



## RESPONSE OF SOME BREAD WHEAT CULTIVARS TO SALINITY STRESS BY RE-USE OF SEA WATER UNDER NORTH SINAI CONDITIONS

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### ABSTRACT

Water salinity is a limiting factor stressed plants and associated with low wheat productivity in new reclaimed areas in Egypt such as North Sinai. Sea water is available water resources and renewable and non-exploited, it is necessary to maximize use of this water through scientific research for use in irrigation of wheat, to increase the cultivated area and thus, increase production towards self-sufficiency. So, two field experiments were carried out at Faculty of Environmental Agricultural Sciences, EI- Arish, Suez Canal University, during 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 seasons aiming to investigate the response of three wheat cultivar (*Triticum aestivum*. L.; Masr<sub>1</sub>, Masr<sub>2</sub>, Sakha93) to four mixing ratios between well-water and sea water (control, 3:1, 2:1 and 1:1). Plants were subjected to salinity treatments at 60 days after sowing (DAS). Results showed that Masr<sub>2</sub> and Masr<sub>1</sub> cvs were superior for yield and its attributes, the superiority was obtained from Masr<sub>2</sub> cv as well as seed content of proline and protein. Also, dry leaf content of Na<sup>+</sup> and Cl<sup>-2</sup> were higher for Masr<sub>2</sub> as compared to the other studied cultivars under low mixing ratio (3:1 Well water: Sea water), while, the K<sup>+</sup> concentration was decreased with the same treatment of Masr<sub>2</sub>. For soil analysis, EC, Na<sup>+</sup>, Mg<sup>+2</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-2</sup> and Cl<sup>-</sup> increased but Ca<sup>-2</sup> decreased under the highest mixing ratio (1 Well water: 1 Sea water). So, it could be recommended to cultivate Masr<sub>2</sub> wheat cultivar under North Sinai conditions, using mixing ratio 3 Well water : 1 Sea water to maximize the benefit of sea water and gain economic productivity of bread wheat in this area and similar regions.

**Key words:** Wheat cultivars, Salinity stress, Re - Use of sea water, North Sinai conditions.

### INTRODUCTION

Wheat is the most important cereal crop in the world both in terms of cultivated area or the amount of crop output, which depends upon most of the world's population as the main staple for them. In Egypt, it has a strategic important crop, where, the cultivated wheat area was about 3.1 million feddans in the 2014/2015 season, and produce 8.5 million tons, with high average per capita consumption valued 200 kg/year, as compared to the international rate which is by 100 kg/capita/year. It became self-sufficiency of the wheat, a vital

requirement in light of the challenges and the lack of available water resources, so must the trend to modern agricultural technology and the development of new types bear the non-favorable environmental conditions and in new reclaimed lands.

In North Sinai, water is the most important determinants of agricultural development in general and wheat in particular, both in terms of the limited water resources quality and irrigation water quality. Wheat is moderately tolerant to salt with threshold without yield loss at 6 dS m<sup>-1</sup> and with yield 50% loss at 13 dS m<sup>-1</sup> (Mass

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and Hoffman, 1977). On the other hand, (Francois *et al.*, 1986) found that wheat vegetative growth was decreased by soil salinity with a threshold of  $4.5 \text{ dSm}^{-1}$ .

The effect of salinity on tiller and spikelet number established had a greater influence on final seed yield than the effects exerted on yield components (Kirby, 1988), indicating the probability of improving salt tolerance of wheat genotypes during early growth stages. (Zhang *et al.*, 2000; Sairam *et al.*, 2001) reported that water stress increased catalase and peroxidase activities in wheat. Salinity can significantly affect yield, evapotranspiration, pre-dawn leaf water potential and stomatal conductance with higher concentrations lowering them (Flowers, 2004 ; Katerji *et al.*, 2005).

Also, Azizpour *et al.* (2010) investigated the response of two durum wheat genotypes (Turkey 506, salt tolerant & Egypt 557, salt sensitive) to salinity using hydroponic conditions and exposing to different salt levels (0, 50, 100, 150 and 200 mmol NaCl). They found that salinity stress decreased relative water content (RWC), potassium content, potassium/sodium ratio, chlorophyll a (chl<sub>a</sub>), chlorophyll b (chl<sub>b</sub>), and total chlorophyll contents, efficiency of photosystem but increased sodium, proline and soluble sugars concentrations in both genotypes. Increasing salinity levels in irrigation water of wheat plants exerted significant reduction in both yield and its components (number of grains/spike; weight of 1000 grains, straw, and grain yields g/pot and the biological yield g/pot) as compared with control treatment (Eleiwa *et al.*, 2011). Therefore, this investigation aimed to study the response of some wheat cultivars to salinity stress by using sea water-mixing ratios with well-water.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Experimental Site and Conditions

This study was carried out at the Experimental Farm, Faculty of Environmental Agricultural Sciences, El-Arish, Suez Canal University Egypt, during two winter

seasons (2012/2013 and 2013/2014). Mechanical and chemical analyses of the experimental soil during 2012/ 2013 and 2013/ 2014 seasons at El-Arish district is showing in Table 1.

### Plant Material

Grains of bread wheat cultivars (*Triticum aestivum* L.) were acquired from Field Crops Research Institute, Agricultural Research Center, Egypt, based on the most salt-tolerant with high productive under environmental conditions of North Sinai.

### Agricultural Practices

Sowing dates were on 10<sup>th</sup> December and 29<sup>th</sup> November in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> seasons, respectively. Seeding rate was  $75 \text{ Kg fed}^{-1}$ . The plot area was  $15 \text{ m}^2$  (12 rows with 5m long and 0.25 m width. the normal cultural practices for growing wheat in sandy soil were done as recommended. Surface irrigation system was used with well- water salinity of 2515 ppm. The average temperature was  $18.90^\circ\text{C}$  and  $15.30^\circ\text{C}$  and precipitation rate was 3.2 and 1.1 mm./month in both respective seasons.

