

## EFFECT OF POTASSIUM AND MAGNESIUM ON YIELD AND QUALITY OF TWO SUGAR BEET VARIETIES

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### **Abstract**

Two field trials in a split plot design with four replications were carried out at Sakha Research Station (Kafr El-Sheikh Governorate) during 2001/2002 and 2002/2003 seasons to study the influence of potassium and magnesium fertilization on yield and quality of two sugar beet varieties. Each experiment consisted of 18-treatments represent two varieties (Pleno and Toro), and three potassium sulfate (48% K<sub>2</sub>O) levels zero, 24 and 48 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed and three magnesium sulfate (24% MgO) levels zero, 5 and 10 kg MgO/fed. Varieties were assigned in main plots whereas the combinations between fertilizer treatments were distributed in subplot.

The results showed that sugar beet variety Toro significantly surpassed variety Pleno in root diameter, root fresh weight, top and root yields (tons/fed) in the 2<sup>nd</sup> one.

Potassium fertilizer attained a significant difference in root length, root diameter, root fresh weight, sucrose%, purity% and top yield (tons/fed) in both seasons.

Morover, magnesium fertilizer produced a significant effect on root length, diameter, root fresh weight, top and root yield in the 1<sup>st</sup> season.

The highest values of root (45.54 tons/fed) and sugar (8.34 tons/fed) yields resulted from the interaction between Toro variety, fertilized by 5 kg MgO/fed and 24 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed in the 1<sup>st</sup> season and (43.55 tons roots/fed) and (7.9 tons sugar/fed) resulted from the interaction between Toro variety, fertilized with 5 kg MgO/fed and 48 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season., respectively.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Sugar beet crop was introduced to Egypt as a complementary sugar crop to bridge the gap of sugar production amounted to 0.6 million t/year. Potassium fertilizer plays an important role in physiological processes in beet plants, where it improves juice quality and sugar yield. Magnesium fertilizer is used in different levels of fertilization to obtain the maximum yield and quality. Many investigations proved that sugar beet yield and quality differed greatly by the applied levels of potassium and

magnesium fertilizers. Bizik (1993) reported that a liquid fertilizer spray containing Mg nitrate, Ca, Mg nitrate or Mg nitrate + CaCl applied to sugar beet plants in early July at 80 l/ha increased sugar contents. Denesova and Andres (1995) studied the effects of K - Mg fertilizer Kamex granules, 200 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/ha and 30 kg MgO/ha and Mg fertilizer Bittersalz, 2 applications of 2.6 kg MgO/ha on sugar beet plants. Results showed that sugar beet plants were good affected regarding sugar yield. The economic returns of Bittersalz fertilizer were higher than those resulted from Kamex granules fertilizer application. Domska (1996) found that application of 60 kg MgO/ha as soil application and foliar 2 kg MgO/ha to sugar beet plants gave the highest sugar yield and sugar contents of sugar beet plants. El-Taweel (1999) In Egypt, found that sugar beet varieties Top, Kawemira and Pleno did not differ significantly in dry weight of leaves as well as top and sugar yields/fed, sucrose%, TSS% and purity%. The variety Pleno was the highest one in this respect followed by Kawemira and Top in a descending order. Also, she found that K application from 0 to 24 and 48 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed and Mg application from 0 to 9 and 18 kg MgO/fed., significantly increased leaf area index, root length, root diameter, fresh weight of sugar beet root, total soluble solids, sucrose, purity percentages, root, top and sugar yield of sugar beet plants. Saif, Laila (2000) tested four sugar beet varieties viz. Marcopoly, M 9680, M 9681 and Mito. She found significant differences among varieties in root fresh weight, sucrose, purity and root yield. Osman (2001) found that foliar spray sugar beet plants cv. Sultan with 50 and 250 ppm of K and Mg at 45, 75 and 105 days from sowing significantly improved top, root and sugar yield (tons/fed) and total soluble solids, sucrose and purity percentages of sugar beet plants. Ismail *et al.* (2002) found that sugar beet variety Kawemira recorded the highest values of root fresh weight/plant and root yield t/fed. Potassium affected significantly root fresh weight/plant, purity%, root and sugar yields in both seasons, while sucrose% significantly responded only in the 1<sup>st</sup> season, while the highest top yield was recorded by application of 24 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed. Osman *et al.* (2003) found that sugar beet variety Toro surpassed the other two varieties in root length and total soluble solids percentage. This work was initiated to investigate the response of yield and quality of two sugar beet cvs to different level of K and Mg.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Two field trials in a split plot design with four replications were carried out at Sakha Research Station (Kafr El-Sheikh Governorate) during 2001/2002 and

