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The effects of exogenous application of glycine betain on growth and some physiological characteristics of *Brassica napus* under drought stress in field condition

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Abstract

This study was conducted to evaluate the role of exogenous application of glycine betaine in improving drought tolerance of *Brassica napus*. The study was performed on randomized complete block design with 3 replications. Different amounts of glycine betaine (0, 100 and 200mM) in combination with various irrigation intervals (3, 6 and 9 days) were considered as experimental treatments. Results indicate that application of glycine betaine as an organic osmolyt cause a considerable increase in *Brassica napus* hydrocarbons as well as proline in water deficiency condition when compared to control. In water deficiency condition, application of 200 mM glycine betaine causes a significant increase in Brassica napus dry weight as well as chlorophyll content when compared to control. Also, drought tolerance indices showed that exogenous application of glycine betaine can increase stability of *Brassica napus* dry matter production at 6 and 9 irrigation days' intervals when compared to 3 days' intervals. Overall results indicate the possible use of osmotic adjustment materials to improve growth of *Brassica napus* under water stress condition.

Keywords: deficit of irrigation, hydrocarbon, proline, chlorophyll, organic osmolytes, glycine betaine.

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