The times they are a-changin'

Climate change, phenological responses and their consequences for biodiversity, agriculture, forestry, and human health

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Phenology of blond psyllium (Plantago ovata) as affected by irrigation regimes

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Blond psyllium (Plantago ovata) is an important source of natural mucilloid around the world and is planting in vast area of India. While this species is originated from Iran, but scientific researches on growth processes of this plant are scarce. Understanding developmental processes of this species is essential to design an appropriate agronomic management. In this study the effect of irrigation regimes on phenological stages of this plant was studied in Mashhad conditions (North East of Iran). Four irrigation regimes with intervals of 7, 14, 21, 28 days were conducted after crop emergence (May) in the field. A randomised block design was used, with three blocks. Developmental stages were monitored weekly. Five different phenological stages, 1-Emergence 2-Bloosoming 3-Flowering 4-Start of the seed formation 5-Maturity, were distinguished. Delayed irrigation treatments (21, 28 day intervals) had no significant effects on the duration of vegetative stages and all treatments reached, flowering, at the same time. However in delayed irrigation treatments, Maturity was accelerated by 2 weeks.