

CONTENTS

CHAPTER		PAGE
	LIST OF TABLES	.. v
	LIST OF FIGURE CAPTIONS	.. vi
	LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	.. xx
	SYNOPSIS	.. xxi
1	INTRODUCTION	.. 1
	1.0 General	.. 2
	1.1 Aim of Present Work	.. 2
	1.2 Scope of the Work	.. 5
	1.3 Thesis Format	.. 6
2	LITERATURE SURVEY ON CONTROLLED RELEASE GLASS BASED FERTILIZERS	.. 9
	2.0 Introduction	.. 10
	2.1 Nutrients and Plant Growth	.. 10
	2.2 Agronomic Aspects	.. 15
	2.3 Some General Aspects of Controlled Release Fertilizers (CRF)	.. 17
	2.4 Literature on CRF	.. 23
	2.5 Dissolution Mechanism	.. 39
	2.6 Procedures Adopted in Leaching Studies	.. 57
3	EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE	.. 62
	3.0 Introduction	.. 63
	3.1 Raw Materials	.. 63
	3.2 Raw Materials Characterisation	.. 65

CHAPTER		PAGE
	3.3 Methods of Preparation of Controlled Release Fertilizer (CRF)	.. 91
	3.4 Solubility Measurement of Different CRF	.. 94
	3.5 Leaching Studies	.. 96
	3.6 pH Measurement	.. 101
	3.7 Microstructure Study	.. 101
	3.8 Pot Culture Experiments	.. 101
4	THERMAL ANALYSIS (TA) AND X-RAY DIFFRACTION (XRD) STUDIES	.. 105
	4.0 Introduction	.. 106
	4.1 Characterisation of Single Systems	.. 106
	4.2 Characterisation of Binary Systems	.. 108
	4.3 Characterisation of Ternary Systems	.. 114
	4.4 Characterisation of Rock Phosphate and Component Mixtures	.. 117
	4.5 Potassium Sulphate System	.. 127
	4.6 Green Pellet Characterisation	.. 131
	4.7 Conclusions	.. 139
5	LEACHING OF MELTED CRF SAMPLES AND GREEN PELLETS : RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	.. 142
	5.0 Introduction	.. 143
	5.1 Results of Leaching in Aqueous Media	.. 143
	5.2 Variation in pH during Leaching	.. 149
	5.3 Effects of pH of Aqueous Medium on the Release of Different Nutrients	.. 151

CHAPTER		PAGE
	5.4 Effect of Particle Size on Release of Nutrients	.. 161
	5.5 Special Leaching Experiments	.. 163
	5.6 Leaching of CRF Pellets	.. 167
	5.7 Leaching in Aqueous Medium of pH ~6.7	.. 167
	5.8 Leaching in Aqueous Media of pH 4.0 and 5.0	.. 174
	5.9 Dissolution Mechanism	.. 195
	5.10 SEM Studies	.. 197
	5.11 Conclusions	.. 206
6	LEACHING STUDIES IN PRESENCE OF SAND AND SOIL	.. 210
	6.0 Introduction	.. 211
	6.1 Leaching of Modified Slag Under Sub- merged Condition of Soil	.. 212
	6.2 Leaching of Green CRF Pellets Under Sub-merged Condition of Sand and Soil	.. 215
	6.3 Build up of Nutrient in Soil	.. 232
	6.4 Conclusions	.. 236
7	POT CULTURE EXPERIMENT WITH MODIFIED SLAG AND CRF PELLETS	.. 237
	7.0 Introduction	.. 238
	7.1 Pot Culture Experiment with the Modi- fied Slag - CRF	.. 239
	7.2 Pot Culture Experiment with Green Pellets	.. 252

CHAPTER	PAGE
7.3 Photographic Record of Growth	.. 264
7.4 Kinetics of Plant Growth	.. 267
7.5 Kinetics Analysis of Growth Data	.. 290
7.6 Microstructure Studies	.. 301
7.7 Conclusions	.. 301
8 CONCLUSIONS	.. 306
APPENDIX I COMPOUNDS IDENTIFIED BY XRD STUDIES WITH CORRESPONDING 2θ AND d VALUES	.. 315
APPENDIX II SOLUBILITY OF PHOSPHORUS IN DIFFERENT SOLVENTS(%P)	.. 316
APPENDIX III SOME SPECIFIC CHARACTERISTICS STATUS OF PROCESSED SOIL OBTAINED FROM AGRICULTURE FARM HOUSE	.. 317
APPENDIX IV AVERAGE WEIGHT OF 1000 GRAINS REFERENCES	.. 318