

Effect of Mineral and Bio-fertilization on Growth, Fruit Quality and Mineral Composition Washington Navel Orange Trees

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Abstract: present study was conducted during the two growing seasons 2010 and 2011 at El Boseli Basateen Farm in order to investigate the effect of mineral fertilizer (NP) and bio fertilizer (Nitrobin and Phosohorin) applied either alone or in combinations to fifteen years old Washington Navel Orange trees on growth, fruit quality and leaf mineral contents. The summarized results were as follows canopy growth increment had a significant increase with all treatments except those with 300 g Nitrobin as compared with control increment. The trees height and trunk diameter increment were significantly greater by all treatments as compared with control increment. 750 ammonium nitrate +200 g Nitrobin treatment increased leaf phosphorous and fruit diameter in the first season fruit weight, juice volume and acidity in both seasons as compared with the control. Also 300g Nitrobin, treatment increased acidity, leaf phosphorous and nitrogen in the first season and fruit diameter in the second season and fruit weight in both seasons as compared with the control. Furthermore, 500 g calcium super phosphate + 100 g Phosphorin treatment increased Leaf phosphorous and juice volume in the first season, fruit length and Vc in the second season and fruit weight and diameter in both seasons as compared with the control. In addition, 250 g calcium super phosphate + 200 g Phosphorin treatment leaf nitrogen and juice volume in the first season and leaf phosphorous and Vc in the second season. Moreover, 300g phosphoreen treatments increased fruit diameter and leaf phosphorous in the first season, juice volume, Leaf potassium and nitrogen in the second season and fruit weight in both seasons as compared with the control. Whereas in the first season leaf nitrogen increased with all treatments as compared with the control.

Keyword: Bio-fertilizer, Washington navel orange trees, Nitrobin - Phosohorin

Introduction

In Egypt the consumption of chemical fertilizer has reached about ten times more than average consumption of the whole world (FAO, 1994). So we need for minimizing the use of chemical fertilizers such as biofertilizers, which contain primarily potent strains of microorganisms and safe for human, animal and environment. They fix and enhance availability of nutrients nitrogen (Frankenberger and Arshad, 1995). Moreover, they directly or indirectly increase the availability of nutrients in the soil and improve their uptake and utilization (Abd -Elmoniem and Radwan, 2003). The microorganism in bio-fertilizer such as Azotobacter produce growth regulators like IAA&GA and hence positively influenced plant growth (Sharma and Kumar, 2008). This investigation carried out to study the use of bio fertilizer to improve growth and productivity of Washington Navel Orange trees. Orange is a vitamin C - rich fruit and very popular to the Egyptian consumer. The present work was undertaken to study the effect of nitrogen and phosphorus bio fertilizer and different rates of nitrogen and phosphorus mineral fertilizer on growth and leaf minerals content, fruit quality grown in sandy loam soil in (El Bossily Basateen Farm).

Materials and Methods

The present study was carried out during 2010 and 2011 seasons on 15 years Washington Navel Orange on sour orange (*Cit. aurantium*, L.) grown at El Bossily Basateen Agriculture Research Center in sandy loam soil. Soil was sandy loam with pH of 7.29 and soil analysis is presented in Table (1). Trees were selected as uniform as possible and received different mineral and bio fertilizer applications, the mineral fertilizers were ammonium nitrate (33.5%N)

and calcium super phosphate (15.5%P₂O₅). The bio fertilizer were Nitrobin and Phosphorin ,produced by General Organization for Agriculture Equalization Fund (GOAEF), Ministry of Agriculture , Egypt . The amount of ammonium nitrate was divided into two equal doses applied in March and July of both seasons calcium super phosphate was applied once in December in both seasons. The full does of mineral N+P fertilizer (100%) was 3 Kg ammonium nitrate +1 Kg calcium super phosphate per tree. Bio-fertilizer were applied once in May. The experiment trees were subjected to seven treatments as follows: Control (farm treatments 3kg ammonium nitrate + 1kg calcium super phosphate per tree.) 50% nitrogen fertilizer(1500 g /tree ammonium nitrate) + 100 g Nitrobin.

