



## EFFECTS OF MYCORRHIZA AND NITROGEN FERTILIZER ON DRY WEIGHT, PROTEIN PERCENT, HARVEST INDEX, GRAIN YIELD IN WHEAT

Mohsen Noori<sup>a</sup>, Alireza Sobhkhizi<sup>a</sup>, Mohammad Adibian<sup>a</sup>, Mojtaba Keykha<sup>b</sup>, Khashayar Rigi<sup>c\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Higher Educational Complex of Saravan, Iran

<sup>b</sup>Master of Agriculture, Zahedan Branch, Islamic Azad University, Zahedan, Iran

<sup>c</sup> Young Researchers and Elite Club, Zahedan Branch, Islamic Azad University, Zahedan, Iran

\*Corresponding Author email: krigi66@yahoo.com

**ABSTRACT:** Wheat is a major cereal crop in many parts of the world and it is commonly known as king of cereals. Properly applied nitrogen fertilizer has a positive effect on crop yield. At a high level of such fertilization it is advantageous to apply it twice or three times to plants at different stages of development. There is an opinion that mycorrhizal fungi occur in chickpea plants and improve the growth and yield of these plants, especially in phosphorus deficient soil. In this study, research crops planted in 2011, and Khash mountain stage carried the gem industry. This study is a factorial experiment in a randomized complete block design with three replicates and all experiments were performed with different levels. To measure this attribute required for analysis (about 250 g) of seeds harvested per plot were randomly selected, were inside the envelope was sent to the labtally after installation. Analysis of variance shows a significant effect on mycorrhiza in 5% of the dry weight, Protein percent, Harvest index, Grain yield of the plant is wheat.

**Key words:** dry weight, Protein, wheat

### INTRODUCTION

Wheat is a major cereal crop in many parts of the world and it is commonly known as king of cereals. It belongs to poaceae family and globally after maize wheat is the second most produced food among the cereal crops, rice ranks third. High substrate salinity is a major limiting factor for plants in coastal habitats that germination being one of the most critical periods in life cycle of halophytes [13, 30]. Arbuscular mycorrhiza fungi (AMF) exhibit considerable functional diversity, at the inter and intraspecific level [20, 23]. There are pronounced plant fungus interactions [19, 25] together with seasonal variability [3, 8] and evidence of many synergistic and complementary effects between fungal species that occur together [14, 18, 32]. Apart from climatic and soil conditions grain quality may be also determined by fertilization. A special role plays here nitrogen fertilization. Properly applied nitrogen fertilizer has a positive effect on crop yield. At a high level of such fertilization it is advantageous to apply it twice or three times to plants at different stages of development. According to foreign and Polish research the most effective in obtaining high crop yields is a dose of 80-120 kg N/ha [28]. While wet gluten content increases with fertilization dose, its quality deteriorates. This may be the result of changes in gluten protein characteristic which are connected with the increase in amount of low molecular weight gliadin affecting gluten rheological properties [1]. There are also reports that in some varieties high nitrogen doses improve wheat protein system whereas in others quite the contrary [31]. Fertilizers are major input costs in many cropping systems worldwide [9]. Management of fertilization is a promising cultural practice to reduce weed interference in crops [4, 13, 21, 22]. Nitrogen (N) is the major nutrient added to increase crop yield [6]. The greatest competition among plants is usually for N, and it is the major nutrient input that farmers utilize to increase crop yield [29]. Nitrogen supply directly influences weed-wheat competition [17]. Decreasing in wheat yield loss by adding N was reported by Pourreza et al [27]. They also reported that N supply increased wheat yield when it compete to wild oat. Blackshaw *et al.* [5] also resulted in fertilized plots produced more wheat yield than unfertilized ones. An increasing in wheat economic and biologic yield was also reported by Hassan and Khan [15] who showed wheat and wild oat competition as affected by N supply and wild oat densities.

