

Original Research Article

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Leakage Compositional Changes Accompanying to exposure of some Mango Cultivars to Low Temperature under Field Conditions

Farouk M. Gadallah, Mohamed A. Seif El-Yazal,
Gamal A. Abdel-Samad and Ali A. S. Sayed*

Botany Department, Faculty of Agriculture, Fayoum University, Fayoum 63514, Egypt

ABSTRACT

Under *in vivo* conditions (ambient-air temperature), the relationship between low temperature stress and the response of some different mango cultivars was monitored. Some biochemical events that occur following cold exposure of mango trees leaves were detected to evaluate their ability to acquire cold injury during exposure to low temperature. The cultivars of Alphonso, Baladi, Bullock's Heart, Helmand, Hindi Besennara, Mabrouka, Mestekawy, Nabeeh, Oweisi, Spates, Taimour and Zebda which grown in private orchard in Fayoum Governorate, Egypt were selected to verify this aim. This study was carried out during the period from November to March of during years; 2012 and 2013. The following results were stated: the detected leaf compositional changes were significantly differed among the tested cultivars and sampling times. In this respect, electrolytes (%), Na^+ , K^+ , inorganic phosphate (P_i), Ca^{2+} , total soluble sugars (TSS) and total free amino acids (TFAA) concentrations were detected in leachate of fresh leaves and showed significant differences in response to the cultivars and sampling times. However, in this study, Alphonso, Bullock's Heart, Helmand, Taimour and Zebda cultivars of mango had the best result in their cold tolerance under the conditions of this study, which is not exactly in consistent with what the researcher found.

Keywords

Mango, Cultivars,
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Introduction

Mango (*Mangifera indica* L.) is a popular, nutritional tropical fruit, which is now one of the most important fruits crops in tropical and subtropical areas of the world (Mitra and Baldwin, 1997). Mango occupies third place in total world production of major tropical fruit crops after citrus and banana (Alonso and Blaikie, 2003). Environmental conditions outside the traditional areas for optimum

growth of mango may impose stresses, which can result in physiological changes, reduced growth, or even permanent damage to the trees (Schaffer *et al.*, 1994). Low temperature is acknowledged to be one of the most dominant environmental stresses that affect the growth, productivity and geographical distribution of crops and horticultural plants (Boyer, 1982). Exposure to low, nonfreezing temperatures induces genetic, morphological, metabolic and physiological changes in

plants, which result in the development of cold hardiness and acquisition of freezing tolerance (Huner *et al.*, 1993). Mango needs an optimum temperature range of 24-26.7°C and minimum threshold temperature is 10-12°C below this plant shows chilling injury (Allen and Ort, 2001) and show high susceptibility to low temperature (0-15°C).

Young trees are damaged by low temperature variability among cultivars is apparent after a cold spell, but precise information on this subject is non-existent (Farooq and Azam, 2002). Electrolyte leakage is widely used to measure chilling damage as well as to quantify species resistance to cold and chilling injury (Mckay, 1992). Such conductivity measurements have also been used to estimate the positive permeability of membranes to electrolytes (Piotrowska and Kacperska, 1987). Sugars and some of the cold-induced proteins are suspected to have cryoprotective effects; they stabilize proteins and membranes during dehydration induced by low temperature (Taiz and Zeiger, 1998).

In cold tolerant tissues, the protective function of sugars has been ascribed to their ability to stabilize membranes and proteins during cold (freeze) induced dehydration (Minorsky, 2003). Little is known about seasonal changes in soluble carbohydrates in both of xylem and pith tissues, including whether the type and or concentration of specific sugars differ depending on how the tissues are adapted to cooling or freezing (Kasuga *et al.*, 2007).

It has been reported that under natural conditions, soluble sugars increase during the onset of winter when plants are subjected to low temperatures; conversely, soluble sugars decrease in spring when plants are deacclimating (Siminovitch, 1981). Chilling of plants leads to an increase in inorganic P content and a drop in the proportion of organic P (Zia *et al.*, 1994) which is a

consequence of a breach of phosphorylation and enhanced decomposition of organic P compounds. Calcium is considered to be an important factor for the maintenance of cell membrane integrity and the regulation of ion transport. Ca^{2+} ions are essential for K^+ vs. Na^+ ion selectivity and membrane integrity (Hanson, 1984).

