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Response of Drip Irrigated Spring Maize to Different Levels of Salinity

Kulwant Singh Dangon, Mukesh Siag and Rakesh Sharda

Department of Soil and Water Engineerin, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana-141 004, India
E-mail: kulwant_pau@yahoo.in

***Abstract*:** The four treatments of drip irrigation with saline water of 2000 mmho/cm (EC-2), 4000 mmho/cm (EC-4), 6000 mmho/cm (EC-6) and 8000 mmho/cm (EC-8) electrical conductivity were compared with drip irrigation by normal water, having electrical conductivity in the range of 600-700mmho/cm. Maximum plant height was recorded under normal irrigation water, which was statistically at par with EC-2 and EC-4 irrigation treatments. Significant differences in the number of grain per cob were observed and maximum number of grains per cob were recorded under EC-2 irrigation water. Significantly higher yields were recorded under EC-2 and EC-4 irrigation treatment as compared to higher saline water treatments of EC-6 and EC-8. No significant difference was observed in protein content, carbohydrates and oil content of the grains under different treatments.

***Key Words*:** Drip irrigation, Saline water, Spring maize