

RESEARCHES ON THE DYNAMICS OF PHYTOMASS ACCUMULATION IN WINTER WHEAT CULTIVATED ON BROWN SOILS

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Abstract

The knowledge of phytomass accumulation dynamics in winter wheat, correlated to concrete edaphic and climatic conditions, race and cultivation technologies, offers the possibility of guiding the process toward the realization of higher and stable production efficiency per surface unit.

Research and production results were employed at the elaboration of the present work, mainly original researches developed by author referring to the phytomass accumulation dynamics in winter wheat cultivated on brown-luvic soils in central area of the Western Plain of Romania. Data from scientific literature were also used in the present work.

The theoretical and practical importance as compared to other similar works is enhanced by a strict reference to a particular area in western Romania.

The present work is adding new information to an actual scientific area of interest and offers technical solutions for efficient technical interventions in correlation with biological capacity of the plant to put them into value.

Key words: phytomass, fertilisation, phenophase, climatic conditions, accumulation, brown luvic soil

INTRODUCTION

Most of the reserches led in Romania, were centrated on the influence of crop rotation on yields, namely on phyttomass accumulation and produced an hierarchical ordination of crop rotations with regard to wheat from very beneficial to satisfactory in this order: pea, beans, winter rape, bots, linseed, soja, red clover, potato, sugar beet, sunflower, corn etc. (Zamfirescu, 1977, Popescu, 1980, Bîlteanu, 1993).

Munteanu L.,. and others (2008) after long run tests demonstrated the importance of crop rotation on wheat yields on brown-red soils in Romanian Plain. On clay-illuvial podzols, the introduction of ameliorative plants such as red clover represented an element of outmost importance for wheat yield increase.

Dinca, D. and others (1982) made some references on the role of crop rotation on wheat yield, on organic accumulation in whole plant and grains, respectively.

It is demonstrated that after 10-year monoculture, wheat yield decreases continously as compared to crop rotations. It fluctuates as a consequence of changing climatic conditions. Under such circumstances, fertilization does not induce a significant yield increase. A particularly

important problem is linked to wheat crop increment, which must fit the rising consumption needs of world population (*Guş, Bandici, 2001*).

The author presents a synthesis of researches developed in Romania, emphasizing the positive correlation between plant growth, phytomass accumulation and climatic evolutions within cultivated areas of Romania (*Bandici, 1997*).

The complex influence of crop rotation is in relation with fertilization. *Lazany, 2000, 2003*) remarked that on acid soils, the fertilizers' effect was greater in crop rotation as compared to monocultures characterized by a low phytomass accumulation correspondingly, a low yield.

Advances in phytomass accumulation dynamics in winter wheat pedo-climatic conditions of Western Plain of Romania were made by *Zăhan P. and Zăhan R. (1989a)* during the studies on Transsylvanian wheat race.

The influence of each of studies factors on dry phytomass accumulation in wheat shows that crop rotation and fertilization determines essential differences in what concerns the accumulation of dry phytomass (*Zăhan, Rodica Zăhan, 1989b*).

Concerning the influence of fertilization on phytomass accumulation in winter wheat, frequent researches put in a direct relationship the phytomass accumulation and utilized fertilizers.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The research was set at Agrozootechnical Researches Experimental Station (A.R.E.S) Oradea (Romania), between 2006-2009, on soils characterized by temporary excess of humidity as brown luvic soils are having the realization of total phytomass as function of forerunner plant, agrofund and phenophase.

The experimental design was polyfactorial in subdivides stands using as factors interaction: forerunner plant, agrofund and phenophase. As biological material, the Delia race of wheat was employed.

Experimental results (phytomass accumulation) were analysed by ANOVA (analysis of variance) and expressed as g of dry weight/10 plants.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

There is a positive correlation between the quality of crop rotation plant and the evolution of values found in grain phytomass accumulation. Thus, as compared to wheat monoculture with an average value of 12.55 g d.w./ 10 plants, corn and pea as wheat crop rotation plants determined distinct to very significant crop increments between 1.38-5.10 g d.w./10 plants (table 1).

Wheat cultivated after pea registered highest values in grain as well as in whole plant, surpassing significantly to distinctly significant the values obtained after corn (1.46-5.32 g d.w./ 10 plants).

Concerning the obtained agrofund (see data in table 1), it was observed a positive correlation between total phytomass accumulation in grains and fertilization level.

As compared to unfertilized alternative with respect to total plant phytomass accumulation and grain biomass accumulation, mineral fertilization and mineral- organic fertilization determined very significant increments between 5.15-7.29 g d.w./ 10 plants and 5.08-7.00 g d.w./10 plants respectively, in grain. Highest values were found in organic-mineral fertilization alternative (25.36 g d.w./10plants and 18.54 g d.w./10 plants).

Dynamics of phytomass accumulation are expressed in table 2. Data analysis reveal an increase in plant phytomass accumulation from beginning of winter to maturity (0.53-46.98 g d.w./10 plants).

During the first part of vegetation period, the differences in accumulation are reduced (including the first internode phase), there is an important increase in values immediately after this period (beginning with straw differentiation phase) to 12.04 g d.w./10 plants (straw elongation phase).

Biggest differences between phenophases was found during straw elongation phase to ear differentiation phase when there was an significant increase to a maximum of 16.36 g d.w./10 plants.

Compared to the beginning of winter phenophase in wheat (0.53 g d.w./10 plants), the increment of phytomass accumulation is very significant varying between 0.42 and 46.45 g d.w./10 plants.

