

Supplementary Material Table S1. Soil surface (A_p ; 0.0–0.2 m) main physical^a and chemical^b properties before the experiment started (mean \pm SE, $n = 3$)

Attributes	Units	Depth (m)		
		0.0–0.2		
pH (CaCl ₂)	-	4.5	\pm	0.1
Sand	g kg ⁻¹	550	\pm	13
Silt	g kg ⁻¹	80	\pm	3
Clay	g kg ⁻¹	370	\pm	19
Texture		Sandy-clay		
SOM	g kg ⁻¹	19.0	\pm	1.2
P	mg kg ⁻¹	16.6	\pm	0.6
K ⁺	mmolc kg ⁻¹	1.7	\pm	0.2
Ca ²⁺	mmolc kg ⁻¹	13.0	\pm	0.6
Mg ²⁺	mmolc kg ⁻¹	12.0	\pm	1.6
CEC	mmolc kg ⁻¹	63.7	\pm	0.9
B	mg kg ⁻¹	0.22	\pm	0.04
Cu	mg kg ⁻¹	1.8	\pm	0.1
Fe	mg kg ⁻¹	15.0	\pm	0.6
Mn	mg kg ⁻¹	18.8	\pm	0.6
Zn	mg kg ⁻¹	0.6	\pm	0.1

^a Teixeira [20]. ^b Raji et al. [21]. SOM: soil organic matter. CEC: Cation-exchange capacity.

Supplementary Material Table S2. Equation for micronutrient behavior in soils; function was obtained considering soil elements concentration after 2 years of maize cultivation vs. CSS applied rates.

Nutrient	Equation (WA)	R ²	Equation (BR)		R ²
			2017/18		
B	$\hat{y} = 0.282 + 0.007x$	0.74*	$\hat{y} = 0.235 + 0.010x$		0.55**
Cu	$\hat{y} = 2.3^{NS}$	--	$\hat{y} = 2.3^{NS}$		--
Fe	$\hat{y} = 35.325 - 3.630x + 0.220x^2$	0.71**	$\hat{y} = 23^{NS}$		--
Mn	$\hat{y} = 20^{NS}$	--	$\hat{y} = 22^{NS}$		--
Zn	$\hat{y} = 0.992 + 0.030x$	0.26*	$\hat{y} = 1.2^{NS}$		--
2018/19					
B	$\hat{y} = 0.030x + 0.078$	0.79**	$\hat{y} = 0.0001 + 0.076x - 0.004x^2$		0.99**
Cu	$\hat{y} = 1.5^{NS}$	--	$\hat{y} = 1.4^{NS}$		--
Fe	$\hat{y} = 17.0^{NS}$	--	$\hat{y} = 13.6^{NS}$		--
Mn	$\hat{y} = 15.580 - 0.412x$	0.96**	$\hat{y} = 11.9^{NS}$		--
Zn	$\hat{y} = 0.060 + 0.226x$	0.90**	$\hat{y} = 1.5^{NS}$		--

*, ** for $p \leq 0.05$, ≤ 0.01 , respectively; ^{NS} = not significant; WA = whole area; BR = between rows.

Supplementary Material Table S3. Equation for investigated micronutrient behavior in leaves; function was obtained considering leaf element concentration after 2 years of maize cultivation vs. CSS applied rates.

Nutrient	Equation (WA)	R ²	Equation (BR)	R ²
<i>2017/18</i>				
B	$\hat{y} = 15^{\text{NS}}$	--	$\hat{y} = 33.310 - 4.519x - 0.254x^2$	0.99**
Cu	$\hat{y} = 28.950 - 1.130x$	0.95**	$\hat{y} = 52.300 - 8.720x - 0.480x^2$	0.99**
Fe	$\hat{y} = 1.260x^2 - 23.030x + 208.825$	0.47**	$\hat{y} = 117^{\text{NS}}$	--
Mn	$\hat{y} = 70^{\text{NS}}$	--	$\hat{y} = 96.750 - 8.150x + 0.460x^2$	0.42**
Zn	$\hat{y} = 40^{\text{NS}}$	--	$\hat{y} = 34.625 + 0.500x$	0.47**
<i>2018/19</i>				
B	$\hat{y} = 5^{\text{NS}}$	--	$\hat{y} = 27.547 - 4.119x + 0.194x^2$	0.54**
Cu	$\hat{y} = 7^{\text{NS}}$	--	$\hat{y} = 3.943 - 8.759x - 0.215x^2$	0.56**
Fe	$\hat{y} = 98^{\text{NS}}$	--	$\hat{y} = 33.785 + 14.856x - 0.760x^2$	0.90**
Mn	$\hat{y} = 28^{\text{NS}}$	--	$\hat{y} = -28.455 + 13.702x - 0.752x^2$	0.92**
Zn	$\hat{y} = 22.182 + 0.562x$	0.74*	$\hat{y} = 27^{\text{NS}}$	--

*, ** for $p \leq 0.05$, ≤ 0.01 , respectively; ^{NS} = not significant; WA = whole area; BR = between rows.

Supplementary Material Table S4. Equation for investigated plant parameters; function was obtained considering investigated plant parameters after 2 years of maize cultivation vs. CSS applied rates.

Parameter	Equation (WA)	R ²	Equation (BR)	R ²
<i>2018</i>				
PH	$\hat{y} = 211^{\text{NS}}$	--	$\hat{y} = 209^{\text{NS}}$	--
HEI	$\hat{y} = 129^{\text{NS}}$	--	$\hat{y} = 129^{\text{NS}}$	--
SD	$\hat{y} = 2.4^{\text{NS}}$	--	$\hat{y} = 2.4^{\text{NS}}$	--
NRE	$\hat{y} = 13.500 + 0.825x - 0.042x^2$	0.91**	$\hat{y} = 18^{\text{NS}}$	--
NGE	$\hat{y} = 612^{\text{NS}}$	--	$\hat{y} = 625^{\text{NS}}$	--
SW	$\hat{y} = 270^{\text{NS}}$	--	$\hat{y} = 268^{\text{NS}}$	--
Yield	$\hat{y} = 5639.015 + 197.044x$	0.84**	$\hat{y} = 7539^{\text{NS}}$	--
<i>2019</i>				
PH	$\hat{y} = 225^{\text{NS}}$	--	$\hat{y} = 227^{\text{NS}}$	--
HEI	$\hat{y} = 137^{\text{NS}}$	--	$\hat{y} = 138^{\text{NS}}$	--
SD	$\hat{y} = 21.3^{\text{NS}}$	--	$\hat{y} = 20.7^{\text{NS}}$	--
NRE	$\hat{y} = 17^{\text{NS}}$	--	$\hat{y} = 17^{\text{NS}}$	--
NGE	$\hat{y} = 543^{\text{NS}}$	--	$\hat{y} = 552^{\text{NS}}$	--
SW	$\hat{y} = 291^{\text{NS}}$	--	$\hat{y} = 292^{\text{NS}}$	--
Yield	$\hat{y} = 9566^{\text{NS}}$	--	$\hat{y} = 9767^{\text{NS}}$	--

*, ** for $p \leq 0.05$, ≤ 0.01 , respectively; ^{NS} = not significant; WA = whole area; BR = between rows. PH = plant height; HEI = height from ear insertion; SD = stem diameter; NRE = number of rows per ear; NGE = number of grains per ear; SW = 1,000 seed weight.