2002/2003 seasons to study the influence of potassium and magnesium fertilization on yield and quality of two sugar beet varieties. Each experiment consisted of 18-treatments represent two varieties (Pleno and Toro), and three potassium sulfate (48% K<sub>2</sub>O) levels zero, 24 and 48 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed and three magnesium sulfate (24% MgO) levels zero, 5 and 10 kg MgO/fed. Varieties were assigned in main plots whereas the combinations between fertilizer treatments were distributed in subplot.

Nitrogen fertilizer was applied in the form of Urea 46% nitrogen whereas potassium and magnesium fertilizer were added in the form of potassium and magnesium sulfate in two equal doses, the 1<sup>st</sup> application after thinning (45 days from sowing) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose was applied two weeks later. A fixed dose of phosphorus (15 kg P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>/fed) in the form of calcium superphosphate 15% P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> at the rate of 30 kg P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>/fed was added at seed bed preparation. Sowing took place during the 1<sup>st</sup> week of November while harvest was done 7 months later in both seasons. Plot size was 14 m<sup>2</sup> (4 rows of 50 cm apart and 7 m in length). Distance between hills was 20 cm. The examined sugar beet varieties were allocated in the main plots, meanwhile, the combination between K and Mg levels were randomly distributed in the sub plots. The previous crop was Rice in both seasons. Other agricultural practices were done as recommended by Sugar Crops Research Institute. The physical and chemical analysis of the upper 30 cm of soil of the experimental site showed that the soil was clay loam containing 28.8 ppm available N, 16.38 ppm P and 420 ppm K<sup>+</sup>. The field was kept free of weeds by pre-emergence herbicide (Pyrador 3 kg/fed).

#### **Data recorded**

At harvest, a sample of ten plants were taken at random to determine the following characters:

##### **I- Root traits**

1. Root length (cm).
2. Root diameter (cm).
3. Root fresh weight (gm).

##### **II. Juice quality**

1. Sucrose% was determined according to Le Decote (1927).

2. Purity% was calculated according to Carruthers *et al.* (1962).

Apparent purity % = Sucrose % x 100/TSS %.

**III. Yield and yield components:** At harvest plants of each plot for various treatments were uprooted and topped to estimate:

1. Top yield (tons/fed).

2. Root yield (tons/fed).

3. Sugar yield (tons/fed) was calculated according to the following equation:

Sugar yield (tons/fed) = Root yield x sucrose %.

The collected data were statistically analyzed according to Snedecor and Cochran (1981).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

### I- Root traits

#### 1. Root length (cm)

Results in Table (1) show that Toro variety produced higher root length (cm) compared with Pleno with insignificant differences in both seasons.

This result is in line with those reported by El- Taweel (1999) and Osman *et al.* (2003).

Results given in Table (1) reveal that root length (cm) was significantly affected by Mg-fertilizer in the 1<sup>st</sup> season. Adding 10 kg MgO/fed surpassed zero and 5 kg MgO/fed by 1.91 cm, 0.63 cm in the 1<sup>st</sup> season and 1.27 cm, 0.36 cm in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season., respectively. This result coincides with that reported by El- Taweel (1999).

Regarding the effect of potassium (K<sub>2</sub>O) fertilizer levels, results showed that applying 48 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed increased the root length in both seasons compared with check treatment and 24 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed this increase amounted to 6.10 cm, 2.95 cm in the 1<sup>st</sup> season and 6.23 cm, 2.93 cm in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season., respectively. This increment was significant in both seasons. This result is in line with that reported by El-Taweel (1999).

