



## SOME FACTORS AFFECTING THE VALUE OF HYDROPONIC SPROUTED BARLEY FOR GREEN FODDER

Faisal I. Yousof\*, El-Shimaa E.I. Mustafa and M.A.H. Megahed

Seed Tech. Res. Dept., Field Crops Res. Inst., Agric. Res. Cent., Egypt

Received: 03/04/2018 ; Accepted: 20/06/2018

**ABSTRACT:** Hydroponic sprouted barley is recently become an applied approach to provide a green fodder crop, particularly in arid and semiarid region such as Egypt. The crop is produced from germinating seeds under controlled growing conditions for a short period. Laboratory experiments have been performed to determine the effect of some seed soaking treatments and germination temperature on the quantity and quality of green fodder crop. Various stimulants *i.e.* gibberellin solution and yeast extract were used. Seed germination was made at different temperatures. The results indicated that seed soaked in gibberellin solution (12 ppm) and yeast extract (3 g/l) and germination temperature at 35°C exceeded other seed treatments as to the most parameters of the quantity and quality of green fodder crop. The simple correlation coefficients of seed germination (%), germination speed index, seedling length and seedling fresh weight towards green fodder yield were positive and significant (0.939, 0.897, 0.892 and 0.928), respectively. The stepwise regression analysis revealed that the relative contribution for seed germination (%), seedling length and seedling fresh weight towards green fodder yield was 83.7%. The results of chemical analyses of green fodder crop such as dry matter (%), ash (%), organic matter (%), crude protein (%), neutral detergent fiber (NDF) (%), acid detergent fiber (%) (ADF), ether extract (%) (EE) and non-fiber carbohydrate (%) (NCF) were consisted with those of germination temperature and seedling characters. These findings suggested that soaking barley seed in gibberellin solution (12 ppm) and yeast extract (3 g/l) as a good, simple and cheap treatment to get high quality and maximize sprouted fodder yield under different temperatures throughout the year.

**Key words:** Barley, seed soaking, germination temperature, sprouted green fodder.

## INTRODUCTION

The production of fresh green sprouts of barley can be made in special growing rooms, regardless of the weather and at any time of the year. This includes germinating barley seeds in hydroponic system for about 7 to 10 days where the length of forage mat reaches 15-30 cm. During this period, nutrient proportions of sprouted barley changed by the growing cycle (Cuddeford, 1989). Sprouting of grains or seeds affects the enzyme activity which leads to hydrolysis proteins, carbohydrates and lipids in their simpler components. The enzyme activity increases total protein and changes the amino acid profile, soluble sugar, crude fiber, certain

vitamins and minerals, but decreases starch and total dry matter (Koehler *et al.*, 2007). Furthermore, the advantage of the hydroponic system is to minimize water consumption in fodder production to 2-3% of that of traditionally field conditions (Al-karaki and Al-Momani, 2011). Productivity measured, on the basis of the input-output balance of barley grain and green fodder yield. The results showed that crude protein (CP), Ash, EE, neutral detergent fiber (NDF), acid detergent fiber (ADF) and water soluble carbohydrate (WSC) were increased whereas organic matter (OM), and non-fiber carbohydrate (NFC) decreased ( $p < 0.05$ ) in the green fodder (GF) when compared with the original grain (Fazaeli *et al.*, 2012).

\* Corresponding author: Tel. : +201006031047  
E-mail address: megahedmegahed@hotmail.com

Barley seeds which used for producing sprouted green fodder must have a high germination percentage, seed and seedling vigor. To obtain the highest production of sprouted green fodder barley, germination characters must be maximized. Positive and significant correlations were recorded between green fodder yield and seed germination (%), germination speed index, seedling fresh weight, seedling/seed ratio, seedling length. Simple linear regression revealed that seed germination (%), germination index and seedlings fresh weight as significantly contributing variables to variation in green fodder yield (Yousof *et al.*, 2017). The temperature in growing rooms has been shown to be the most important variable affecting germination (Milbau *et al.*, 2009). Each individual species has a base and ceiling temperature that represents the extremes at which seed germination can occur, below and above these extremes no germination can occur (Finch-Savage and Leubner-Metzger, 2006). The temperature controls germination development of seedlings, and is generally the prime determinant of the duration from sowing to seedling emergence (Flores and Briones, 2001). Khan *et al.* (2002) found that as temperature increased, the onset of germination was earlier and the time required for 50% germination decreased. Germination characters of barley enhanced by increasing temperature to 30°C (Nejad *et al.*, 2015).

