

EFFECT OF SOME DIFFERENT ROOTSTOCKS ON YIELD AND ITS COMPONENTS OF CUCUMBER.

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ABSTRACT

In this study, the effect of different rootstocks on cucumber survivals %, plant growth, fruit, yield and quality were studied by comparing grafted plants with non-grafted ones under plastic house during the winter seasons of 2010/2011 and 2011/2012, The cucumber (*Cucumis sativas* L.) c.v Balqis F¹, was grafted onto ٦٠٠١ (*C.shantosa*), Strong (*C.mixita*), Gumbo (*C.maxima*), Bottle gourd (*Legenaria sosiraria*), Vegetable sponge (*Luffa cylindrica*) and pumpkin (*C.moschata*).

C.V Balqis F¹ Non-grafted plants were used as control. Grafting significantly affected survival % , stem length ,stem diameter, internodes length , leaf area , plant fresh and dry weight.

Control plants had low survival % , short stem length, internodes length and low leaf area, plant fresh and dry weights in both seasons.

The highest number of flower/node, per plant and fruit setting % values were obtained from plants grafted onto ٦٠٠١ followed by those grafted onto strong. The highest early yield and total yield per plant as a number and weight were obtained from plants grafted onto ٦٠٠١ followed by the grafted onto strong. Grafting cucumber onto ٦٠٠١ significantly increased fruit weight, length and shape index.

Keywords: cucumber, rootstock, grafting, plant growth, yield, quality.

INTRODUCTION

Cucumber is a favorite vegetable in Egypt. It used as a salad and pickles. It occupied ١١٦٠٢ and ١١٨٠٠ feddans in planting under plastic houses and low tunnels.

Within the last years, cucumber has become the main crop in plastic houses in Egypt, due to the higher production and monetary returns because of its short cycle and high economic value in off-season harvest. Cucumber is a warm season vegetable, while plants sown during the cold months (October and November) developed very slowly and leaves were chlorotic (Benzoini *et al* ١٩٩١).

There are some problems, which may face cucumber production in plastic houses such as soil borne diseases, insufficient organic matter content in soil, excessive use of mineral fertilizers and chemicals, soil salinity and excessive low temperature in winter even under plastic cover. Using different rootstocks of grafted cucumber can solve some of these problems.

Grafting has many benefits to plants grown in plastic houses, such as increasing tolerance to low temperature (Liebig, ١٩٨٤), tolerance to soil salinity (Matsubara, ١٩٨٩), and resistance to soil borne diseases (Oda, ١٩٩٥).

Eguchi and Koutaki (١٩٨٦) reported that cucumber plants grafted onto *C.ficifolia* could be used for widespread cucumber production, as the grafted plants were more vigorous than the non grafted ones.

Weng *et al.* (1993) found that cucumber grafted onto *C.ficifolia*, increased leaf area by 44-70 % and chlorophyll content by 3,6-11,7 %. Moreover, El-Aidy *et al.* (1996) reported that grafted cucumber onto *C.ficifolia* rootstocks increased the net assimilation rate, stem length, number of leaves, leaf area and plant fresh and dry weights, compared with the non-grafted plants. They indicated that grafted plants produced high number of female flowers per plant compared to the non-grafted ones. Abde-Alla (2002) studied the effect of soil polarization, fertilizer sort and grafting on growth and productivity of cucumber crop he mentioned that grafted plants onto fig leaf gourd had significantly the highest number of female flowers, followed by grafted plants onto bottle gourd while the lowest values were obtained from control (non-grafted cucumber) in both seasons.

Grafting leads to early fruit production. This was stated by many investigators. Nijs (1980), (1983) and (1984), Weng *et al.* (1993) and El-Aidy *et al.* (1996).