### Treatments

Three wheat cultivars (Masr<sub>1</sub>, Masr<sub>2</sub>, Sakha<sub>93</sub>) were irrigated by well-water till 60 DAS, then plants were subjected to salinity stress using sea- water mixing ratios of: well- water (Ww): sea water (Sw) 3:1, 2:1 and 1:1, where irrigated plants 1, 2, 3 and 4 irrigations through the growing period (Table 2).

### Studied Criteria

At maturity stage (120 DAS) the following traits were determined: number of spikelets/ spike, number of grains per plant, 1000-grain weight (g), biological yield (ton /ha), grain Yield (ton /ha) and harvest index (%). Grain protein and proline percentages were determined according to (Egan *et al.*, 1987) and (Bates *et al.*, 1973). Then, 300 mg of ground dry leaves was taken to determine leaves  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Cl}^-$  ions contents. Soil ions content of the experimental site was measured according to (Wright, 1939; Richards, 1954).

**Table (1): Soil mechanical and chemical analyses of the experimental sites at 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 seasons.**

Items	Seasons					
	2012/2013			2013/2014		
	Depth (cm.)			Depth (cm.)		
	0-15	15-30	30-45	0-15	15-30	30-45
<b>Mechanical Analysis</b>						
Coarse sand(%)	68.90	67.65	64.63	68.27	67.33	64.80
Fine sand(%)	20.13	20.99	24.91	20.75	21.39	24.80
Silt (%)	4.22	4.68	4.13	4.17	4.63	4.10
Clay (%)	6.75	6.68	6.33	6.81	6.65	6.30
Soil texture	<b>Sandy loamy</b>					
Bulk density(g.cm <sup>-3</sup> )	1.46	1.45	1.48	1.46	1.45	1.48
Particle density(g.cm <sup>-3</sup> )	2.43	2.42	2.45	2.43	2.42	2.45
<b>Chemical Analysis (in 1:5 soil extract)</b>						
Ca <sup>++</sup> (meq./l. )	3.85	4.08	4.00	3.23	3.20	3.20
Mg <sup>++</sup> (meq./l. )	0.80	1.25	1.00	0.85	1.55	1.10
Na <sup>+</sup> (meq./L. )	4.60	3.52	3.28	4.35	3.20	3.15
K <sup>+</sup> (meq./L. )	0.30	0.25	0.30	0.43	0.39	0.32
Co <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> (meq./L. )	---	---	---	---	---	---
Hco <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> (meq./L. )	1.00	1.35	1.75	1.10	1.40	1.65
Cl <sup>-</sup> (meq./L. )	2.28	2.40	2.25	2.42	2.65	2.32
So <sub>4</sub> <sup>-</sup> (meq./L. )	4.39	4.45	4.48	4.75	4.50	4.02
Caco <sub>3</sub> (%)	4.38	4.15	4.45	4.35	4.16	4.37
E.C (d.sm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.85	0.73	0.60	0.92	0.85	0.74
P <sub>H</sub> in (1-2.5) soil extract	8.50	8.58	8.60	8.80	8.90	9.05
Organic matter (%)	0.25	0.20	0.15	0.22	0.20	0.12

**Table (2): Salinity levels at the studied treatments.**

Treatments	g L <sup>-1</sup>	%	dsm <sup>-1</sup>	ppm
Well water (Ww)	1.96	0.252	3.93	2515
Sea water (Sw)	24.1	3.091	48.30	30912
T <sub>1</sub> (3:1 Ww:Sw)	9.39	1.200	13.05	8350
T <sub>2</sub> (2:1 Ww:Sw)	11.24	1.438	17.50	11142
T <sub>3</sub> (1:1 Ww:Sw)	16.39	2.086	20.11	16713

## Statistical Analysis

A factorial experimental design with three cultivars and four salinity levels was arranged in randomized complete block design (RCBD) in four replications and analysis of variance was done using GLM procedure (SAS Institute, 2000). Means separation was statistically analyzed by Duncan's multiple rang test (Duncan, 1955).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Yield and its Components

#### Number of Spikelets per Spike

Number of spikelets per spike is considered one of the most important spike characters in order to estimate approximately number of the fertilized grains per spike, principally under stressed conditions conformably with favorable conditions. Results presented in (Table 3) indicated evidently that the inheritance of number of spikelets per spike, already was affected by both of genotypic and environmental components altogether.

Marked variation in number of spikelets per spike trait could be observed among the used genotypes that showed some differences in their number of spikelets per spike performance under the same condition during the two successful planting seasons. Under wele water (Ww), the maximum values (15.00, 15.27 and 15.13) were obtained from Masr<sub>2</sub> cultivar, while the minimum ones (9.00, 10.60, 9.80) were recorded by Masr<sub>1</sub> in T<sub>3</sub> during two seasons and their combined analysis, respectively.

These results revealed that Masr<sub>2</sub> cultivar scored the highest value in number of spikelets per spike in all treatments compared to the other cultivars and it is important to note that increasing concentration of salinity stress led to a shortage in number of spikelets per spike in all cultivars in both seasons and their combined. These results are in accordance with those obtained by Kirby (1988), Grieve *et al.* (1993), Mans and Rawson

(2004), El-Hendawy *et al.* (2009), Amin *et al.* (2010) and Eleiwa *et al.* (2011).

#### Number of Grains per Plant

Data in Table 3 show that the highest values (138.33, 133.50 and 135.92 grains/plant) were significantly obtained by Masr<sub>2</sub> in control (Ww), during two seasons and their combined analysis, respectively. Meanwhile, Masr<sub>1</sub> in T<sub>3</sub> gave the lowest values (26.33, 25.33 and 25.93 grains/plant) in the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> seasons and their combined analysis, respectively.

