

## **Indian Journal of Agricultural Research**

Effect of Inorganic Fertilizers and Stingless Bee Pollination on  
Increasing Productivity of Corn (*Zea mays* L.)

Dewirman Prima Putra, Murnita , Jasmi

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The right area of expert

Thank you, for reminding me about the right area of expert namely biology especially pollinator.

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**Effect of Inorganic Fertilizers Optimization and Stingless Bee Pollination in-on**  
**Increasing the Products Productivity of Corn (*Zea-Zea mays* L.)**

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### ABSTRACT

This study ~~was aims aimed to get the~~ at optimization of the increased production of corn by using optimized dose of inorganic fertilizers and pollination with the help of stingless bees without the sting. ~~The study was carried out in at Korong Gadang sub-district, Kuranji District, Padang City (0° 57' LS, 100° 21' BT) at an altitude of~~ with a height of 20 m above sea level (dpl). ~~The experiment used a randomized block design with~~ comprised of 4 treatments and 3 replications laid out in randomized block design replicated thrice. The results of the study ~~shows showed~~ positive influence of the contribution amount doses of inorganic fertilizer and stingless bee pollination ~~to the increase in on~~ corn production. ~~The experiment used a randomized block design with 4 treatments and 3 replications. The study was carried out in Korong Gadang sub-district, Kuranji District, Padang City (0° 57' LS, 100° 21' BT) with a height of 20 m above sea level (dpl).~~ There was results showed an increase in corn products per fruit number of seeds per cob and cobs and per plot is more dominated by the due to fertilization paradigm than the pollination paradigm stingless bees. Increased seed production per plot for due to fertilizer use an organic ranageranged between 17.25 to 25.06% compared to organic fertilizer manures. ~~Nevertheless, the~~ The pollination process can could increase the production per plot in the range of 3,98 - 6.66% compared to wind pollination. Thus Pollination with *Trigona laeviceps* can ccould help seed weight and product yield per ha, but must be when accompanied by the use application of inorganic fertilizers. The use of organic fertilizer manures has not been able to could not meet the nutrients nutrient requirement of the crop so that the production quantity is still and hence production was low.

**Keywords:** Optimization, Fertilization, Pollination, Production, Stingless bee

### INTRODUCTION

Currently, farmers just assume that fertilizer is the only activity input that contributes to improving agricultural output. even Further they believe the that bigger the fertilizer dose they provide then will the higher the production ion they would earn. They do not know that the

34 role of ~~animals-bees~~ that help the pollination process (pollinators) ~~can-could~~ increase their  
35 ~~agricultural output~~ crop yield. They ~~often~~ ~~worst condition is that they~~ think the pollinator is a  
36 pest ~~for-of~~ the plants.

37 Pollination ~~or-pollination~~ is a ~~method-of-sexual-reproduction-of-plants-which-is-a~~  
38 mechanism of transfer of pollen from anther in male flowers to female flower stigma (Evans  
39 and Spivak, 2006; Higo, ~~Rice, Winston and Lewis, et al.,~~ 2004). Pollination by pollinators is  
40 an important ecosystem service ~~because-as~~ 35% of global food supply comes from plants that  
41 depend on animal pollination (Klein *et al.*, 2007) and 70% of all fruit and vegetable crops  
42 show an increase in the size, quantity, quality, or stability of the harvest when pollinated by  
43 bees or other animals (Ricketts *et al.* 2008; Nicholls and Altieri 2012).

44 Some research ~~ers results-have~~ show ~~n~~ that an increase in both the quality and quantity  
45 of agricultural products ~~due to pollinators~~. In Kakamega, Kenya, there ~~is-was~~ an increase in  
46 ~~results-yield ranging~~ between 25% - 99% of various plants with the help of bees as pollinating  
47 insects (*pollinators*) (Kasina, 2007). The results of research on

48 chili plants, ~~showed~~ an increase in fruit ~~weight-yield~~ per plant by 49.75% -66.46% and  
49 production per ha by 40.83% -54.26% pollinated by *Trigona* sp (Putra, *et al.*, 2016). In  
50 sunflower (*Helianthus annuus*) an increase in seed ~~production-yield~~ of 78.37 % ~~was observed~~,  
51 when compared with plants without access to pollination ~~made~~ by insects (Paiva, 2000).

52 Corn is a monoecious plant ~~because-with~~ male and female flowers ~~are found~~ observed  
53 in ~~one-the same~~ plant. Corn plants are protandry, wherein most varieties, male flowers appear  
54 (anthesis) 1-3 days before female flower hair appears (silking) (Malerbo-Souza *et al.*, (2008).  
55 ~~Therefore, the~~ Corn crop is ~~called-~~ ~~mostly~~ cross-pollinated ~~crops~~, where most of the pollen  
56 comes from other plants. ~~Corn plants that only have pollen and do not have nectar, then the~~  
57 ~~arrival-of insects only on male flowers.~~ Cross-pollinated-pollination always require ~~agent~~  
58 pollinators that carry pollen from one flower to ~~anthera~~ stigma of another flower.

