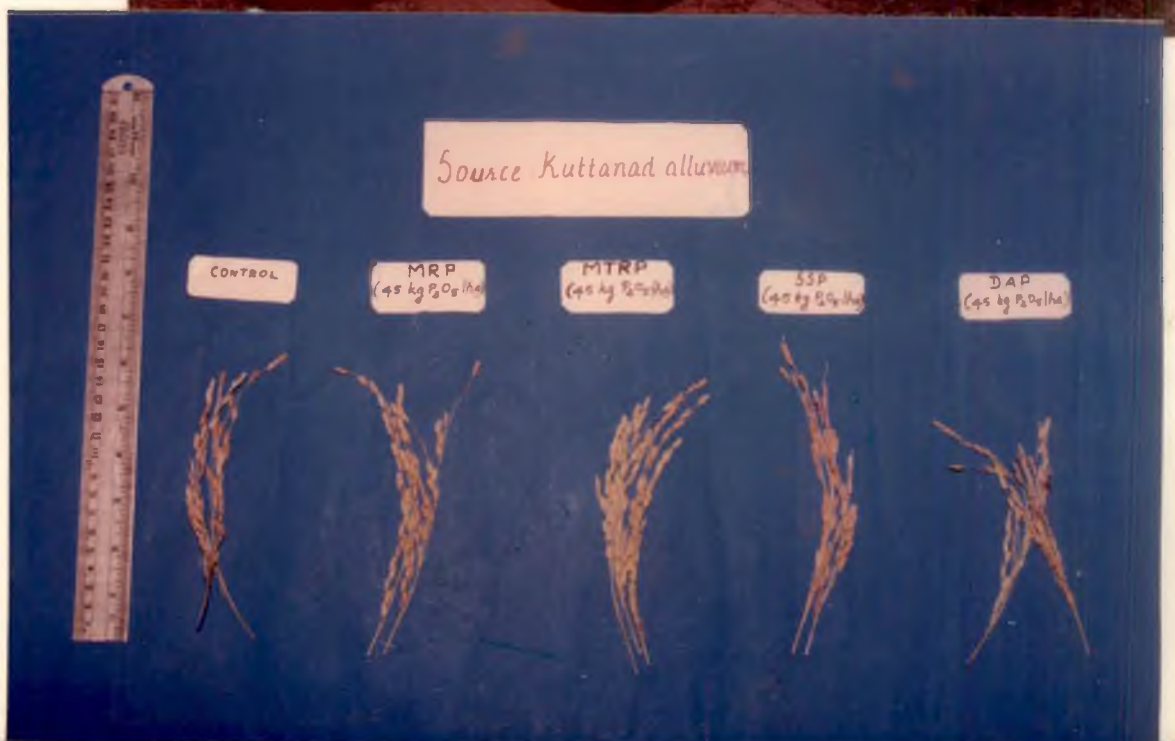


Plate 10. Influence of MTRP-P₃ over C, MRP-P₃, SSP-P₃ and DAP-P₃ in Kuttanad alluvium

Plate 11. Influence of MTRP-P₂ over C, MRP-P₂, SSP-P₂ and DAP-P₂ on panicle characteristics in laterite

Plate 12. Influence of MTRP-P₃ over C, MRP-P₃, SSP-P₃ and DAP-P₃ on panicle characteristics in laterite

10

Source Kuttanad alluvium



11

Source Laterite soil



12

Source Laterite soil



10

Source: Kuttanad alluvium



11

Source: Laterite soil



12

Source: Laterite soil



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Appendices

APPENDIX I

Taxonomical classification and description of the soil types under study

a) Kuttanad alluvium

Surface soil samples were collected from Nedumudy which belonged to Champakulam series of order inceptisol suborder aquept and great soil group Tropa quept

Description of surface horizon

Very dark grey (7.5 YR 3/1) moist clay loam massive firm sticky and plastic abundant fine fibrous roots slow permeability clear smooth boundary

b) Laterite

Surface soil samples were collected from Mudikodu which belonged to Kuttala series of order ultisol suborder udult and great soil group Kandudult

