

## Effect of Nitrogen Fertilizers forms on Fruit Yield and Quality of Squash Plants. (Cucurbitapepo)

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### Abstract

Two field experiments were carried out during the two successive summer seasons of 2016 and 2017 at the vegetable farm of the faculty of Agriculture Moshtohor, Benha University, Egypt to investigate the response of Squash plant Cv. Eskandrani to mineral, organic and bio fertilization on fruit yield and its components as well as fruit quality. The experimental treatments of mineral, organic and bio fertilization in single or combined application were conducted as follows:-100% mineral nitrogen fertilizer from recommend dose (200kg ammonium nitrate per feddan), 75% mineral nitrogen plus 25% organic manure in the form of compost, 50% mineral nitrogen plus 50% organic manure, 25% mineral nitrogen plus 75% organic manure, 100% organic manure (compost), 100% organic manure (compost) plus addition of phosphorine at rate of 500 g/fed plus Nitrobein bio- fertilizer at rate of 400g/fed.. Obtained results showed that, There were a significant differences among the studied nitrogen fertilizer treatments on all determined yield and its components and fruit quality during the two seasons of growth. In this concern, fertilizing squash plants with 100% mineral nitrogen fertilizer only reflected the highest values of number of fruit per plant, fruit yield per plant and total fruit yield per feddan compared with other nitrogen fertilizer treatments. The highest values of fruit length, diameter and weight were recorded from 100% mineral nitrogen of recommended dose, followed by 100% organic manure treatments, followed by 75% mineral nitrogen plus 25% organic manure.

**Keywords:** squash mineral nitrogen fertilizer organic compost bio

### Introduction

Squash is one of the most important vegetable crops in Egypt. Squash plants as a member of the family of cucurbitacea is a highly polymorphic vegetable (Kathiravanet *al.* 2006), Squash is contains a lot of nutrients and bioactive compounds such as flavonoids, antioxidants, vitamins (B complex group and A, B-carotene, amino acids, carbohydrates, and minerals (especially, K). Mover; it contains protein 1.0gm, carbohydrates 11.69 gm(Tamer et al. 2010). It has various health and medicinal benefits to human such as comprising antidiabetic, antitumor, ant mutagenic, and ant inflammation (Kostalova et al. 2009 and Mohammad et al. 2011). The total area devoted to grow squash in Egypt was increased and reached about 44972 fed. With an average yield of 7.9 ton/ fed. According to the statistics of Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture and land reclamation in 2017 season.

There is important need for scientific studies under Egyptian conditions to establish recommendation for reducing the chemical fertilizers addition to increase the quantity, improve the quality and limit the environmental pollution by using organic and bio fertilization. Nitrogen is an important nutrient for squash production. However there is scanty information about the amount necessary to maintain an appropriate balance between growth and yield. Organic manures, particularly compost have traditionally been used by potato farmers. The use of organic matter to meet the nutrient requirement of crops would be an inevitable practice in years to come, particularly for resource poor farmers.

Furthermore, ecological and environmental concerns over the increased and indiscriminated use of inorganic fertilizers have made research on use of organic materials as a source of nutrients very necessary (Upadhyaya et al., 2003). Organic manures like compost can play an important role in potato productivity. These sources can reduce the diffecency of soil nutrient and improve soil organic matter, humus and overall soil productivity (Jenssen, 1993). Soil organic matter acts as “cement” for water holding clay and soil particles together, this contributing to the crumb structure of the soil providing resistance against soil erosion, binds micronutrient metal ions in the soil to check leaching out of surface soils. Organic constituents in the humic substances also act as plant growth stimulants (Jenssen, 1993; Palm et al., 1993). Biofertilizers are easy to apply, low-cost in nature and eco-friendly. A judicious combination of organic manures, inorganic fertilizers and biofertilizers might be helpful in obtaining high potato productivity and good soil health for sustainability. Therefore, an integrated nutrient management (INM) in which organic manures, inorganic fertilizers and biofertilizers are used simultaneously has been suggested as the most effective method to maintain a healthy and sustainable soil system as well as increasing crop productivity (Mondal et al.2008). There is evidence from field research that high and sustainable yields are possible with integrated use of organic fertilizers, inorganic fertilizers and biofertilizers (Singh et al., 2007).

