



5th National Congress on Medicinal Plants
18, 19 May 2016
Isfahan- Iran



452

**THE EFFECT OF PRIMING ON *CUCURBITA PEPO* SEED
GERMINATION UNDER SUBOPTIMAL TEMPERATURES**

Foroozan Salchi,^{1,*} Hossein Arouiee,² Mahtab Salehi¹

^{1,2}*Department of Horticulture, Ferdowsi University of mashhad*

²*Department of Medicinal Plants Production, Nahavand University*

In order to study the effect of priming on seed germination in *Cucurbita pepo*, this experiment was conducted in the University of Nahavand, using a factorial experiment with completely randomized design with three replications. Treatments included 4 levels of temperatures (10, 15, 20 and 25°C) and three kinds of priming (control, KNO₃ and salicylic acid). The results showed that the interaction of temperature and priming had very significant effect ($P \leq 0.01$) on germination percentage, radical and plumule length. Priming with salicylic acid (0.3%) hadn't any significant effect on measured traits. Priming with KNO₃ produced the highest germination percentage in all temperatures even under suboptimal temperatures.