But results of Dhima and Eleftherohorinos [10] showed nitrogen fertilization decreased grain yield of wheat grown with wild oat compared with the control (No addition of N). Dhima and Eleftherohorinos [10] also showed grain yield of wheat in weed free treatments increased with adding N rate. Decreasing in wheat yield loss by adding N was reported by Pourreza *et al.* [27]. They also reported that N supply increased wheat yield when it compete to wild oat. Blackshaw *et al* [5] also resulted in fertilized plots produced more wheat yield than unfertilized ones. An increasing in wheat economic and biologic yield was also reported by Hassan and Khan [15] who showed wheat and wild oat competition as affected by N supply and wild oat densities. But results of Dhima and Eleftherohorinos [10] showed nitrogen fertilization decreased grain yield of wheat grown with wild oat compared with the control (No addition of N). Dhima and Eleftherohorinos [10] also showed grain yield of wheat in weed free treatments increased with adding N rate. There is an opinion that mycorrhizal fungi occur in chickpea plants and improve the growth and yield of these plants, especially in phosphorus deficient soils [28]. Arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi (AMF) can be integrated in soil management to achieve low-cost sustainable agricultural systems [16]. Mycorrhizal fungi occur in most of the soils and colonize roots of many plant species. Mycorrhiza is the structures resulting from the symbiosis between these fungi and plant roots, and is directly involved in plant mineral nutrition. The symbiotic root-fungal association increases the uptake of less mobile nutrients [24], essentially phosphorus (P) but also of micronutrients like zinc (Zn) and copper (Cu), the symbiosis has also been reported as influencing water uptake. AMF can also benefit plants by stimulating the production of growth regulating substances, increasing photosynthesis, improving osmotic adjustment under drought and salinity stresses and increasing resistance to pests and soil borne diseases [2]. These benefits are mainly attributed to improved phosphorous nutrition [26]. Lee and George [21] showed that mycorrhizal hyphae of *G. mosseae* had a significant contribution in the uptake of P, Zn and Cu by inoculated cucumber plants resulting in an increased concentration of those nutrients in the plant shoots.

## **MATERIAL AND METHODS**

In this study, research crops planted in 2011, and Khash mountain stage carried the gem industry. This study is a factorial experiment in a randomized complete block design with three replicates and all experiments were performed with different levels. In this experiment, a variety of wheat called clear that improved cultivars were used. Mycorrhiza arbuscular fungi (AM) in both the inoculated and non-inoculated with three levels of nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizer in three levels as other experimental treatments were used. Urea nitrogen is used by organizations of agricultural support services were provided. The farm has been in previous years under fallow land preparation including plowing, disk loader and fustigation is. The plowing by moldboard plow to a depth of 30 cm was used. The operation of the disc, the disc plow was perpendicular offset to a depth of 15 cm. To soil and plant nutrient land of the amount needed according to soil test results fustigation was done. To measure this trait after five plants were randomly selected and harvested from the middle two lines by removing the border took place clusters Koobideh of each of the plant to seed removed separately the for the plant out and counting were recorded.

### **Protein percent**

To measure this attribute required for analysis (about 250 g) of seeds harvested per plot were randomly selected, were inside the envelope was sent to the labtally after installation.

### **Harvest index**

This trait divided by the yield on biological function is obtained by multiplying the percentage.

### **Plant dry weight**

To measure the characteristics of the samples, the act of hitting the grain clusters were isolated, bushes and hitting the straw clusters exposed to the air and sunlight was put up dry. The dry weight of plants per plot clusters separated by tons was weighed and recorded the corresponding number.

### **Data analysis and statistical calculations**

After data collection, by ANOVA statistical program SPSS, MASTATC took. And for drawing the figures and graphs from Excel software was used.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **Plant dry weight**

Analysis of variance shows a significant effect on mycorrhiza in 5% of the dry weight of the plant is wheat (table 2). So that the minimum dry weight of plants inoculated with the fungus mycorrhiza terms and conditions of the maximum dry weight of plants inoculated mycorrhiza not have been achieved. Use mycorrhiza has increased dry wheat [23]. The results of these experiments are consistent with the experiments conducted.

The increase in plant dry weight, probably because of the increased photosynthetic activity and bolster mycorrhiza CO<sub>2</sub> and shoot biomass is increasing. Nitrogen at 5% level caused a significant effect on plant dry weight of wheat.

### Harvest index

Analysis of variance indicated that significant mycorrhiza effect on harvest index is 1% (table 2). The comparison shows that most of the Harvest index is mycorrhiza inoculum size, and the lowest Harvest index condition mycorrhiza inoculum size has been achieved. A two-year field test of the fennel plant cultivation showed that the inoculum size increased Harvest index is mycorrhiza. The results of these experiments are consistent with the results of experiments performed. Probably due to the mycorrhiza effect on grain yield through increased absorption and increased photosynthetic activity may be a result of increased Harvest index. Nitrogen in wheat causing significant effect on Harvest index was so that the high levels of nitrogen fertilizer also increased harvest index. Also have a positive impact on the nitrogen harvest index reported. The results of these experiments are consistent with the results of experiments performed. Probably due to the positive effect of making assimilate more nitrogen is a result of increased Harvest index.

