

Table 1 Effect of salinity on survival and growth characteristics of groundnut (*A. hypogaea*) at 12 weeks after irrigation with different concentrations of saline water

Growth parameter	Salt concentration (mM NaCl)					
	0	25	50	100	150	200
Mortality at harvest (%)	0	0	0	0	30	50
Shoot length (cm)	14.80 ^a	12.10 ^a	12.80 ^a	9.54 ^{ab}	6.76 ^{ab}	1.26 ^c
Collar diameter (cm)	4.73 ^a	3.72 ^a	3.47 ^a	2.67 ^{ab}	1.76 ^b	0.25 ^c
Leaf area (cm ²)	15.11 ^a	10.25 ^{ab}	7.81 ^b	5.86 ^b	2.93 ^c	0.49 ^d
Leaves/plant	172.20 ^a	148.00 ^{ab}	153.60 ^{ab}	99.00 ^b	49.60 ^c	6.40 ^d
Primary branches/plant	4.60 ^a	3.80 ^{ab}	3.80 ^{ab}	2.60 ^{bc}	2.60 ^{bc}	0.60 ^d
Roots/plant	10.74 ^a	7.81 ^{ab}	6.34 ^{ab}	5.89 ^{ab}	5.86 ^{ab}	3.90 ^b
Root length (cm)	12.68 ^a	8.78 ^b	8.30 ^b	5.86 ^b	6.34 ^b	4.88 ^b
Number of nodules/plant	13.66 ^a	10.28 ^a	9.27 ^a	5.86 ^{ab}	5.37 ^{ab}	3.41 ^{ab}
Relative growth rate (mgg ⁻¹ dry mass)	0.024 ^a	0.014 ^b	0.015 ^b	0.012 ^b	0.003 ^c	0.001 ^c

Note: Each value is a mean of 5 replicates. For each parameter, means with the same letter(s) [in superscript] in the same row are not significantly different at $P \geq 0.05$ (Tukey HSD)