

# Effect of growth regulators, nutrition and media on growth and propagation of some yucca Sp

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**SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATION** The present investigation was carried out during the two successive 1996/1997 and 1997/1998 on *Yucca filamentosa* plants in the Experimental Farm belonging to Faculty of Agriculture at Moshtohor, Zagazig University, Benha Branch. whereas, the main purpose aimed to throw some light on some factors affecting growth of 3 months and one year old plants through studying the ability to grow under different types of media, nutrition and irrigation through studying the response of both vegetative and chemical composition of plants. In addition, studying the possibility of producing plants of three species of *Yucca* elephantipes, *Y. filamentosa* and *Y. filamentosa* var. *variegata* through enhancing rooting ability of their cuttings by applying some growth regulators before inserted them in sand as a rooting medium.

**Part I : Experiment I : Growth and chemical composition as affected by growing media:** A simple experiment in complete randomized block design, each treatment replicated four times, two plants in each replicate. The investigated media consist of the following mixtures : M1- sand + clay + peat M2- sand + clay + leaves dust M3- sand + clay + dry chips of *Eichhornia speciosa* compost M4- sand + clay + foam M5- sand + peat + leaves dust M6- sand + peat + dry chips of *Eichhornia speciosa* compost M7- sand + peat + foam

Data obtained could be summarized as follows:

1. Vegetative growth : 1) Data obtained declared that both of M4 and M1 were the most effective media in increasing number of roots developed on 3 months old seedlings. On the contrary, planting seedlings in each of M5, M6 and M7 increased significantly length, fresh and dry weights of roots. 2) from the obtained data on one year old plants, we mentioned obviously that ; M4 was the most effective in increasing number of developed roots whereas, M1 stimulated the penetration of root system to reach the maximum length. On the other hand, M2, M5 and M7 media increased the fresh and dry weights of roots.

2. Root growth measurements : 1) Data obtained declared that both of M4 and M1 were the most effective media in increasing number of roots developed on 3 months old seedlings. On the contrary, planting seedlings in each of M5, M6 and M7 increased significantly length, fresh and dry weights of roots. 2) from the obtained data on one year old plants, we mentioned obviously that ; M4 was the most effective in increasing number of developed roots whereas, M1 stimulated the penetration of root system to reach the maximum length. On the other hand, M2, M5 and M7 media increased the fresh and dry weights of roots.

3. Chemical composition : 1) The study displayed that growing 3 months old plants in both M2 and M6 produced the highest N %. whereas, seedlings grown in M1 and M2 had the highest percentage of P, K and total carbohydrate. 2) Data obtained declared generally that M1 induced one year old seedlings with the highest content of nitrogen and total carbohydrate % whereas, grown seedlings in M2 and M5 gave the highest P% and also M2 gave the highest value of K%.

3. B. Root content: 1) When planting 3 months old seedlings in M2, N and K% increased. While, culture in M4 and M7 increased P and total carbohydrate % if the mean of two seasons was taken into consideration. 2) It is quite clear from obtained data that one year old seedlings grown in M1, M4 and M6, their roots contained the maximum % of N and total carbohydrate. whereas, M2 was the favourable in producing plants with roots contained the highest P and K %.

**Experiment II: Growth and chemical composition as affected by nutrition treatments :** A factorial experiment in complete randomized block design was carried out included studying the effect of 13 treatments representative the different combinations between two forms of fertilizers i.e. Stimufol (PI) and Prepared fertilizer

(F2), two methods of application i.e. spray (S) and drench (D) and three concentrations of fertilizers i.e. 0.5, 1.0 and 1.5 g/mL/ pot No.25, in addition 0.0 g/mL "tap water as control". The investigated treatments were as follows :1) Control (tap water)2) F1 x S at 0.5 g/mL3) F1 X S at 1.0 g/mL4) F1 X S at 1.5 g/mL5) F1 X D at 0.5 g/mL6) F1 X D at 1.0 g/mL7) F1 X D at 1.5 g/mL8) F2 X S at 0.5 g/mL9) F2 x S at 1.0 g/mL10) F2 X S at 1.5 g/mL11) F2X D at 0.5 g/mL12) F2 x D at 1.0 g/mL13) F2 xD at 1.5 g/mL