Table 1. Effect of varieties, magnesium and potassium fertilizer on root length and root diameter (cm) of some sugar beet varieties at harvest in 2001/2002 and 2002/2003 seasons.

Traits	Magnesium Kg Mg/fed	Root length (cm)						Root diameter (cm)									
		2001/2002 Potassium (Kg K <sub>2</sub> O/fed)			2002/2003 Potassium (Kg K <sub>2</sub> O/fed)			2001/2002 Potassium (Kg K <sub>2</sub> O/fed)			2002/2003 Potassium (Kg K <sub>2</sub> O/fed)						
		zero	24	48	zero	24	48	zero	24	48	zero	24	48				
Varieties	0	19.80	22.14	24.10	22.01	20.95	23.31	26.24	23.50	9.80	13.14	14.10	12.34	9.62	11.98	13.57	11.72
	5	20.70	23.53	26.03	23.42	21.19	23.94	25.87	23.67	11.04	13.87	13.36	12.76	11.19	13.94	13.20	12.78
	10	20.44	24.33	27.98	24.25	21.10	24.26	27.89	24.41	11.44	13.66	13.98	13.03	12.43	13.59	13.22	13.08
Toro	Average	20.31	23.33	26.03	23.23	21.08	23.83	26.66	23.86	10.76	13.56	13.81	12.71	11.08	13.17	13.33	12.53
	0	20.20	23.04	26.00	23.08	20.26	23.40	25.77	23.14	10.20	12.37	12.67	11.75	10.26	14.06	13.10	12.47
	5	20.98	24.35	27.38	24.24	21.46	24.92	28.02	24.80	11.98	14.68	13.72	13.46	11.80	13.58	14.02	13.13
Mg x K	10	21.07	24.68	26.27	24.67	20.27	25.20	28.85	24.77	11.73	12.68	13.60	12.67	10.94	13.54	13.18	12.55
	Average	20.75	24.02	27.22	24.00	20.66	24.51	27.54	24.24	11.31	13.24	13.33	12.63	11.00	13.73	13.43	12.72
	0	20.00	22.59	25.05	22.55	20.60	23.35	26.00	23.32	10.00	12.76	13.38	12.05	9.94	13.02	13.34	12.10
Total average	5	20.84	23.94	26.71	23.83	21.33	24.43	26.94	24.23	11.51	14.27	13.54	13.11	11.49	13.76	13.61	12.95
	10	20.76	24.51	28.12	24.46	20.68	24.73	28.37	24.59	11.59	13.17	13.79	12.85	11.68	13.56	13.20	12.82
	Total average	20.53	23.68	26.63	23.61	20.87	24.17	27.10	24.05	11.03	13.40	13.57	12.67	11.04	13.45	13.38	12.62
L.S.D. at 5% level of significant																	
Varieties (A)					N.S				N.S				N.S				S
Magnesium (B)					1.53				N.S				0.482				N.S
Potassium (C)					0.435				0.541				0.623				0.790
A x B					N.S				N.S				0.682				N.S
A x C					N.S				0.766				N.S				N.S
B x C					0.754				0.938				N.S				N.S
A x B x C					N.S				N.S				N.S				N.S



The interaction effect in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season appeared that the maximum root length was 27.54 cm resulted from the interaction between variety Toro x 48 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season and MgO x K<sub>2</sub>O in both seasons was 28.12 cm and 28.37 cm recorded from 10 kg MgO/fed and 48 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed.

### **2. Root diameter (cm)**

Results in Table (1) show that the differences between the studied varieties was insignificant with respect to root diameter (cm) in the 1<sup>st</sup> season, however, Toro variety significantly produced higher root diameter compared with Pleno in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season. This result is in line with that reported by El- Taweel (1999).

Concerning magnesium fertilizer effect on root diameter, results given show that root diameter cm, was affected by the applied doses of Mg-significantly in the 1<sup>st</sup> season amounted by adding 5 kg MgO/fed surpassed the other treatments by 13.11 and 12.95 cm., respectively. This result coincides with that reported by El- Taweel (1999).

