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**Influence of pre and post emergence salt treatment on fruit yield and active substances of common pumpkin (Cucurbita pepo convar. pepo var. styriaca)**

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| **Abstract** | Effects of increasing salinity on fruit yield, oil content and beta-sitosterol of common pumpkin were studied. The salt treatments (NaCl in solution: 0, 2.5, 5 and 10 g/l) were applied at pre-emergence (seed sowing) and at post-emergence starting from the 4-leaf stage, and were maintained every 8 days until the fruit set stage. Fruit yield was higher when salt was applied in pre-emergence than in post-emergence treatment. Oil content and amount of beta-sitosterol in the oil were higher when salt was applied at pre-emergence at 5 and 2.5 g/l NaCl, respectively, than in other treatments. The lowest shoot dry weight at fruit set and harvest was recorded in both pre- and post-emergence salt treatments with 10 g/l NaCl. Salt had significant effect on the number of seeds per fruit of pumpkin only in pre-emergence treatment. The highest seed number was recorded on the plots which received 5 g/l NaCl. |

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