Eleven experiments in three sets, with three important field crops of the Gangetic Delta region of West Bengal, were carried out at Agricultural Experimental Farm of Calcutta University, Baruipur, West Bengal, to study the effects of micronutrients (Mn, Zn, Cu, B and Mo) on the growth and yield of rice, wheat and jute, during the period from December, 1974 to March, 1978.

In spite of apparent sufficiency of Zn and Mn in the soil as revealed from the soil analysis data, the positive responses of all the three crops to the soil application of 4 kg Zn and 5 kg Mn/ha were observed from their increased yields. This strongly suggests the need of experimentation for proper calibration of micronutrient soil analysis data through greenhouse and field trials with various crops, which might result in an effective rating chart for soils and crops of this area.

Another extremely interesting feature was observed with the application of Mn to the cereal crops, rice and wheat and especially in wheat, lesser amount of straw was obtained per unit amount of grain production. This indicates that there might be some role of Mn in translocation of photosynthates more towards grains (by increasing the sink capacity of grain) resulting to a better (agronomically) partitioning of physiological yield (total dry matter produced) between grain and straw fractions of cereal crops like wheat and rice, especially in the refined high yielding cultivars.
For the benefit of the farmers of the area and of Indian agriculture in general, the inclusion of 4 kg Zn and 5 kg Mn/ha in manuring schedule of rice, wheat and jute (with high yielding cultivars) in the Gangetic Delta region of West Bengal is being recommended, after immediate multilocalational trials (in varied agro-climatic situations).