

**Table S1:** pH, electrical conductivity (EC- (mScm<sup>-1</sup>)) soil moisture% and WHC-Water holding capacity (ml/L) of soil of *Zea mays* L. plant were determined under different treatments against copper and nickel stress.

Var iety	Spring Corn										Footer Corn												
	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6	T7	T8	T9	T10	T11	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6	T7	T8	T9	T10	T11	
pH	7.47	6.15	6±0.01j	7.78	7.75	6.95	6.89	7.05	6.94	7.15	7.09	7.47	5.85	5.75	7.75	7.71	6.9±	6.79	6.93	6.92	7.09	7.01	
	±0.2	±0.1		±0.2	±0.3	±0.5	±0.1	±0.5	±0.4	±0.5	±0.1	±0.2	±0.1	±0.2	±0.1	±0.2	0.1g	±0.1	±0.1	±0.3	±0.1	±0.5	
	b	i		a	a	efg	gh	cde	fg	c	cd	b	k	k	a	a	h	h	fg	fg	cd	def	
EC	1.21	5.87	5.99	1.15	1.18	2.17	2.78	2.67	3.35	1.69	1.74	1.23	6.51	6.64	1.35	1.4±	2.24	2.85	2.89	3.54	1.89	1.79	
	±0.0	±0.0	±0.1	±0.0	±0.0	±0.0	±0.0	±0.0	±0.0	±0.1	±0.0	±0.0	±0.0	±0.1	±0.1	0.06	±0.0	±0.0	±0.1	±0.1	±0.1	±0.0	
	2g	3b	b	5g	6g	9g	7d	7d	6c	f	9f	3g	2a	a	5g	g	4g	4d	1d	3c	f	4f	
Moi stur e	7.55	4.8±0.4k	3.06	9.55	11.2	9.05	7.63	11.1	7.04	14.3	13.5	7.36	2.67	1.07	8.28	9.57	7.54	6.57	10.2	6.29	12.0	11.3	
	±0.4		±0.4	±0.4	±0.4	±0.3	±0.3	±0.3	6±0.	±0.4	3±0.	1±0.	±0.3	±0.3	±0.0	±0.3	±0.2	±0.3	±0.2	7±0.	±0.0	9±0.	±0.4
	5gh		1l	5de	bc	ef	3gh	3bc	hij	3a	3a	ghi	5l	3m	fg	5de	gh	9ij	0.3c	.35j	0.3b	b	
WH C	620	565	550	664	705	610	650	627.	657.	685	672.	615	395	365	596.	615	552.	586.	557.	546.	645	640	
	±10	±15	±20	±19	±10	±10	±10	5±7.	5±1	±15	5±1	±7.5	±7.5	±12.	5±2	±21.	5±1	5±8.	5±9f	5±1	±11	±17	
	bcde	efg	g	abc	a	bcde	abcd	5bc	2.5a	ab	2.5a	bcde	h	5h	1cde	5bc	0fg	5def	g	6g	abcd	abcde	

Data in table represents the mean values of three replicates (n = 3) ± standard error and different letters represent significant differences declared by the LSD test at p ≤ 0.05. Cu-Copper 300ppm; Ni-Nickel 100ppm; *T. asp-Trichoderma asperellum*;

BC-rice husk biochar; EC-Electrical Conductivity; WHC-Water holding capacity.