ABSTRACT

An investigation was performed on the effect of pH and the form of nitrogen on the growth of young clonal cacao in sand cultures using the Mitscherlich Pot Technique. The preparation and use of silver coated sand is described as a method of preserving sterile cultures.

It is concluded that ammonium nitrogen is preferable to nitrate nitrogen during the early stages of the growth of cacao, and that the optimum pH range for cacao lies near the neutral point.

The literature on the effect of the form of nitrogen upon plants has been reviewed from the aspects of physiology, biochemistry and soil chemistry and the conclusions to be drawn from this survey are discussed with reference to the accepted agricultural practices of nitrogenous manuring.