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Influence of Silicon and Phosphorus on Growth, Yield and Nutrient Uptake by Maize (*Zea Mays L.*) in *Typic Ustochrepts* Soils

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Abstract: Aapplication of Si @ 300 mg Si kg⁻¹ soil along with P @ 40 mg P kg soil⁻¹ recorded significantly highest green and dry shoot yield $(93.03 \text{ g pot}^{-1}, 52.25 \text{ g pot}^{-1}, \text{ respectively})$ of maize in loamy sandy and silty loam soils, whereas, the highest root yield $(13.39 \text{ g pot}^{-1})$ was also recorded under the same treatment in silty loam soil. The highest chlorophyll content in maize leaf (22.05 cci) was noted with the application of Si @ 400 mg Si kg⁻¹ soil along with P @ 40 mg P kg soil⁻¹ in both the soils. Results of investigation indicated that application of silicon @ 300 mg kg⁻¹ and phosphorus at 40 mg P₂O₅ kg⁻¹ gave maximum maize yield under P stress condition and also improved silicon, phosphorus and micronutrients utilization by maize plants.

Key Words: Growth, Maize, Nutrient uptake, Phosphorus, Silicon, Yield