The growth, production and quality of produced squash fruit are depending on the different

agricultural treatments done during the growing season. Today's many farmers used different types of fertilization. An addition of adequate amounts of fertilizers in the form of bio fertilizers, organic manure or mixed of organic and mineral fertilizers to reduce the pollution of environmental and costs of mineral fertilizer.

Thus, the objectives of the present work aim to study the effect of mineral nitrogen fertilizer, organic and bio fertilization on fruit yield and its components of squash plants as well as chemical fruit quality to reduce the pollution of synthetic fertilizers on produced fruits and environment.

## Materials and Methods

Two field experiments were carried out during the two successive summer seasons of 2016 and 2017 at the vegetable farm of the faculty of Agriculture, Moshtohor, Benha University. This experiment was carried out to investigate the response of Squash plant Cv. Eskandrani to mineral, organic and bio fertilization on vegetative growth, chemical composition, flowering behavior, fruit yield and its components as well as fruit quality. The texture of the experimental field was clay loamy with PH 7.8. Random soil samples were taken before planting for physical and chemical analysis (Table 1).

**Table 1.** Physical and chemical analysis of the used soil as average of both seasons.

Physical analysis		Chemical analysis	
		Cations meg/l	Anions meg/l
Coarse sand	7.14%	Ca <sup>++</sup> 7.26	co <sup>3--</sup> zero
Fine sand	17.26%	Mg <sup>++</sup> 3.02	Hco <sup>3--</sup> 4.14
Silt	23.20%	Na <sup>++</sup> 5.36	Cl <sup>--</sup> 4.81
Clay	52.40%	K <sup>+</sup> 0.83	SO <sup>4-</sup> 7.52
Texture class	: clay loam.	Available N	21.3mg/kg
Soil PH	: 7.83	Available P	8.43mg/kg
E.C, ds/m	: 1.65	Available K	117.4mg/kg
Organic matter	: 2.16%		

Seeds of squash CV Eskandranie were sown in hills 30 cm apart on one side of ridge 70 cm width and 3.5 m long. Each experiment plot consisted of four ridges with an area of 9.8 m<sup>2</sup>. The experimental treatments of mineral, organic and bio fertilization in single or combined application were conducted as follows:-

- 1- 100% mineral nitrogen fertilizer from recommended dose (200 kg ammonium nitrate per feddan).
- 2- 75% mineral nitrogen fertilizer from recommended dose plus 25% in the form of organic manure (compost).
- 3- 50% mineral nitrogen plus 50% organic manure.
- 3- 25% mineral nitrogen plus 75% organic manure.
- 4- 100% organic manure (compost).
- 6- 100% organic manure (compost) plus addition of phosphorine at rate of 500 g/fed plus Nitroben bio-

fertilizer at rate of 400 g/fed. From each of them added once during season.

7- Bio- fertilizer only (phosphorine at rate 500 g/fed plus nitroben at rate of 400 g/fed).

8- 75% mineral nitrogen plus 25% organic manure (compost) plus bio- fertilizer (phosphorine + nitroben)

9- 50% mineral nitrogen plus 50% organic plus bio-fertilization.

10- 25% mineral nitrogen plus 75% organic manure plus bio- fertilizer.

11- 100% mineral nitrogen plus bio fertilization (phosphorine at rate of 500 g/fed plus Nitroben at rate of 400 g/fed).

### Organic fertilizer treatments:

Organic manure (compost) was added during soil preparation in both seasons. The chemical properties of the used compost are shown in Table 2.

