

GROWTH, YIELD AND SEED PRODUCTION OF THREE SQUASH CULTIVARS GROWN UNDER DRIP AND FURROW IRRIGATION METHODS

S. O. Khalil, A. R. Al-Harbi and A. A. Alsadon

Department of Plant Production, College of Agriculture, King Saud University, P.O. Box 2460, Riyadh 11451, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

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ABSTRACT

Two field experiments were conducted to compare the growth, yield and seed production of three summer squash cultivars (*Cucurbita pepo* L.) namely ; Scarla, Arab Marrow and Claritta grown under drip and furrow irrigation. The experiments were carried out during 1993 and 1994 seasons at the Agricultural Research and Experiment Station, King Saud University at Deirab near Riyadh. The results showed that cv. Scarla had a significantly higher yield in the second season compared to other cultivars. Fruit number per plant was significantly higher for cv. Scarla compared to cv. Arab Marrow in both seasons, while no differences were observed between cv. Arab Marrow and cv. Claritta in the second season. The three cultivars tested had similar vegetative growth characters in both seasons. In the first season, cv. Claritta had higher seed weight per fruit , while no differences were found between the tested cultivars in the second season. Drip irrigation resulted in a significantly higher growth, yield and seed production in the first season compared to furrow irrigation. In the second season, drip irrigation gave a slightly higher yield but the differences were not significant.