On the other hand, some treatments have recently gained much importance because of their effectiveness and cheapness. It has been found that seed treated with yeast extract (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) improved germination criteria and seedling vigor's (El-Saidy and Abd-El-Hai, 2011; Saker *et al.*, 2015). Seeds treated also with gibberellic acid (GA3) was found to be the most important growth regulator which breaks seed dormancy, promotes germination, internodal length, hypocotyl growth and cell division in cambial zone and increases the size of leaves (Rood *et al.*, 1990). The objective of this investigation was to determine the effect of seed treatment with yeast extract and gibberellin solution as well as germination temperatures on sprouted green fodder production.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Laboratory experiments were carried out at Seed Technology Research Department, Field Crop Research Institute ,Agricultural Research Center, Egypt, in 2017 season, in order to determine the effect of seed soaking in yeast extract (1 , 2 and 3 g/l) and gibberellin solution (4 , 8 and 12 ppm), as well as distilled water at various temperatures of germination rooms (15, 20, 25, 30 and 35°C) on seed germination (%), seedling characters, sprouted green fodder yield (Kg/m<sup>2</sup>) and chemical characteristics of barley green fodder. Barley seed (CV Giza 136) were obtained from Barley Research Department, Field Crops Research Institute.

### Preparation of Yeast Extract and Gibberellin Solution

Active dry yeast was dissolved in water at rates 1,2 and 3 g/l followed by adding sugar at ratio 1:1. This ratio is suitable to get the highest production rate of yeast (each ml yeast contained about 12000 of yeast cells) and kept overnight for activation and reproduction of yeast. Yeast extract was prepared by using a technique allowed yeast cells (pure dry yeast) to be grown and multiplied efficiently during conducive aerobic and nutritional conditions that allowed to produce beneficial bio constituent, (carbohydrates, sugars, proteins, amino acids, fatty acids, hormones, *etc.*), then these constituents could release out of yeast cells in ready form by two cycles of freezing and thawing for disruption of yeast cells and releasing their content. Such technique for yeast preparation modified after (Spencer *et al.*, 1983). Gibberellin solution was prepared by dissolving (4, 8 and 12 mg) gibberellins powder each in 1 liter of distilled water to get gibberellin solution (4, 8 and 12 ppm).

### Seed Treatment and Measurements

Barley seeds (*Hordium vulgare* L.) of Giza 136 cultivar were soaked in gibberellin solution (4, 8 and 12 ppm), yeast extracts (1, 2 and 3 g/l) and distilled water for 1 hr. Germination tests were carried out for seed soaking treatments and dry seed in sterilized Petri dishes (150 × 15 mm) covered at the bottom with two sheets of Whatman No.1 filter paper that had been

autoclaved. Each dish included 50 seeds incubated in growth chamber at 15, 20, 25, 30 and 35°C and germination tests were performed according to International Seed Testing Association (ISTA, 2004). Measurements were made on seed germination (%), germinated abnormally (%), non germinated seeds (%), germination speed index (GSI), seedling length (cm), seedlings fresh weight (g), seedlings dry weight (g) and seedling/seed weight ratio. The coefficient of germination uniformity (CGU) is given by  $\frac{\sum N/\sum((MTG-T)^2 \cdot N)}{\sum N}$ . MTG is equal to  $\frac{\sum(T \cdot N)}{\sum N}$ , where T is the time in days, starting from day 0, the beginning of the test, and N is the number of seeds completing germination on day t (Bewley and Black, 1994).

### Green Fodder Yield Preparation

Steel trays with dimensions (30 cm × 40 cm × 4 cm) were used for growing barley seeds to produce green fodder. Seeds of Giza 136 barley cv were cleaned from dust and any inert materials, then sterilized by sodium hypochloride 5%, for 5 minutes, then it washed well in tap water before soaking overnight before planting. The seeding rate was about 480 g/tray (equivalent to about 4.0 Kg/m<sup>2</sup>) according to Al-Hashmi (2008). Seeds were spread on trays, which were stacked on shelves of the germinator. The temperature inside the germinator were (15, 20, 25, 30 and 35°C) and the relative humidity adjusted about 70%. The trays were irrigated twice a day. Green fodder yield (Kg/m<sup>2</sup>) and yield/seed ratio were estimated after 7 days.

### Chemical Parameters

Dry matter (Kg/m<sup>2</sup>) was determined by drying the samples at 60°C in a forced-air oven for 48 hr., dry matter (%) was calculated by dividing dry matter weight on green fodder yield weight multiple by 100. Crude protein (%), ether extract (%), and ash (%) were measured according to the Association of Official Agriculture Chemists (AOAC, 1980). Organic matter (%) was calculated as [100–Ash (%)]. The non-fiber carbohydrate (NFC) was estimated as: [100– (CP+Ash+ EE + NDF)]. Neutral detergent fiber (NDF) and acid detergent fiber (ADF) were determined according to Van Soest *et al.* (1991).