From previous results, it is clear that Masr<sub>2</sub> cultivar was scored the highest value in number of grains per plant in the control treatment as Well as in the other treatments compared to other cultivars. These results are supported by the findings of; Francois *et al.* (1986), Mass and Poss (1989), Mass and Grieve (1994) and El-Hendawy *et al.* (2007) and (2009).

#### 1000-Grain Weight (g)

Data in Table (3) cleared that 1000-grain weight was maximized by Masr<sub>2</sub> in T<sub>3</sub> and weighted 39.86, 40.67 and 40.17g.in the first, second seasons and their combined analysis. Compared to T<sub>3</sub> with the two other cultivars, respectively.

On the other hand, Masr<sub>1</sub> in control had the lowest 1000-grain weight (24.00, 24.50 and 24.25g.) during two seasons and their combined analysis. In comotation with the other cultivars under the same conditions, respectively. These results are supported by the findings of Cramer *et al.* (1994), Mresheh *et al.* (2009) but opposite trend was found by Asana and Kale (1965) and Torres-Bernal and Bingham (1973).

#### Biological Yield (ton/ha)

Biological yield is a function of grain and straw yields (El-Sisy, 2000). Data in Table 3 demonstrated that the highest values were obtained by Masr<sub>2</sub> in control treatment which recorded values of 13.19, 14.08 and 13.63 ton/ha. during two seasons as well as their combined analysis, respectively.

**Table (3): Number of spikelets/spike, number of grains per plant, 1000-grain weight (g) and biological yield (ton /ha) as influenced by cultivars and salinity treatments during two growing seasons (2012/2013&2013/2014) and their combined analysis.**

Cultivar	Tr.	No. spikelets/spike			No. grains/plant			1000-grain weight (g.)			Biological yield (ton /ha)		
		1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	comb	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	comb	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	comb	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	comb
Masr <sub>1</sub>	Con	11.00 <sup>c</sup>	13.13 <sup>b</sup>	12.07 <sup>bc</sup>	51.77 <sup>e</sup>	55.73 <sup>f</sup>	53.75 <sup>f</sup>	24.00 <sup>de</sup>	24.50 <sup>f</sup>	24.25 <sup>fg</sup>	11.74 <sup>c</sup>	10.80 <sup>c</sup>	11.27 <sup>c</sup>
	T <sub>1</sub>	11.00 <sup>c</sup>	11.53 <sup>c</sup>	11.27 <sup>c</sup>	45.00 <sup>f</sup>	47.36 <sup>g</sup>	46.17 <sup>g</sup>	26.00 <sup>d</sup>	26.50 <sup>e</sup>	26.25 <sup>f</sup>	9.75 <sup>d</sup>	9.18 <sup>cd</sup>	9.47 <sup>d</sup>
	T <sub>2</sub>	10.87 <sup>c</sup>	11.27 <sup>c</sup>	11.07 <sup>cd</sup>	30.00 <sup>g</sup>	29.33 <sup>hi</sup>	29.67 <sup>hi</sup>	31.00 <sup>bc</sup>	31.83 <sup>cd</sup>	31.42 <sup>d</sup>	4.17 <sup>ef</sup>	5.16 <sup>d</sup>	4.67 <sup>e</sup>
	T <sub>3</sub>	9.00 <sup>d</sup>	10.60 <sup>cd</sup>	9.80 <sup>d</sup>	26.33 <sup>h</sup>	25.33 <sup>i</sup>	25.83 <sup>j</sup>	37.00 <sup>ab</sup>	38.50 <sup>b</sup>	37.75 <sup>b</sup>	2.35 <sup>gh</sup>	3.54 <sup>f</sup>	2.97 <sup>f</sup>
Masr <sub>2</sub>	Con	15.00 <sup>a</sup>	15.27 <sup>a</sup>	15.13 <sup>a</sup>	138.33 <sup>a</sup>	133.50 <sup>a</sup>	135.92 <sup>a</sup>	30.33 <sup>bc</sup>	32.00 <sup>cd</sup>	31.17 <sup>d</sup>	13.19 <sup>a</sup>	14.08 <sup>a</sup>	13.63 <sup>a</sup>
	T <sub>1</sub>	14.73 <sup>ab</sup>	15.27 <sup>a</sup>	15.00 <sup>a</sup>	115.33 <sup>b</sup>	119.67 <sup>b</sup>	117.50 <sup>b</sup>	30.50 <sup>bc</sup>	31.50 <sup>cd</sup>	31.00 <sup>d</sup>	11.47 <sup>c</sup>	12.54 <sup>b</sup>	12.00 <sup>b</sup>
	T <sub>2</sub>	14.33 <sup>ab</sup>	15.00 <sup>ab</sup>	14.67 <sup>ab</sup>	86.00 <sup>cd</sup>	93.00 <sup>c</sup>	89.50 <sup>cd</sup>	37.00 <sup>ab</sup>	38.50 <sup>b</sup>	37.75 <sup>b</sup>	5.32 <sup>e</sup>	5.52 <sup>d</sup>	5.42 <sup>e</sup>
	T <sub>3</sub>	12.47 <sup>bc</sup>	14.47 <sup>ab</sup>	13.47 <sup>b</sup>	58.67 <sup>de</sup>	64.67 <sup>e</sup>	61.67 <sup>e</sup>	39.67 <sup>a</sup>	40.67 <sup>a</sup>	40.17 <sup>a</sup>	2.46 <sup>g</sup>	3.38 <sup>f</sup>	2.92 <sup>f</sup>
Sakha <sub>93</sub>	Con	13.67 <sup>b</sup>	15.27 <sup>a</sup>	14.47 <sup>ab</sup>	91.87 <sup>c</sup>	92.40 <sup>c</sup>	92.14 <sup>c</sup>	27.33 <sup>c</sup>	28.33 <sup>b</sup>	27.83 <sup>e</sup>	10.51 <sup>b</sup>	12.02 <sup>bc</sup>	11.27 <sup>c</sup>
	T <sub>1</sub>	12.87 <sup>bc</sup>	15.00 <sup>ab</sup>	13.93 <sup>b</sup>	71.03 <sup>d</sup>	79.03 <sup>d</sup>	75.03 <sup>d</sup>	28.00 <sup>c</sup>	29.00 <sup>b</sup>	28.50 <sup>e</sup>	8.00 <sup>de</sup>	9.63 <sup>cd</sup>	8.81 <sup>d</sup>
	T <sub>2</sub>	10.60 <sup>cd</sup>	13.13 <sup>b</sup>	11.87 <sup>c</sup>	51.77 <sup>e</sup>	55.73 <sup>f</sup>	53.75 <sup>f</sup>	33.00 <sup>b</sup>	33.17 <sup>cd</sup>	33.09 <sup>cd</sup>	3.59 <sup>f</sup>	4.24 <sup>e</sup>	3.91 <sup>ef</sup>
	T <sub>3</sub>	9.67 <sup>d</sup>	9.80 <sup>d</sup>	9.73 <sup>d</sup>	31.57 <sup>g</sup>	33.67 <sup>h</sup>	32.62 <sup>h</sup>	34.50 <sup>b</sup>	35.00 <sup>c</sup>	34.75 <sup>c</sup>	2.63 <sup>g</sup>	3.16 <sup>g</sup>	2.90 <sup>fg</sup>