Concerning the grain, there is a parallel between the phenophase and phytomass accumulation from 12.09 g d.w./10 plants during the early spring to 19.11 g d.w./10 plants at complete ripening, including the interval from 2.94 g d.w./10 plants to 7.02 g d.w./10 plants.

Percent participation of synthesized substances before fructification in grain differentiation was of 26.4% and represented a particularly important contribution of organic mass accumulated prior to grain differentiation to realization of grain efficiency per plant.

Table 1

The effect of crop rotation plant and agrofund on dry phytomass accumulation dynamics in winter wheat on brown luvic soils, Oradea 2006-2009

| Investigated factor | Quantity of dry phytomass (g. d.w./10 plants) | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--------------|--------------|-------|--------------|--------------|------------|---|
| | Total dry phytomass, of which: | | | Grain | | | Straw g | % |
| | g | Difference ± | Significance | g | Difference ± | Significance | | |
| a. Crop rotation | | | | | | | | |
| Wheat monoculture (Mt) | 19.69 | - | - | 12.55 | - | - | 7.14 | - |
| Corn (W-C) | 21.07 | +1.38 | *** | 14.01 | +1.46 | ** | 7.06 | - |
| Pea (P-W-C) | 23.29 | +3.60 | *** | 17.18 | +4.36 | *** | 6.11 | - |
| Pea (P-W-C-C) | 24.79 | +5.10 | *** | 17.87 | +5.32 | *** | 6.92 | - |
| LSD 5 % | | 0.139 | | | 2.27 | | | |
| LSD 1 % | | 0.115 | | | 3.28 | | | |
| LSD 0,1 % | | 0.292 | | | 4.80 | | | |
| b. Created agrofund | | | | | | | | |
| N ₀ P ₀ (Mt) | 18.07 | - | - | 11.54 | - | - | 6.53 | - |
| N ₁₂₀ P ₈₀ | 23.32 | +5.15 | *** | 16.62 | +5.08 | *** | 6.60 | - |
| N ₁₀₀ P ₈₀ + 10 t/ha manure | 25.36 | +7.29 | *** | 18.54 | +7.00 | *** | 6.82 | - |
| LSD 5 % | | 0.050 | | | 0.92 | | | |
| LSD 1 % | | 0.070 | | | 1.35 | | | |
| LSD 0,1 % | | 0.093 | | | 2.27 | | | |

Statistical significations:

- for *Total dry phytomass*: under 0.050 = insignificant (-); 0.050-0.070 = significant (*); 0.070-0.093 = distinct significant (**); over 0.093 = very significant (***)

- for *Grain*: under 0.92 = insignificant (-); 0.92-1.35 = significant (*); 1.35-2.27 = distinct significant (**); over 2.27 = very significant (***)

Table 2

The effect of phenophase on dry phytomass accumulation dynamics in winter wheat
on brown luvic soils, Oradea 2006-2009

| Investigated factor | Quantity of dry phytomass (g. d.w./10 plants) | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--------------|--------------|-------|--------------|--------------|------------|------|
| | Total dry phytomass, of which: | | | Grain | | | Straw g | % |
| | g | Difference ± | Significance | g | Difference ± | Significance | | |
| At winter beginning | 0.53 | - | - | - | - | - | 0.53 | - |
| At the end of winter | 0.95 | +0.42 | *** | - | - | - | 0.95 | - |
| The beginning of vegetation | 2.56 | +2.03 | *** | - | - | - | 2.56 | - |
| The formation of first interned | 5.04 | +4.51 | *** | - | - | - | 5.04 | - |
| Straw elongation | 12.04 | +11.51 | *** | - | - | - | 12.04 | - |
| The formation of spike | 28.04 | +27.87 | *** | - | - | - | 28.04 | - |
| Beginning of seeds formation | 37.86 | +37.33 | *** | - | - | - | 37.86 | 26.4 |
| Early ripening | 42.28 | +41.75 | *** | 12.09 | - | - | 30.19 | - |
| Incomplete ripening | 45.44 | +44.91 | *** | 15.03 | +2.94 | *** | 30.41 | - |
| Complete ripening | 46.98 | +46.45 | *** | 19.11 | +7.02 | *** | 27.87 | - |
| LSD 5 % | | 0.096 | | | 1.03 | | | |
| LSD1 % | | 0.124 | | | 1.42 | | | |
| LSD 0,1 % | | 0.159 | | | 1.82 | | | |

Statistical significations:

- for *Total dry phytomass*: under 0.096= insignificant (-); 0.096-0.124 = significant (*); 0.124- 0.159 = distinct significant (**); over 0.159 = very significant (***)

- for *Grain*: under 1.03 = insignificant (-); 1.03-1.42 = significant (*); 1.42-1.82 = distinct significant (**); over 1.82 = very significant (***)

CONCLUSIONS

During the last phenophase, stem contributed substantially to total phytomass accumulation being positively correlated to crop rotation plant and created agrofund.

Stem weight of total biomass raised proportionally to agrofund increment due to mineral and organo-mineral fertilization, regardless to crop rotation plant, being more accentuated in the case of wheat monoculture and after corn as crop rotation plant respectively after pea fertilized with mineral fertilizers.

Main contribution to phytomass accumulation had ear during last phenophase, regardless to crop rotation plant and agrofund, crop rotation plant and mixed fertilization, as compared to wheat monoculture.

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