- 25% nitrogen fertilizer (750 g /tree ammonium nitrate)+ 200 gNitrobin.
- zero% nitrogen fertilizer(zero g /tree ammonium nitrate) + 300 gNitrobin.
- 50% phosphorous fertilizer (500 g/tree calcium super phosphate) +100 gPhosphorin.
- 25% phosphorous fertilizer (250 g /tree calcium super phosphate) +200 g Pphosphorin.
- zero% phosphorous fertilizer(zero g calcium super phosphate)+300 g Phosphorin.

The experiment was designed as randomized complete block design with seven treatments . Treatments were arranged in three replications (each has 5 trees) for each treatment (7 treatment x3 replicates x 5trees)=105 trees. Mineral fertilizers were broadcasted on the soil surface and trees were irrigated after application .The height of the tree, the canopy and trunk diameter were measured at the beginning of the experiment and at the end to calculate increment . A simple of 8 leaves was randomly selected from the middle part of non-fruiting shoots of each tree in September in both seasons ,the leaves were washed with tap and distilled water , weighed and oven dried at 65-70 °c to a constant weight . The dried leaf tissues were ground and digested with sulphuric acid and hydrogen peroxide as mentioned by Evenhuis and Dewaard (1980).Suitable aliquots were taken for the determination of colorimetrically according to Evenhuis (1976) and Murphy and Riley(1962). Potassium was determined by a flam photometer . In order to determine fruit physical and chemical characteristics a sample of 5 fruits was randomly taken from each tree at harvest time (February) and averages of fruit weight , length and diameter were measured .The percentage of total soluble solids (TSS%) with a hand refractometer. Acidity% as citric acid and vitamin C (mg ascorbic acid100 ml juice) were determined according to A.O.A.C. (1995). Finally, all data obtained were statistically analyzed according to Snedecor and Cochran (1989) . Data were analyzed as randomized complete block design according to (SAS 1988).

Results and Discussion

Growth measurements

With regard to Growth measurements Table (2) showed that canopy growth increment was significantly higher with all treatments as compared with control except those with 300g Nitrobin. The trees height and trunk diameter increment were significantly greater by all treatments as compared with control increment. These results were in agreement with (Hammam,2003

on banana , Solaiman et al,2003; on Balady orange, Usha *et al* ,2003; on mandarin , Mohamed ,2005; on citrus rootstocks, Yousif Afaf and Marzouk Hend ,2005; on guava , Ali Nadia *et al* ,2007; on Valencia orange, Wassel *et al* ,2007; on Balady mandarin ,Sharma and Kumar ,2008; on mango , Shehata Wafaa ,2008; on olive and El-Sisy ,Wafaa *et al* ,2011; on guava) .They found that bio-fertilizer combination with nonorganic fertilizer enhance growth measurements.

Fruit quality.