In a grafting trial, Tsambanakis (1984) grafted four cultivars of cucumber onto *C.ficifolia*. Data shown that yields of the grafted cultivars tested (Pepionex 69, Brunex, Titon and Renova) were 22, 20, 29, and 17 kg/m² respectively, and the corresponding yield of the non-grafted plants were 10, 13, 10 and 11 kg/m². Also, fruit weight, length and growth were increased by grafting. Similar results were obtained by (Weng *et al.*, 1993, Vissor and Nijs, 1987, El-Aidy *et al.*, 1996, Abd-Alla, 2002, and Zhang *et al.*, 2009)

In the present study, the influence of grafting on different rootstocks of cucumber plants growth, fruit yield and quality under plastic houses in North of Delta area, Egypt.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

An investigation of experiment using cucumber (*Cucumis sativus* L.), cv. Balqis hybrid plants, was conducted in a private farm at Talkha, Dakahlia Governorate, Egypt, under plastic house during the winter seasons of 2010 / 2011 and 2011/2012 to study the effect of different rootstocks on vegetative growth, flowering, yield and fruit quality of cucumber.

The experiment included 5 treatments cucumber, cv. Balqis hybrid seedling was grafted onto different rootstocks. They could be illustrated as follows:

Cucumber seedling without grafting (control), Cucumber grafted onto 6001, Cucumber grafted onto strong, Cucumber grafted onto Gumbo, Cucumber grafted onto bottle gourd, Cucumber grafted onto Pumpkin, and Cucumber grafted onto vegetable sponge.

The soil was clay loam (40% clay, 11,0% sand, silt 40,2%, organic matter 1,7% and PH 7,9) in the first season while in the second season (46,6% clay, 11% sand, 40,6% silt, organic matter 1,9% and PH 7,80)

The characters of rootstocks used are presented in Table (1)

Table 1 : Rootstocks characters:-

Rootstock	Roots	Vegetative growth	Resistance					
			Cold	Heat	Fusarium	Verticillium	Pethum	Salinity
٦٠٠١ (<i>C.shantosa</i>)	Strong	Vigurus	+++	+++	+++	++	+	++
Strong (<i>C.mixita</i>)	Strong	Vigurus	+++	+++	+++	++	+	++
Gumbo (<i>C.maxima</i>)	Strong	Vigurus	+++	+++	+++	++	+	++
Vegetable Sponge (<i>Luffa cylindrica</i>)	Strong	High vigurus	++	+++	+++	+	+	+++
Pumpkin (<i>C.moschata</i>)	Very strong	Vigurus	+	+++	++	+	Unknown	+++
Bottle Guard (<i>Lagenoria sicoraria</i>)	Strong	Vigurus	++	++	++	+	Unknown	Unknown

+++ high resistance, ++ medium resistance, + limited resistance, - un-resistance

Grafting seedlings were transplanted under plastic house on both sides of ridges on November ١٠th (first season) and November ١٥th (second season) the ridges were ٦ meters in length and ١ meter in width. Plant spacing was ٤٠ cm i.e. plant density was about ٢٠٠ plants per square meter.

Tongue approach grafting method was used according to Wittwer and Homma (١٩٧٩) and Yamakawa (١٩٨٢).

Data were recorded at ٣٠, ٦٠, ٩٠ and ١٥٠ days after transplanting for survival % while for other characters were recorded at ١٥٠ days from transplanting. Samples of ٥ plants were randomly chosen from each experimental unit to determine the following characters: stem length (cm), stem diameter(mm), internodes length (cm), leaf area (m²), plant fresh weight (g), plant dry weight %, number of flower/eye, No of flower/plant, fruit setting%, average fruit weight, fruit length (cm), fruit diameter (cm) and shape index.

Data of fruit yield included early and total yield. Early fruit yield was determined as a number and weight (kg) of fruits per plot. It was determined on base of yield of the first ٤ pickings. Total fruit yield was determined as number and weight (kg)/plant and per plot of all pickings.

The experiment included ٧ treatments which were randomly arranged using the complete randomized block design with ٣ replications. Data were tested by analysis of variance (Little and Hills, ١٩٧٢). Duncan's multiple range test (DMRT) was used for the comparisons among treatments means (Duncan, ١٩٥٥).