Data obtained could be summarized as follows :II. 1. Vegetative growth measurements :1) Data obtained revealed that all vegetative measurements of 3 months old seedlings responded to drenching F1 or F2 at the low and medium rates.2) Obtained data displayed that one year old plants did not follow a firm trend in their effect on the vegetative measurements which showed that drenching F1 or F2 at all applied rates increased significantly all characters compared to other treatments.II. 2. Root growth measurements :1) Conclusively, the largest number of roots was always in closed relationship with fertilization 3 months old seedlings with F1 x D at 0.5 g/mL. whereas, the longest roots developed on seedlings supplied with F2x D at 0.5 g/mL. Meanwhile, both of F1 and F2 added as drench at 0.5 g/mL gave the heaviest fresh and dry weights.2) This study displayed that one year old plants fertilized with F1 x D at 0.5 and 1.0 g/mL increased both number and length of roots, while fresh and dry weights of roots responded obviously to spraying F1 at 1.0 g/mL.II. ~3. Chemical composition :II. 3. A. Leaves content:1) It was observed on 3 months old seedlings that F2 x D at 1.5 g/mL increased each of N, Mg, total carbohydrate and Fe content in leaves, whereas F1 x S at 1.0 g/mL, F1 x D at 1.5 g/mL and F2 x S at 0.5 g/mL were the superior treatments in increasing P, K and Ca %, respectively. Meanwhile, spraying plants with F2 at 1.5 g/mL increased Zn and Mn content in leaves.2) Drenching F2 at 1.5 and 1.0 g/mL to one year old seedlings increased (N & total carbohydrate) and (P & Zn) content in leaves. While, F2 x S at 1.5 g/mL gave the highest content of Fe and Mn in leaves. F1 x D at 1.5 g/mL, F2x S at 1.0 g/mL and F2 x D at 0.5 g/mL raised K, Ca and Mg % in leaves, respectively.II. n, 3. B. Roots content:1) It was clear that 3 months old plants responded to F2 x D at 1.5 g/mL treatment which gave the highest content of N, Mg, total carbohydrate, Fe and Zn content while, drenching seedlings with 1.0 and 0.5 g/mL of F2 raised Ca and Mn content in roots respectively, but the highest % of K was a result of fertilized seedlings with F2, x S at 1.5 g/mL.2) As for one year old, spraying F1 at 1.5 g/mL increased N and K % whereas, spraying F2 at 0.5 g/mL increased total carbohydrate%. While, F2x D at 1.5 and 1.0 g/mL gave the highest content of P, Ca, Mg and Fe. Meanwhile, both Zn and Mn content responded to drench F2 at 0.5 and 1.0 g/mL, respectively.

Experiment III: Growth and chemical composition as influenced by irrigation treatments :This study aimed to know water requirements of 3 months and one year old Yucca plants through irrigation by different water regimes on basis of field capacity (F.C.). The complete randomized block design with four replicates each replicate included two plants was used. The investigated treatments were as follows :I) Irrigation by 25 % of F.C. Level (A) and (C) levels increased total carbohydrate % in the first and second seasons, respectively.2) Referring to one year old plants, it is quite clear that irrigation by (A) and (C) levels increased N % whereas irrigation by (0) level raised P and K % in leaves and watering by (A) level gave the highest total carbohydrate % if the mean of two seasons was taken into consideration.III. 3. B. Roots content:1) It was easy to observe that 3 months old seedlings irrigated by 75% of F.C., their roots contained the highest N and total carbohydrate %. whereas, irrigation by 25 and 75% of F.C. increased P and K % in roots, respectively.2) It is obvious that one year old seedlings irrigated by 100% of F.C. raised N, K and total carbohydrate % in roots whereas, P content increased as a result of irrigation by (0) and (C) levels in the first and second seasons, respectively.