Application of 48 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed produced thicker root diameter in the 1<sup>st</sup> season, and 24 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season. The significant increase in root diameter amounted to 13.57 cm in the 1<sup>st</sup> season and 13.45 cm in the 2<sup>nd</sup> seasons., respectively. This result is in agreement with those reported by El-Taweel (1999).

The interaction effect appeared that the maximum root diameter (13.46 cm) was resulted from the interaction between variety Toro x 5 kg MgO/fed in the 1<sup>st</sup> season.

### **3. Root fresh weight (g)**

Results given in Table (2) indicate that Toro variety surpassed pleno in relation to root fresh weight. The increase in root fresh weight was significantly in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season only. This result is in line with those reported by El- Taweel (1999), Saif (2000) and Ismail *et al.* (2002).

Table 2. Effect of varieties, magnesium and potassium fertilizer on root fresh weight (g) and top yield (tons/fed) of some sugar beet varieties at harvest in 2001/2002 and 2002/2003 seasons.

Traits Varieties	Magnesium Kg Mg/fed	Root fresh weight (g)						Top yield (tons/fed)									
		2001/2002 Potassium (Kg K <sub>2</sub> O/fed)		2002/2003 Potassium (Kg K <sub>2</sub> O/fed)		Mean		2001/2002 Potassium (Kg K <sub>2</sub> O/fed)		2002/2003 Potassium (Kg K <sub>2</sub> O/fed)		Mean					
		zero	24	48	zero	24	48	zero	24	48	zero	24	48				
Pleno	0	1029.7	1364.0	459.7	1284.4	1011.7	1247.7	1407.0	1222.1	1236	1637	1752	15.41	12.14	14.97	16.88	14.67
	5	1153.7	1436.7	1386.3	1325.6	1169.0	1443.7	1370.3	1327.7	1384	1724	1664	15.91	14.03	17.32	16.44	15.93
	10	1194.3	1416.0	1447.7	1352.7	1293.0	1409.0	1372.0	1358.0	1433	1699	1737	16.23	15.52	16.91	16.46	16.30
Average	0	1125.9	1405.6	1431.2	1320.9	1157.9	1366.8	1383.1	1302.6	1351	1687	1718	15.85	13.90	16.40	16.60	15.63
	5	1070.3	1287.0	1316.7	1224.7	1075.7	1456.3	1360.0	1297.3	1284	1544	1580	14.70	12.91	17.48	16.32	15.57
	10	1248.3	1518.0	1421.7	1396.0	1229.7	1408.3	1451.7	1363.2	1498	1822	1706	16.75	14.76	16.90	17.42	16.36
Average	0	1180.7	1374.4	1382.9	1312.7	1149.7	1422.8	1393.2	1321.9	1417	1649	1660	15.75	13.80	17.07	16.72	15.86
	5	1050.0	1325.5	1388.2	1254.6	1043.7	1352.0	1383.5	1259.7	1260	1591	1666	15.06	12.52	16.22	16.60	15.12
	10	1201.0	1477.3	1404.0	1360.8	1199.3	1426.0	1411.0	1345.4	1441	1773	1685	16.23	14.39	17.11	16.93	16.15
Total average	0	1208.8	1367.2	1429.0	1335.0	1218.3	1406.3	1370.0	1331.6	1451	1641	1715	16.02	14.62	16.88	16.44	15.98
	5	1153.3	1390.0	1407.1	1316.8	1153.8	1394.8	1388.2	1312.2	1384	1668	1689	15.80	13.85	16.74	16.66	15.75
	10	1223.3	1318.3	1410.3	1317.3	1143.7	1403.7	1368.0	1305.1	1468	1582	1692	15.81	13.72	16.84	16.42	15.66
Varieties (A)	Magnesium (B)				N.S				S				N.S				S
	Potassium (C)				48.25				N.S				0.579				N.S
					62.32				79.01				0.748				0.948
A x B					68.24				N.S				0.819				N.S
					N.S				N.S				N.S				N.S
					N.S				N.S				N.S				N.S
A x C					N.S				N.S				N.S				N.S
					N.S				N.S				N.S				N.S
					N.S				N.S				N.S				N.S
A x B x C					N.S				N.S				N.S				N.S
					N.S				N.S				N.S				N.S
					N.S				N.S				N.S				N.S

