

Second Article (Common with another inside specialization - Published).

Effect of mineral and bio-N fertilization on growth, fruits yield and chemical constituents of pumpkin (*Cucurbita moschata* Duchesne)

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SUMMARY

Significant positive influences of fertilization with $\frac{2}{3}$ of the recommended mineral-N dose + inoculation three times with a mixed bio-fertilizer (*Azotobacter chroococcum* + *Azospirillum brasilense*) were observed on growth traits, fruits yield and leaf N, P, K , NO₃-and NO₂- contents of pumpkin plants compared to fertilization with $\frac{2}{3}$ of the recommended mineral-N dose+ inoculation once or twice with the same mixed bio-fertilizer. However, no statistical differences in the aforementioned parameters were noted between fertilization with $\frac{2}{3}$ of the recommended mineral-N dose + inoculation three times with a mixed bio-fertilizer and addition of whole recommended dose of mineral-N (control).The least significant mean values of leaf NO₃- and NO₂- content were attained at fertilization with $\frac{2}{3}$ of the recommended mineral-N dose + inoculation three times with a mixed bio-fertilizer. Therefore, inoculation with a mixed bio-fertilizer three times can substitute partially of mineral-N fertilizer and contribute to safety food.