Cold stress induces transient Ca^{2+} influx into the cytoplasm. Therefore, calcium permeable channels responsible for this Ca^{2+} influx are considered as sensors for low temperature (Monroy and Dindsa, 1995). They suggested that Na^+ ions acted by displacing Ca^{2+} ions from membranes, leading to increased membrane permeability and higher intracellular Na^+ ions concentrations. Cytoplasmic calcium levels increase rapidly in response to low temperature, largely due to an influx of calcium from extracellular stores (Polisensky and Braam, 1996).

Solutes (Ca^{2+} , Na^+ , K^+ ions) leak from the leaves of chill sensitive, but not from those of chill resistant. Loss of solutes to water reflects damage to the plasma membrane and possibly also the tonoplast (Taiz and Zeiger, 1998). (Kafkafi, 1990). The effects of the high K^+ content of the cell in increasing frost tolerance have also been related to regulation of osmotic and water potential of the cell sap and reduction of electrolyte leakage caused by chilling temperature (Singer *et al.*, 1996). In response to cold and other osmotic stresses, plants accumulate a range of compatible (Osmolytes) solutes including soluble sugars, amino acids (Ruelland and Zachowski, 2010).

The metabolism of nitrogenous compounds is also responsive to low-temperature stress (Usadel *et al.*, 2008), in particular that of certain amino acids and polyamine compounds (Davey *et al.*, 2009). Factors implicated in cold acclimation include expression of cold-stress proteins (Hughes

and Dunn, 1996), accumulation of sugars, particularly sucrose (Strand *et al.*, 2003), other cryoprotectants, such as proline (Bravo *et al.*, 2001). Changes in water soluble carbohydrates (Leborgne *et al.*, 1995), or in free amino acids, especially proline (Xin and Browse 1998), are associated with cold acclimation and acquisition of cold tolerance. The positive correlation between the accumulation of endogenous proline and improved cold tolerance has been found mostly in low temperature-insensitive plants such as barley, grapevine, potato and chickpea (Kaur *et al.*, 2011).

Thus, check some putative biochemical events that occur following cold exposure and Evaluation of some mango cultivars (grown under Fayoum Governorate conditions) according to resistance to these events were aimed.

Materials and Methods

In a private orchard, Fayoum, Egypt, located at 29° 22' N and 30° 47' E. and in the laboratory of Agricultural Botany Dept., Faculty of Agric., Fayoum University. A trial was conducted during 2012 and 2013. The experiment assess to evaluate the cold tolerance of some mango cultivars grown in the orchard and check the leaf compositional changes that occur following cold exposure.

Climate of experiment site

At the site of experiment, temperatures fluctuated during the duration of study and five years before the beginning of the study. In this respect, the mean monthly maximum temperature (T_{Max}) ranging from about 17.7°C in January 2008 to about 40.2°C in August 2010 and the fluctuation in mean monthly minimum temperature (T_{Min}) was ranging from about 5.7°C in January 2007/2008 to about 25.2°C in August 2012. An extreme

minimum temperature of 0.6°C was recorded in January 2008; however, there were large differences between the selected years (Table 1)*.

Plant materials

The plant materials comprised 12 mango cultivars which collected from their natural growing location in the period of November 2012 to march 2013. This is approximately the time at which the cold hardiness may be occurring. Mango trees were about 25 years old, planted in a clay soil at 5x5 m apart. The cultivars were used in this study including most of the popular cultivars which grown in Fayoum Governorate. The tested cultivars were, Alphonso, Baladi, Bullock's Heart, Helmand, Hindi Besennara, Mabrouka, Mestekawy, Nabeeh, Oweisi, Spates, Taimour, and Zebda.

Thirty-six trees of similar phenotype in the field (size, vigor...etc.) and with management prehistory were selected for this experiment (no further tests were carried out confirm genetic uniformity). All selected trees were allocated at random with each replicate. The trees were derived from seedlings; named Baladi, while the others they had been grafted onto seedling rootstocks. To obtain a complete picture of mango cold tolerance status under natural conditions, measurements must be made at frequent intervals throughout the growth period. Therefore, samples of ten mature terminal fully expanded leaves (similar development ages) were randomizedly taken from each tree (as a replication) at 30th of each month from November to March. Leaves were collected (between 9 am to 10 am) from one-year-old shoots of the mango cultivars and used as a plant material. All treatments were applied in a factorial randomized complete block design with three replicates.