L.S.D. at 5% level of significant

Oncemore, the results obtained in Table (2) show that in the root fresh weight was significantly affected by magnesium fertilizer in the 1<sup>st</sup> season. However, application of 5 kg MgO/fed produced the highest value of root fresh weight in both seasons. This result concides with that reported by El- Taweel (1999).

In regard to the influence of K<sub>2</sub>O fertilizer treatments on root fresh weight, data showed that root fresh weight was significantly affected by application of 48 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed and 24 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed attained the highest value of root fresh weight being 1407.1 g and 1394.8 g/plant in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> season., respectively. This result concide with that reported by El- Taweel (1999) and Ismail *et al.* (2002).

Also, variety x magnesium interaction significantly affected root fresh weight in the 1<sup>st</sup> season. The results showed that the highest root fresh weight 1396 g was recorded by Toro and 5 kg MgO/fed in the 1<sup>st</sup> season.

### III. Yield and yield components

#### 4. Top yield (tons/fed)

Results in Table (2) show that Toro variety produced heavier top yield (tons/fed) compared with Pleno with a significant differences in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season. The increase in top yield recorded by Toro over Pleno was 1.47% in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season. This result is in line with that reported by Ismail *et al.* (2002).

Oncemore, the results obtained in Table (2) show that top yield was significantly affected by magnesium fertilizer in the 1<sup>st</sup> season, applying 5 kg MgO/fed. produced the highest values of top yield in both seasons. This result concide with that reported by Osman (2001).

Data in Table (2) show that K<sub>2</sub>O-fertilizer level gave significant effect on top yield in both seasons. Application of 48 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed recorded the highest values of top yield (16.89) in the 1<sup>st</sup> season, meanwhile, 24 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed attained the highest values of top yield (16.74) in the 2<sup>nd</sup> one., respectively. This result are in agreement with that obtained by Osman (2001) and Ismail *et al.* (2002).

Results indicated that top yield was significantly affected by the interaction between variety x MgO in the 1<sup>st</sup> season. The heavier top yield being 16.75 tons/fed was recorded with Toro variety and 5 kg MgO/fed in the 1<sup>st</sup> season.



## **II. Juice quality**

### **5. Sucrose %**

The results in Table (3) indicate that there were insignificant influence on sucrose% due to both of varieties and/or Mg fertilizer. This result is in line with that reported by Saif, Laila (2000) (varietal effect) and Bizik (1993), Domska (1996), El-Taweel (1999) and Osman (2001) by applying Mg fertilizer.

Concerning, the effect of K<sub>2</sub>O fertilizer levels data revealed that sucrose% was significantly affected by the applied doses of K<sub>2</sub>O in both seasons. Application of 48 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed produced the highest value of sucrose% (17.65 in the 1<sup>st</sup> season) whereas, application of 24 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed was enough to attain the highest value of sucrose (17.58% in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season), respectively. This result coincide with that reported by El-Taweel (1999), Osman (2001) and Ismail *et al.* (2002).

All interactions between the studies factors did not affect significantly the sucrose% in both seasons.

### **6. Purity %**

Data given in Table (3) show that neither sugar beet varieties not Mg fertilizer insignificantly affected purity% in both seasons. This result concides with those reported by Saif, Laila (2000) and Ismail *et al.* (2002) (varietal effect) and Bizik (1993), Domska (1996), El-Taweel (1999) and Osman (2001) (Mg applying).

Results in Table (3) show that K<sub>2</sub>O fertilization significantly affected purity% in both seasons. Application of, 48 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed produced higher purity% compared with check treatment and 24 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed. Adding of 48 kg K/fed increased values of purity% 7.73 and 1.11% in the 1<sup>st</sup> season and 7.99 and 0.19% in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season., respectively. This result is in agreement with that reported by El-Taweel (1999), Osman (2001) and Ismail *et al.* (2002).