RESULT AND DISCUSION

The survival rates of plants grafted onto different rootstocks are presented in Table (٢). Data show that plants grafted onto ٦٠٠١ (*C.shantosa*) and strong (*C.maxita*) rootstock had, in general, the highest values at the different growth stages (٣٠, ٦٠, ٩٠ and ١٥٠ days after transplanting) compared with the other rootstocks. On the other hand, cucumber plants without

grafting (control) had the lowest values. The differences were significant at the both seasons and the different stages. The results there not strange because all rootstock resistance to main born disease in soil (Lee, 1986).

Table 2: Effect of grafting cucumber plants, onto different rootstocks on survival % of Plants at different stages in 2010/2011 and 2011-2012 seasons.

Rootstock	Survival at 7 days		Survival at 14 days		Survival at 21 days		Survival at 28 days	
	1 st	2 nd	1 st	2 nd	1 st	2 nd	1 st	2 nd
Balqis , F1 (<i>Cucumis sativus</i> L)	71,22 c	70,07e	71,28c	70,00e	70,10c	79,90e	79,97c	79,90e
1001,F1 (<i>C.shantosa</i>)	92,77 a	91,00 a	92,70a	89,92a	92,02a	89,00a	92,20a	89,88a
Strong,F1 (<i>C.mixita</i>)	81,22 b	86,77b	81,00b	87,40b	81,00b	87,20b	80,89b	87,20b
Gumbo,F1 (<i>C.maxima</i>)	79,22 b	82,22 c	79,22b	82,22c	79,21b	82,20c	79,10b	82,28c
Vegetable Sponge (<i>Luffa cylindrica</i>)	79,22 b	76,00 d	79,21b	76,00d	79,12b	70,89d	79,00b	70,82d
Pumpkin (<i>C.moschata</i>)	78,77 b	70,00 d	78,02b	74,81d	78,41b	74,72d	78,22b	74,76d
Bottle Guard(<i>Lagenoria scioraria</i>)	72,00 c	71,22e	72,00c	71,00e	79,81c	71,00e	79,70c	70,80e

Means separation within columns and seasons by Dun cem's multiple rang test, P<0.05

The growth performance of grafted plants was compared to non-grafted control plants. The results showed that stem length (cm), stem diameter (cm), internodes length (cm), leaf area (m²), plant fresh weight (g) and plant dry weight were significantly influenced by grafting Tables 2,3). Stem length of 1001,F1 (*C.shantosa*) at 76.5,10 cm and 77.2,13 in first and second season was significantly higher than other grafted and control plants. The main stem diameter (mm) and internodes length were also affected by grafting . Control plants had the shortest main stem diameter (mm) and internodes length (cm) with 10,63, 10,03 and 7,90, 8.76 in both seasons respectively when compared to the grafted plants.

It is clear the above-mentioned data that plants grafted onto almost rootstocks in two seasons had higher values for all vegetative growth parameters compared to control. This may be due to that grafted plants can absorb more water and nutrients than non-grafted plants (Masuda and Gomi, 1984).Also, grafted plants can grow better than non-grafted plants under high soil salinity (Matsubara, 1989) lowest temperature (Nijs et al.1983) or soil borne disease existence (Lee, 1986). Many workers studied the beneficial effect of grafting cucumber onto *C.Ficifolia* on vegetative growth (Eguchi and Koutaki., (1986), Kim and Lee, (1989), El-Aidy et al., (1996), Zhang et al., (2009), and Lee ,(1994) studied the effect of different rootstocks on plant growth of cucumber and melon, Significantly different resulted were obtained in plants growth depending on various rootstocks.

Flowering characteristics of grafted and non-grafted plants are presented in Table 4, show that, grafted plants onto 1001 (*C.shantosa*) had significantly the highest number of flower per node, number of flowers per plant and fruit setting %, followed by grafted plants onto Strong (*C.maxima*) while the lowest values were obtained from control (non-grafted) in the both seasons.