Description of surface horizon

Yellowish brown sandy clay loam weak granular fine non sticky very friable and soft very frequent small irregular hard iron stone nodules and concretions smooth gradual boundary

APPENDIX II
The details of fertiliser analysis

Content (%)	MTRP	MRP	SSP	DAP
Total P ₂ O ₅	22 90	20 04	16 31	46 25
Water soluble P ₂ O ₅			14 31	45 23
Citrate soluble P ₂ O ₅	0 12	0 16	0 11	0 21
Citrate insoluble P ₂ O ₅	1 60	1 35	0 15	
Nitrogen				17 60
Potassium	0 15	0 21	0 08	0 02
Sodium	0 19	0 20	0 44	0 11
Iron	0 28	0 19	0 04	0 14
Aluminium	1 64	1 65	1 89	2 50
Calcium	3 02	4 5	2 0	0 45
Magnesium				0 66
Silica	7 5	2 30	0 12	
Al P	0 007	0 010	0 184	0 299
Fe P	0 019	0 014	0 002	0 184
Ca P	5 30	5 63	2 016	0 059
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APPENDIX III
Inter relationship between available P (extracted by Bray I and Mathew s extractant)
and P uptake by rice
(Correlation coefficients)

	Bray No 1		Mathew s triacid	
	Kuttanad alluvium	Laterite	Kuttanad alluvium	Laterite
First crop				
Maximum tillering	0 900*	0 150	0 749*	0 250
Panicle initiation	0 013	0 500*	0 513*	0 242
Harvest	0 253	0 700*	0 126	0 700*
Second crop				
Maximum tillering	0 242	0 890	0 208	0 389
Panicle initiation	0 203	0 500	0 500	0 256
Harvest	0 203	0 250	0 014	0 250

* Significant at 5 per cent level

EVALUATION OF MATON ROCKPHOSPHATE IN THE ACID RICE SOILS OF KERALA

By

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ABSTRACT OF A THESIS

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ABSTRACT

A study was conducted at College of Horticulture during the period 1994-96 so as to assess the effectiveness of Maton rockphosphate (MTRP) as a source of P compared with single superphosphate (SSP) diammonium phosphate (DAP) and Mussoorie rockphosphate (MRP). In addition to the above sources a control treatment (with no P fertiliser) and another treatment with SSP at the rate of 45 kg P_2O_5 ha⁻¹ given twice (conventional practice) were also included. The P release from all the sources were monitored with an incubation experiment. In order to evaluate the response of fertilisers two continuous pot culture experiments were undertaken using Jaya variety of rice. Two acid rice soils of Kerala viz. Kuttanad alluvium and laterite were used for the study.

The variations in pH of the soil types indicated that there was increase with advancement of periods under waterlogging irrespective of the treatments including the control. Available N was high in Kuttanad alluvium as compared to laterite and was found to decrease with periods of incubation. The content of available P gradually increased with period of incubation, reached a peak at 120 days for water soluble phosphates (SSP and DAP) and 180 days for rockphosphates irrespective of the soil types. Comparing the two extractants Mathew's triacid extracted more available P than that of the Bray solution in both the soil types. Available K decreased with periods of incubations. In general Kuttanad alluvium recorded higher content of available nutrients as compared to laterite. In both the soil types the most dominant P fraction was Fe-P followed by Al-P and Ca-P.

While evaluating the pot culture experiment it was observed that available nutrient content decreased with advancement of crop growth. Even after

the harvest of second crop the residual effect of MTRP was recorded to be high. There was maximum uptake of P at the second crop season as compared to the first crop irrespective of the soil types. The leachate loss decreased with crop growth in both the soil types. But the maximum leachate loss was recorded for N followed by K and P. The grain yield as well as the relative yield was found to be maximum for the laterite soil on comparison to Kuttanad alluvium for the first and second crop of rice. In Kuttanad alluvium DAP and MTRP yielded better in the first and second crop respectively. While in laterites SSP was found to be better in grain yield as compared to other sources. The source DAP was superior to others in straw yield for both the soil types with increase in levels of P application there was increase in grain and straw yield.