

CHEMICAL COMPOSITION AND QUALITY OF SPINACH PLANT (*SPINACH OLERACEA L.*) AS AFFECTED BY MINERAL FERTILIZATION AND SOME RESIDUAL PLANT EXTRACTS.

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ABSTRACT

Two pot experiments were carried out under the green house of Faculty of Agriculture.; El-Mansoura University during the two successive winter seasons of 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 to study the substitution of some organic extracts which prepared from potato, tomato and fruit leaves instead of a part of mineral fertilizer to produce a safe yield of spinach plant. Twelve treatments were arranged in complete randomize block design with 3 replicates, which were the simple possible combination between four treatments of plant extracts (0, Potato extract, Tomato extract and fruit leaves extract) for foliar spraying and three treatments of N, P and K fertilizers (0, 50 % and 100 %) of recommended doses as soil addition and their combination .The obtained results can be summarized as follow:

- Spraying of residual plant extracts either in a single form or in combination with mineral fertilization led to a positive effect on the growth and yield of spinach plants.
- Increasing the rate of N, P and K fertilization from 50 to 100 % RD significantly increased the mean values of N, P and K contents in the leaves of spinach plant; such effect had no significant effect on the values of Fe (mg/100g).
- The accumulation of nitrate and nitrite in spinach fresh leaves increased as the level of mineral fertilizers increased. Foliar spraying of residual plant extracts which contain micronutrients in the presence of mineral fertilizers resulted in pronounces decrease in the values of NO₃-N and NO₂-N in spinach plant.
- Foliar spraying of plant residual extracts as solely had no significant effect on the mean values of total oxalate, while such effect significantly increased the values of soluble oxalate as compared to the untreated plants. There is no significant difference between the average values of total oxalate in spinach plant due to an addition of N, P and K fertilizers combined with spraying of residual plant extracts as compared to the same values obtained from the plants treated with N, P and K fertilizers only.
- Under the same condition of this investigation it could be recommended that; soil addition of N+P+K fertilizers at the rate of 50% from the recommended doses for spinach plant coupled with foliar spraying of potato foliage residual extract is considered as the best treatment for producing a safe yield of spinach plant.

Keywords: residual plant extracts, mineral fertilizers, oxalate, nitrate, nitrite, spinach plant.

INTRODUCTION

Spinach (*Spinach oleracea L.*) is one of the major leafy vegetables, which is widely cultivated in Egypt. Spinach is a good source of vitamin A, B₁, B₂ and C, as well as minerals such as calcium, iron and magnesium (Kawazu

et al., 2003). Nonetheless, its nutritive value in human diets is limited to a large extent because it is also rich in oxalate and nitrate.

Oxalates are common constituents of plants and are found in the majority of plant families. The amount of oxalates in plants ranges from a few percent of dry weight to up to 80% of the total weight of the plant (Franceschi and Loewus, 1995). Oxalate accumulates primarily as soluble oxalate salts such as potassium (K), sodium (Na) and insoluble oxalate such as calcium (Ca), iron (Fe) and magnesium (Mg) (Libert and Franceschi, 1987). High oxalate in diets can bind with some minerals to form insoluble oxalate salts which are hard to be absorbed by intestines and cause deficiencies of calcium, iron, magnesium and copper (Noonan and Savage, 1999 and Bohn *et al.*, 2004) Intakes of oxalate-rich vegetables will increase the risk of kidney stones by inducing a significant increase in unitary oxalate excretion (Ogawa *et al.*, 2000 and Lewandowski and Rodgers, 2004).

The harmful effects of nitrate are related not so much to its toxicity, when it low, but to the dangerous compounds that are synthesized in the organism. Indeed, the most serious danger comes from nitrite which is produced by nitrate reduction and which can lead to methemoglobinemia as from nitrosamines and nitrosamides by reacting with amines and amides, whose carcinogenic action is well known. (Gangolli *et al.*, 1994). Other claims have been advanced against dietary nitrate such as; an increased risk of congenital malformation, a tendency towards enlargement of the thyroid gland, an early onset of hypertension and enhanced incidence of childhood diabetes (Herondel and Herondel, 2001).