The obtained results could be interpreted as the rootstock may surpass cucumber in size of the root system, than a significant amount of xylem sap could be translocated by the rootstock, it is known to contain fairly high

concentration of mineral, organic substances and plant hormones such as cytokines and gibberellins which many control in number of flowers per node (Masuda and Gomi, 1982 and Lee, 1994). Similar results were reported by Abde-Alla (2002) studied the effect of grafting plants onto Fig leaf gourd had significantly the highest number of female flower, followed by grafted onto Bottle gourd while the lowest values were obtained from control (non-grafted) in both seasons.

From the other hand, grafting onto different rootstocks increased vegetative growth parameter at different growth stages (Tables 3 and 4) and that may affect flowering positively.

Table 3: Effect of grafting cucumber plant, onto different rootstocks on vegetative growth in 2010/2011 and 2011-2012 seasons.

Rootstock	Stem length (cm)		Stem diameter (mm)		Internodes height (cm)	
	1 st	2 nd	1 st	2 nd	1 st	2 nd
Balqis, F ¹ (<i>Cucumis sativus</i> L)	239,33 f	240,82 f	10,63 e	10,03 d	7,90 c	8,67 b
1001, F ¹ (<i>C.shantosa</i>)	264,10 a	272,12 a	12,07 a	12,37 a	12,32 a	11,00 a
Strong, F ¹ (<i>C.mixita</i>)	260,32 b	268,87 b	12,20 ab	12,27 a	11,67 ab	10,10 ab
Gumbo, F ¹ (<i>C.maxima</i>)	260,03 b	261,86 c	12,03 b	12,17 ab	10,82 ab	10,00 ab
Vegetable Sponge (<i>Lufa cylindrica</i>)	207,00 c	208,20 d	16,43 c	16,92 b	10,00 a	9,43 ab
Pumpkin (<i>C.moschata</i>)	200,00 c	206,07 d	16,07 d	16,27 c	10,00 b	9,23 ab
Bottle Guard (<i>Lagenoria sicatoria</i>)	248,82 e	202,97 e	10,63 e	16,20 c	9,67 bc	8,97 b

Means separation within columns and seasons by DMRT test, P<0.05

Table 4: Effect of grafting cucumber plant, onto different rootstocks on vegetative growth in 2010/2011 and 2011/2012

Rootstock	Leaf area (m ²)		Plant fresh weight (g)		Plant dry matter (%)	
	1 st	2 nd	1 st	2 nd	1 st	2 nd
Balqis, F ¹ (<i>Cucumis sativus</i> L)	0,102 f	0,164 f	70,03 ef	80,00 a	14,67 f	16,20 e
1001, F ¹ (<i>C.shantosa</i>)	0,222 a	0,229 a	91,92 a	86,87 b	19,00 a	21,80 a
Strong, F ¹ (<i>C.mixita</i>)	0,200 b	0,210 b	86,10 b	80,77 bc	18,07 b	21,03 b
Gumbo, F ¹ (<i>C.maxima</i>)	0,200 b	0,210 b	81,63 c	80,22 bc	17,92 b	19,47 c
Vegetable Sponge (<i>Lufa cylindrica</i>)	0,189 cd	0,199 d	79,77 cd	80,20 bc	16,90 d	19,02 c
Pumpkin (<i>C.moschata</i>)	0,186 d	0,190 d	77,72 de	82,92 c	16,20 d	18,22 d
Bottle Guard (<i>Lagenoria sicatoria</i>)	0,174 e	0,189 e	72,07 f	82,72 d	10,07 e	16,77 e

Means separation within columns and seasons by DMRT test, P<0.05

Fruit yield and quality characteristics of grafted and non-grafted plants in both seasons are presented in Tables (6, 7) Early yield as a number and weight and total yield as a number weight per plot (kg) in both seasons were significantly, affected by grafting onto different rootstocks. The highest values were obtained from grafted plants onto 1001 (*C.shantosa*) followed those grafted onto Strong (*C.maxima*). On the other hand, the lowest values were obtained from control (non-grafted plants).

