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Alleviating salt stress in tomato inoculated with mycorrhizae: photosynthetic performance and enzymatic antioxidants

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Abstract

Tomato cultivars (Sultana-7 & Super Strain-B) were germinated under various levels (0-200 mM) of NaCl. Seed germination of Super Strain-B was promoted at 25 mM NaCl. However, the germination of both cultivars was progressively inhibited at 50 and 100 mM, and stopped at 200 mM, but the response was more pronounced in case of Sultana-7. Therefore, Super Strain-B was selected for further investigation, after growing under NaCl stress (50 & 100 mM) and inoculation with vesicular-arbuscular mycorrhizal fungus (*Glomus fasciculatum*, VAMF). Mineral (N, P, K, Mg) uptake by leaves and K/ Na ratio were declined by salinity, while Na uptake and N/ P ratio were increased. Salinity decreased chlorophyll (Chl) contents