The accumulation of oxalate and nitrate in the plants depends upon many environmental and biological factors, e.g. fertilizer application, light intensity, plant species and cultivars (Kawazu *et al.*, 2003 and Proietti *et al.*, 2004). Nitrogen nutrition is one of the most important factors affecting oxalate and nitrate content in spinach plant (Elia *et al.*, 1998, Zhang *et al.*, 2004 and Jaworska, 2005). So all world back to organic farming by using a new method to produce organic fertilizer from organic wastes such as plant residuals extracts to produce safe food and protection the environment from pollution (Abd El-Hamid *et al.*, 2004).

Compost tea mean a liquid extract of compost that contains plant macro and micronutrients, plant growth regulators and beneficial microorganisms (Abd El-Hamid *et al.*, 2004). This extract have been derived from plant materials (potato residual, tomato residual and fruit leaves residual) and animal manures (FYM) and produced by steeping finished compost in order to extract beneficial microorganisms and compounds into solution (Ingham, 2000 a). Compost tea can be applied directly to the plant as a foliar spray as affine mist on leaves of plants (Ingham, 2000 b).

Compost tea induce a lot of benefits such as: Increase the biomass, species diversity of microbes and microbial inoculants via soil application to help build soil microbial population (Schmitz, 2002); increase the ability of soil to hold nutrients, retain water (Abd El-Hamid *et al.*, 2004); reduce fertilizer use and leaching into ground water (Amer, 2005) and provide nutrients for foliar or spray application (Ryan *et al.*, 2005).

The present work aims to substitute some organic extracts instead of a part of mineral fertilizers for spinach plant.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Two pot experiments were conducted under the green house of Fac. of Agric., Mansoura Univ. during two successive winter seasons of 2006-2007 and 2007-2008. This work aimed to substitute some organic extracts instead of a part of mineral fertilizers for spinach plant.

Experimental Soil:

The soil used was taken from the surface layer (0-20 cm) of clay soil from special farm located near El-Mansoura city; Dakahlia Government. Soil sample was air dried and analyzed to determine some physical and chemical properties as shown in Table 1.

Preparation of plant extracts: before sowing, compost from potato, tomato and fruit leaves was prepared before each season at the same location of the experiment. The residual foliage of potato and tomato plants were brought from a special farm near El-Mansoura city, while fruit leaves were taken from the citrus orchard; Faculty of Agriculture, Mansoura University. 10 kg was taken from each residual plant (Potato, tomato and fruit leaves). Plant material were chopped into segments of 2-5 cm and divided into three heaps. Each heap was mixed with 250 g ammonium sulphate , 60 g calcium super-phosphate and 1000 g FYM (ripe) as an activation mixture according to Abo El-Fadl (1970) ; moisted to reach about 60% of its water holding capacity ; covered with plastic sheet and left to decay for 90 days . Throughout the decay; each heap was turned every 15 days and sprayed with water to keep its moisture around 60 % of water holding capacity.

After 90 days; one kilogram of solid compost was put in plastic tanks and soaked into 5 L. of tap water over 24 hours. Then, this mixture was stirred for 2 hours and strained by cheesecloth into other plastic tank. Chemical analysis of plant residuals extracts is shown in Table 2

Table (2): Chemical analysis of plant residuals extracts (aquies extract) in the two seasons:

Extract		mg/L ⁻¹					
		N	P	K	Fe	Zn	Mn
Potato extracts	1 st	77	19.6	428	35.6	11.7	18.2
	2 nd	79	17.8	423	32.5	10.8	15.3
Tomato extracts	1 st	67	14.2	395	29.8	9.3	14.5
	2 nd	71	14.9	412	27.3	9.7	10.9
fruit leaves extracts	1 st	53	9.9	376	25.3	8.9	13.6
	2 nd	56	10.3	384	21.6	9.1	11.2

Treatments: 12 treatments were arranged in randomized complete block design with three replicates which were the simple possible combination between three treatments of mineral fertilization as soil application and four treatments of plant extracts as foliar spraying. Thus, Treatments were arranged as follows:

- 1- Control treatment (without any addition).
- 2- Fruit leaves extract spraying.
- 3- Tomato foliage extracts spraying.
- 4- Potato foliage extracts spraying.
- 5-50% of recommended dose (RD) [100 Kg ammonium sulphate, 75 Kg calcium super-phosphate and 50 Kg potassium sulphate]. i.e 1.0 g, 0.75 g and 0.5 g/pot as ammonium sulphate, calcium super-phosphate and potassium sulphate respectively.
- 6- 50% of RD + fruit leave extract spraying.
- 7- 50% of RD + tomato foliage extract spraying.
- 8- 50% of RD + potato foliage extract spraying.
- 9-100% of RD [200 Kg ammonium sulphate, 150 Kg calcium super-phosphate and 100 Kg potassium sulphate]. i.e 2.0 g, 1.5 g and 1.0 g/pot as ammonium sulphate, calcium super-phosphate and potassium sulphate respectively.
- 10- 100% of RD + fruit leave extract spraying.
- 11- 100% of RD + tomato foliage extract spraying.
- 12- 100% of RD + potato foliage extract spraying.

Cultivation: 36 polyethylene pots; 20 cm in diameter and 30 cm height. Each pot was filled with 10 kg air dried soil. At 4 and 5 of December 2006 and 2007, respectively 20 seeds from spinach (Pacifice cv) was selected for uniformity in size and colour were sown. After 15 days from sowing plants were thinned to the most 6 uniform plants per pot.

Fertilization: Ammonium sulphate (20.5 % N), calcium super-phosphate (15.5 % P₂O₅) and potassium sulphate (48 % K₂O) were used as a source of N, P and K, respectively. For the treatments of mineral fertilization three levels as a rate of recommended dose (0, 50% and 100 %) from recommended doses of N, P and K for spinach plant.

Each level of N, P and K fertilization was divided into two doses; one was added after 20 days from sowing and the other 20 days later.

Foliar application of plant extracts at the rates of this study was conducted 3 times beginning after 20 days from sowing with 7 days interval at the rate of 100 ml/pot.

Experimental procedures: At harvesting stage (60 days after sowing) plant growth parameters expressed as; Fresh weight (g/Plant), Dry weight (g / Plant) and Fresh yield (g/ Pot). The oven dry plants of spinach plant was wet digested to determine N , P , K and Fe In addition nitrate, nitrite, total and soluble oxalate .

Method of analysis: Total nitrogen (%), Organic matter and Available nitrogen and Potassium % were determined according to Hesse (1971). Total phosphorus (%), Total Potassium (%) and Available phosphorus were estimated as described by Jackson (1967). Determination of total Fe, Mn, Zn and Available Fe were according to Chapman *et al.* (1961). Mechanical analysis and CaCO₃ were determined as described by piper (1950). Total and soluble oxalate was determined according to the method described by Baker (1954). Nitrate and nitrite were measured by using a rapid method Singh (1988).

Statistical analysis: The statistical analysis of the collected data was done according to the method described by (Gomez and Gomez 1984) using LSD to compare the means of treatment values.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1- Fresh & dry weight of spinach plant and fresh yield:

Data presented at Table (3) illustrate the mean values of fresh and dray weight (g/plant) as well as fresh yield (g/pot) for spinach plant as affected by foliar spraying of residual plant extracts, soil addition of mineral fertilizers and their interaction during both seasons of 2006-2007 and 2007-2008.

Data reveal that; spraying of residual plant extracts as solely form significantly increased the mean values of all studied growth parameters as compared to the untreated plant. In this respect; foliar addition of residual foliage extract of potato (P) was superior for increasing these parameters followed by tomato residual extracts (T) and finally, fruit leaves extracts (F). In the 1st season, the mean values were 13.29, 14.77, 15.72 & 16.29 for fresh weight, 1.44, 1.52, 1.66 & 1.76 for dry weight and 76.02, 84.23, 89.23 & 91.78 for fresh yield (g/pot) for the treatment of 0, F, T and P, respectively. The same trend was true during the 2nd season of experiment.