All data were subjected to the statistical analysis according to the technique of analysis

of variance (ANOVA) of completely randomized design, as described by Gomez and Gomez (1984). The data of green fodder yield (Kg/m<sup>2</sup>), germination (%), germination speed index (GSI), seedling length (cm) and seedlings fresh weight (g) were also subjected to procedures of simple correlation, partial regression and stepwise regression techniques outlined by (Draper and Smith, 1966)

The partial regression equation was:

$$Y = a + b X$$

Where:

Y = Green fodder yield

a = intercept constant

b = regression coefficient of X

X = the independent variable such as standard seed germination, germination speed index ..... *ect.*

The multiple regression equation was:

$$Y = a + b_1 X_1 + b_2 X_2 + b_3 X_3 + \dots \dots \dots b_n X_n$$

Where:

n is the number of independent variables

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results in Table 1 show seed germination (%), abnormal germinated seeds (%), non germinated seeds (%), coefficient of germination uniformity (CGU) and germination speed index (GSI) of barley cv Giza 136 as affected by seed soaking treatments and germination temperature. Barley seed soaking in gibberellin solution (12 ppm) was superior compared with other seed treatments and seed soaking in yeast extract (3 g/l) came in the second rank without significant differences between gibberellin and yeast extract treatments. No significant differences were obtained among seed soaking treatments as to abnormal germinated seeds (%) and coefficient of germination uniformity (CGU). On the other hand, untreated seed recorded the lowest parameters. With respect to the effect of germination temperature, the highest parameters concerning germination characters were obtained by germinating seeds at 35°C followed by those at 30°C without significant differences

**Table 1. Seed germination (%), abnormal germinated seed (%), non germinated seed (%), coefficient of germination uniformity (CGU) and germination speed index (GSI) of barley as affected by seed soaking treatment and germination temperature**

| Treatment                      | Germination characters |                              |                         |      |      |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|------|------|
|                                | Seed germination (%)   | Abnormal germinated seed (%) | Non germinated seed (%) | CGU  | GSI  |
| <b>Seed soaking</b>            |                        |                              |                         |      |      |
| Untreated seed                 | 74                     | 8                            | 18                      | 2.31 | 56.0 |
| Distilled water                | 75                     | 8                            | 17                      | 2.37 | 57.3 |
| Gibberellin solution (4 ppm)   | 76                     | 7                            | 17                      | 2.41 | 57.5 |
| Gibberellin solution (8 ppm)   | 77                     | 6                            | 17                      | 2.48 | 59.1 |
| Gibberellin solution (12 ppm)  | 81                     | 6                            | 13                      | 2.61 | 61.4 |
| Yeast extract (1 g/l)          | 75                     | 7                            | 18                      | 2.38 | 57.4 |
| Yeast extract (2 g/l)          | 77                     | 7                            | 16                      | 2.43 | 58.8 |
| Yeast extract (3 g/l)          | 79                     | 6                            | 15                      | 2.59 | 60.9 |
| <b>F test</b>                  | **                     | NS                           | *                       | NS   | *    |
| <b>LSD 5%</b>                  | 3                      | -                            | 2                       | -    | 1.4  |
| <b>Germination temperature</b> |                        |                              |                         |      |      |
| 15°C                           | 70                     | 10                           | 20                      | 2.03 | 53.1 |
| 20°C                           | 74                     | 7                            | 19                      | 2.42 | 57.9 |
| 25°C                           | 77                     | 7                            | 16                      | 2.53 | 60.1 |
| 30°C                           | 81                     | 5                            | 14                      | 2.59 | 60.6 |
| 35°C                           | 82                     | 5                            | 13                      | 2.64 | 61.1 |
| <b>F-test</b>                  | **                     | **                           | *                       | *    | *    |
| <b>LSD 5%</b>                  | 3                      | 3                            | 3                       | 0.21 | 1.9  |

NS,\* and \*\* are not significant, significant at 5 and 1%, respectively.

between them. On contrast, the lowest parameters were obtained at 15°C. The results in Tables 2 and 3 show the effect of seed soaking and germination temperature on seedling characters namely seedling length (cm), seedling fresh weight (g), seedling dry weight (g), seedling/seed ratio, green fodder yield (Kg/m<sup>2</sup>), yield/seed ratio, dry matter yield (Kg/m<sup>2</sup>), dry matter (%), ash (%), organic matter (%), crude protein (%), neutral detergent fiber (NDF) (%), acid detergent fiber (%) (ADF), ether extract (%) (EE) and non fiber carbohydrate (%) (NCF). Seed soaking in gibberellin solution (12 ppm) and yeast extract (3 g/l) exceeded other treatments without significant differences between them. Insignificant differences were obtained between seed soaking in distilled water and soaking in gibberellin solution (4 ppm). On

the other hand, untreated seed gave the lowest values of each of seedling length (cm), seedling fresh weight (g), seedling dry weight (g), seedling/seed ratio, green fodder yield (Kg/m<sup>2</sup>), yield/seed ratio, dry matter (Kg/m<sup>2</sup>), dry matter (%), neutral detergent fiber (NDF) (%), ether extract (%) and highest non-fiber carbohydrate (%) (NCF). Germination temperature at 35°C significantly exceeded other temperature in all parameters of Tables 2 and 3 and it was followed by seed germination at 30°C without significant differences between them, whereas all parameters recorded at previous temperatures were high and significant compared with those recorded at lower temperatures (15, 20, 25°C). Furthermore, insignificant differences were recorded among germination temperature for ash (%), organic matter (%), crude protein (%), and

