

EFFECT OF FOLIAR SPRAY OF ASCORBIC ACID ON VEGETATIVE GROWTH OF APRICOT TRANSPLANTS CV. "LABEEB".

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ABSTRACT

The experiment was conducted in the fruit nursery of College of Agriculture / Tikrit University , during the 2012 growing season , to study the effect of spray with ascorbic acid and number of sprays on vegetative growth characteristics of Apricot transplants cv. "Labeeb" , which grown on apricot seedling rootstocks .

R.C.B.D. was used to apply seven treatments that an interactions between three concentrations of ascorbic acid (125 , 250 and 375 mg.L⁻¹), number of sprays (2 and 4 times in the growth season) and control treatment .

The apricot transplants responded to spray of ascorbic acid especially with higher concentration and number of sprays . The treatments T5 and T7 (four times spray with 250 mg.L⁻¹ and four times spray with 375 mg.L⁻¹ respectively) increased significantly all vegetative growth characteristics (single leaf area, total leaves area , main stem diameter, transplant height , diameter and length of branches) , while the increment for number of branches was insignificant . The best results were in T7 treatment .

Key words : Foliar spray, Ascorbic acid, Apricot, Labeeb.