Such data at Table (3) show that; the average values of all investigated growth parameters were significantly increased as the levels of N+P+K were increased. The rate of increases percent over the control treatment were accounted to be 28 and 36 % for fresh weight, 30 and 69 % for dry weight and 28 and 34 % for the fresh yield in the 1st season for the treatments of 50% and 100 % from the RD of NPK, respectively . Such effect was happened in the 2nd season .In this connection; increasing the rate of N+P+K fertilization from 50 to 100 % of RD had no significant effect on the values of fresh yield (g/pot) during both seasons of the experimentation.

As for the interaction effect between the treatments under study, data at Table (3) reveal that; at any rate of N+P+K fertilization combined with F or T or P foliar spraying significantly increased the mean values of fresh weight, dry weight and fresh yield than those realized for the plants received these rates of NPK solely.

The highest values 22.47, 2.89 & 126.06 in the 1st season and 23.64, 2.97 & 134.68 in the 2nd season for fresh and dry weight (g/plant) and fresh yield (g/pot), respectively were realized for the plants treated with N+P+K at the rate of 100 % from (RD) coupled with potato residual extract in foliar way.

It could be concluded that, spraying of residual plant extracts either in a single form or in combination with mineral fertilization led to a positive effect on the growth and yield of spinach plants. This can be attributed to the role played by these extracts for hastening the performance of nutrients availability in the presence of mineral fertilizer, beside high biological benefits of the used residual extracts.

These results were in accordance with these obtained by Maftoun *et al.*, (2004), Tartoura *et al.*, (2005), Lashin (2006), Rashwan (2006), Abd El-Wahab *et al.*, (2007) and El-Serafy *et al.*, (2008) who concluded that; at any level of N, P and K fertilization studied the foliar spraying of compost tea on the leaves of pea plants led to increase the mean values of growth parameters and yield of plant.

Table (3): Fresh & dry weight of spinach plant and fresh yield as affected by mineral fertilization and some residual plant extracts.

Seasons character Treatments	2006-2007			2007-2008		
	Fresh weight g/plant	Dry weight g/plant	Fresh yield g/pot	Fresh weight g/plant	Dry weight g/plant	Fresh yield g/pot
Control	13.29	1.44	76.02	14.13	1.47	79.76
F	14.77	1.52	84.23	15.53	1.57	88.43
T	15.72	1.66	89.23	16.46	1.71	93.82
P	16.29	1.76	91.78	17.15	1.80	97.72
50% R.D	17.06	1.88	97.07	17.91	1.95	102.31
50%R.D + F	18.55	2.14	105.96	19.42	2.20	110.81
50% R.D + T	19.12	2.24	107.40	20.11	2.30	114.57
50% R.D + P	19.61	2.32	110.39	20.53	2.38	117.13
100% R.D	18.13	2.43	101.85	19.14	2.50	109.15
100% R.D + F	21.01	2.62	116.72	22.04	2.70	125.69
100% R.D + T	21.95	2.81	120.23	23.04	2.89	131.22
100% R.D + P	22.47	2.89	126.06	23.64	2.97	134.68
L.S.D (0.05)	0.14	0.04	5.20	0.06	0.03	8.80

R.D: Recommended dose.

F: Fruit leaves compost extract.

T: Tomato compost extract.

P: Potato compost extract.

2- N, P, K and Fe mg/100gm (on dry weight basis):

The statistical analysis of the data presented in Table (4) indicate the effect of N+P+K fertilization at the rates of 0, 50% and 100 % from the recommended dose (for spinach plant), foliar application of potato, tomato and fruit leaves extracts as well as their interaction on the contents of N, P & K % and Fe (mg/100g DW) in spinach plant.

Data at Table (4) reveal that the mean values of N, P, K and Fe contents significantly increased due to N+P+K fertilization, foliar of residual plant extracts and their interaction as compared to the control treatment during both seasons of this investigation.

Concerning the effect of potato, tomato and fruit leaves extracts, data at the same Table show that, foliar spraying of residual potato extracts in a single form increased the mean values percentage of N, P, K % and Fe mg/100g, respectively by 20, 17, 18 and 31 % in the 1st season and 30, 12, 19 and 37 % in the 2nd season over the untreated plants.