The increase in early yield and total yield as a number and weight per plot in both seasons in grafted onto 1001 (*C.shantosa*) is mainly due to the consequent higher vegetative growth (Table 3 and 4), number of flowers per

eye, per plant and high fruit setting % (Table 6).), Also the increase of net assimilation rate (NAR) values which was a limiting factor to the yield (Watson, 1968). From another hand, root death in cucumber at the onset of harvesting caused by competition for assimilates between fruits and root could be prevented by grafting cucumber onto Fig leaf gourd (Vlugt, 1986). Similar results were obtained by Lee (1986) when using cucumber plants grafted onto shantosaNo.1 (*C.maxima* x *C.moschata*) under low temperature conditions. Also Abde-Alla (2002) reported that grafted cucumber plants significantly increased total fruit yield per m² (as weight and number of fruits quality), Characteristics of grafted and non-grafted plants are presented in Table 7. Average fruit weight (g) and fruit length (cm) show that grafted plants onto 1001 (*C.shantosa*) had the highest values followed by those grafted onto Strong (*C.maxita*) while the lowest values were obtained from non-grafted plants. The differences were significant in both seasons. Fruit diameter and shape index were not significantly affected by all different rootstock in both seasons. The enhancement in average weight and length with different rootstocks may be due to the differences in the effectiveness of their root systems, or in the interaction between root and shoot (Nijs, 1980 and Zijlstra et al., 1994), hence, that may lead to variable ability of mineral uptake.

Similar results were obtained by El-Aidy et al., (1996) and Abde-Alla (2002).

Table 6: : Effect of grafting cucumber plants, onto different rootstocks on flowering and fruit setting% at 100 days from transplanting in 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 season.

Rootstock	No. of flower/eye		No. of flower/plant		Fruit setting %	
	1 st	2 nd	1 st	2 nd	1 st	2 nd
Balqis , F1 (<i>Cucumis sativus</i> L)	2.00 c	2.22 b	6.08 d	64.73 d	02.17 d	01.22 e
1001, F1 (<i>C.shantosa</i>)	0.67 a	1.22 a	121.40 a	106.60 a	68.00 a	6.22 a
Strong, F1 (<i>C.mixita</i>)	0.00 ab	0.67 a	109.60 a	100.82 b	64.00 b	60.67 b
Gumbo, F1 (<i>C.maxima</i>)	4.22 b	2.67 b	102.96 b	90.92 bc	08.22 c	6.00 c
Vegetable Sponge (<i>Lufa cylindrica</i>)	2.67 c	2.22 b	60.47 bc	100.73 cd	08.22 c	09.22 c
Pumpkin (<i>C.moschata</i>)	2.22 c	2.22 b	08.27 c	91.08 d	07.00 c	07.00 cd
Bottle Guard (<i>Lagenoria sicoraria</i>)	2.22 c	2.22 b	09.90 d	92.91 cd	02.17 d	00.67 d

Means separation within columns and seasons by DMRT test, P<0.05

Table 6 : Effect of grafting cucumber plants, onto different rootstocks on early and total as a number and weight in 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 season.

Rootstock	Early yield				Total yield			
	Number/plot		Weight/plot (kg)		Number/plot		Weight/plot (kg)	
	1 st	2 nd	1 st	2 nd	1 st	2 nd	1 st	2 nd
Balqis , F\ (<i>Cucumis sativus L</i>)	190,94f	187,11e	10,00d	10,93c	066,67d	061,33a	06,00d	07,80c
1001,F\ (<i>C.shantosa</i>)	203,28e	228,89a	18,67a	18,08a	1021,33a	986,67a	00,93a	00,77a
Strong,F\ (<i>C.mixita</i>)	212,30b	290,66d	18,33a	18,33a	930,00a	880,00b	00,10a	00,00a
Gumbo,F\ (<i>C.maxima</i>)	203,00d	260,78c	18,12a	17,67a	782,00b	782,33c	00,00a	03,10ab
Vegetable Sponge (<i>Lufa cylindrica</i>)	220,87e	201,11b	17,00b	16,93bc	720,00bc	703,33c	02,30b	00,83bc
Pumpkin (<i>C.moschata</i>)	211,86c	229,32e	16,77c	16,70bc	699,00bc	688,00d	00,00c	09,30c
Bottle Guard(<i>Lagenoria sicatoraria</i>)	191,00f	190,66e	16,33c	16,00c	666,00cd	087,00e	08,97c	09,33c

Means separation within columns and seasons by DMRT test, P<0.05

Table 7 : Effect of grafting cucumber plants, onto different rootstocks on fruit characteristics in 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 season.