**Table 1. Anova analysis of the wheat affected by interactions of mycorrhiza in nitrogen**

S.O.V	df	Protein (%)	Grain yield	Harvest index	Plant dry weight
R	2	0.59	149.1	49.16	44.6
Mycorrhizal	2	5.22**	582.5*	64.6**	398.5*
N	2	1.15**	930.46*	23.7**	751.7**
N*M	2	0.649*	695.01*	33.5*	394.4*
C.V	-	0.221	185.4	7.9	112.9

\*, \*\*, ns: significant at p<0.05 and p<0.01 and non-significant, respectively. M: Mycorrhiza, N: Nitrogen

### Grain yield

Analysis of variance indicated that significant mycorrhiza effect on the yield is 5%. The comparison shows that most of the Grain yield is mycorrhiza inoculum size, and the lowest Grain yield condition mycorrhiza inoculum size has been achieved. Effect of Arbuscular mycorrhiza fungi on wheat yield was investigated. The results of these experiments showed that the yield on the application of mushroom mycorrhiza increased (Kapoor *et al.* 2004; Raja *et al.* 2002). Mycorrhiza symbiotic fungi increase the seed yield of fennel that the results above are consistent with the results of trials, this increase is probably due to the increased absorption of nutrients, improved plant water potential, improvement in growth resulting in better power plants and may be due to increased plant photosynthetic activity.

**Table 2. Comparison of different traits affected by interactions of mycorrhiza in nitrogen**

Mean-square				
	Protein (%)	Grain yield	Harvest index	Plant dry weight
inoculated				
0 kg	15.1a	4111.3d	60.22d	631.4d
50 kg	15.13a	4700.4c	69.55c	783.1b
100 kg	15.23a	5652.6a	78.22a	797.6a
Non-inoculated				
0 kg	14.06ab	4052.8e	60.4d	577.2d
50 kg	14.58b	4692.7c	69.2c	696.1c
100 kg	14.94c	5111b	74.8b	786.1a

Any two means not sharing a common letter differ significantly from each other at 5% probability

### Protein percent

The results of this experiment show that variance analysis mycorrhiza 1% level caused a significant effect on grain protein are content. The comparison shows that most of the Protein percent is mycorrhiza inoculum size, and the lowest Protein percent condition mycorrhiza inoculum size has been achieved.

The experiments were conducted on wheat inoculated with the fungus mycorrhiza analysis of variance showed Cultivars inoculated with the fungus mycorrhiza significant difference in the percentage of the amount of protein that figure was inoculated percent more protein. The results of these experiments are consistent with the experiments conducted. This effect is probably due to mycorrhiza protein in brain uptake from the soil and fine roots to shoots by transferring these are elements.