**Table 2. Seedling length (cm), seedling fresh weight (g), seedling dry weight (g), seedling /seed ratio, green fodder yield (Kg/m<sup>2</sup>), yield/seed ratio and dry matter yield (Kg/m<sup>2</sup>) of barley as affected by seed soaking treatment and germination temperature**

| Treatment                      | Seedling characters  |                           |                         |                      | Green fodder characters                 |                  |                                       |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---|------------------|---------------------------------------|
|                                | Seedling length (cm) | Seedling fresh weight (g) | Seedling dry weight (g) | Seedling /seed ratio | Green fodder yield (Kg/m <sup>2</sup> ) | Yield/seed ratio | Dry matter yield (Kg/m <sup>2</sup> ) |
| <b>Seed soaking</b>            |                      |                           |                         |                      |   |                  |                                       |
| Untreated seed                 | 15.0                 | 4.77                      | 0.691                   | 10.9                 | 22.493                                  | 5.4              | 2.978                                 |
| Distilled water                | 15.6                 | 5.06                      | 0.739                   | 11.3                 | 22.736                                  | 5.8              | 3.067                                 |
| Gibberellin solution (4 ppm)   | 15.7                 | 5.23                      | 0.748                   | 11.6                 | 23.184                                  | 5.9              | 3.162                                 |
| Gibberellin solution (8 ppm)   | 16.2                 | 5.47                      | 0.770                   | 12.3                 | 24.768                                  | 6.2              | 3.462                                 |
| Gibberellin solution (12 ppm)  | 17.1                 | 5.64                      | 0.830                   | 12.8                 | 25.862                                  | 6.5              | 3.804                                 |
| Yeast extract (1g /l)          | 15.7                 | 5.06                      | 0.730                   | 11.5                 | 23.245                                  | 5.8              | 3.156                                 |
| Yeast extract (2g /l)          | 16.0                 | 5.31                      | 0.763                   | 12.0                 | 24.126                                  | 6.0              | 3.363                                 |
| Yeast extract (3g /l)          | 16.8                 | 5.62                      | 0.828                   | 12.5                 | 25.512                                  | 6.4              | 3.727                                 |
| <b>F-test</b>                  | **                   | **                        | *                       | **                   | **                                      | *                | *                                     |
| <b>LSD 5%</b>                  | 0.7                  | 0.42                      | 0.051                   | 0.6                  | 0.682                                   | 0.4              | 0.175                                 |
| <b>Germination temperature</b> |                      |                           |                         |                      |   |                  |                                       |
| 15°C                           | 14.3                 | 4.45                      | 0.668                   | 10.5                 | 22.212                                  | 5.2              | 2.794                                 |
| 20°C                           | 15.6                 | 5.03                      | 0.744                   | 11.6                 | 23.097                                  | 5.8              | 3.116                                 |
| 25°C                           | 16.4                 | 5.49                      | 0.773                   | 11.9                 | 23.689                                  | 6.2              | 3.376                                 |
| 30°C                           | 16.7                 | 5.58                      | 0.789                   | 12.4                 | 25.211                                  | 6.3              | 3.658                                 |
| 35°C                           | 17.1                 | 5.81                      | 0.831                   | 13.0                 | 25.744                                  | 6.5              | 3.771                                 |
| <b>F-test</b>                  | **                   | **                        | **                      | **                   | **                                      | *                | **                                    |
| <b>LSD 5%</b>                  | 0.9                  | 0.52                      | 0.073                   | 0.8                  | 0.754                                   | 0.6              | 0.265                                 |

NS,\* and \*\* are not significant, significant at 5 and 1%, respectively.

**Table 3. Dry matter (%), ash (%), organic matter (%), crude protein (%), neutral detergent fiber (%) (NDF), acid detergent fiber (%) (ADF), ether extract (%) ment and germination temperature**

