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S U M M A R Y

The present nutritional status of some soils, under citrus, in North Trinidad is presented in this work.

The use of soil and leaf analysis coupled with visual symptoms in measuring the nutritional status of the crop is demonstrated. By means of these techniques it has been shown that the present nutritional status of the citrus crop on these soils is very low and this is reflected on the yields; these being less than half those obtained under more adverse conditions in California.

It has been shown that micronutrient deficiencies can be related to soil type being more pronounced on the lighter textured soils. This has been shown to be a result of the higher soil acidity associated with these soils. That these deficiencies can be rectified by liming has been demonstrated. These soils have low cation exchange capacities and the dangers of over-liming have been reviewed with particular reference to the estate at Piarco.

The effect of the low organic status of these soils on nutrient availability through low cation exchange capacities and poor soil structure is shown in this work.

Finally recommendations have been made for improving these soils by use of mulches. The use of Kudzu cover crop on two sites Piarco and Cumuto has been shown to have had little effect on the nitrogen status.

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