59 ~~From-On the basis of the two paradigms of increasing agricultural products described~~  
60 ~~the above observations, it is necessary to an experiment was conducted research-on to study~~  
61 ~~the effect of Inorganic-inorganic Fertilizers-fertilizers Optimization-and in combination with~~  
62 ~~Stingless-stingless Bee-bee Pollination-pollination in Increasing-increasing Corn-corn Crop~~  
63 ~~yield (Zea mays L.) This study aims to evaluate whether the fertilizing paradigm makes a~~  
64 ~~beneficial contribution optimal or the pollination paradigm in corn plants.~~

## 65 MATERIALS AND METHODS

66 This ~~research has been~~ experiment was carried out ~~in-at~~ Korong Gadang Sub-District,  
67 Kuranji District, Padang City (~~0°57'LS, 100°21'BT~~) which is ~~included in the~~ considered to

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68 ~~be~~ lowlands. ~~(20 m dpl)~~. The experiment consisted of 4 treatments viz. P<sub>0</sub> (Fertilizers  
69 ~~inorganic and pollination by wind~~, P<sub>1</sub> (Organic fertilizers and pollination by *Trigona*  
70 ~~laeviceps~~, P<sub>2</sub> (Inorganic fertilizers and pollination by *Trigona laeviceps*, P<sub>3</sub> (inorganic  
71 ~~fertilizers and pollination by other pollinators laid out in randomized block design (RBD)~~  
72 ~~replicated thrice. The sowing was done on~~ ,

### 73 **Research Implementation**

74 ~~Plant maintenance begins with a~~ raised bed ~~of~~ length 350 cm, width 50 cm and a  
75 height of 20 cm with ~~the distance between beds 50 cm~~. Each treatment consisted of four plots,  
76 ~~with at~~ a spacing of 75 x 25 cm ~~on a bed size of~~ and one hole for one plant. The beds are  
77 ~~locked in a waring where the confinement is made in the size of 4m x 4m x 3m~~. Single doses  
78 ~~dose~~ of N, P, and K fertilizer used were 350 kg urea, 175 kg SP-36 single super phosphate, and  
79 100 kg KCl potassium chloride / ha was applied at the time of sowing.

### 80 **Experimental design and data analysis**

81 ~~The experimental design used in this study is a Randomized Block Design (RAK),~~  
82 ~~with 4 treatments and 3 replications where treatment: P<sub>0</sub> (Fertilizers inorganic and pollination~~  
83 ~~by wind, P<sub>1</sub> (Organic fertilizers and pollination by *Trigona laeviceps*, P<sub>2</sub> (Inorganic fertilizers~~  
84 ~~and pollination by *Trigona laeviceps*, P<sub>3</sub> (inorganic fertilizers and pollination by other~~  
85 ~~pollinators. Observations were recorded on~~ parameters consisted of cob length, ear cob  
86 diameter, number of combs, weight ~~per of ear cob~~, ~~the~~ weight of 100 seeds, and ~~production~~  
87 ~~seed yield~~ per plot.

88 The data ~~obtained recorded~~ were analyzed using analysis of variance (ANOVA)  
89 ~~technique~~ and if  $F_{hit} > F_{tab}$  5%, then ~~continued~~ Duncan ~~New~~ Multiple Range Test  
90 (DNMRT) ~~tests~~ was carried out to check the statistical superiority of the treatments. Data  
91 analysis was performed using SPSS 16 statistical software.

## 92 **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### 93 **Cob length, ~~Con-Cob~~ diameter, ~~and amount~~ number of combs**

94 The average length of cob, cob diameter and ~~a lot~~ number of ~~corn~~ combs with various  
95 fertilizing and pollination treatments are presented in Table 1. The results showed ~~that~~ the  
96 length of the cob and ~~the many~~ number of combs per plot recorded with ~~of the~~ P<sub>1</sub> treatment  
97 were significantly ~~different lower as compared to from the treatments of~~ P<sub>0</sub>, P<sub>2</sub>, and P<sub>3</sub>, ~~and~~  
98 P<sub>0</sub> ~~treatment~~, P<sub>2</sub>, and P<sub>3</sub> did not differ ~~markedly significantly with~~ ~~not~~ each other. ~~Treatment~~  
99 ~~e~~ Cob diameter ~~in~~ P<sub>0</sub> ~~no~~ was significant effect at par with ~~treatment~~ P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub>, but was  
100 significantly different ~~as compared to~~ P<sub>1</sub> ~~treatments~~. P<sub>1</sub> and P<sub>2</sub> were at par with each other.  
101 ~~treatment is similar to the treatment of~~ P<sub>2</sub>.

