

## **Effect of micronutrients on vegetative growth, yield and quality of strawberry (*Fragaria x ananassa* Duch.) cv. Chandler**

**G. Sudha and S. Saravanan**

Received May 27, 2017 and Accepted August 25, 2017

**ABSTRACT :** Among the fruit crops, Strawberry is one of the important fruit crops. It is a man made hybrid, which belongs to the family *Rosaceae* and its chromosome number  $2n=8X=56$ . An experiment was conducted at Research field, Department of Horticulture, SHIATS, Allahabad, during the year 2015-2016. The experiment was laid out in Randomised Block Design having thirteen treatments of micronutrients at different levels and one micronutrient combination with three replications. The treatments consisted of  $ZnSO_4$  (0.2%, 0.4%, 0.6%), Boron (0.2%, 0.4%, 0.6%),  $FeSO_4$  (0.2%, 0.4%, 0.6%) and its combination of different levels. The results indicated that application of the 0.4% ( $ZnSO_4$ + Boron+  $FeSO_4$ ) was found to be best in terms of maximum plant height (15.65cm), plant spread (22.17cm), number of leaves (9.11), number of fruits per plant (34.40), fruit yield per plant (165.42 g), TSS (10.33 °B), minimum acidity (0.43%), fruit length (5.51 mm), specific gravity (1.88), pH (4.02), Shelf-life (2.51 days) and maximum TSC (8.61%)  $T_{10}$  treatment, maximum Vitamin-C (50.87mg/100g)  $T_{12}$  treatment. Studies indicated that pre-harvest foliar application of  $ZnSO_4$ , Boron and  $FeSO_4$  are useful for improving the yield and quality of the fruits.

**Key Words:** Strawberry (*Fragaria x ananassa* Duch.), micronutrients, growth, yield, quality.