**Table 2.** Chemical properties of the used compost

Parameters	Ec Det	Ec dS.m <sup>-1</sup> (1:5)	pH (1:5)	Total C %	Total N %	Total P %	Total K %	C:N ratio
erminations								
First season		2.73	6.71	21.98	1.01	0.68	1.29	18:1
Second season		2.82	6.83	22.54	1.50	0.59	1.64	19:1

### Bio fertilizer treatments:

A mixture of nitroben + phosphorine contained efficient strains of nitrogen fixing bacteria (*Azotobacter chroococcum*) + phosphate dissolving bacteria (PDB) (*Bacillus megaterium var phosphaticum*) which were supplied by the department of Microbiology, Agric. Res. Center,

Giza nitroben was added at the rate of 400 g/fed, phosphorine at rate of 500 g/fed. The strains were characterized by a good ability to infect its specific host plant and by its high efficiency in N-fixation, phosphate solubilizing.

**Data recorded:--****1 - Fruit parameters:-**

**1-1 Physical fruit quality:** fruit length, weight and diameter were measured for fruit sample (10 fruits) from each experimental plot.

**1-2 Fruit yield:-**

Total yield, Total number of fruits per plant, Fruit yield/ plant, Total yield ton/fed

**2- Fruit chemical contents:****2-1 Mineral chemical constituents of squash fruits:-**

N, P, K and Total soluble solids T.S.S%

**2-2 Organic chemical constituents of squash fruits**

Total carbohydrates: Total sugars (total, reducing-non reducing sugars) were determined according to A.O.C.A. (1990).

**Statistical analysis**

All obtained data were subjected to statistical analysis according to Gomez and Gomez (1991) and L.S.D multiple range tests at 5% level was used to compare between treatment means.

**Results and Discussion****Physical fruit quality:-**

Table 3 indicate the effect of mineral nitrogen fertilizer, organic manure and bio fertilization on physical fruit quality of squash plant expressed as fruit length, diameter and weight during 2016 and

2017 seasons. All nitrogen fertilizer treatments had a significant effect on physical fruit quality except fruit diameter in both seasons. Which This did not reach the level of significance at 0.05. The highest values of fruit length, diameter and weight were recorded from 100% mineral nitrogen of recommended dose, followed by 100% organic manure treatments, followed by 75% mineral nitrogen plus 25% organic manure. On the other hand the lowest values in first season refer to 25% mineral nitrogen + 75% organic manure + bio fertilizer with (phosphorein + nitroben). In second season the highest values in fruit length and weight were resulted from 75% mineral nitrogen plus 25% organic manure plus bio fertilizer. The highest values in fruit diameter were recorded from 50% mineral nitrogen + 50% organic manure (compost) + bio fertilizer and 100% organic manure + bio fertilizer treatment. On the other hand, the lowest values for fruit length, diameter and weight were recorded from 100% organic manure treatment, 50% mineral nitrogen + 50% organic manure and bio fertilizer only, respectively, the highest values refer to organic manures increase the organic matter in the soil. They provided organic acids that help dissolve soil nutrients and make them available for plants. Application of organic manures improves the soil fertility, soil structure and moisture holding capacity.

**Table 3.** Effect of mineral nitrogen, organic and bio fertilization on physical fruit quality of squash plant during 2016 and 2017 seasons

Characteristics Treatment	Fruit length (cm)	Fruit diameter (cm)	Fruit weight (g)	Fruit length (cm)		Fruit diameter (cm)		Fruit weight (g)	
				First season	Second season	First season	Second season	First season	Second season
100 % mineral	15.22	2.85	65.75	12.80	2.62	52.03			
100 % organic	15.00	2.83	63.25	11.60	2.43	43.10			
only bio	12.02	2.77	54.75	12.32	2.65	44.92			
100 % organic plus bio	13.95	2.75	58.00	13.25	2.85	52.15			
100 % mineral plus bio	11.73	2.67	62.75	14.25	2.77	61.63			
75 % mineral plus 25 % organic	14.88	2.80	62.88	13.38	2.60	49.38			
50 % mineral plus 50 % organic	13.90	2.65	59.25	13.57	2.55	51.20			
25 % mineral plus 75 % organic	13.20	2.62	58.25	12.63	2.62	48.53			
75 % mineral plus 25 % organic plus bio	12.60	2.62	57.25	16.17	2.75	64.72			
50 % mineral plus 50 % organic plus bio	11.35	2.60	54.75	15.45	2.85	58.13			
25 % mineral plus 75 % organic plus bio	11.13	2.55	54.00	14.45	2.65	53.10			
LSD	3.15	n.s.	3.13	3.131	n.s.	4.53			