T<sub>1</sub>= mixing ratio 3 Well water: 1 Sea water, T<sub>2</sub>= mixing ratio 2 Well water: 1 Sea water and T<sub>3</sub>= mixing ratio 1 Well water: 1sea water.

Means followed by the same letter within each column are not significantly different at 0.05 level of probability according to Duncan's multiple range test.

During the two seasons as well as their combined analysis, Masr<sub>1</sub> in T<sub>3</sub> and Sakha<sub>93</sub> in T<sub>3</sub> classified into the low values cultivars. From previous results it is clear that Masr<sub>2</sub> cultivar scored the highest value in biological yield character under control treatment as well as in the other treatments compared to other cultivars.

These results are supported by the findings of **Afiah *et al.* (2002)**, **Abou-Deif *et al.* (2005)** and **Eleiwa *et al.* (2011)**.

#### **Straw Yield (ton/ha)**

Data noticed in Table 4 demonstrate that the highest values were significantly obtained by Masr<sub>2</sub> in control which recorded 9.40, 9.63 and 9.51 ton /ha during the two seasons as well as their combined analysis, respectively. On the other hand, Sakha<sub>93</sub> in T<sub>3</sub> classified into the low values cultivars, which recorded 2.05, 2.65 and 2.35 ton/ ha .during two successive seasons and combined analysis, respectively. From previous results, it is clear that Masr<sub>2</sub> cultivar scored the highest value in straw yield under control treatment as well as in the other treatments compared to other cultivars. It is necessary to note that increasing concentrations of salinity stress led to a decreasing in straw yield in all cultivars unevenly. These results are supported by the findings of **Afiah *et al.* (2002)**, **Abou-Deif *et al.* (2005)** and **Eleiwa *et al.* (2011)**.

#### **Grain Yield (ton/ha)**

Data in Table 4 pointed out that grain yield of Masr<sub>2</sub> in control gave the highest values which recorded 3.796, 4.452 and 4.123 ton/ha., during the two seasons as well as their combined analysis, respectively. On the other hand, Masr<sub>1</sub> in T<sub>3</sub> had the lowest values concerning to grain yield recording 0.268, 0.483 and 0.375 ton/ha during two seasons as well as their combined analysis, respectively. From previous results, it is clear that Masr<sub>2</sub> cultivar scored the highest values in grain yield character under control treatment as well as in the

other treatments compared to other cultivars. It is important to note that increasing concentrations of salinity stress led to decreasing in grain yield in all cultivars unevenly. These results are supported by the findings of **Afiah *et al.* (2002)**, **Abou-Deif *et al.* (2005)** and **Eleiwa *et al.* (2011)**.

#### **Harvest Index (%)**

Data in Table 4 showed that during the first season and the combined analysis, the highest values obtained by Masr<sub>2</sub> in control recorded values of 28.77 and 30.24%, respectively. In the second season, Sakha<sub>93</sub> in control gave the highest values of harvest index which recorded 36.81%. On the other hand, Sakha<sub>93</sub> in T<sub>3</sub> had the lowest values recorded 13.28, 16.33 and 14.95% during the two seasons and their combined analysis, respectively. According to the previous results it is clear that Masr<sub>2</sub> cultivar scored the highest value in harvest index in the control as well as in most treatments compared to other cultivars and it is important to note that increasing concentrations of salinity stress led to decreasing in harvest index in all cultivars unevenly. These results are supported by the findings of; **Afiah *et al.* (2002)**; **Abou-Deif *et al.* (2005)** and **Eleiwa *et al.* (2011)**.

