

I- INTRODUCTION

Onion (Allium cepa I...) is one of the most important vegetable crops grown all over the world. In Egypt, it is grown at a large scale for local consumption, exportation to Europe and Arab countries and dehydration. Egyptian onion cultivars are famed by their high total soluble solids (T.S.S.) content and high pungency. That is why they are very long-keepers. Onion production is presently shifting from traditional to newly reclaimed areas. Accordingly, the need have arisen to establish the performance of new cvs. along with proper cultural practices in such new environments.

It has been reported that a whole area of about 142,231 feddan was grown with onion, the total yield production is 1194246 tons, with an average yield of about 8.397 tons/fed.* according to 1997 statistics. Improving onion yield could be achieved by applying better agronomical practices. In this respect, selection of well adapted local and exotic high production cultivars and establishment of relevant cultural practices in newly reclaimed areas became a must.

Therefore, this study was conducted to elucidate the effect of different N, P₂O₅ and K₂O fertilizers levels, amounts of sulphur applications, cultivars and planting date as well as transplants size on plant growth, yield and its components and bulb quality as well as storageability of onion bulbs.

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