Bio fertilizer gave highest values may be it contains phosphate and nitrogen solubilizing bacteria produces organic and inorganic acids and CO<sub>2</sub> Which dissolve the precipitate from phosphate and nitrogen to available in soil. Also increasing nitrogen rates in soil solution a round rooting zone caused an increasing in the solubility and availability of nutrients hence increasing the absorption of the nutritional elements in plant and therefore increased physical fruit quantity.

**Shafeek et al. (2015)** illustrated that the highest values of physical fruit quality expressed as fruit length, diameter, weight and size of fruits were significantly recorded by adding the highest level of NPK fertilizer (100%) from recommended dose. **Abdel- Nabi et al. (2016)** stated that increasing mineral nitrogen fertilizer rate from 75 to 100 and 125 kg N/ fed tended to increase fruit diameter and fruit size. **Abdel- Nabi et al. (2016)** indicated the mineral nitrogen, organic manure and foliar fertilization with bio fertilizers on cantaloupe plant

had a significant effect on fruit diameter in first season. While number of fruits/ plant in both season and fruit diameter in the second season did not showed significant effect. And results agreement with **Taha et al. (2011)**, **Ragab (2016)**, **Keveinefedyi et al. (2017)**, **Satish et al. (2017)**.

#### Fruit yield and its components:-

Data recorded in Table 4 show the effect of mineral nitrogen fertilizer, organic manure (compost) and bio fertilizer on produced fruit yield of squash plants and its components expressed as fruit number per plant, fruit yield per plant and total fruit yield per feddan during both seasons of study.

The same data presented in Table 4 show clearly that there were a significant differences among the studied nitrogen fertilizer treatments on all determined yield and its components during the two seasons of growth. In this concern, fertilizing squash plants with 100% mineral nitrogen fertilizer only reflected the highest values of number of fruit per plant, fruit yield per plant and total fruit yield per feddan compared with other nitrogen fertilizer treatments. In addition, fertilizing squash plants with 100% organic manure ranks the second season in total produced fruit yield and its components followed by fertilizing plants with bio fertilizer only. On the other hand, the lowest values for number of fruits per plant, fruit yield per plant and total fruit

yield per feddan were recorded from 25% mineral nitrogen fertilizer + 75% organic manure (compost) + bio fertilizer with (nitrobein + phosphorein) obtained results are true during both seasons of study. From this results, the higher produced fruit yield and its components of squash plants from fertilizing plants with 100% mineral nitrogen and 100% organic manure compared with the best vegetative growth traits (Table,1) and good physical fruit quality (Table, 4) which reflected on higher produced fruit yield and its components. **Abdel-Nabi et al.(2016)** indicated the increasing mineral nitrogen fertilizer rates from 75 to 100 and 125 kg N/ fed tended to increase yield and its components, thus the highest values of these characters were resulted from adding the highest rate of nitrogen fertilizer (125 kg N/ fed) in both seasons. **Shafeek et al. (2016)** illustrated the application of nitrogen fertilizer at 100 and 150 kg N/fed increased total yield ton /fed. However, the high level of N fertilizer (150kg/fed) increased total yield and its components compared with the medium level (100kg Nfed). **Baselet et al. (2014)** indicated that the use of organic fertilizer compost on cucumber increased crop productivity (7005 kg/dunum). And **Eifedyi et al. (2010)**, **Hammadet al. (2016)**, **Keveinefedyi et al. (2017)**.