As for the mean values of N, P, K % and Fe (mg/100g) in spinach plant foliage as affected by soil addition of N+P+K at the rates of this study, data in Table (4) reflected that the mean values of these parameters were increased as the level of recommended doses were increased from 50 to 100 % except for Fe content whereas, these increases did not reach to the level of significant. For all parameters; the highest values were realized for the treatment of 100 % N, P, K and recorded 3.26, 0.551, 4.18 % and 49.36 mg/100g in the 1st season and 3.55, 0.532, 4.37 % and 47.61 mg/100g in the 2nd season for the parameters of N, P, K % and Fe mg/100g, respectively

Regarding the effect of interaction; data at the same Table also reveal that soil addition of N, P and K fertilizers for spinach plant at any level of this investigation coupled with spraying the extracts of potato or tomato or fruit leaves residuals led to increasing the mean values of N, P, K% and Fe (mg/100g) than those obtained for the plants received N, P and K fertilizers only. In this respect; using of potato extract at any level of mineral fertilization was superior for increasing the mean values of these parameters. This trend was true during both seasons.

From the results mentioned previously it can be noticed that increasing the rate of N+P+K fertilization from 50 to 100 % RD significantly increased the mean values of N, P and K contents of the leaves of spinach plant; such effect was insignificant on the values of Fe (mg/100g). This can be attributed to the depression effect for the highest levels of N and P fertilization on Fe absorption by the plant. On the other hand, foliar spraying of the plant residual extracts has been corrected this trend and increased the mean values of all parameters as a result of its content from available macro and micro nutrients.

These findings were confirmed with those obtained by Abdel-Razik (1996); Gawish (1997); El-Talawy (1998); Mordogan (2000); Raikova (2000); Paradiso *et al.*, (2001); Tomar (2001); Ramadan (2004); Gulser (2005); Lashin (2006); Rashwan (2006) And Abd-Allah (2001) who stated that; raising the level of N- added from 45 to 60 Kg/fad resulted in significant increase in Fe-content in spinach leaves.

Increase of N-added up to 75 Kg/fad significantly decreased Fe-content. Foliar spraying coupled with N-Fertilization significantly increased Fe-content in spinach leaves at any level of N-addition.

Table (4): N, P, K and Fe concentrations (on dry weight basis) in spinach plant as affected by mineral fertilization and some residual plant extracts.

Seasons character Treatments	2006-2007				2007-2008			
	N%	P%	K%	Fe (mg/100g)	N%	P%	K%	Fe (mg/100g)
Control	2.27	0.411	3.22	37.00	2.36	0.428	3.37	35.07
F	2.63	0.459	3.73	47.66	2.92	0.452	3.93	46.14
T	2.69	0.472	3.80	48.03	3.02	0.464	3.97	47.75
P	2.73	0.482	3.81	48.33	3.06	0.473	4.02	47.92
50% R.D	2.89	0.502	3.92	48.03	3.13	0.471	4.11	46.29
50%R.D + F	3.10	0.523	4.09	48.63	3.33	0.501	4.26	47.72
50% R.D + T	3.18	0.532	4.12	50.33	3.45	0.513	4.31	49.25
50% R.D + P	3.21	0.544	4.13	51.36	3.49	0.522	4.33	49.99
100% R.D	3.26	0.551	4.18	49.36	3.55	0.512	4.37	47.61
100% R.D + F	3.40	0.562	4.27	51.30	3.64	0.532	4.51	49.59
100% R.D + T	3.51	0.573	4.38	52.26	3.76	0.553	4.62	50.26
100% R.D + P	3.58	0.574	4.44	53.23	3.88	0.562	4.66	51.12
L.S.D (0.05)	0.04	0.05	0.13	2.64	0.03	0.02	0.03	1.04

R.D: Recommended dose.

F: Fruit leaves compost extract.

T: Tomato compost extract.

P: Potato compost extract.

3- NO₃-N and NO₂-N content in spinach plant:

Data illustrated in Table (5) show the effect of N+P+K fertilization levels, foliar spraying of plant residual extracts and their interactions on nitrate and nitrite contents on fresh weight basis of spinach plant at marketing stage.