### **Grain and Leaves Chemical Contents**

#### **Grain Protein and Proline Contents**

For protein contents (%), during the two seasons as well as their combined analysis, Masr<sub>1</sub> under control treatment scored the highest value which recorded 13.60, 12.89 and 13.25%, respectively. On the other hand, the lowest values were estimated in Sakha<sub>93</sub> under T<sub>3</sub> which recorded values of 7.23, 7.15 and 7.19% compared to other cultivars during the two seasons and their combined analysis, respectively. For proline contents (mg g<sup>-1</sup> dw), during the two seasons and their combined analysis, Masr<sub>2</sub> in T<sub>3</sub> scored the highest value which recorded 0.537, 0.552 and 0.545 mg g<sup>-1</sup> dw, respectively. The lowest values were estimated in Sakha<sub>93</sub> under the control

**Table (4): Straw yield, grain yield and harvest index as influenced by cultivars and salinity treatments during two growing seasons (2012/2013 & 2013/2014) and their combined analysis.**

Cultivar	Trt.	Straw yield (ton/ ha)			Grain yield (ton/ ha)			Harvest index (%)		
		1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Comb.	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Comb.	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Comb.
Masr <sub>1</sub>	Con	8.56 <sup>b</sup>	7.49 <sup>b</sup>	8.03 <sup>b</sup>	3.180 <sup>ab</sup>	3.312 <sup>b</sup>	3.246 <sup>bc</sup>	27.08 <sup>ab</sup>	30.64 <sup>bc</sup>	28.86 <sup>ab</sup>
	T <sub>1</sub>	6.24 <sup>cd</sup>	6.38 <sup>c</sup>	6.31 <sup>d</sup>	2.408 <sup>bc</sup>	2.806 <sup>c</sup>	2.607 <sup>c</sup>	26.89 <sup>b</sup>	30.55 <sup>bc</sup>	28.74 <sup>ab</sup>
	T <sub>2</sub>	3.45 <sup>d</sup>	4.17 <sup>d</sup>	3.82 <sup>e</sup>	0.729 <sup>e</sup>	1.003 <sup>de</sup>	0.866 <sup>e</sup>	17.46 <sup>c</sup>	19.41 <sup>cd</sup>	18.44 <sup>d</sup>
	T <sub>3</sub>	2.08 <sup>ef</sup>	3.12 <sup>e</sup>	2.60 <sup>f</sup>	0.268 <sup>h</sup>	0.483 <sup>h</sup>	0.375 <sup>h</sup>	11.38 <sup>f</sup>	13.41 <sup>g</sup>	12.40 <sup>g</sup>
Masr <sub>2</sub>	Con	9.40 <sup>a</sup>	9.63 <sup>a</sup>	9.51 <sup>a</sup>	3.796 <sup>a</sup>	4.452 <sup>a</sup>	4.123 <sup>a</sup>	28.77 <sup>a</sup>	31.61 <sup>ab</sup>	30.19 <sup>a</sup>
	T <sub>1</sub>	8.33 <sup>b</sup>	8.59 <sup>ab</sup>	8.46 <sup>b</sup>	3.128 <sup>ab</sup>	3.946 <sup>bc</sup>	3.538 <sup>b</sup>	27.30 <sup>ab</sup>	31.46 <sup>b</sup>	29.38 <sup>c</sup>
	T <sub>2</sub>	3.97 <sup>d</sup>	4.02 <sup>d</sup>	3.98 <sup>e</sup>	1.359 <sup>d</sup>	1.514 <sup>d</sup>	1.444 <sup>d</sup>	25.52 <sup>bc</sup>	27.38 <sup>c</sup>	26.45 <sup>bc</sup>
	T <sub>3</sub>	2.13 <sup>e</sup>	2.83 <sup>f</sup>	2.48 <sup>f</sup>	0.327 <sup>g</sup>	0.553 <sup>f</sup>	0.440 <sup>f</sup>	13.28 <sup>e</sup>	16.33 <sup>ef</sup>	14.80 <sup>fe</sup>
Sakha <sub>93</sub>	Con	7.03 <sup>c</sup>	7.60 <sup>b</sup>	7.32 <sup>c</sup>	2.861 <sup>b</sup>	4.426 <sup>a</sup>	3.644 <sup>bc</sup>	27.23 <sup>ab</sup>	36.81 <sup>a</sup>	32.02 <sup>ab</sup>
	T <sub>1</sub>	5.95 <sup>cd</sup>	6.91 <sup>c</sup>	6.43 <sup>d</sup>	2.037 <sup>c</sup>	2.721 <sup>c</sup>	2.379 <sup>c</sup>	25.52 <sup>bc</sup>	28.24 <sup>c</sup>	26.88 <sup>b</sup>
	T <sub>2</sub>	3.02 <sup>de</sup>	3.47 <sup>e</sup>	3.23 <sup>ef</sup>	0.570 <sup>f</sup>	0.774 <sup>e</sup>	0.672 <sup>fe</sup>	15.89 <sup>cd</sup>	18.25 <sup>d</sup>	17.07 <sup>e</sup>
	T <sub>3</sub>	2.05 <sup>f</sup>	2.65 <sup>f</sup>	2.35 <sup>fg</sup>	0.312 <sup>g</sup>	0.514 <sup>fg</sup>	0.413 <sup>fg</sup>	13.28 <sup>e</sup>	16.33 <sup>ef</sup>	14.81 <sup>f</sup>

T<sub>1</sub>= mixing ratio 3 Well water: 1 Sea water, T<sub>2</sub>= mixing ratio 2 Well water:1 Sea water and T<sub>3</sub>= mixing ratio 1 Well water: 1 Sea water.

