

C O N T E N T S

	Page
1. INTRODUCTION	1
2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE	4
2.1. Botany of potato plant	4
2.2. Effect of soil moisture stress	5
2.2.1. Effect on growth	6
2.2.2. Effect on yield	9
2.2.3. Effect on water use	11
2.2.4. Effect on chemical composition	15
2.3. Effect of growth regulators	18
2.3.1. Effect on growth, yield and chemical composition.	18
2.3.2. Effect on water use	24
3. MATERIALS AND METHODS	27
3.1. Growth regulators	27
3.1.1. Gibberellic acid (GAs)	27
3.1.2. Chlorocholine chloride (CCC)	27
3.2. Soils	27
3.3. Potato variety	28
3.4. Experimental treatments	28
3.4.1. Experiment (A)	31
3.4.2. Experiment (B)	31
3.5. Cultural practices	32
3.6. Sampling	33
3.7. Water relations	34
3.7.1. Soil moisture content	34
3.7.2. Water consumptive use	34
3.7.3. Estimating potential evapotranspiration	35
3.7.4. Crop coefficient (Kc)	39
3.7.5. Water use efficiency	39
3.7.6. Water uptake	39
3.8. Chemical analysis	40
3.8.1. Total nitrogen	40
3.8.2. Total phosphorus	40

	Page
3.8.3. Total potassium	40
3.8.4. Carbohydrate analysis	40
3.8.5. Plastid pigments determination	41
3.9. Statistical analysis	41
4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	42
4.1. Effect of soil moisture stress	42
4.1.1. Potato growth	42
4.1.1.1. Plant height	42
4.1.1.2. Number of branches	42
4.1.1.3. Leaf area	45
4.1.1.4. Dry matter accumulation	50
4.1.2. Potato yield	60
4.1.2.1. Tuber characters	60
4.1.2.2. Tuber production	60
4.1.3. Water relations	74
4.1.3.1. Actual evapotranspiration	75
4.1.3.2. Crop coefficient (Kc)	87
4.1.3.3. Water uptake	91
4.1.3.4. Water use efficiency	95
4.1.4. Chemical composition	106
4.1.4.1. Mineral composition	106
4.1.4.2. Carbohydrate contents	113
4.1.4.3. Leaf plastide pigments	118
4.2. Effect of some growth regulators	122
4.2.1. Potato growth	122
4.2.1.1. Plant height	124
4.2.1.2. Number of branches	126
4.2.1.3. Leaf area	129
4.2.1.4. Dry matter accumulation	142
4.2.1.5. Flowering of potato plant	142
4.2.2. Potato yield	145
4.2.2.1. Tuber characters	145
4.2.2.2. Tuber production	153
4.2.3. Water relations	158
4.2.3.1. Actual evapotranspiration	159
4.2.3.2. Crop coefficient (Kc)	169
4.2.3.3. Water uptake	172
4.2.3.4. Water use efficiency	173

	Page
4.2.4. Chemical composition	185
4.2.4.1. Mineral composition	185
4.2.4.2. Carbohydrate contents	192
4.2.4.3. Leaf plastid pigments	197
5. CONCLUSION	200
6. SUMMARY	202
7. REFERENCES	215
8. ARABIC SUMMARY	