With regard to fruit quality the data presented in Table (3&4) indicated a significant increase in fruit weight in both seasons by applying 500 g calcium super phosphate +100g Phosphorin ,300 g Phosphorin ,750 g ammonium nitrate+100g Nitrobin and 300g Nitrobin treatments as compared with the control in both seasons . In addition ,750 g ammonium nitrate +200g Nitrobin , 500 g calcium super phosphate +100g Phosphorin and 300 g Phosphorin treatments gave a significant increase in fruit diameter in first season as compared with the control .Whereas , 500 g calcium super phosphate +100 g Phosphorin treatment showed a significant increase in fruit diameter in the second season as compared with the control. Fruit length was not affected by any of the treatments in the first season .However 500 g calcium super phosphate +100 g Phosphorin treatment showed a significant increase in fruit length in the second season as compared with the control . Furthermore, total soluble solids did not show any significant differences by any of the fertilization treatments. However, 750 g ammonium nitrate+ 200 g Nitrobin treatment caused a significant increase in acidity in both seasons as compared with the control. Fruit Vitamin C increased significantly by the application of 500 g calcium super phosphate + 100g Phosphorin ,250 g calcium super phosphate +200 g Phosphorin and 300 g Phosphorin treatments in the second season as compared with the control. Whereas , juice volume was not affected by any treatments .These results are in agreement with those reported by(Mansour ,1998; on apple, Mostafa ,2002; on Washington navel orange and, Salama ,2002; on Balady mandarin) . Also , (Akl *et al* ,1997;) on grapevines who found that Phosphorin and active dry yeast caused highly increase in berry set , (Mansour ,1998) reported that bio-fertilizer were very effective in improving yield of Anna apple ,(Abdle –Hamid ,2002;) , reported that bio-fertilization and bio-stimulant gave the highest fruit volume and weight for olive .Also , Osman ,2003)on Zaghloul date revealed that bio-fertilizer treatment was the best one regarding yield and fruit characteristics for Zaghloul. cv. under Alexandria conditions .

Mineral composition

With regard to mineral composition in Table (5) . Leaf phosphorous significantly increased in the first season with 750 g ammonium nitrate +200g Nitrobin, ,300 g Nitrobin , 500 g calcium super phosphate+100 g Phosphorin and 300 g Phosphorin treatments. and with 250 calcium super phosphate fertilizer+200 g Phosphorin treatment in season as compared with the control. Whereas in the first season leaf nitrogen increased with all treatments as compared with the control. Also, applying 300 g Phosphorin significantly increased leaf nitrogen and potassium content in the second season as compare with control. These are similar to those found by (Abd EL-Moniem,

Eman and Radwan 2003; on banana , Solaiman *et al.* 2003; on Balady orange, Usha *et al.* 2003; on mandarin EL-Sharkawy and Mehaisen, 2005; on guava , Mohamed (2005) on citrus rootstocks , Sharawy (2005) on Balady lime, Yousif Afaf and Marzouk Hend , (2005; on guava, Abd EL-Migeed *et al.* 2007; on Washington navel orange , Ali Nadia *et al.* 2007; on Valencia orange, Wassel *et al.* 2007; on Balady mandarin, Shaban and Mohsen , 2009 ; on citrus rootstocks and El-Sisy, Wafaa *et al.* 2011; on guava) .They found that bio-fertilizer combination with nonorganic fertilizer increase N, P and K content.

Conclusion

Canopy growth increment had a significant increase with all treatments except those with 300 g Nitrobin as compared with control increment. The trees height and trunk diameter increment were significantly greater by all treatments as compared with control increment. 750 ammonium nitrate + 200 g Nitrobin treatment increased Leaf phosphorous and fruit diameter in 2010, fruit weight , juice volume and acidity in both seasons as compared with the control. Also , 300g Nitrobin, treatment increased acidity , leaf phosphorous and nitrogen in 2010 and fruit diameter in 2011 and fruit weight in both seasons as compared with the control .Furthermore , 500 g calcium super phosphate + 100 g Phosphorin treatment increased Leaf phosphorous and juice volume in 2010 , fruit length and Vc in 2011 and fruit weight and diameter in both seasons as compared with the control .In addition, 250 g calcium super phosphate + 200 g Phosphorin treatment leaf nitrogen and juice volume in 2010 and leaf phosphorous and Vc in 2011. Moreover, 300g phosphorin treatments increased fruit diameter and leaf phosphorous in the first , juice volume , Leaf potassium and nitrogen in the second season and fruit weight in both seasons as compared with the control. Whereas in the first season leaf nitrogen increased with all treatments as compared with the control. In general bio-fertilizer combination with nonorganic fertilizer increase increased growth measurements, N and P content and improve fruit quality.

