THE EFFECTS OF BACTERIAL (*Rhizobium* spp.) INOCULATION ON SOME PLANT CHARACTERISTICS OF CHICKPEA AT DIFFERENT GROWTH-DEVELOPMENT STAGES

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ABSTRACT

This study was done to determine the effects of *Rhizobium* spp. inoculation for chickpea on some plant characteristics at different stages [(20\(^{th}\) day, 40\(^{th}\) day, and flowering (62\(^{nd}\) day)] after the sowing. The research was carried out as a pot experiment and factorial design with five replications.

It was determined that bacterial inoculation had significant effect on total plant weight, root weight, weight of above-ground parts, number and weights of effective nodules, and nitrogen contents of root and above-ground parts at 40\(^{th}\) and 62\(^{nd}\) days (flowering). In addition, it was determined that bacterial inoculation had significant effects on all of the selected properties at flowering stage.

*Key words: Chickpea, bacteria, N\(_2\) fixation, nodule.*