| Treatment                      | Chemical characters |         |                    |                   |         |         |        |         |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------|--------------------|-------------------|---------|---------|--------|---------|
|                                | Dry matter (%)      | Ash (%) | Organic matter (%) | Crude protein (%) | NDF (%) | ADF (%) | EE (%) | NCF (%) |
| <b>Seed soaking</b>            |                     |         |                    |                   |         |         |        |         |
| Untreated seed                 | 13.24               | 3.21    | 96.79              | 13.43             | 29.54   | 14.58   | 2.13   | 51.78   |
| Distilled water                | 13.49               | 3.42    | 96.58              | 13.44             | 29.83   | 14.72   | 2.38   | 51.12   |
| Gibberellin solution (4 ppm)   | 13.64               | 3.58    | 96.42              | 13.46             | 30.28   | 14.75   | 2.44   | 50.14   |
| Gibberellin solution (8 ppm)   | 13.98               | 3.76    | 96.24              | 13.50             | 31.00   | 14.87   | 2.63   | 48.93   |
| Gibberellin solution (12 ppm)  | 14.71               | 3.78    | 96.22              | 13.52             | 32.25   | 14.96   | 2.74   | 47.71   |
| Yeast extract (1 g/l)          | 13.58               | 3.49    | 96.51              | 13.42             | 30.15   | 14.75   | 2.40   | 50.54   |
| Yeast extract (2 g/l)          | 13.94               | 3.72    | 96.28              | 13.48             | 31.04   | 14.84   | 2.58   | 49.18   |
| Yeast extract (3 g/l)          | 14.61               | 3.75    | 96.25              | 13.53             | 31.94   | 14.93   | 2.69   | 48.09   |
| F test                         | **                  | NS      | NS                 | NS                | **      | NS      | *      | **      |
| LSD 5%                         | 0.37                | -       | -                  | -                 | 0.65    | -       | 0.29   | 0.52    |
| <b>Germination temperature</b> |                     |         |                    |                   |         |         |        |         |
| 15°C                           | 12.58               | 3.20    | 96.80              | 13.42             | 28.37   | 14.71   | 2.24   | 52.77   |
| 20°C                           | 13.49               | 3.46    | 96.54              | 13.44             | 29.37   | 14.79   | 2.42   | 51.31   |
| 25°C                           | 14.25               | 3.71    | 96.29              | 13.50             | 31.19   | 14.80   | 2.51   | 49.09   |
| 30°C                           | 14.51               | 3.74    | 96.26              | 13.50             | 31.86   | 14.82   | 2.59   | 48.31   |
| 35°C                           | 14.65               | 3.81    | 96.19              | 13.51             | 32.97   | 14.92   | 2.71   | 47.00   |
| F-test                         | **                  | NS      | NS                 | NS                | **      | NS      | NS     | **      |
| LSD 5%                         | 0.66                | -       | -                  | -                 | 0.81    | -       | -      | 0.61    |

NS,\* and \*\* are not significant, significant at 5 and 1%, respectively.

acid detergent fiber (%) (ADF) and ether extract (%) (EE). Germination at 15°C recorded the lowest values characters in Tables 2 and 3.

Tables 4, 5 and 6 show the interaction effect between seed soaking treatment and germination temperature on seed germination (%), germination speed index and seedling length (cm). Soaking barley seeds in gibberellin solution (12 ppm) and germination at 35°C temperature exceeded other treatments. No. significant differences in seed germination (%) were obtained between untreated seed, soaking in distilled and soaking treatment at all temperatures under study. However, insignificant differences were obtained between soaking in gibberellin solution (12 ppm) treatment and

soaking in yeast extract (3g /l) at 35°C. While, untreated seed and germination at 15°C produced the lowest values of previous parameters.

Tables 7, 8 and 9 show that seed soaking in gibberellin solution (12 ppm) and yeast extract (3 g/l) with germination at 35°C recorded the heaviest seedling fresh weight (g), highest values of seedling/seed ratio and green fodder yield (Kg/m<sup>2</sup>) parameters without significant differences between them. On the other hand, the lightest seedling fresh weight (g) and the lowest seedling/seed ratio as well as green fodder yield (Kg/m<sup>2</sup>) parameters were recorded by germinating untreated seed at 15°C and soaking in distilled water without significant differences between them.

**Table 4. Seed germination (%) of barley as affected by the interaction between seed soaking treatments and germination temperature**

| Seed soaking                  | Germination temperatures |      |      |      |      |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|
|                               | 15°C                     | 20°C | 25°C | 30°C | 35°C |
| Untreated seed                | 67                       | 71   | 75   | 77   | 78   |
| Distilled water               | 69                       | 73   | 76   | 79   | 80   |
| Gibberellin solution (4 ppm)  | 69                       | 74   | 76   | 81   | 82   |
| Gibberellin solution (8 ppm)  | 70                       | 74   | 77   | 81   | 83   |
| Gibberellin solution (12 ppm) | 73                       | 76   | 80   | 86   | 89   |
| Yeast extract (1 g/l)         | 69                       | 73   | 76   | 79   | 80   |
| Yeast extract (2 g/l)         | 70                       | 73   | 77   | 80   | 82   |
| Yeast extract (3 g/l)         | 71                       | 75   | 78   | 83   | 86   |
| LSD at 5%                     | 4                        |      |      |      |      |