Concerning with the effect of plant residual extracts in foliar way, data reveal that nitrate and nitrite contents were significantly increased due to spraying any of residual plant extracts during both seasons of the experiments. In the 1st season; the highest values (234 and 2.63 ppm) for NO₃-N and NO₂-N, respectively were realized for the plants treated with tomato foliage residual extract, while the lowest one (192 and 2.12 ppm) were obtained for the untreated plants. The same trend was happened during the 2nd season.

Regarding the effect of mineral fertilization data at the same Table reflected that, soil addition of N+P+K fertilizers either at the rate of 50% or 100% from the recommended doses for spinach plant sharply and significantly increased NO₃-N and NO₂-N contents in spinach plant. Comparing with the control treatment; soil addition of N+P+K fertilizers at the rate of 50% from (RD) led to increase the mean values of NO₃-N and NO₂-N, respectively by 89 and 78 % in the 1st season and 92 and 84 % in the 2nd season. Further addition of N, P and K fertilizers at the rate of 100 % increased the values of NO₃-N and NO₂-N by 200 and 121 % in the 1st season and 200 and 120 % in the 2nd season over the control treatment.

With the regard to the effect of interaction between the treatments of this investigation; data in Table (5) indicate that, spraying any residual plant extracts on the leaves of spinach plant grown under the rates of N+P+K fertilization 50 or 100 % from the recommended doses highly decreased the

mean values of NO₃-N and NO₂-N (ppm) than those obtained for the plants treated with the same rates of N+P+K only. In this connection; the highest decrease percentages which calculated to be 67 and 60 % in the 1st season and 67 and 39 % in the 2nd season for the contents of NO₃-N and NO₂-N, respectively were realized for the plants treated with 100% from the (RD) of N, P and K coupled with spraying with potato foliage extract less than the same values for the plants received 100% RD only.

It could be concluded that, the accumulation of nitrate and nitrite in spinach fresh leaves increased as the level of mineral fertilizers increased. This effect is a natural phenomenon that occurs when the uptake of NO₃⁻ by the roots exceeds its reduction and subsequent assimilation within the plant, so the unutilized NO₃⁻ will be stored in plant tissues. Foliar spraying of residual plant extracts, which contain micronutrients, in the presence of mineral fertilizers resulted in pronounce decrease in the values of NO₃-N and NO₂-N in spinach plant due to the role played by micronutrients for increasing the activity of nitrate reductase enzymes.

These results are in the harmony with the conclusions reported by Malakouti, *et al.*, (1999), Ai, *et al.*, (2000), Abdel-Rahman *et al.*, (2001), El-Agrodi *et al.*, (2001), Ramadan (2004), Lashin (2006), Rashwan (2006) and Abd-Allah (2001) who stated that; increasing the rate of N-fertilization gradually and significantly increased NO₃-N and NO₂-N content in spinach plant. Foliar application of (Fe + Mo) at any level of N-fertilization sharply and high significantly decreased the values of nitrate and nitrite contents than those obtained when the same N- rates were added only.

Table (5): Nitrate & nitrite content of spinach plant as affected by mineral fertilization and some residual plant extracts.

Seasons character Treatments	2006-2007		2007-2008	
	NO ₃ -N ppm	NO ₂ -N ppm	NO ₃ -N ppm	NO ₂ -N ppm
Control	192	2.12	201	2.22
F	214	2.25	225	2.33
T	234	2.63	242	2.76
P	221	2.43	231	2.48
50% R.D	363	3.93	385	4.09
50%R.D + F	315	3.05	328	3.21
50% R.D + T	304	2.94	318	3.38
50% R.D + P	265	2.66	304	3.10
100% R.D	581	4.74	596	4.91
100% R.D + F	416	3.98	423	4.12
100% R.D + T	372	3.13	388	3.88
100% R.D + P	347	2.97	356	3.52
L.S.D (0.05)	8.76	0.33	9.26	0.52

R.D: Recommended dose.
T: Tomato compost extract.

F: Fruit leaves compost extract.
P: Potato compost extract.

4- Total and soluble oxalate contents (g/100g) on dry weight bases:

An accumulation of total and soluble oxalate in spinach leaves as affected by foliar application of plant residual extracts, soil fertilization of mineral fertilizers and their interactions are presented at Table (6).