All interaction between the studied factors did not affect significantly the purity% in both seasons.

## **III. Yield and yield components**

### **7. Root yield (tons/fed)**

Data given in Table (4) cleare that Toro variety statistically surpassed Pleno variety with respect to root yield (tons/fed) in the 2<sup>nd</sup> one,however, this influence was

## EFFECT OF POTASSIUM AND MAGNESIUM ON YIELD AND QUALITY OF TWO SUGAR BEET VARIETIES

Table 3. Effect of varieties, magnesium and potassium fertilizer on sucrose and purity% of some sugar beet varieties at harvest in 2001/2002 and 2002/2003 seasons.

Varieties	Magnesium Kg Mg/fed	sucrose%						Purity% 2002/2003						Mean			
		2001/2002 Potassium (Kg K <sub>2</sub> O/fed)		2002/2003 Potassium (Kg K <sub>2</sub> O/fed)		Mean		2001/2002 Potassium (Kg K <sub>2</sub> O/fed)		2002/2003 Potassium (Kg K <sub>2</sub> O/fed)		Mean					
		zero	24	48	zero	24	48	zero	24	48	zero	24	48				
Pleno	0	12.71	17.09	18.24	16.01	12.55	16.80	18.18	15.84	71.48	80.89	82.39	78.25	71.28	84.16	84.42	79.95
	5	13.91	16.55	17.19	15.88	14.38	17.85	17.41	16.55	73.02	75.64	80.42	76.36	74.89	81.36	82.05	79.43
	10	14.69	17.46	17.60	16.58	15.63	17.89	17.24	16.92	75.59	80.50	80.14	78.74	76.50	82.88	81.23	80.20
Average	0	13.77	17.03	17.68	16.16	14.19	17.51	17.61	16.44	73.36	79.01	80.98	77.79	74.22	82.80	82.56	79.86
	5	13.80	17.46	17.83	16.36	13.43	18.06	17.41	16.30	75.85	85.72	86.23	82.60	73.57	81.82	82.49	79.29
	10	14.81	18.28	17.51	16.87	14.75	17.27	17.68	16.57	74.08	80.58	80.55	78.40	74.39	80.04	80.31	78.25
Total average	0	14.71	16.74	17.53	16.33	14.13	17.62	17.51	16.42	74.52	80.96	81.16	78.88	74.64	81.83	82.73	79.73
	5	14.44	17.49	17.63	16.52	14.10	17.65	17.53	16.43	74.82	82.42	82.65	79.96	74.20	81.23	81.84	79.09
	10	14.36	17.41	17.35	16.38	14.57	17.56	17.55	16.56	73.55	78.11	80.49	77.38	74.64	80.70	81.18	78.84
Total average	0	14.70	17.10	17.57	16.46	14.88	17.75	17.38	16.67	75.05	80.73	80.65	78.81	75.58	82.35	81.98	79.97
	5	14.11	17.26	17.65	16.34	14.15	17.58	17.57	16.43	74.09	80.71	81.82	78.87	74.21	82.01	82.20	79.48
	10																
L.S.D. at 5% level of significant																	
Varieties (A)					N.S				N.S				N.S				N.S
Magnesium (B)					N.S				N.S				N.S				N.S
Potassium (C)					0.73				0.689				2.14				1.66
A x B					N.S				N.S				N.S				N.S
A x C					N.S				N.S				N.S				N.S
B x C					N.S				N.S				N.S				N.S
A x B x C					N.S				N.S				N.S				N.S

insignificantly in the 1<sup>st</sup> season. This result is in line with those reported by Saif, Laila (2000) and Ismail *et al.* (2002).

The effect of magnesium fertilizer on root yield appeared a significant influence in the 1<sup>st</sup> season on root yield. This result coincides with that reported by Osman (2001).

