The Effects of Fertilizers and Irrigation Application on Yields of Alfalfa

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Abstract

The effects of fertilizers (15-15-15 NPK) at the rates of 0, 30, 60 kg./rai (approx. 0, 5, 10 kg./ha.) and irrigation applications at 4 days interval during drought period were tested in an on farm experiment with alfalfa (Medicago sativa L.) at Pakchong District, Nakhon Ratchasima Province during August 1988 - 89. The experiment was a split-plot, randomized complete block design with 4 replications. The results obtained indicate that fertilizers had no effects on yield and quality of alfalfa. On the contrary, irrigation significantly improved yield of alfalfa by 1,632 kg./rai/yr. (10,200 kg./ha./yr.) over 614 kg./rai/yr. (3,837 kg./ha./yr.) of the control treatment but the control treatment gave higher quality of alfalfa by means of crude protein, NDS and ADF than the irrigation treatment.

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