Data indicate that ; foliar spraying of plant residual extracts as solely had no significant effect on the mean values of total oxalate , while such effect significantly increased the values of soluble oxalate as compared to the untreated plants. The highest values of soluble oxalate (3.09 and 3.17 g/100g) were recorded for the plants treated with tomato extract, while the lowest one (2.87 and 2.96 g/100g) were realized for the untreated plant in the 1st and 2nd seasons, respectively.

Referring to the effect of mineral fertilization, data at the same Table show that; soil addition of N+P+K fertilizers at any rate studied significantly increased the average mean values of total and soluble oxalate (g/100g DW) in the leaves of spinach plant comparing with the control treatment. In addition, increasing the rate of N, P and K fertilization from 50 to 100 % from the (RD) for spinach plant had no significant effect on the values of total oxalate; such effect significantly increased the mean values of soluble oxalate. This trend was true during both seasons.

With respect to the effect of interaction between the studied treatments, data at Table (6) indicate that; there is no significant differences between the average values of total oxalate in spinach plant due to an addition of N+P+K fertilizers combined with spraying of residual plant extracts as compared to the same values obtained for the plants treated with N+P+K fertilizer only. On the other hand, spraying of residual plant extracts under any level of N+P+K fertilization significantly decreased the mean values of soluble oxalate than those obtained for the plants received N, P and K fertilizers solely. The lowest values of soluble oxalate (3.23 and 3.36 g/100g DW) in the 1st and 2nd seasons, respectively were realized for the plants treated with 50 % from RD of N+P+K coupled with spraying with potato foliage extract.

Obtained data illustrate that nitrate reduction always occurs in parallel with oxalate synthesis in the leaves of spinach plant so there is a relationship between the concentration of oxalate and nitrate accumulation. This relationship suggests the possibility that most OH ions generated during nitrate reduction might be neutralized by oxalate that is produced concomitantly in spinach leaves.

These is tight coupling exists between NO₃ reduction and oxalate syntheses in spinach leave. The obtained results were in agreement with those investigated by Sugiyama and Hirooka (1992) showed that oxalate is a major organic acid in spinach leaves and that a close relationship exists between the concentrations of oxalate and reduced nitrogen in leaves when various cultivars of spinach were grown hydroponically with nitrate as the nitrogen source.

These results were in agreement with Yalcin and Topcuoglu (1994) , Takebe *et al.*, (1995), Siomos and Dogras (1999), Abdel-Rahman *et al.*, (2001), El-Agrodi *et al.*, (2001), Ramadan (2004).

Table (6): Total & soluble oxalate concentration (g/100g D.W) on spinach plant as affected by mineral fertilization and some residual plant extracts.

Seasons	2006-2007		2007-2008	
character	T. Oxalate	S. Oxalate	T. Oxalate	S. Oxalate
Treatments				
Control	4.55	2.87	4.63	2.96
F	4.67	2.95	4.77	3.05
T	4.88	3.09	4.96	3.17
P	4.75	3.02	4.83	3.15
50% R.D	5.82	3.55	5.95	3.67
50%R.D + F	5.74	3.47	5.82	3.55
50% R.D + T	5.43	3.29	5.63	3.43
50% R.D + P	5.34	3.23	5.52	3.36
100% R.D	6.44	3.94	6.62	3.84
100% R.D + F	5.87	3.59	6.24	3.67
100% R.D + T	5.79	3.41	6.13	3.62
100% R.D + P	5.63	3.34	5.95	3.55
L.S.D (0.05)	0.88	0.06	0.63	0.03

R.D: Recommended dose.
T: Tomato compost extract.

F: Fruit leaves compost extract.
P: Potato compost extract.

Conclusion: Under the same condition of this investigation it can be recommended that; soil addition of N+P+K fertilizers at the rate of 50% from the recommended doses for spinach plant coupled with foliar spraying of potato foliage residual extract is recommended as the best treatment for producing a safe yield of spinach plant. Meanwhile, the highest yield was obtained from the N, P and K recommended doses and spraying the residual extract, especially the one extracted from potatoes plant.