Means followed by the same letter within each column are not significantly different at 0.05 level of probability according to Duncan's multiple range test.

which recorded values of 0.027, 0.048 and 0.038 mg g<sup>-1</sup>dw during the two seasons and their combined analysis, respectively. These results are supported by the findings of **Greenway and Munns (1980), Handa et al. (1985), Singh et al. (1985), Hasewaga et al. (2000), Vendruscolo et al. (2007), Tatar and Gevrek (2008) and Johari et al. (2010).**

#### Leaves Ion Contents

Data in Table 6 show the effect of salinity treatments on dry leaves elements content; Na<sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>, Cl<sup>-</sup> and K<sup>+</sup>/Na<sup>+</sup> ratio in leaves of three bread wheat cultivars. (Masr<sub>1</sub>, Masr<sub>2</sub> and Sakha<sub>93</sub>). For Na<sup>+</sup> concentration, Sakha<sub>93</sub> in T<sub>3</sub> scored the highest value which recorded 0.064 mg g<sup>-1</sup>. On the other hand, the lowest value was estimated in Masr<sub>2</sub> and Masr<sub>1</sub> in control which recorded values of 0.032 and 0.034 mg g<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. This result means that the increase of salinity treatments

concentration led to the increased of Na<sup>+</sup> concentration. It is clear also that Masr<sub>2</sub> cultivar scored lower concentration of Na<sup>+</sup> in control and also in all treatments when compared to other cultivars. It means that Masr<sub>2</sub> was more salt-tolerant cultivar compared to other cultivars (Masr<sub>1</sub> and Sakha<sub>93</sub>). All cultivars in control treatment scored the highest value of K<sup>+</sup> concentration which recorded 0.086, 0.069 and 0.070 mg g<sup>-1</sup>, dw. without significant among them. On the other hand, the lowest value was estimated in Masr<sub>2</sub> in T<sub>3</sub> which recorded value of 0.032 mg g<sup>-1</sup>, dw, These results means that the increase of salinity concentration led to the decrease of K<sup>+</sup> concentration. Compared to other cultivars, the highest value of Cl<sup>-</sup> concentration (0.358 mg g<sup>-1</sup>, dw). And was significantly obtained by Sakha<sub>93</sub> in T<sub>3</sub>, while, the lowest value was significantly estimated by Masr<sub>2</sub> in control treatment which recorded values of 0.168 mg g<sup>-1</sup> dw.

**Table (5): protein and proline contents as influenced by cultivars and salinity treatments during two growing seasons (2012/2013 & 2013/2014) and their combined analysis.**

Cultivars	Trt.	Protein contents (%)			Proline contents (mg g <sup>-1</sup> dw.)		
		1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	comb	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	comb
Masr <sub>1</sub>	Con	12.53 <sup>b</sup>	12.18 <sup>ab</sup>	12.36 <sup>b</sup>	0.030 <sup>f</sup>	0.082 <sup>f</sup>	0.056 <sup>e</sup>
	T <sub>1</sub>	10.93 <sup>d</sup>	11.00 <sup>bc</sup>	10.97 <sup>cd</sup>	0.192 <sup>d</sup>	0.198 <sup>e</sup>	0.195 <sup>d</sup>
	T <sub>2</sub>	9.66 <sup>e</sup>	9.98 <sup>d</sup>	9.82 <sup>d</sup>	0.218 <sup>c</sup>	0.210 <sup>cd</sup>	0.214 <sup>c</sup>
	T <sub>3</sub>	7.64 <sup>g</sup>	7.99 <sup>e</sup>	7.82 <sup>f</sup>	0.326 <sup>b</sup>	0.289 <sup>c</sup>	0.308 <sup>b</sup>
Masr <sub>2</sub>	Con	13.60 <sup>a</sup>	12.89 <sup>a</sup>	13.25 <sup>a</sup>	0.122 <sup>e</sup>	0.192 <sup>e</sup>	0.157 <sup>de</sup>
	T <sub>1</sub>	11.90 <sup>c</sup>	11.52 <sup>b</sup>	11.71 <sup>c</sup>	0.218 <sup>c</sup>	0.224 <sup>c</sup>	0.221 <sup>c</sup>
	T <sub>2</sub>	10.50 <sup>d</sup>	10.85 <sup>c</sup>	10.67 <sup>cd</sup>	0.326 <sup>b</sup>	0.350 <sup>b</sup>	0.338 <sup>b</sup>
	T <sub>3</sub>	8.92 <sup>f</sup>	9.00 <sup>d</sup>	8.96 <sup>e</sup>	0.537 <sup>a</sup>	0.552 <sup>a</sup>	0.545 <sup>a</sup>
Sakha <sub>93</sub>	Con	11.89 <sup>c</sup>	12.05 <sup>ab</sup>	11.97 <sup>c</sup>	0.027 <sup>ef</sup>	0.048 <sup>ef</sup>	0.038 <sup>ef</sup>
	T <sub>1</sub>	10.55 <sup>d</sup>	10.23 <sup>c</sup>	10.39 <sup>c</sup>	0.198 <sup>d</sup>	0.215 <sup>cd</sup>	0.207 <sup>cd</sup>
	T <sub>2</sub>	9.42 <sup>e</sup>	9.08 <sup>d</sup>	9.25 <sup>de</sup>	0.211 <sup>c</sup>	0.326 <sup>b</sup>	0.269 <sup>bc</sup>
	T <sub>3</sub>	7.23 <sup>gh</sup>	7.15 <sup>f</sup>	7.19 <sup>fg</sup>	0.305 <sup>b</sup>	0.340 <sup>b</sup>	0.323 <sup>b</sup>

T<sub>1</sub>= mixing ratio 3 Well water: 1 Sea water, T<sub>2</sub>= mixing ratio 2 Well water: 1 Sea water and T<sub>3</sub>= mixing ratio 1 Well water: 1 Sea water.

Means followed by the same letter within each column are not significantly different at 0.05 level of probability according to Duncan's multiple range test.