**Table 5. Germination speed index (GSI) of barley as affected by the interaction between seed soaking treatments and germination temperatures**

| Seed soaking                  | Germination temperatures |      |      |      |      |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|
|                               | 15°C                     | 20°C | 25°C | 30°C | 35°C |
| Untreated seed                | 49.6                     | 55.3 | 57.8 | 58.4 | 58.9 |
| Distilled water               | 51.6                     | 56.9 | 59.0 | 59.4 | 59.8 |
| Gibberellin solution (4 ppm)  | 51.9                     | 57.0 | 59.2 | 59.5 | 59.8 |
| Gibberellin solution (8 ppm)  | 54.7                     | 58.5 | 60.3 | 60.8 | 61.1 |
| Gibberellin solution (12 ppm) | 55.6                     | 60.5 | 63.1 | 63.4 | 64.4 |
| Yeast extract (1 g/l)         | 51.8                     | 56.9 | 59.2 | 59.5 | 59.7 |
| Yeast extract (2 g/l)         | 54.5                     | 57.9 | 60.0 | 60.6 | 61.0 |
| Yeast extract (3 g/l)         | 55.0                     | 60.0 | 62.4 | 63.0 | 64.0 |
| LSD at 5%                     | 1.5.                     |      |      |      |      |

**Table 6. Seedling length (cm) of barley as affected by the interaction between seed soaking treatments and germination temperatures**

| Seed soaking                  | Germination temperatures |      |      |      |      |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|
|                               | 15°C                     | 20°C | 25°C | 30°C | 35°C |
| Untreated seed                | 13.2                     | 14.7 | 15.5 | 15.8 | 16.0 |
| Distilled water               | 13.9                     | 15.3 | 16.0 | 16.3 | 16.4 |
| Gibberellin solution (4 ppm)  | 14.0                     | 15.4 | 16.1 | 16.3 | 16.7 |
| Gibberellin solution (8 ppm)  | 14.6                     | 15.8 | 16.4 | 16.9 | 17.4 |
| Gibberellin solution (12 ppm) | 15.3                     | 16.5 | 17.4 | 18.0 | 18.4 |
| Yeast extract (1 g/l)         | 13.9                     | 15.4 | 16.3 | 16.2 | 16.5 |
| Yeast extract (2 g/l)         | 14.4                     | 15.6 | 16.5 | 16.6 | 17.0 |
| Yeast extract (3 g/l)         | 14.9                     | 16.3 | 17.1 | 17.6 | 18.1 |
| LSD at 5%                     |                          |      | 1.2  |      |      |

**Table 7. Seedling fresh weight (g) of barley as affected by the interaction between seed soaking treatments and germination temperature**

| Seed soaking                  | Germination temperature |      |      |      |      |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|
|                               | 15°C                    | 20°C | 25°C | 30°C | 35°C |
| Untreated seed                | 4.12                    | 4.54 | 4.95 | 5.08 | 5.17 |
| Distilled water               | 4.25                    | 4.87 | 5.26 | 5.37 | 5.54 |
| Gibberellin solution (4 ppm)  | 4.41                    | 4.96 | 5.47 | 5.55 | 5.78 |
| Gibberellin solution (8 ppm)  | 4.59                    | 5.18 | 5.62 | 5.76 | 6.21 |
| Gibberellin solution (12 ppm) | 4.75                    | 5.46 | 5.84 | 5.91 | 6.26 |
| Yeast extract (1 g/l)         | 4.37                    | 4.91 | 5.22 | 5.35 | 5.46 |
| Yeast extract (2 g/l)         | 4.47                    | 5.09 | 5.57 | 5.63 | 5.78 |
| Yeast extract (3 g/l)         | 4.63                    | 5.28 | 5.95 | 5.99 | 6.25 |
| LSD at 5%                     |                         |      | 0.54 |      |      |



**Table 8. Seedling/seed ratio of barley as affected by the interaction between seed soaking treatments and germination temperature**

| Seed soaking                  | Germination temperatures |      |      |      |      |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|
|                               | 15°C                     | 20°C | 25°C | 30°C | 35°C |
| Untreated seed                | 9.7                      | 10.7 | 11.1 | 11.3 | 11.8 |
| Distilled water               | 10.2                     | 11.3 | 11.5 | 11.5 | 12.1 |
| Gibberellin solution (4 ppm)  | 10.5                     | 11.3 | 11.7 | 12.0 | 12.7 |
| Gibberellin solution (8 ppm)  | 10.7                     | 11.9 | 12.3 | 12.8 | 13.6 |
| Gibberellin solution (12 ppm) | 11.3                     | 12.2 | 12.9 | 13.5 | 13.9 |
| Yeast extract (1 g/l)         | 10.2                     | 11.3 | 11.5 | 11.9 | 12.5 |
| Yeast extract (2 g/l)         | 10.4                     | 11.8 | 12   | 12.5 | 13.5 |
| Yeast extract (3 g/l)         | 11.1                     | 12.1 | 12.5 | 13.3 | 13.7 |
| LSD at 5%                     |                          |      | 1.0  |      |      |