Part II :Experiment IV : Effect of growth regulators on rooting of Yucca cuttings: Knowing the effect of some growth regulators on rooting of 3 Yucca sp. (elephantopus, jilamentosa, jilamentosa var. vaTiegata) and reflected it on the success of rooting, vegetative and root measurements of developed offsets, as well as the chemical composition of both leaves and roots were the main purpose of this study. In addition, the chemical content of phenols and indoles in three portions of cuttings (Apical, Middle and Basal) were determined and hormonal content (GA3, IAA and ABA) were also determined to find out the relationship between their levels as affected by the effect of cutting portion from one hand and possibility or difficulty to root from the other. Three Yucca sp. plants were chosen and divided into cuttings dipped for 3 hours pre culture in the following

solutions :A- *Yucca elephantipes* cuttings :1) Control (distilled water)2) Dipping in IBA 2000 ppm3)Dipping in rIA 4000 ppm4) Dipping in PP333 5 ppm5) Dipping in PP333 25 ppm6) Dipping in rIA 20 ppm + PP333 5 ppm7) Dipping in rIA 100 ppm + PP333 25 ppm8) Dipping in NAA 20 ppm + PP333 5 ppm9) Dipping in NAA 100 ppm + PP333 25 ppmB- *Yucca filamentosa* and *Yuccajilamentosa* var. *variegata* cuttings :1) Control (distilled water)2) Dipping in rIA 20 ppm + PP333 5 ppm3) Dipping in rIA 100 ppm + PP333 25 ppm~) Dipping in NAA 20 ppm + PP333 5 ppm5) Dipping in NAA 100 ppm + PP33325 ppmThe different treatments were arranged in a randomized completeblock design as each treatment was replicated three times, 4 cuttings in every replicate.The obtained results could be summarized as follows :IV. 1. *Yucca elephantipes* cuttings:IV. 1. A. Percentage of succeeded cuttings :Dipping cuttings cane in PP333 5 ppm and rIA 20 ppm + PP333 5 ppmincreased percentage of succeeded cuttings.IV. 1. B. Vegetative growth meurements :In general, it is quite clear that dipping cuttings in rIA 20 ppm + PP3335 ppm, dipping in PP3335 ppm in the first season only and NAA 20 ppm +PP333 5 ppm in the second season only increased number and length ofoffsets, in addition number, fresh and dry weights of leaves.IV. 1. C. Root growth measurements :When cuttings dipped in PP333 5 ppm and NAA 20 ppm +PP333 5ppm, the number of developed roots were increased during the first andsecond seasons, respectively. While, rIA 20 ppm + PP333 5 ppm treatmentincreased significantly length of roots, but fresh and dry weights of rootsincreased as a result of rIA 100ppm + PP33325 ppm treatment.IV. 1. D. Chemical composition:"IV. 1. D. 1. Leaves content:Using PP333 5 ppm to cuttings increased N% in leaves. Meanwhile~treating cuttings with rIA 20 ppm + PP333 5 ppm treatment was theeffective one in increasing total carbohydrate %and CIN ratio in leaves.IV. 1. D. 2. Roots content:Treating cuttings cane with PP333 25 ppm and 5 ppm increased rootscontent of nitrogen and total carbohydrate respectively~while IBA 20 ppm+ PP333 5 ppm increased CIN ratio in roots.IV. 2. *Yucca jUamentosa* cuttings:IV. 2. A. Percentage of succeeded cuttings:Data obtained revealed generally that IBA 20 ppm + PP333 5 ppm andIBA 100 ppm +PP333 25 ppm were the superior treatments in increasing %of succeeded cuttings. whereas, NAA 20 ppm + PP333 5 ppm treatment didnt record any percentage of success.IV. 2. B. Vegetative and root growth measurements :rIA 100 ppm + PP333 25 ppm was the most effective treatment inincreasing the aforesaid vegetative and root growth measurements tocuttings cane.IV. 2. C. Chemical composition :IV. 2. C. 1. Leaves content:Data obtained showed that if mean of two seasons was taken inconsideration, IBA 20 ppm + PP333 5 ppm treatment increased N and totalcarbohydrate %, but control treatment increased CIN ratio.IV. 1. 2. B. Roots content:Treating cuttings with NAA 100 ppm + PP333 25 ppm and rIA 100ppm + PP333 25 ppm increased nitrogen and total carbohydrate %. While,rIA 20 ppm + PP333 5 ppm treatment was the most suitable in increasinge/N ratio.IV. 3. *Yucca filamentosa* var. *variegata* cuttings :.Generally, we could mentioned that treated cuttings cane with rIA 100ppm + PP333 25 ppm was the most effective treatment in this respect. Onthe contrary, NAA 20 ppm + PP333 5 ppm and NAA 100 ppm + PP333 25ppm failed completely to produce any value for this character. .from the different results of two investigated seasons as for the effectof cuttings rooting which may due to different cutting portion from oneseason to other which reflected on the success of rooting. Thus, somechemical constituents of cuttings as related to its portions (Apical, Middleand Basal) were determined to reach the most suitable portion for 3investigated *Yucca* sp. :Hormanal content of cuttings :1- *Yucca elephantipes* cuttings :cuttings collected from Apical portion gave the highest GAI, IAA andtotal indoles content so, it was the most fuvourable one as compared to theothers.2- *Yucca frlamentosa* cuttings:It was obvious that cuttings taken from Basal portion was the superiorone which it contained the highest content of GA3 (mg/100 gm dry weight)in addition, the lowest values of ABA, free and total phenols.3- *Yucca jilamentosa* var: *variegata* cuttings:It was favourable to take cuttings of *Yucca filamentosa* var. *variegata*from Apical position which gave the highest level of GA3 and no ABAcontent in addition, lowest value of free phenols compared to other cuttingsportions.Recommendation:The first experiment:No obvious response could be concluded due to growing *Yuccaflamentosa* 3 months old and one year old seedlings on different growingmedia concerning the most of vegetative and root measurements andchemical content, although M1 (sand: clay: peat moss) and M5 (sand:peat moss: leaves dust) showed its superiority in most cases for 3 monthssseedlings and both of M1 (sand: clay: peat moss)