102 ~~Significantly Significant different differences~~ in cob length, ~~ear-cob~~ diameter and  
103 number of ~~combs per plot were observed~~ in treatment P<sub>1</sub> ~~with treatments as compared to~~ P<sub>0</sub>,  
104 P<sub>2</sub>, and P<sub>3</sub>. ~~this-This is-may be~~ due to ~~the treatment P<sub>1</sub> the fact that fertilizer used is~~ organic  
105 fertilizer ~~used in that treatment~~, whereas in other treatments ~~the fertilizer used is~~ inorganic  
106 fertilizer ~~was used~~. ~~Although N-nutrient content~~ of organic fertilizer, ~~although complete~~  
107 ~~comprises~~ both macro and micro ~~elements~~, the percentage is very low. Hartatik and Widowati  
108 (2010), reported ~~that nutrient-the~~ content of N, P and K; ~~in cow manure was~~, respectively  
109 1.53%, 0.67%, and 0.70%. ~~%, respectively~~. Besides that, ~~its-the nutrient~~ availability ~~as plant~~  
110 ~~nutrients~~ in the soil, ~~especially P~~ is ~~slowly availablealso slow~~; ~~especially P-nutrients~~. The ~~P~~  
111 ~~has a~~ role ~~of the P-element~~ in flower formation ~~influences the formation~~ and size of cob  
112 ~~because-theas~~ cob is the development of female flowers. Therefore the formation of cobs did  
113 not develop optimally. Kuswandi (2007) ~~reports-reported~~ that ~~P is necessary~~ to encourage the  
114 formation of flowers and fruit; ~~it is necessary to have P. element~~. Thus, in corn plants, the  
115 formation of ~~maximum- more number of cobs~~ is ~~very necessary-forneeds~~ balanced  
116 fertilization. Iskandar (2010) ~~explains-explained~~ that the use of a balanced inorganic fertilizer  
117 ~~can-could~~ increase the growth and ~~product-yield~~ of corn, ~~and can provide high levels of~~  
118 ~~corn-cob production~~.

119 Increased ~~production seed -yield of corn~~ by inorganic fertilization ~~treatment~~ ranged  
120 from 17;25-25.06% ~~as~~ compared to organic fertilizers. ~~In the treatment of~~ ~~Although~~ P<sub>1</sub>,  
121 ~~although the pollution iswas~~ assisted with *T. Laeviceps* ~~pollination~~, ~~and-~~ the application of  
122 organic fertilizer, ~~recorded~~ the lowest production; ~~this-This is-may be~~ due to ~~the-lower~~  
123 length ~~and -of the cob, the~~ diameter of the cob ~~and-besides fewer~~ ~~the-smallest~~ number of  
124 ~~combs~~. Pollination ~~on-thein~~ corn ~~crop-to the tune of~~ 95% ~~of the pollination process comes is~~  
125 ~~due to~~ ~~from-the~~ pollens ~~from of-~~ other plants. Therefore, ~~with the help of~~ the wind can help  
126 the pollination (Paliwal, 2000).

127 **Weight per cob** ~~Cob weight~~, **Weight of 100 seed weights** and **Product-Seed yield per plot**,

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128 Average weight ~~per-of~~ cob, 100 ~~seeds-seed weight~~ and ~~product-seed yield~~ per plot with  
129 various fertilization and pollination treatments are presented in Table 2. The results showed  
130 that P<sub>1</sub> treatment ~~showed-recorded the lowest~~ weight ~~per-of~~ cob, ~~the-~~ weight of 100 seeds and  
131 ~~products-yield~~ per plot ~~were lowest and were significantly different fromas compared to~~ other  
132 treatments. P<sub>3</sub> treatment (~~another pollinator~~) ~~provides~~ ~~recorded~~ the highest ~~results-values~~ of ~~the~~  
133 ~~observation parameter weight per plot~~ ~~weight of cob~~, ~~the-~~ weight of 100 seeds and ~~product~~  
134 ~~seed yield~~ per plot.



135 The fertilizer application ~~assisted by along with pollinator~~ *T. laeviceps* ~~and other~~  
136 ~~pollinators~~ ~~can could~~ increase the weight ~~per of~~ cob, ~~weight~~ 100 seeds, and ~~product~~  
137 ~~seed yield~~ per plot. This ~~can could~~ be ~~seen observed~~ in the treatments P<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>3</sub> which ~~are~~  
138 ~~were~~ significantly ~~different from the~~ higher as compared to ~~P<sub>0</sub> P<sub>0</sub> where~~ (pollination  
139 ~~was~~ with the help of wind) ~~alone~~. Increased ~~production~~ ~~corn yield due to by~~ *T. laeviceps* and  
140 other pollinator ranged from 3, 98–6.66% as compared to wind pollination.