**Table 4.** Effect of mineral nitrogen, organic and bio fertilization on yield and its components of squash plant during 2016 and 2017 seasons

Characteristics Treatment	fruit number/ plant	Plant yield (gm)	Total yield/ fed. (ton)	fruit number/ plant	Plant yield (gm)	Total yield /fed. (ton)
100 % mineral	9.59	565.0	6.59	14.18	738.0	8.60
100 % organic	8.87	555.0	6.47	13.56	652.5	7.61
only bio	8.53	535.5	6.24	13.11	589.0	6.87
100 % organic + bio	8.44	519.0	6.05	10.32	538.5	6.28
100 % mineral + bio	8.22	516.0	6.01	8.64	532.5	6.21
75 % mineral + 25 % organic	7.76	467.4	5.45	10.75	531.0	6.19
50 % mineral + 50 % organic	7.86	465.9	5.43	10.29	527.0	6.14
25 %mineral + 75 % organic	7.50	436.9	5.09	9.69	496.5	5.79
75 % mineral + 25 % organic + bio	7.60	434.0	5.06	7.50	485.4	5.66
50 % mineral + 50 % organic +bio	8.70	376.7	4.39	7.55	439.4	5.12
25 %mineral + 75 % organic +bio	6.75	365.0	4.25	7.30	414.5	4.83
LSD	0.84	62.7	0.38	0.33	112.7	0.18

#### Mineral chemical constituents of squash fruits:-

Data at Table 5 show the effect of mineral nitrogen, organic manure and bio fertilizer (phosphorein + nitrobein) on mineral chemical constituents of squash fruits (N%, K%, P% and TSS) during the two seasons of growth. There were significant differences between the used nitrogen fertilizer treatments in all studied mineral chemical constituents of squash fruits. Data recorded in Table

6 indicated that fertilizing squash plants with 25% mineral nitrogen fertilizer + 75% organic manure gave the highest values of nitrogen phosphorus and potassium contents in squash plant fruits. Whereas, using 100% organic manure + bio fertilizer with (phosphorein + nitrobein) gave the highest content of total soluble solids. On the other hand, the lowest values of total nitrogen and total soluble solids content of squash plant fruit were obtained from

using 75% mineral nitrogen fertilizer + 25% organic manure + bio fertilizer (phosphorein + nitrobein), for phosphorus% from using 100% mineral nitrogen fertilizer + bio fertilizer and using 50% mineral nitrogen fertilizer + 50% organic manure (compost) + bio fertilizer for potassium%. This is true during the first season. Meanwhile during the second season, the highest values for nitrogen percentage (2.66%) were obtained from using 25% mineral nitrogen fertilizer + 75% organic manure + bio fertilizer, for phosphorus percentage (1.30%) from using 75% mineral nitrogen fertilizer + 25% organic manure for each of potassium percentage (6.50%) and total soluble solids (5.00) from using 100% mineral nitrogen fertilizer only, on the contrary, the lowest values for nitrogen percentage (2.23%) were obtained from using 50% mineral nitrogen fertilizer + 50% organic manure, for phosphorus percentage (0.47%) from using 50% mineral nitrogen fertilizer + 50% organic manure + bio fertilizer (phosphorein + nitrobein), and for total soluble solids (3.33) from

using 25% mineral nitrogen fertilizer + 75% organic manure + bio fertilizer. Such in the concentration of macro- elements in squash fruits as a result of mineral, organic and bio fertilizer application may be due to the main role of such fertilizers in increasing the concentration of macro and micro elements at the rooting zone which consequently increased the uptake of such nutrients by the plant and transferred to stored in the fruits. **Sabreen et al.** (2015) indicated the fertilization of summer squash plant with nitrogen at 45,60 and 75kg/fed had no significant effect on T.S.S%, P and K content of fruits, while application of mineral nitrogen at a rate of 75 %kg/fed showed significant effect on N content in the fruits. Application of chitosan at a rate of 0.01g/L had significant effect on T.S.S, N and P content. On the other hand, all chitosan treatments had no significant effect on K content in the fruits. And **Shafeek et al.** (2015), **Abdel-Nabiet et al.** (2016).