**Table (6): Plant ion content of Na<sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>, Cl<sup>-</sup> and K<sup>+</sup>/Na<sup>+</sup> ratio of wheat dry leaves as influenced by cultivars and salinity treatments (combined analysis).**

Cultivar	Treatments	Na <sup>+</sup>	K <sup>+</sup>	Cl <sup>-</sup>	K <sup>+</sup> /Na <sup>+</sup> ratio
		mg g <sup>-1</sup> dw.	mg g <sup>-1</sup> dw.	mg g <sup>-1</sup> dw.	(%)
Masr <sub>1</sub>	Con	0.034 <sup>d</sup>	0.086 <sup>a</sup>	0.175 <sup>h</sup>	2.53 <sup>a</sup>
	T <sub>1</sub>	0.044 <sup>c</sup>	0.054 <sup>c</sup>	0.235 <sup>ef</sup>	1.23 <sup>e</sup>
	T <sub>2</sub>	0.056 <sup>b</sup>	0.043 <sup>d</sup>	0.310 <sup>c</sup>	0.77 <sup>fg</sup>
	T <sub>3</sub>	0.060 <sup>ab</sup>	0.038 <sup>e</sup>	0.330 <sup>b</sup>	0.63 <sup>gh</sup>
Masr <sub>2</sub>	Con	0.032 <sup>d</sup>	0.069 <sup>ab</sup>	0.168 <sup>i</sup>	2.16 <sup>b</sup>
	T <sub>1</sub>	0.042 <sup>cd</sup>	0.052 <sup>c</sup>	0.225 <sup>f</sup>	1.24 <sup>e</sup>
	T <sub>2</sub>	0.052 <sup>bc</sup>	0.040 <sup>de</sup>	0.280 <sup>d</sup>	0.77 <sup>fg</sup>
	T <sub>3</sub>	0.059 <sup>ab</sup>	0.032 <sup>f</sup>	0.315 <sup>c</sup>	0.54 <sup>h</sup>
Sakha <sub>93</sub>	Con	0.040 <sup>cd</sup>	0.070 <sup>ab</sup>	0.210 <sup>g</sup>	1.75 <sup>c</sup>
	T <sub>1</sub>	0.046 <sup>c</sup>	0.065 <sup>b</sup>	0.245 <sup>e</sup>	1.41 <sup>d</sup>
	T <sub>2</sub>	0.059 <sup>ab</sup>	0.052 <sup>c</sup>	0.325 <sup>bc</sup>	0.88 <sup>f</sup>
	T <sub>3</sub>	0.064 <sup>a</sup>	0.045 <sup>d</sup>	0.358 <sup>a</sup>	0.70 <sup>g</sup>

T<sub>1</sub>= mixing ratio 3 Well water: 1 Sea water, T<sub>2</sub>= mixing ratio 2 Well water: 1 Sea water and T<sub>3</sub>= mixing ratio 1 Well water: 1 Sea water.

Means followed by the same letter within each column are not significantly different at 0.05 level of probability according to Duncan's multiple range test.



These results mean that the increase of salinity concentration led to the increase of  $\text{Cl}^-$  concentration. As for  $\text{K}^+/\text{Na}^+$  ratio, Masr1 in control treatment scored the highest ratio which recorded 2.53%. On the other hand, the lowest ratio was estimated by Masr<sub>2</sub> in T<sub>3</sub> which recorded values of 0.54 and 0.63 %, respectively, compared to other cultivars. All of the previous results cleared that increasing salt stress led to an increase in concentration of sodium and chloride ions and decrease in potassium ion concentration in varying proportions between cultivars. These results are supported by the findings of **Kingsbury and Epstein (1984)**, **Schachtman and Munns (1992)**, **Dvorak et al. (1994)**, **Chhipa and Lal (1995)**, **Asch et al. (2000)**, **Zhu (2003)** and **Parida et al. (2004)**.

#### Soil Ion Contents

Data in Table 7 showed the effect of salinity stress on chemical analysis of the empiric soil after yield. For  $\text{Ca}^{++}$  concentration, the highest value (3.20 meq./L) significantly recorded under control treatment. On the other hand, the lowest value (0.80 meq./L) significantly obtained by soil T<sub>3</sub>. For  $\text{Mg}^{++}$  concentration, the highest value (2.40 meq./L) was significantly recorded in soil T<sub>3</sub>. On the other hand, the lowest value (1.00 meq./L) was significantly obtained by soil T<sub>1</sub>.

This result means that the increase of salinity treatments concentration led to the increase of magnesium ions concentration. The highest value of  $\text{Na}^+$  concentration (14.00 meq./L) was significantly obtained by soil T<sub>3</sub>. On the other hand, the lowest value (3.15 meq./L) was significantly obtained by soil control. This result means that the increase of salinity concentration led to a significant increase of sodium ions. The maximum value of  $\text{K}^+$  concentration

(1.40 meq./L) was significantly recorded in soil T<sub>3</sub>. On the other hand, the lowest value (0.32 meq./L) was significantly obtained by control treatment. This result means that the increase of salinity treatments concentration led to the increase of potassium ions concentration.

For  $\text{CO}_3^-$  concentration, the highest value (0.40 meq./L) was significantly recorded in T<sub>3</sub>. On the other hand, the lowest values (0.00 meq./L) were significantly obtained by soil control and T<sub>1</sub>. These results mean that the increase of salinity concentration up to 13.05 dsm.<sup>1</sup> did not greatly affect the soil content of carbonate anions. For  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  concentration, the highest value (4.80 meq./L) significantly recorded in T<sub>3</sub>, on the other hand, the lowest value (1.65 meq./L) was significantly obtained by control. For  $\text{Cl}^-$  concentration, the highest value (5.80 meq./L) was significantly recorded in soil T<sub>3</sub>. On the other hand, the lowest value (2.32 meq./L) was significantly obtained by soil control. These results mean that the increase of salinity treatments concentration led to the increased concentration of chloride anions. For P<sup>H</sup> concentration, the highest value (9.20 meq./L) was significantly recorded in soil T<sub>3</sub>. On the other hand, the lowest value (9.05 meq./L) were significantly obtained by soil control and T<sub>1</sub>. These results mean that the increase of salinity treatments concentration up to 13.05 dsm.<sup>1</sup>, did not greatly affect the P<sup>H</sup> of soil. For soil EC, the highest value was 1.08 EC which recorded in soil T<sub>3</sub>. On the other hand, the lowest value (0.74 E.C) was obtained by soil control. These results means that the increase of salinity treatments concentration led to the increase concentration of soil EC. These results are supported by the findings of: **Tedeschi et al. (1997)**, **Abou-Hadid (1998)** and **Dang et al. (2006)**.