Regarding the effect of potassium fertilizer on root yield, it could be noted a significant increase in this trait in both seasons, application of 48 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed attained the highest value of root yield 42.21 in the 1<sup>st</sup> season whereas application of 24 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed attained the highest value of root yield 41.84 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season., respectively. This result is in line with that reported by El-Taweel (1999) and Osman (2001).

Results indicated that root yield was significantly affected by the interaction between variety x MgO in the 1<sup>st</sup> season. The highest root yield was (41.88 tons/fed) was recorded with Toro variety and 5 kg MgO/fed in the 1<sup>st</sup> season.

#### **8. Sugar yield (tons/fed)**

Neither sugar beet varieties nor magnesium fertilizer levels attained a significant effect on sugar yield/fed. However, it could be noticed that application of 5 kg MgO/fed attained a negligible increase in sugar yield compared with check treatment and/or 10 kg MgO/fed. This result is in line with that reported by Ismail *et al.* (2002) (varietal effect) and Denesova and Andres (1995), Domska (1996) and El-Taweel (1999) and Osman (2001) (Mg applying).

Results given in Table (4) show that sugar yield was significantly affected by the applied of K<sub>2</sub>O in both seasons. Application of 48 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed produced the highest value of sugar yield 7.47 tons/fed in the 1<sup>st</sup> season whereas, application of 24 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/fed produced the highest value of sugar yield 7.39 tons/fed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season. This result coincides with that reported by El-Taweel (1999), Osman (2001) and Ismail *et al.* (2002).

The various interactions between the studied factors did not affect significantly the sugar yield in both seasons.

## EFFECT OF POTASSIUM AND MAGNESIUM ON YIELD AND QUALITY OF TWO SUGAR BEET VARIETIES

Table 4. Effect of varieties, magnesium and potassium fertilizer on root yield and sugar yield (tons/fed) of some sugar beet varieties at harvest in 2001/2002 and 2002/2003 seasons.

Traits	Magnesium Kg Mg/fed	Root yield (tons/fed)						Sugar yield (tons/fed)											
		2001/2002 Potassium (Kg K <sub>2</sub> O/fed)			2002/2003 Potassium (Kg K <sub>2</sub> O/fed)			2001/2002 Potassium (Kg K <sub>2</sub> O/fed)			2002/2003 Potassium (Kg K <sub>2</sub> O/fed)								
		zero	24	48	zero	24	48	zero	24	48	zero	24	48						
Varieties	0	30.89	40.92	43.79	38.53	30.35	37.43	42.21	36.66	3.93	6.99	8.03	6.32	3.81	6.29	7.69	5.93		
	5	34.61	43.10	41.59	39.77	35.07	43.31	41.11	39.83	4.83	7.14	7.16	6.38	5.06	7.76	7.18	6.67		
	10	35.83	42.48	43.43	40.58	38.79	42.27	41.16	40.74	5.26	7.46	7.66	6.79	6.09	7.59	7.13	6.94		
Pleno	Average	33.78	42.17	42.94	39.63	34.74	41.00	41.49	39.08	4.67	7.20	7.62	6.50	4.99	7.21	7.33	6.51		
	0	32.11	38.61	39.50	36.74	32.27	43.69	40.80	38.92	4.43	6.75	7.08	6.08	4.34	7.90	7.14	6.46		
	5	37.45	45.54	42.65	41.88	36.89	42.25	43.55	40.90	5.57	8.34	7.49	7.13	5.47	7.32	7.71	6.83		
Toro	10	36.70	39.55	42.31	39.52	34.31	42.11	41.04	39.15	5.40	6.63	7.42	6.47	4.85	7.48	7.20	6.51		
	Average	35.42	41.23	41.49	39.38	34.49	42.68	41.80	39.66	5.13	7.24	7.33	6.57	4.89	7.56	7.35	6.60		
	0	31.50	39.77	41.65	37.64	31.31	40.56	41.51	37.79	4.18	6.87	7.56	6.20	4.07	7.09	7.42	6.19		
Mg x K	5	36.03	44.32	42.12	40.82	35.98	42.78	42.33	40.36	5.20	7.74	7.33	6.76	5.27	7.54	7.45	6.75		
	10	36.27	41.02	42.87	40.05	36.55	42.19	41.10	39.95	5.33	7.04	7.94	6.84	5.47	7.53	7.17	6.72		
	Total average	34.60	41.70	42.21	39.50	34.61	41.84	41.65	39.37	4.90	7.22	7.47	6.53	4.94	7.39	7.34	6.56		
L.S.D. at 5% level of significant		N.S						S						N.S					
Varieties (A)		1.45						N.S						N.S					
Magnesium (B)		1.87						2.37						0.592					
Potassium (C)		2.05						N.S						N.S					
A x B		N.S						N.S						N.S					
A x C		N.S						N.S						N.S					
B x C		N.S						N.S						N.S					
A x B x C		N.S						N.S						N.S					