**Table 5.** Effect of mineral nitrogen, organic and bio fertilization on mineral chemical contents of squash plant fruits during 2016 and 2017 season

Treatment	Characteristics	First season				Second season			
		N (%)	P (%)	K (%)	TSS %	N (%)	P (%)	K (%)	TSS %
100 % mineral		2.46	0.56	5.30	4.33	2.53	0.93	6.50	5.00
100 % organic only bio		2.30	0.53	5.60	4.33	2.36	1.10	6.46	4.33
100 % organic plus bio		2.53	0.76	5.73	5.00	2.33	0.47	5.83	4.00
100 % mineral plus bio		2.50	0.70	6.10	5.66	2.56	0.63	5.90	4.00
100 % mineral plus bio		2.40	0.50	4.96	4.33	2.56	0.67	6.03	5.00
75 % mineral plus 25 % organic		2.36	0.66	5.10	5.33	2.23	1.30	5.43	3.66
50 % mineral plus 50 % organic		2.66	0.83	5.56	4.33	2.23	1.00	6.16	4.00
25 % mineral plus 75 % organic		2.66	0.86	6.10	5.33	2.36	0.93	6.13	4.00
75 % mineral plus 25 % organic plus bio		2.20	0.76	5.23	4.33	2.26	0.90	6.23	4.00
50 % mineral plus 50 % organic plus bio		2.46	0.53	4.60	4.33	2.36	1.10	5.36	4.00
25 % mineral plus 75 % organic plus bio		2.60	0.53	5.63	5.33	2.66	1.10	6.20	3.33
LSD		0.28	0.25	0.79	1.20	0.29	0.194	1.018	1.40

#### Organic chemical constituents of squash fruits:-

Data presented in Table 6 indicated that fruit content of total carbohydrate, reducing, non-reducing and total sugars as affected by mineral nitrogen, organic manure, and bio fertilizer. There was a significant difference in assayed total carbohydrates, reducing, non-reducing and total sugars content between nitrogen fertilizer treatments, except non-reducing sugars in the second season only which did not reach the level of significance at 0.05. Data in Table 6 show clearly the highest value of total carbohydrate content of squash fruits 24.13 g/100g.d.w. were scored by using 50% mineral nitrogen fertilizer + 50% organic manure + bio fertilizer in the first season where as in the second season the plants fertilized by 25% mineral nitrogen + 75% organic manure gave the highest carbohydrate content (23.37 g./100 g. d.w). In addition, the highest values of total sugars 75% mineral nitrogen fertilizer + 25% organic manure, for reducing sugars by using

100% organic manure only and for non-reducing sugars by using 75% mineral nitrogen fertilizer + 25% organic manure + bio fertilizer. On the other hand, the lowest values of total carbohydrates were obtained from the treatment 100% mineral nitrogen fertilizer only for total and reducing sugars from using 75% mineral nitrogen + 25% organic manure bio fertilizer (phosphorein + nitrobein), whereas for non-reducing sugars from using 75% mineral nitrogen + 25% organic manure only during the first season. Meanwhile in the second season the highest value for total carbohydrates content in squash fruits were obtained from using 25% mineral nitrogen + 27% organic manure and for total, reducing and non-reducing sugars from using % organic manure only. On the contrary the lowest value for total carbohydrates was obtained from using 100% mineral nitrogen + bio fertilizer, for total sugars and non-reducing from using 75% mineral nitrogen + 25% organic manure + bio fertilizer, and for reducing

sugars from 50% mineral nitrogen + 50% organic manure (compost). Such results may be due to the main role of nitrogen fertilizer with photosynthesis products in plant metabolism and produced sugars

and carbohydrates. such results are in agreement with those reported by **Oloyeda et al. (2012)**, **Shafeek et al. (2015)** and **Abdel-Nabi et al. (2016)**.

**Table 6.** Effect of mineral nitrogen, organic and bio fertilization on organic Chemical constituents of squash plant fruits during 2016 and 2017 seasons.