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التركيب الكيماوى والجوده لنبات السبانخ تحت تاثير استخدام التسميد المعدنى وبعض المستخلصات النباتيه.

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تم تنفيذ تجربتى اصص تحت الصوبه الخضراء , كليه الزراعة , جامعه المنصوره فى كل من الموسمين الشتويين 2007/2006 ، 2008/2007 لدراسة امكانيه احلال بعض المستخلصات النباتيه محل جزء من الاسمده المعدنيه لانتاج محصول آمن للاستخدام من السبانخ.

اشتملت التجربه على 12 معامله فى تصميم كامل العشوائيه فى 3 مكرارت ويشمل كل الاحتمالات الممكنه باستخدام 4 معاملات من التسميد الورقى للمستخلصات النباتيه (صفر ، مستخلص عرش البطاطس ، مستخلص عرش الطماطم ، مستخلص اوراق الفاكهه) وثلاثه معاملات تسميد معدنى (ن ، فو ، بو) كنسبه من الموصى به (صفر ، 50% ، 100%) كإضافه ارضيه بالاضافه الى معاملات التفاعل بينهما . ويمكن تلخيص النتائج المتحصل عليها على النحو التالى :

- ادت الاضافه الورقيه للمستخلصات النباتيه سواء بصوره فرديه او متحده مع التسميد المعدنى الى حدوث تاثير ايجابى على صفات النمو والمحصول لنبات السبانخ .
 - على الرغم من ان زياده معدلات التسميد المعدنى للنيتروجين والفسفور والبوتاسيوم من 50% الى 100% ادى الى حدوث زياده معنويه فى متوسطات القيم لتركيز كل من النيتروجين والفسفور والبوتاسيوم فى اوراق السبانخ الا ان نفس التأثير لم يؤدى الى حدوث اى تاثير معنوى على تركيز الحديد فى الاوراق . الرش الورقى بالمستخلصات النباتيه ادى الى تصحيح هذا الاتجاه بزياده كل متوسطات القيم لجميع العناصر.
 - حدث زياده معنويه فى تراكم النتراى والنيتريت فى الاوراق الخضراء للسبانخ بزياده مستويات التسميد المعدنى . الرش الورقى بالمستخلصات النباتيه المحتويه على العناصر الصغرى فى وجود التسميد المعدنى ادى الى نقص ملحوظ فى قيم كل من النتراى والنيتريت فى نبات السبانخ .
 - الرش الورقى للمستخلصات النباتيه بصوره فرديه لم ينتج عنه تاثير معنوى على قيم الاوكسالات الكليه بينما نفس التأثير ادى الى زياده معنويه فى قيم الاوكسالات الذائبه مقارنة بعدم الرش . لم يحدث اختلافات معنويه فى قيم الاوكسالات الكليه فى السبانخ نتيجة للاضافه الارضيه ل (ن ، فو ، بو) متحده مع الرش الورقى للمستخلصات النباتيه مقارنة بنفس القيم فى النباتات المعامله بالتسميد المعدنى بصوره منفرده .
- الاستنتاج : تحت نفس ظروف هذه الدراسة نوصى باستخدام التسميد الارضى بالاسمده المعدنيه (نيتروجين ، فوسفور ، بوتاسيوم) عند مستوى 50% من الموصى به فى وجود الرش الورقى بمستخلص عرش البطاطس لتحقيق محصول آمن من السبانخ.

Table (1): Some physico-chemical properties of soil used in the two seasons:

seasons	Mechanical analysis				T. class	EC dS m ⁻¹ soil paste extract	P ^H 1:2.5 suspensi on	CaCO ₃ %	OM %	S.P %	Available nutrients ppm					
	c.sand %	f.sand %	Silt %	clay%							N	P	K	Fe	Mn	Zn
1 st	2.3	19.5	28.6	49.6	Clay	2.78	7.9	1.95	2.08	61	38	2.6	295	16.8	9.7	1.9
2 nd	2.8	16.2	27.9	53.1	Clay	3.02	8.0	1.86	1.97	65	43	3.1	305	17.3	11.2	1.7