Table.1 The monthly mean of maximum and minimum temperatures (open air-temperature) during the period from January 2006 to March 2013

Month Year	Temp.	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
January	Max.	19.4	19.4	17.7	20.7	21.9	20.7	20.4	23.0
	Min.	6.6	5.7	5.7	6.7	7.6	8.0	7.2	10.3
February	Max.	22.2	21.4	20.0	22.3	24.4	22.0	22.4	24.3
	Min.	8.4	7.8	6.5	6.4	8.2	9.4	8.2	10.4
March	Max.	26.3	25.0	28.6	23.2	27.5	25.6	25.4	29.0
	Min.	9.7	9.8	11.6	7.9	11.4	9.5	11.8	12.6
April	Max.	30.4	28.6	31.6	30.8	31.8	28.5	29.1	
	Min.	13.3	12.5	13.7	12.5	14.3	13.7	13.6	
May	Max.	33.4	35.2	35.4	32.8	34.1	32.8	34.1	
	Min.	16.9	17.7	18.2	16.7	16.7	17.4	18.3	
June	Max.	36.5	39.3	39.4	38.2	38.4	35.7	38.4	
	Min.	20.0	20.7	22.0	20.4	21.4	20.6	21.8	
July	Max.	37.4	38.9	37.7	38.5	36.3	38.7	39.8	
	Min.	21.3	21.8	22.1	22.7	22.4	21.5	23.6	
August	Max.	38.3	37.8	38.6	37.0	40.2	38.6	38.0	
	Min.	22.1	21.7	22.2	21.8	24.5	22.9	25.2	
September	Max.	34.8	34.3	35.9	35.2	36.2	36.1	35.2	
	Min.	20.3	20.5	20.0	20.7	21.9	22.1	23.4	
October	Max.	31.0	32.1	31.5	31.7	35.9	30.2	34.4	
	Min.	17.2	18.3	17.2	18.1	21.3	17.7	22.2	
November	Max.	23.6	26.7	26.6	25.0	31.3	26.5	27.9	
	Min.	11.1	12.8	13.1	11.7	16.5	12.6	16.4	
December	Max.	19.9	21.3	22.2	22.4	24.1	22.0	21.8	
	Min.	7.5	8.2	9.1	8.9	10.3	9.7	11.0	

* Data applied by Bureau of Meteorology, Agriculture Ademonstrations, Fayoum Governorate, Egypt.

Electrolytes leakage (%) estimation

The total leakage of inorganic ions was estimated (Lutts *et al.*, 1996). Fresh leaf samples were cut into equal sized pieces (1g replicate⁻¹). Each sample was placed in boiling glass bottle (100 ml brown glass bottle) containing 50 ml deionized water. Bottles were then incubated at 25°C in an incubator for 24 hours, and then the electrical conductivity of the solution was recorded using a conductivity meter EC₁(Mod: HI99300).

The bottles were then boiled at 100° C for 7 min, and re-incubated at 25°C in an incubator for 24 hours, and then the electrical

conductivity of the solution was recorded EC₂. Electrolyte leakage (%) was calculated using the following formula:EL (%) = (EC₁/EC₂) ×100

Total soluble sugars determination

Soluble sugars in leakage (mg 100g⁻¹ FW) were determined based on phenolsulfuric acid method by (Dubois *et al.*, 1956). A glucose was used to standardize the procedure for quantifying sample values.

Total free amino acids determination

Total free amino acids in leakage (mg 100g⁻¹ FW) were determined calorimetrically

according to (Jayarman, 1981). To determine the content of total free amino acids in each fresh leaf sample, a standard curve was done based on arginine.

Elements (K⁺, Na⁺ and P_i) determination

In leakage, Na⁺ and K⁺ concentration (ppm) was determined by using flame photometer (Gallenkamp CO., England) (Page *et al.*, 1982).

P_i concentration (mg100⁻¹g FW) was colorimetrically estimated by using chlorimetrically estimated by using chlorostannous molybdophosphoric blue colour method in sulfuric acid system as described by Jackson (1967).

Calcium determination

A titration with ethylene diamine tetra acetate (EDTA) method is that of Diehl *et al.*, (1950), was used for calcium determination in leakage

(mg100⁻¹g FW) as described by the U.S. salinity Laboratory (1954), U.S.D.A. Handbook 60.

Statistical analysis

All data were subjected to analysis of variance (ANOVA) using the statistical software package of Genstat (version 11) (VSN International Ltd., Oxford, UK). Means comparison among the different treatments were performed using the least significant differences procedure (LSD) at the *P* ≤ 0.05 level as illustrated by Snedecor and Cochran (1980).