141 Di-Giovanni *et al.*; (1-995) ~~explained, because reported that~~ the size of corn pollen is  
142 large and heavy, the ability of the wind to fly pollen is not too far away. Therefore pollinator  
143 services are needed. However, ~~because as~~ pollinator ~~access to~~ visit to flowers is not very  
144 ~~relevant common~~ (there is no nectar in corn), pollinator assistance to help the pollination  
145 process does not work as it should.

146 Insects, such as bees, have been observed to collect pollen from corn tufts, but they do  
147 not play an important role in cross-pollination ~~because as~~ there is no incentive to visit female  
148 flowers (Ray-n-or *et al.*, 1972, ~~);~~ ~~Added by~~ Silveira-Neto *et al.* (1976); ~~and~~ Wiese, 2000).  
149 Only bees of *A. mellifera* species ~~that~~ constantly visit the male flowers of corn plants (86.11%  
150 - 100%).

## 151 CONCLUSION

152 ~~Fertilization Application of inorganic fertilizer~~ in corn ~~is given mainly inorganic~~  
153 ~~fertilizers, where there is recorded~~ an increase in cob length, ~~ear cob~~ diameter, number of  
154 combs, weight ~~per of ear cob~~ and ~~an~~ increase in ~~the product of~~ seed yield ranging 17,25 -  
155 25.06% as compared to organic fertilizer. The role of pollinators ~~to help the process of in~~  
156 pollination in Corn corn is not very relevant. Increased corn crop production due to the help of  
157 *T. laeviceps* pollinator and other pollinators ranged from 3,98 -6.66% compared to wind  
158 pollination.

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211  
 212 **Table 1.** Average length of tongko, diameter of cob and number of corn combs with various  
 213 treatments

Treatment	Long Cob Length (cm)	Diameter Cob diameter (cm)	amountNo. of Combs/ (row)
P <sub>0</sub>	16.23 <sup>a</sup>	5.35 <sup>a</sup>	15.78 <sup>a</sup>
P <sub>1</sub>	14.470 <sup>b</sup>	5.08 <sup>b</sup>	14,67 <sup>b</sup>
P <sub>2</sub>	16.38 <sup>a</sup>	5,21 <sup>a,b</sup>	15.78 <sup>a</sup>
P <sub>3</sub>	16.85 <sup>a</sup>	5,31 <sup>a</sup>	16.22 <sup>a</sup>

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214 <sup>a, b, c, d</sup> Different superscripts in the column show very significant differences (P <0.01)  
 215 **P<sub>0</sub>-P<sub>0</sub>** (Inorganic fertilizer and wind pollination), P<sub>1</sub> (Organic fertilizer and pollination by  
 216 *Trigona laeviceps*, P<sub>2</sub> (Inorganic fertilizer and pollination by *Trigona laeviceps*, P<sub>3</sub> (Inorganic  
 217 fertilizer and pollination by other pollinators).

218  
 219 **Table 2.** Average weight per cob, weight of 100 seeds and weight per variety of corn plots  
 220 Treatment

Treatment	Weight per-of Cob (g)	100 seed weight Seed-Grain (g)	Weight perSeed yield per Plot (kg)
P <sub>0</sub>	261.89 <sup>b</sup>	33.30 <sup>c</sup>	9,910 <sup>c</sup>
P <sub>1</sub>	223.35 <sup>c</sup>	31.27 <sup>d</sup>	8,690 <sup>d</sup>
P <sub>2</sub>	264.20 <sup>b</sup>	34.73 <sup>b</sup>	11,540 <sup>b</sup>
P <sub>3</sub>	279.33 <sup>a</sup>	38.48 <sup>a</sup>	12,090 <sup>a</sup>

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221 <sup>a, b, c, d</sup> Different superscripts in the column show very significant differences (P <0.01)

222 P<sub>0</sub> (Inorganic fertilizer and wind pollination), P<sub>1</sub> (Organic fertilizer and pollination by *Trigona*  
223 *laeviceps*, P<sub>2</sub> (Inorganic fertilizer and pollination by *Trigona laeviceps*, P<sub>3</sub> (Inorganic fertilizer  
224 and pollination by other pollinators).

## Acknowledgement of Revised Article "A-503"

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Dear Dr. Dewirman Prima Putra,

Thank you for sending the revised article no. **A-503** entitled "**Inorganic Fertilizers Optimization of and Stingless Bee Pollination in Increasing the Products of Corn (zea mays l.)**". It has been passed on to the editorial section for final assessment and soon you will be informed further.

--

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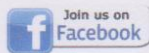
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