Characteristics Treatment	Total carbohy drate g/100g.d. w.	Total Sugars	Reducing sugar	Non- reducing sugars	Total Carbohy drate g/100g d.w.	Total sugars	Reducing sugars	Non- reducing sugars
<b>100 % mineral</b>	15.83	0.52	0.34	0.18	21.10	0.46	0.29	0.17
<b>100 % organic</b>	23.67	0.93	0.78	0.15	20.80	0.77	0.56	0.20
<b>Bio</b>	19.63	0.49	0.34	0.15	23.20	0.40	0.24	0.15
<b>100 % organic plus bio</b>	19.67	0.42	0.20	0.22	15.27	0.43	0.2900	0.14
<b>100 % mineral plus bio</b>	19.80	0.83	0.66	0.17	11.87	0.43	0.28	0.15
<b>75 % mineral plus 25 % organic</b>	21.37	0.91	0.77	0.14	12.47	0.30	0.11	0.18
<b>50 % mineral plus 50 % organic</b>	21.13	0.92	0.77	0.15	15.47	0.27	0.09	0.17
<b>25 % mineral plus 75 % organic</b>	22.10	0.56	0.33	0.23	23.37	0.40	0.26	0.13
<b>75 % mineral plus 25 % organic plus bio</b>	22.13	0.43	0.19	0.24	20.23	0.26	0.15	0.11
<b>50 % mineral plus 50 % organic plus bio</b>	24.13	0.66	0.52	0.14	21.73	0.33	0.16	0.16
<b>25 % mineral plus 75 % organic plus bio</b>	22.37	0.76	0.54	0.22	18.53	0.30	0.10	0.19
<b>LSD</b>	3.35	0.35	0.37	0.053	2.802	0.13	0.13	0.17

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**تأثير بعض مصادر الاسمدة النتروجينية على محصول وجودة نباتات الكوسة**  
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 قسم البساتين - كلية الزراعة - جامعة بنها.

أجريت تجربتان حقليتان خلال الموسم الصيفى لعامى 2016 و2017 بمزرعة الخضر بكلية الزراعة بمششهر - جامعة بنها لدراسة استجابة نباتات الكوسة صنف اسكندرانى للتسميد النتروجينى المعدنى والعضوى والحيوى وتأثيره على النمو الخضرى - التركيب الكيمائى للمجموع الخضرى - صفات التزهير - المحصول الثمرى ومكوناته - صفات الجودة الطبيعية والكيميائية للثمار الناتجة. وتتكون التجربة 11 معاملة ناتجة من استخدام التسميد النتروجينى المعدنى والعضوى والحيوى اما منفردا او الخلط بينهما وضحت النتائج المتحصل عليها انه توجد اختلافات معنوية بين معاملات التسميد المختلفة على المحصول ومكوناته خلال موسمى الدراسة وفى هذا الشأن اعطى تسميد نباتات الكوسة ب100% سماد نتروجينى معدنى الى اعلى عدد من الثمار/النبات واعلى محصول ثمرى للنبات الواحد واكبر محصول كلى للفدان وذلك بالمقارنة بباقى معاملات التسميد الاخرى معاملات التسميد النتروجينى الى تأثير معنوى واضح على صفات الجودة الطبيعية للثمار خلال موسمى النمو حيث تم الحصول على اعلى القيم بالنسبة لطول - قطر - متوسط وزن الثمرة عند تسميد نباتات الكوسة ب100% تسميد معدنى بالمعدل الموصى به يليه 100% سماد عضوى يليه فى ذلك 75% سماد نتروجينى معدنى +25% سماد عضوى. تم الحصول على اعلى محتوى لثمار الكوسة من الكربوهيدرات الكلية بتسميد النباتات ب50% سماح معدنى+50 سماد عضوى +السماد الحيوى وذلك فى موسم النمو الاول بينما كان اعلى محتوى لها فى موسم النمو الثانى باستخدام 25% سماد معدنى+75% سماد عضوى بالاضافى الى ذلك تم الحصول على اعلى القيم من السكريات الكلية بتسميد النباتات ب75% سماد معدنى+25% سماد عضوى بينما تم الحصول على اعلى محتوى من السكريات المختزلة بالتسميد 100% سماد عضوى +السماد الحيوى بينما فى موسم الثانى كان اعلى محتوى للثمار من السكريات الكلية والمختزلة والغير مختزلة بتسميد النباتات ب100% سماد عضوى فقط.