Table (1) Soil analysis of the experimental orchard

Soil depth (cm)	Texture*	EC dS/m	pH	Cations (meq/l)				Anions (meq/l)		
				K ⁺	Na ⁺	Ca ⁺⁺	Mg ⁺⁺	HCO ₃ ⁻	Cl ⁻	SO ₄ ⁻
0-30	SL	1.5	7.29	0.69	6.96	5.34	2.99	3.8	5.46	6.86
30-60	SL	1.42	7.3	0.42	8.16	3.25	2.66	1.4	5.78	7.72
60-90	SL	1.21	7.1	0.37	14.72	2.45	3.02	1.3	8.24	7.83

*SL Sandy loam

Table (2) Effect of mineral and bio-fertilizer on Canopy growth, height of tree and trunk diameter, of Washington Navel Orange

Treatments	Canopy growth	The height of tree	Trunk diameter
	Increment(m)	increment(m)	Increment(m)
Control	0.087	0.092	0.0202
1500 g ammonium nitrate + 100gm Nitrobin	0.139	0.127	0.0300
750g ammonium nitrate +200gm Nitrobin	0.129	0.114	0.0308
Zero g ammonium nitrate +300g Nitrobin	0.104	0.129	0.0315
500 g calcium super phosphate +100g PhosphorIn	0.143	0.145	0.0320
250 g calcium super phosphate +200g Phosphorin	0.126	0.121	0.0280
Zero g calcium super phosphate +300g Phosphorin	0.135	0.110	0.0314
L.S.D	0.067	0.0.097	0.0037

Table(3) Effect of mineral and bio-fertilizer on fruits weight, fruit diameter and fruit length of Washington Navel Orange

Treatments	Fruits weight(g)		Fruit diameter(cm)		Fruit length(cm)	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
	Control	123	136	7.2	7.3	7.3
1500 g ammonium nitrate + 100g Nitrobin	209	230	7.5	7.3	7.5	7.4
750g ammonium nitrate +200g Nitrobin	245	269	8.4	7.5	7.7	7.5
Zero g ammonium nitrate +300g Nitrobin	236	260	7.9	7.4	8.0	7.8
500 g calcium super phosphate +100g PhosphorIn	295	327	8.3	7.9	8.3	8.2
250 g calcium super phosphate +200g Phosphorin	210	231	7.7	7.3	7.8	7.2
Zero g calcium super phosphate +300g Phosphorin	249	274	8.5	7.5	8.3	7.6
L.S.D	97.37	102	0.77	0.53	1.57	0.53

Table (4) Effect of mineral and bio-fertilizer on T.SS ,Acidity ,VC and Juice volume of Washington Navel Orange

Treatments	Total soluble solids (%)		Acidity(%)		V.C(mg ascorbic acid100 ml juice)		Juice volume(cm ³)	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
Control	11.1	10.9	1.55	1.55	45	47	108	98
1500 g ammonium nitrate + 100g Nitrobin	11.4	11.13	1.5	1.6	48	50	86	78
750g ammonium nitrate +200g Nitrobin	10.6	10.9	1.9	1.8	50	62	138	124
Zero g ammonium nitrate +300g Nitrobin	10.6	10.8	1.8	1.7	50	56	98	88
500 g calcium super phosphate +100g PhosphorIn	10.9	10.8	1.8	1.7	48	73	135	121
250 g calcium super phosphate +200g Phosphorin	11.2	10.9	1.63	1.6	49	67	124	112
Zero g calcium super phosphate +300g Phosphorin	11	1.1	1.6	1.5	47	68	116	93
L.S.D	1.37	1.06	0.27	0.24	6.68	16.4	32.9 3	29.42

Table(5) Effect of mineral and biofertilizer on leaf Nitrogen, leaf phosphorous, leaf potassium of Washington Navel Orange.