**Table 9. Green fodder yield (Kg/m<sup>2</sup>) of barley as affected by the interaction between seed soaking treatments and germination temperature**

| Seed soaking                  | Germination temperatures |        |        |        |        |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                               | 15°C                     | 20°C   | 25°C   | 30°C   | 35°C   |
| Untreated seed                | 20.935                   | 21.285 | 22.274 | 23.544 | 24.425 |
| Distilled water               | 21.085                   | 21.946 | 22.348 | 23.776 | 24.528 |
| Gibberellin solution (4 ppm)  | 21.485                   | 22.301 | 22.756 | 24.362 | 25.018 |
| Gibberellin solution (8 ppm)  | 22.857                   | 23.914 | 24.358 | 25.849 | 26.862 |
| Gibberellin solution (12 ppm) | 23.774                   | 24.821 | 25.772 | 27.042 | 27.902 |
| Yeast extract (1 g/l)         | 21.663                   | 22.564 | 22.872 | 23.876 | 25.254 |
| Yeast extract (2 g/l)         | 22.250                   | 23.202 | 23.742 | 25.22  | 26.216 |
| Yeast extract (3 g/l)         | 23.652                   | 24.742 | 25.391 | 26.421 | 27.354 |
| LSD at 5%                     |                          |        | 0.976  |        |        |

Table 10 show the simple correlation coefficient for seed germination (%), germination speed index, seedling length and seedling fresh weight towards green fodder yield. Positive and significant correlation coefficients were recorded between green fodder yield and each of seed germination (%), germination speed index, seedling length and seedling fresh weight which were 0.939, 0.879, 0.892 and 0.928, respectively.

The results in Tables 11 and 12 show the stepwise regression analysis of seed germination (%), germination speed index, and seedling length and seedling fresh weight towards green fodder yield. The prediction equation for green fodder yield was computed as follow:

$$Y = 3.957 + 0.129 X_1 + 0.251 X_2 + 1.263 X_3$$

Where :

Y = Green fodder yield

3.957 = Constant.

X<sub>1</sub> = Seed germination (%)

X<sub>2</sub> = Seedling length.

X<sub>3</sub> = Seedling fresh weight.

The relative contribution for seed germination (%), germination speed index, seedling length (cm) and seedling fresh weight towards green fodder yield was 83.7%, simple correlation of all previous characters together with green fodder yield (Kg/m<sup>2</sup>) was 0.901 (Table 11). seed germination (%), seedling length and seedling fresh weight were significantly contributing characters as to variation in green fodder yields, seed germination (%) was the first character (R<sup>2</sup>= 82.6%) followed by seedling fresh weight (R<sup>2</sup>= 82.4%) and seedling length (R<sup>2</sup>= 69.1%). While, germination speed index was insignificantly contributing to green fodder yield and recorded the lowest (R squared which was 2.87% (Table 12).

In the present study, increasing temperature from 15°C to 35°C had a positive effect on germination parameters and final sprouted green fodder yield of barley. Temperature affects seed germination in three primary ways: seed moisture, hormone production, and enzyme activity, chemical signaling regulates production of enzymes, which is in turn regulated by temperature (**Finch-Savage and Leubner-Metzger, 2006**). The temperature has an impact on a number of processes that regulate seed germination, including membrane permeability and the activity of membrane-bound and cytosolic enzymes (**Tlig *et al.*, 2008**). Germination rate usually increases linearly with increasing temperature up to an optimum point, and then decreases linearly to a ceiling temperature (**Bradford, 2002**).

The results indicated that soaking barley seeds in gibberellin solution (12 ppm) gave the highest values of parameters under all temperatures (15, 20, 25, 30 and 35°C) compared to other seed treatments. GA stimulates hydrolytic enzymes that are needed for the degradation of the cells surrounding the radicle and thus speeds germination by promoting seedling elongation growth of cereal seeds (**Rood *et al.*, 1990**). Yeast extract came in the second rank after gibberellin solution and proved their efficiency to record satisfactory production of barley sprouted green fodder. Many researchers provided explanations for yeast extract mode of action, **El-Tohamy and El-Greadly (2007)** showed that yeast extract contained a higher contents of cytokinins, IAA and GA<sub>3</sub>. It was reported about its stimulatory effects on cell division and enlargement, protein and nucleic acid synthesis and vitamins (**Castelfranco and Beale, 1983**). It could be concluded that seed soaking in gibberellin solution (12 ppm) and yeast extract (3 g/l) is a good seed treatment for different temperatures to maximize sprouted green fodder yield of barley.