**Table (7): Effect of salinity treatments on soil chemical composition of the experimental sites (0-20 depth) after yield in combined analysis.**

Trt.	Ca <sup>++</sup> (meq./L.)	Mg <sup>++</sup> (meq./L.)	Na <sup>+</sup> (meq./L.)	K <sup>+</sup> (meq./L.)	Co <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> (meq./L.)	Hco <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> (meq./L.)	Cl <sup>-</sup> (meq./L.)	P <sup>H</sup> in (1- 2.5) extract	E.C (d.sm <sup>1</sup> )
Con	3.20 <sup>a</sup>	1.10 <sup>c</sup>	3.15 <sup>d</sup>	0.32 <sup>d</sup>	0.00 <sup>c</sup>	1.65 <sup>cd</sup>	2.32 <sup>d</sup>	9.05 <sup>c</sup>	0.74 <sup>c</sup>
T <sub>1</sub>	2.00 <sup>b</sup>	1.00 <sup>cd</sup>	9.40 <sup>c</sup>	0.90 <sup>c</sup>	0.00 <sup>c</sup>	1.80 <sup>c</sup>	3.00 <sup>c</sup>	9.05 <sup>c</sup>	0.88 <sup>bc</sup>
T <sub>2</sub>	1.05 <sup>c</sup>	1.20 <sup>b</sup>	11.00 <sup>b</sup>	1.20 <sup>b</sup>	0.20 <sup>b</sup>	3.60 <sup>b</sup>	4.00 <sup>b</sup>	9.12 <sup>ab</sup>	0.95 <sup>b</sup>
T <sub>3</sub>	0.80 <sup>d</sup>	2.40 <sup>a</sup>	14.00 <sup>a</sup>	1.40 <sup>a</sup>	0.40 <sup>a</sup>	4.80 <sup>a</sup>	5.80 <sup>a</sup>	9.20 <sup>a</sup>	1.08 <sup>a</sup>

T<sub>1</sub>= mixing ratio 3 Well water: 1 Sea water, T<sub>2</sub>= mixing ratio 2 Well water: 1 Sea water and T<sub>3</sub>= mixing ratio 1 Well water: 1 sea water.

Means followed by the same letter within each column are not significantly different at 0.05 level of probability according to Duncan's multiple range test.

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## المُلخَص العَرَبِي

استجابة بعض أصناف قمح الخبز للإجهاد الملحي بإعادة استخدام مياه البحر تحت ظروف شمال سيناء

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تعتبر ملوحة المياه من العوامل المحددة لنمو النباتات، والتي تؤدي إلى انخفاض إنتاجية القمح في المناطق الجديدة المستصلحة في مصر مثل شمال سيناء. وتعتبر مياه البحر من الموارد المائية المتاحة والمتجددة وغير المستغلة، لذا كان من الضروري تعظيم استخدام هذه المياه من خلال البحث العلمي لاستخدامها في ري القمح، وبالتالي زيادة المساحة المزروعة لزيادة الإنتاج نحو الوصول إلى مرحلة الاكتفاء الذاتي. لذلك أجريت تجربتين بالمزرعة البحثية، بكلية العلوم الزراعية البيئية بالعريش، جامعة قناة السويس، خلال موسمي الزراعة ٢٠١٢/٢٠١٣ - ٢٠١٣/٢٠١٤ م. حيث هدفت الدراسة إلى تحديد أفضل أصناف قمح الخبز (مصر<sup>١</sup>، مصر<sup>٢</sup>، سخا<sup>٣</sup>) تحت أربعة معاملات لملوحة المياه (كنترول بالري بمياه الأبار فقط + ٣ معاملات خلط) حيث كانت نسب الخلط مياه أبار: مياة البحر (١:١، ١:٢، ١:٣)، حيث تم تعريض النباتات للمعاملات الملحية بعد ٦٠ يوم من الزراعة، أظهرت النتائج تفوق الصنف مصر<sup>٢</sup> في محصول الحبوب وجميع مساهماته. كما أتضح من النتائج تفوق الصنف مصر<sup>٢</sup> في محتوى حبويه من البرولين والبروتين، بينما أعطى أقل معدل لتركيز أيونات الصوديوم والكلور والبوتاسيوم. ولقد أثرت نسب الخلط على التركيب الكيميائي للتربة، فقد أشارت النتائج إلى زيادة القدرة على التوصيل الكهربائي وتركيز أيونات كلاً من الصوديوم والمغنسيوم والبوتاسيوم، وأنيونات البيكربونات والكلوريدات، ونقص أيون الكالسيوم وثبات رقم الحموضة للتربة في العينات التي تم ري النباتات بها بأعلى نسبة خلط مع مياه البحر (١:١ مياه أبار : مياه بحر).

لذا، توصى الدراسة بزراعة الصنف مصر<sup>٢</sup> تحت ظروف شمال سيناء وباستخدام الري التكميلي بنسبة خلط ٣ مياه أبار: ١ مياه بحر، مما يعظم الاستفادة من مياه البحر ويعطي إنتاجية اقتصادية لقمح الخبز في هذه المنطقة والمناطق المشابهة.

الكلمات الإسترشادية: أصناف القمح، الإجهاد الملحي، مياه البحر، ظروف شمال سيناء.

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