and M2 (sand: clay:leaves dust) which considered available media for growing one year old seedlings. The second experiment: This investigation aimed to study the response of 3 months and one year old to the effect of two forms of fertilizers and two methods and three rates of application. The obtained results can be summarized as follows : 1) As for 3 months old, it could be concluded that plants responded obviously to drenching with F 1 (Stimufol) and F2 (prepared fertilizer) at 0.5 gm/L at fortnight intervals. 2) In view of our results, it might be recommended to feed one year old plants at fortnight intervals using F1 and F, at 1.0 and 1.5 gm/L as soil drench. Generally, from our results it might be recommended to use F2 (prepared fertilizer) which we could prepare easily and gave best results if it compared to F1 (Stimufol) which costs about 27 LE / Kg whereas, F2 costs about 2-3 LE / Kg and their constituents available locally in addition, foliar application treatment (spray) did not have any effect on most of the investigated growth measurements as a result of the presence of waxy layer on leaves surface. The third experiment: . It could be recommended by irrigation 3 months old plants with 50 % of F.e. and watered one year old plants with 50 and 75 % of F.C. which reflected on producing plants with favorable appearance. The fourth experiment: It might be recommended to propagate Yucca sp. from cane stem cuttings which are cut into sections, waxed on the distal (top); basal ends. Apical portion of cuttings are treated for 3 hours with IBA 20 ppm + PP333 5 ppm for Yucca elephantipes and nA 100 ppm + PP333 25 ppm for Yucca filamentosa. Basal portion cuttings and Yucca filamentosa var. variegata. Apical portion cuttings and placed in sand in a warm greenhouse under shade.