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Chapter 12

MINERAL NUTRITION

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Classification of essential elements

Based on quantity required by plants

Macronutrients (9)
(Morethan 10m mole kg^{-1} of dry matter)
C, H, O_2, N_2, P, S, K, Ca, Mg

Micronutrients (8)
(Lessthan 10m mole kg^{-1} of dry matter)
Fe, Mn, Cu, Mo, Zn, BO, Cl, Ni

Apart from these sodium, cobalt and selenium are beneficial elements

Based on functions

- Structural - CHON
- Energy related - Mg - chlorophyll
  P - in ATP
- Activation/Inhibition of enzymes
  - Mg^{2+} - Rubisco & Pepcase
  - Zn^{+2} - Alcoholdehydrogenase
  - Mo - Nitrogenase
- Osmotic potential - K^+

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