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## تأثير التسميد بالبوتاسيوم والمغنسيوم على محصول وجودة

## صنفين من بنجر السكر

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أقيمت تجربتان حقليتان بمحطه البحوث الزراعيه بسخا بمحافظة كفر الشيخ لدراسه تأثير الاضافة الارضية للتسميد بالمغنسيوم والبوتاسيوم على محصول وجوده بنجر السكر خلال موسمی الزراعه ٢٠٠٢/٢٠٠١ و ٢٠٠٣/٢٠٠٢ وقد إشملت الدراسه على صنفين من اصناف بنجر السكر عديد الاجنة تورو و بلينو وثلاثة معدلات من التسميد بالمغنسيوم صفر و ٥ و ١٠ كجم اكسيد ماغنسيوم مغ أ للفدان وثلاثة مستويات من التسميد بعنصر البوتاسيوم صفر و ٢٤ و ٤٨ كجم بوتاسيوم بو٢٠ للفدان ووزعت المعاملات فى تصميم قطع منشقه مره واحده فى أربع مكررات حيث وضعت الاصناف فى القطع الرئيسيه والتفاعل بين مستويات التسميد فى القطع الشقيه.

أوضحت النتائج المتحصل عليها:

- ١- تفوق الصنف تورو على الصنف بلينو معنويا فى الصفات التالية: قطر الجذر ووزن الجذر الطازج ومحصولى العرش والجذر فى الموسم الثانى فقط.
- ٢- أوضحت النتائج تفوق معاملات التسميد بعنصر المغنسيوم مغ أ معنويا فى الصفات التالية: طول الجذر وقطر الجذر ووزن الجذر الطازج ومحصولى العرش والجذر فى الموسم الاول فقط.
- ٣- أوضحت النتائج تفوق معاملات التسميد بعنصر البوتاسيوم بو٢٠ معنويا فى كلا الموسمين فى الصفات التالية: طول الجذر و قطر الجذر ووزن الجذر الطازج والسكر و النقاوة ومحصول العرش.
- ٤- اوضحت النتائج ان احسن محصول من الجذور ( ٤٥,٥٤ طن للفدان) نتج من التفاعل بين الصنف تورو مع اضافة المعدل ٥ كجم اكسيد ماغنسيوم مغ أ للفدان و ٢٤ كجم اكسيد بوتاسيوم بو٢٠ للفدان فى الموسم الاول بينما كان فى الموسم الثانى (٤٣,٥٥ طن للفدان) نتج من التفاعل بين الصنف تورو و ٥ كجم اكسيد ماغنسيوم مغ أ للفدان و ٤٨ كجم اكسيد بوتاسيوم بو٢٠.
- ٥ - اوضحت النتائج ان احسن محصول من السكر ( ٨,٣٤ طن للفدان) نتج من التفاعل بين الصنف تورو مع اضافة المعدل ٥ كجم اكسيد ماغنسيوم مغ أ للفدان و ٢٤ كجم اكسيد بوتاسيوم بو٢٠ للفدان فى الموسم الاول بينما كان فى الموسم الثانى (٧,٩٠ طن للفدان) نتج من التفاعل بين الصنف تورو ومعاملة الكونترول للمغنسيوم مغ أ و ٢٤ كجم بوتاسيوم بو٢٠ للفدان.