**Table 10. Simple correlation coefficient (R) for seed germination (%), germination speed index, seedling length and seedling fresh weight towards green fodder yield**

| Y                                       | X | Seed germination (%) | Germination speed index | Seedling length (cm) | Seedling fresh weight (g) |
|---|---|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Green fodder yield (Kg/m <sup>2</sup> ) |   | 0.939 **             | 0.879 **                | 0.892 **             | 0.928 **                  |

**Table 11. R, R square and adjusted R square of contribution germination (%), germination speed index, seedling length (cm) and seedling fresh weight (g) towards green fodder yield (Kg/m<sup>2</sup>) according to stepwise regression analysis**

| R     | R square | Adjusted R square | Std. Error of the estimate |
|-------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 0.901 | 0.854    | 0.837             | 0.736                      |

**Table 12. Effective and inefficient characters affected green fodder yield according to stepwise regression analysis**

| Accepted variables      | Unstandardized               | Standardized                 | T     | Sig.  | Effective character   | Partial regression (R <sup>2</sup> ) | Inefficient character         | Partial regression (R <sup>2</sup> ) |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------|-------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
|                         | coefficients<br>B Std. Error | coefficients<br>B Std. Error |       |       |                       |                                      |                               |                                      |
| Constant                | 3.957                        | 8.75                         | 0.994 | 0.327 | Seed                  |                                      |                               |                                      |
| Seed germination (%)    | 0.129                        | 0.24                         | 4.653 | 0.003 | Germination (%)       | 82.6                                 |                               |                                      |
| Germination speed index | 0.008                        | 0.471                        | 0.067 | 0.947 |                       |                                      | Germination speed index (GSI) | 2.87                                 |
| Seedling length         | 0.251                        | 3.03                         | 4.335 | 0.027 | Seedling length       | 69.1                                 |                               |                                      |
| Seedling fresh weight   | 1.263                        | 3.33                         | 4.011 | 0.042 | Seedling fresh weight | 82.4                                 |                               |                                      |

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## بعض العوامل المؤثرة على إنتاج ونوعية محصول الشعير المستنبت بغرض العلف الأخضر

فيصل إبراهيم يوسف - الشيماء السيد إبراهيم مصطفى - مجاهد أحمد حلمي مجاهد

قسم بحوث تكنولوجيا البذور - معهد بحوث المحاصيل الحقلية - مركز البحوث الزراعية - مصر

أجريت تجارب معملية لدراسة تأثير بعض معاملات التقاوي المتمثلة في النقع في محاليل جبريللين، مستخلصات الخميرة، وكانت المعاملات كالتالي [تقاوي غير معاملة، ماء مقطر، جبريللين (٤ جزء/مليون)، جبريللين (٨ جزء/مليون)، جبريللين (١٢ جزء/مليون)، خميرة (١ جم/لتر)، خميرة (٢ جم/لتر) وخميرة (٣ جم/لتر)]، وكذلك تحديد تأثير درجات الحرارة (١٥، ٢٠، ٢٥، ٣٠، و ٣٥ درجة مئوية) على إنبات البذور وخصائص البادرات، ومحصول العلف الأخضر المستنبت (كجم/م<sup>٢</sup>)، ونسبته إلى وزن التقاوي وبعض الصفات الكيميائية المتمثلة في المادة الجافة (%)، الرماد (%)، المادة العضوية (%)، البروتين الخام (%)، المستخلص الايثيري (%)، ألياف المنظف المتعادل (%)، ألياف المنظف الحمضي (%)، والكربوهيدرات غير الليفية (%)، وأشارت النتائج إلى أن معاملات نقع التقاوي لها تأثير معنوي على جميع الصفات المدروسة ما عدا البادرات غير الطبيعية (%)، معامل تجانس الإنبات، الرماد (%)، المادة العضوية (%)، البروتين الخام (%). وألياف المنظف الحمضي (%). وسجلت معاملة نقع تقاوي الشعير بمحلول الجبريللين (١٢ جزء/مليون) ومستخلص الخميرة (٣ جم/لتر) وبدون فروق معنوية بينهما، كما أوضحت النتائج أن إنبات البذور عند درجة حرارة ٣٥ درجة مئوية أعطى أعلى القيم للصفات السابقة عدا الكربوهيدرات غير الليفية، أظهر تحليل الارتباط البسيط أن صفات نسبة إنبات البذور، دليل سرعة الإنبات، الوزن الجاف والوزن الرطب للبادرات لها ارتباط معنوي موجب مع صفة محصول الشعير المستنبت وكان معامل الارتباط (٠,٩٣٩، ٠,٨٧٩، ٠,٨٩٢، و ٠,٩٢٨) على الترتيب، كما أشار تحليل الانحدار المرهلي إلى تأثير عالي المعنوية لثلاث صفات وهي (نسبة إنبات البذور، الوزن الجاف والوزن الرطب للبادرات) على محصول الشعير المستنبت، وتقتصر الدراسة نقع تقاوي الشعير في محلول جبريللين (١٢ جزء/مليون) أو مستخلص الخميرة (٣ جم/لتر) لتعظيم إنتاج محصول العلف الأخضر من الشعير المستنبت تحت ظروف درجات الحرارة المختلفة على مدار العام.

## المحكمون :

- ١- أ.د. محمود إبراهيم العميري
- ٢- أ.د. أحمد عبدالغني علي

أستاذ المحاصيل المتفرغ - مركز البحوث الزراعية.  
أستاذ المحاصيل المتفرغ - كلية الزراعة - جامعة الزقازيق.