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EFFECT OF SALICYLIC ACID IN *Zea mays* L. PHOTOSYNTHETIC PIGMENTS UNDER SALT STRESS.

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ABSTRACT

To study the effect of different levels of salicylic acid in *Zea mays* L. photosynthetic pigments under salt stress , a factorial experiment based on a Randomized Complete Block Design with three replicates was used . Treatments consisted of three salinity levels (0.5, 5.0 and 9.5 dS m^{-1}) and five salicylic acid concentrations (0,250,500,1000 and 1500) $\mu M.L^{-1}$ SA . Chlorophyll a, chlorophyll b and Carotene concentration in leaves were measured . The results showed that salt stress caused a significant decrease in photosynthetic pigments concentrations (chlorophyll a, chlorophyll b, and carotene) . Foliar application of salicylic acid caused a significant increase in chlorophyll a, chlorophyll b and carotene concentrations , especially under salt stress.

Keywords: salt stress, salicylic acid ,maize, photosynthetic pigments.