## REFERENCES

- [1] Achremowicz B., Borkowska H., Styk B., Grundas S., 1995. Wpływ nawożenia azotowego na jakość pszenicy [The effect of nitrogen fertilization on wheat quality]. Biul. Inst. Hod. Aklim. Rosl. 193, 29-34 [in Polish].
- [2] AL-Karaki G.N., 2006. Nursery inoculation of tomato with arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi and subsequent performance under irrigation with saline water. Scientia Horticulture 109, 1-7.
- [3] Allen, E.B., Allen, M.F., Helm, D.J., Trappe, J.M., Molina, R., Rincon, E., 1995. Patterns and regulation of mycorrhizal plant and fungal diversity. Plant Soil 170, 47-62.
- [4] Anderson RL 2003. An ecological approach to strengthen weed management in the semiarid great plains. Adv. Agron. 80: 33- 62.
- [5] Blackshaw R, Semach GE, Janzen HH 2002. Fertilizer Application Method Affects Nitrogen Uptake in Weeds and Wheat. Weed Sci. 50: 634-641.
- [6] Camara KM, Payne WA, Rasmussen PE 2003. Long-term effects of tillage, nitrogen, and rainfall on winter wheat yields in the Pacific Northwest. Agron. J. 95: 828-835.
- [7] Caris C, Hoerdts W, Hawkins HJ, Roehndel V, George E, 1998. Studies on the iron transport by arbuscular mycorrhizal hyphae from soil to peanut and sorghum plants. Mycorrhiza 8:35-39.
- [8] Daniell, T.J., Husband, R., Fitter, A.H., Young, J.P.W., 2001. Molecular diversity of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi colonising arable crops. FEMS Microbiol. Ecol. 36, 203-209.
- [9] Derksen DA, Anderson RL, Blackshaw RE, Maxwell B (2002) Weed dynamics and management strategies for cropping systems in the northern Great Plains. Agron. J. 94: 174- 185.
- [10] Dhima KV, Eleftherohorinos IG 2001. Influence of nitrogen on competition between winter cereals and sterile oat. Weed Sci. 49: 77- 82.
- [11] George E, Gorgus E, Schmeisser A, Marschner H, 1996. A method to measure nutrient uptake from soil by mycorrhizal hyphae. In Mycorrhizas in Integrated System from Genes to plant Development (eds) Azcon-Aguilar and JM Barea). Luxembourg. European Community.
- [12] Gill KS, Arshad MA, Moyer JR 1997. Cultural control of Weeds. In: "Techniques for Reducing Pesticide Use", (Ed.): Pimental D, John Wiley and Sons, New York, NY. PP. 237-275.
- [13] Gilles H, Morel L, Reynolds C.E 2001. The effect of salinity on different developmental stages of an endemic annual plant, Aster
- [14] Gustafson, D.J., Casper, B.B., 2006. Differential host plant performance as a function of soil arbuscular mycorrhizal fungal communities: experimentally manipulating co-occurring Glomus species. Plant Ecol. 183, 257-263.
- [15] Hassan G, Khan H 2007. Effect of wild oat (*Avena fatua* L.) density on wheat (*Triticum aestivum*) and its components under varying nitrogen regimes. Pak. J. Bot, 39: 2585-2594.
- [16] Hooker J.E., Black K.E., 1995. Arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi as components of sustainable soil-plant systems. Crit Rev Biotechnol 15, 201-212.
- [17] Iqbal J, Wright D (1997) Effects of nitrogen supply on competition between wheat and three annual weed species. Weed Res. 37: 391-400.
- [18] Jansa, J., Smith, F.A., Smith, S.E., 2008. Are there benefits of simultaneous root colonization by different arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi? New Phytol. 177, 779- 789.
- [19] Klironomos, J.N., Hart, M.M., Gurney, J.E., Moutoglou, P., 2001. Interspecific differences in the tolerance of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi to freezing and drying. Can. J. Bot. 79, 1161-1166.
- [20] Koide, R.T., 2000. Functional complementarity in the arbuscular mycorrhizal symbiosis. New Phytol. 147, 233-235.
- [21] Liebman M, Mohler CL, Staver CP 2004. Ecological Management of Agricultural Weeds. Cambridge Univ. Press, UK.
- [22] Mohammaddoust HR, Tulikov AM, Baghestani MA 2006. Effect of Long-term fertilizer application and crop rotation on the infestation of fields by weed. Pak. J. Weed Sci. Res. 12: 221-234.
- [23] Munkvold, L., Kjoller, R., Vestberg, M., Rosendahl, S., Jakobsen, I., 2004. High functional diversity within species of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi. New Phytol. 164, 357-364.
- [24] ORTAS I., 2003. Effect of selected mycorrhizal inoculation on phosphorus sustainability in sterile and no-sterile soils in the Harran Plain in south Anatolia. J Plant Nutr 26(1), 1-17.
- [25] Pivato, B., Mazurier, S., Lemanceau, P., Siblot, S., Berta, G., Mougel, C., van Tuinen, D., 2007. Medicago species affect the community composition of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi associated with roots. New Phytol. 176, 97-210.

- [26] Plenchette C., Clermont-Dauphin C., Meynard J.M., Fortin J.A., 2005. Managing arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi in cropping systems. *Can J Plant Sci* 85(1), 31-40.
- [27] Pourreza J, Bahrani A, Karami S 2010. Effect of nitrogen fertilization application on simulating wheat (*Triticum aestivum*) yield loss caused by wild oat (*Avena fatua*) interference. *American- Eurasian J. Agric. Environ. Sci.* 9: 55-61.
- [28] Rachon L, 1999. Plonowanie i jakosc pszenicy twardej (*Triticum durum* Desf.) nawo onej zró-nicowanymi dawkami azotu [Yield and grain quality of hard wheat (*Triticum durum* Desf.)fertilised with different nitrogen doses]. *Pam. Puław.* 118, 349-355 [in Polish].
- [29] Raun WR, Johnson GV 1999. Improving nitrogen use efficiency for cereal production. *Agron. J.* 9: 357-363.
- [30] Rubio-Casal A.E. Castillo J.M, Luque C.J and Figueroa M.E, (2003) Influence of salinity on germination and seeds viability of two primary colonizers of Mediterranean salt pans. *Journal of Arid Environment* 53:145-154
- [31] Stankowski S., Podolska G., Pacewicz K., 2004. Wpływ nawo-enia azotem na plonowanie i jakosc ziarna odmian pszenicy ozimej [The effect of nitrogen fertilization on yield and quality of grain of winter wheat varieties]. *Ann. Univ. Mariae Curie-Sklodowska, Sect. E,* 59, 1363- -1369 [in Polish].
- [32] van Tuinen, D., Jacquot, E., Zhao, B., Gollotte, A., Gianinazzi-Pearson, V., 1998. Characterization of root colonization profiles by a microcosm community of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi using 25S rDNA-targeted nested PCR. *Mol. Ecol.* 7, 879–887.