

EFFECTS OF NITRIC OXIDE IN EMBRYOS OF MAIZE (*ZEA MAYS L.*) SEEDS UNDER SALT STRESS

Simonin, V.¹, Barros, A.A.¹, Senna, R.², Silva-Neto, M.A.C.², Fialho, E.¹

¹Departamento de Nutrição Básica e Experimental, Instituto de Nutrição, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

²Instituto de Bioquímica Médica, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Evidence increasingly points to a role of NO in plant development, stress response, and programmed cell death. In plants under salt stress NO can reverse these effects by decreasing of ROS and increasing of nitrification, promoting growth recuperation. The aim of this study is to obtain parameter to understand the mechanism of NO involved during maize germination submitted to salt stress. In ours results we observed a recuperation of growth after 36h of germination, when SNAP 10µM (as a NO donor) was additioned in seeds soaked with NaCl 0,3M. Also we noted the decrease in 50% of lipid peroxidation, measured by TBARS reactions, and an increase of nitite content in 25% in embryos when SNAP was soaked with NaCl 0,3M. The *in situ* localization of NO showed an increase of NO content in apical meristeme of caulicule and radicule. Therefore, the addition of SNAP in seeds soaked with NaCl 0,3M promotes a decrease in lipid peroxidation, increasing NO formation and, in last analysis, nitrogen reserves and, consequently, promoted a recovery of maize embryos growth.

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