Rootstock	Average fruit weight (g)		Fruit length (cm)		Fruit diameter (cm)		Shape index	
	1 st	2 nd	1 st	2 nd	1 st	2 nd	1 st	2 nd
	Balqis , F\ (<i>Cucumis sativus L</i>)	00,20g	00,70f	12,90e	12,70e	3,27a	3,20b	3,09c
1001,F\ (<i>C.shantosa</i>)	87,17a	87,00a	18,17b	16,63a	3,87a	3,83a	0,68a	0,81a
Strong,F\ (<i>C.mixita</i>)	81,17b	81,00b	16,27a	10,67ab	3,73a	3,67ab	0,01a	0,00ab
Gumbo,F\ (<i>C.maxima</i>)	78,07c	77,17c	10,87b	10,67bc	3,70a	3,67ab	0,30ab	0,39ab
Vegetable Sponge (<i>Lufa cylindrica</i>)	70,00d	70,00d	10,20bc	10,00c	3,00a	3,00ab	0,12abc	0,11abc
Pumpkin (<i>C.moschata</i>)	62,33e	62,00e	13,87bcd	13,97cd	3,03a	3,07ab	0,97abc	0,96bc
Bottle Guard(<i>Lagenoria sicatoraria</i>)	00,70f	07,00f	13,00cd	13,00ab	3,03a	3,07b	0,07bc	0,11bc

Means separation within columns and seasons by DMRT test, P<0.05

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تأثير بعض الأصول المختلفة علي المحصول ومكوناته في الخيار
طه محمد السيد الجزار :محمود محمد زغلول : وليد محمد السعدي و
عبدالغني هارون عبدالغني القللي
كلية الزراعة – جامعة المنصورة

أجريت هذه الدراسة في مزرعة خاصة بطلخا- المنصورة - محافظة الدقهلية خلال الموسمين الزراعيين 2010/2011 و 2011/2012 حيث تمت دراسة تأثير بعض الأصول المختلفة علي محصول الخيار من حيث النسبة المئوية لإستمرار النباتات في النمو من الزراعة وحتى نهاية المحصول والنمو الخضري والمحصول ومكوناته مقارنة بالنباتات الغير مطعومة – معاملة المقارنة - (الكنترول) وذلك تحت ظروف الصوب البلاستيكية وكان صنف الخيار المستخدم هو هجين بلقيس حيث طعم علي الأصول الأتية : 6001، إسترونج ، جمبوا ، القرع العوام ، اللوف والقرع العسلي وإستخدم صنف هجين بلقيس بدون تطعيم كمعاملة مقارنة (كنترول). ولقد أوضحت النتائج تأثير معنوي علي نسبة نجاح النباتات طوال الموسم وطول الساق وقطر الساق وطول السلايميات والمساحة الورقية والوزن الطازج والجاف للنبات.

وقد أظهرت معاملة المقارنة (الكنترول) أقل القيم للقياسات السابقة في كلا الموسمين . كما سجلت النتائج أعلى معدل لعدد الأزهار علي العين علي النبات وأعلي نسبة عقدعلي النباتات المطعومة علي أصل 6001 أتبعه في هذا الصدد الخيار المطعوم علي أصل علي أصل إسترونج. كما أوضحت النتائج أعلى محصول مبكر ومحصول كلي للنبات كعدد ووزن حينما طعمت النباتات علي أصل 6001 وتلاه في ذلك الصدد الخيار المطعوم علي أصل إسترونج كما أظهر الخيار المطعوم علي أصل 6001 زياده معنوية في وزن وطول ومعامل الشكل للثمار في كلا الموسمين..