

S No. 23(R)

Annamalai nagar  
02.01.2012

From:  
V.Jaiganesh,  
S/o Mr.S.Vaikundaperumal,  
26/142, Sadogopan nagar,  
Chidambaram – 608 002,  
Cuddalore DT, Tamil Nadu.

To:  
The Central Public Information officer (RTI Act)  
Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)  
Krishi Anusandhan Bhawan-I,  
Pusa,  
New Delhi 110 012 INDIA

02/RTI  
12/1/2012

Sir,

Sub: RTI Act – Request information – Reg.

Sir I am to state that, i am asked some clarifications under Right to Information Act (RTI Act).

The clarifications are

1. Why Silicon fertilizers are not commercially recognizable in our country. Potassium silicate, Sodium Silicate, Calcium silicate and some silicon fertilizers which enhance the plant growth and decrease the disease incidence of various crop plants. But still what is the reason for Silicon fertilizers are not commercially available in fertilizer market. Please
2. Salicylic acid is one of the plant growth promoter or plant activator or chemical inducer which improve the plant growth. For the last one and half decades several publications produced by Indian as well as foreigners. But still it's not come into the farmers level. Please

Sir, may be these questions are foolish one or wrongly one. Please clarify my doubts with Your scientists. This for my academic purpose and not asked for any other purpose.

Herewith I have enclosed Copy of Money Order amount Rs.50 towards the cost of RTI act fee.

Thank you

Yours faithfully,

(V.JAIGANESH)

51/PJ  
11/1/2012

RTI  
7  
11/1/12

39 / 1 - 2012 / RTI / IISS

**BY SPEED POST**

F. No. RTI/2011-12/2

Date: 4-2-2012

To,

V. Jaiganesh  
S/o Mr. S. Vaikundaperumal  
26/142, Sadogopan Nagar  
Chidambaram  
Cuddalore district  
PIN - 608 002  
Tamil Nadu

**Sub:** Information under RTI - Reg.

Sir,

Kindly refer to your letter number Nil dated 2-1-2012 for seeking information under RTI act from ICAR, New Delhi. The information as desired by you is enclosed herewith for your kind perusal. Kindly acknowledge the receipt of the same.

Sincerely yours

*Reddy*

K. Sammi Reddy 4/2/2012

Principal Scientist

Indian Institute of Soil Science (IISS)

Nabiabgh, Berasia Road

Bhopal - 462 038 (M. P.)

*J/C*

**ENCL: As Said Above (1 page)**

*P/06/02/12*

CC:

Dr. P. P. Biswas, Principal Scientist, NRM Division, Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR), Krishi Anusandhan Bhawan - II, PUSA, New Delhi - 110 012

1/2

**Query 1:** Why Silicon fertilizers are not commercially recognizable in our country. Potassium silicate, Sodium silicate, Calcium silicate and some silicon fertilizers which enhance the plant growth and decrease the disease incidence of various crop plants. But still what is the reason for Silicon fertilizers are not commercially available in fertilizer market.

**Reply 1:** No research work is done at Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal on Silicon fertilizers. Therefore, it may not be possible for us to answer the question.

However, from the limited literature, it is understood that very few studies have been conducted at various institutes in India to study the effect of silicon fertilizers on rice, sugarcane, etc. Generally, systematic research information on the extent of deficiency of Si in Indian soils, delineation of Silicon responsive soils, response of crops to silicon fertilizers on different soils, economics of silicon use in different crops including benefit : cost ratio etc is required for popularizing silicon fertilizers in the country.

Available Indian literature indicate that crops such as rice, and sugarcane responded to silicon sources such as Fly ash, Basic slag, Rice Hull ash, Bagasse ash, Rice straw compost, Fortified rice straw compost, silicate slag, calcium silicate etc due to its positive effect on disease resistance, reducing insect injury, and thereby crop yield. Plant residues are used as Si source either intentionally or incidentally all over the world. Recycling of plant Si like rice hull ash, rice straw and other materials are more common in India and other developing countries. However, the acceptability of different silicon sources apart from rice hull ash depends on cost benefit ratio of using different materials. Intensive studies are needed on these aspects in India.

For further information, it is requested to go through the proceedings of "Indo-US Workshop on Silicon in Agriculture" held at UAS, Bangalore during 25-27 February 2010. Proceedings may be available with Dr. N. B. Prakash, Associate Professor, Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS), Bangalore.

**Query 2:** Salicylic acid is one of the plant growth promoter or plant activator or chemical inducer which improve the plant growth. For the last one and half decades several publications produced by Indian as well as foreigners. But still it is not come into the farmers level.

**Reply 2:** Indian Institute of Soil Science (IISS), Bhopal is not concerned with the growth promoters. This institute is working mostly on fertilizers. We request you to contact the Indian Institute of Horticulture Research (IIHR), Bangalore or other institutes working on growth promoters.