Treatments	Leaf Nitrogen		Leaf phosphorous		Leaf potassium	
	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
Control	1.30	2.31	0.230	0.250	2.02	1.99
1500 g ammonium nitrate + 100g Nitrobin	2.49	3.06	0.286	0.323	2.12	2.90
750g ammonium nitrate +200g Nitrobin	2.21	3.10	0.307	0.381	2.60	1.62
Zero g ammonium nitrate +300g Nitrobin	2.87	2.89	0.317	0.346	1.80	2.85
500 g calcium super phosphate +100g PhosphorIn	2.17	2.79	0.312	0.352	1.96	1.62
250 g calcium super phosphate +200g Phosphorin	2.50	3.10	0.263	0.407	2.34	2.88
Zero g calcium super phosphate +300g Phosphorin	2.00	3.22	0.294	0.361	2.54	3.10
L.S.D	0.374	0.822	0.638	0.155	1.1	0.99

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الملخص العربي

تأثير التسميد المعدني والحيوي على النمو الخضري وجودة الثمار والمحتوى المعدني لاشجار البرتقال ابو سرّة

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مركز البحوث الزراعية - معهد البساتين - مصر

اجريت الدراسة الحالية خلال موسمي الدراسة 2010 و 2011 بمزرعة بساتين البوصيلي - مركز البحوث الزراعية لدراسة تأثير معدلات التسميد المعدني (N,P) والتسميد الحيوي (نيتروبيين وفوسفورين) مضافة او منفردة على النمو الخضري والمحتوى المعدني وصفات جودة الثمار لاشجار البرتقال ابو سرّة عمر 15 عاما النامية في تربة رملية واضيف التسميد في سبعة معدلات الكنترول (معاملات المزرعة) وتم تقليل التسميد المعدني (50% و 40% و 25%) واطافة التسميد الحيوي كبديل اما نيتروبيين (100 و 200 و 300 جرام) او فوسفورين (100 و 200 و 300 جرام).

واظهرت النتائج الاتي:

1. ادت كل المعاملات لزيادة محيط الشجرة فيما عدا المعاملة ب 300 جرام نيتروبيين ايضا ادت كل المعاملات لزيادة ارتفاع الشجرة ومحيط الجذع بالمقارنة بالكنترول.
2. ادت المعاملة ب 750 جم نترات امونيوم + 200 جرام نيتروبيين الى زيادة محتوى الثمار من الحموضة وحجم العصير ووزن الثمار في الموسمين ايضا زيادة محتوى الاوراق من الفوسفور وقطر الثمار و في الموسم الاول بالمقارنة بالكنترول.
3. ادت المعاملة 300 جرام نيتروبيين الى زيادة محتوى الاوراق من النيتروجين والفوسفور وحموضة الثمار في الموسم الاول و قطر الثمار في الموسم الثاني و زيادة وزن الثمار في الموسمين بالمقارنة بالكنترول.
- 4: ادت المعاملة ب 500 جرام سوبر فوسفات الكالسيوم و 100 جرام فوسفورين الى زيادة محتوى الاوراق من الفوسفور وحجم العصير في الموسم الاول و طول الثمار ومحتوى الثمار من VC في الموسم الثاني ووزن وقطر الثمار في الموسمين بالمقارنة بالكنترول.
5. ادت المعاملة ب 250 جرام سوبر فوسفات الكالسيوم و 200 جرام فوسفورين لزيادة محتوى الاوراق من النيتروجين وحجم العصير في الموسم الاول و محتوى الاوراق من الفوسفور ومحتوى الثمار من VC في الموسم الثاني بالمقارنة بالكنترول.
6. ادت المعاملة ب 300 جرام فوسفورين لزيادة قطر الثمار و محتوى الاوراق من الفوسفور في الموسم الاول محتوى الاوراق من البوتاسيوم و النيتروجين وحجم العصير في الموسم الثاني وزن الثمار في الموسمين بالمقارنة بالكنترول.
7. ايضا ادت كل المعاملات لزيادة محتوى الاوراق من النيتروجين في الموسم الاول بالمقارنة بالكنترول.