Inducting salt tolerance and its effect on growth and germination of maize (Zea mays L.) genotypes

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Maize (Zea mays L.) is one of the most important cereal crop of worlds agricultural economy. It ranks third in production in the world being suppressed only by rice and wheat. It is proudly called as ‘Queen of Cereals’ and ‘King of Fodder’ and miracle crop. It is called as a moderately sensitive to salinity and considered as the most salt sensitive of the cereals. Hence, the evaluation of NaCl tolerance was considered of interest to determine the possibility of using these germplasms in corn tolerance improvement. The present work was conducted to determine whether salt tolerance could be induced in maize at germination stage. All seed samples were used for further experiments. At the end of work tolerant, moderately tolerant and sensitive genotype were found for salt stress.

Key words : Germination, Maize, Salinity, Salt tolerance