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The Effects of Salicylic Acid on some Growth and Biochemical Parameters of Brassica Napus L. under Water Wtress

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Abstract

Drought stress is considered as a restricting factor for plant productions; therefore, many compounds are applied to minimize the harmful effects of stress. One of these compounds is salicylic acid. In this research, plants were sown in plastic pots containing sand, clay and peat (2:1:1). After one month, when four fully expanded leaves appeared, salicylic acid was sprayed to the leaves at 0.5, 1 and 1.5mM concentration for 2 days. Three levels of water stress (control, withholding water for 4 and 5 days water) were applied. The effects of salicylic acid and water stress on the quantity of chlorophyll a, b, total chlorophyll, carotenoid, root length, root weight shoot to root ratio, MDA, sugar and protein in leaves of canola plants were investigated. Chlorophyll and carotenoids contents significantly decreased but lipid peroxidation and sugar increased in plants which were under drought stress. Reduction in peroxidation of lipids, protein and reduced sugars in these plants which were treated with both salicylic acid and drought stress were observed, which probably is the indication of reduction in damage caused by oxidative stress in these plants. On the other hand, mitigation of reduction in photosynthetic pigments and sugars could show the role of salicylic acid in increasing tolerance of plants to water stress. Therefore salicylic acid in concentrations of lower than 1 mM has a role in mitigation of damaged caused by oxidative stress, but 1.5 mM salicylic acid enhances damage caused by drought stress.

Keywords: Brassica napus, drought stress, lipid peroxidation, photosynthetic pigments, salicylic acid

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