Results and Discussion

The results of one season were discussed because no significant differences were observed between results of the studied seasons.

Table.2 Electrolytes (%) in leachate of mango leaves at various sampling dates (November to March) under field conditions.

Cultivars	**Sampling date* (Month)					
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Mean
Alphonso	30.20	31.55	39.59	55.31	28.29	36.99
Baladi	31.10	30.54	22.93	37.54	28.44	30.11
Bullock's Heart	35.41	36.58	30.27	41.63	31.42	35.06
Helmand	35.08	43.10	29.33	28.73	21.90	31.63
Hindi Besennara	43.09	45.97	46.13	41.03	30.66	41.38
Mabrouka	38.34	33.05	33.61	40.70	31.57	35.45
Mestekawy	33.02	42.15	30.68	23.94	34.78	32.91
Nabeeh	30.92	44.68	34.19	38.33	25.48	34.72
Oweisi	29.39	39.07	31.42	26.83	27.06	30.76
Spates	33.54	44.33	34.89	37.03	32.42	36.44
Taimour	37.13	37.85	38.19	43.87	34.06	38.22
Zebda	28.96	46.69	32.24	30.16	43.09	36.23
Mean	33.85	39.63	33.62	37.09	30.76	
LSD _(5%)	A	2.24				
	B	3.47				
	A x B	7.77				

A= Sampling date B= Cultivars AxB= Sampling date x Cultivars

*Each value represents the mean of three replicates **The sample was taken at the end of each month.

Electrolytes leakage (%)

The results in Table (2) indicates that the changes in Electrolytes leakage (EL, %) were differed according to the cultivar and sampling times. It's clear that the highest value of EL (%) was exhibited by Hindi Besennara cultivar in November month. The cultivar of Zebda was found to has the highest value of EL (%) as a compared by the others, while the lowest value was recorded by Baladi cultivar in December month, the EL (%) recorded by the cultivar of Hindi Besennara was the highest and by Baladi cultivar was the lowest in January month.

In February month, the greatest value was given by Alphonso cultivar and the lowest one was recorded by the cultivar of Mestekawy. At the end of experiment, in March month, the highest value of

Electrolytes (%) was exhibited by Zebda cultivar and the lowest one by Helmand cultivar. However, the EL (%) was significantly differed among the cultivars during the whole sampling times. Since the cultivar of Hindi Besennara recorded the highest value of EL (%) and the lowest one was given by Baladi cultivar. The effect of sampling times was absorbed. The sampling time of December recorded the highest value and the lowest one was exhibited by the sample of March.

Analysis of leakage

Total Soluble Sugars (TSS)

Data in Table (3) show that TSS reached its peak level by Helmand cultivar but the lowest level of TSS at November month was recorded by Nabeeh cultivar.

Table.3 Total soluble sugars (mg 100g⁻¹ FW) in leachate of mango leaves at various sampling dates (November to march) under field conditions.

Cultivars	**Sampling date* (Month)					
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Mean
Alphonso	31.89	30.51	36.05	31.20	30.16	31.96
Baladi	45.41	35.01	16.64	24.27	27.73	29.81
Bullock's Heart	48.19	39.52	24.27	15.95	22.53	30.09
Helmand	54.08	47.49	27.04	22.19	23.23	34.81
Hindi Besennara	27.04	22.19	14.91	30.16	24.27	23.71
Mabrouka	22.53	19.41	20.11	27.04	23.92	22.60
Mestekawy	26.35	22.19	23.23	20.80	21.15	22.74
Nabeeh	20.45	12.83	13.52	14.56	18.03	15.88
Oweisi	47.15	54.43	20.80	37.44	34.67	38.90
Spates	25.65	27.39	33.97	22.88	44.03	30.78
Taimour	41.25	18.03	16.99	43.33	44.72	32.86
Zebda	51.31	35.01	36.75	16.99	30.16	34.04
Mean	36.78	30.33	23.69	25.57	28.72	
LSD (5%)	A	4.22				
	B	6.53				
	A x B	14.60				

A= Sampling date B= Cultivars Ax B= Sampling date x Cultivars

* Each value represents the mean of three replicates

**The sample was taken at the end of each month.

The maximum level of TSS in December sample was exhibited by Oweisi cultivar and the lowest by Nabeeh one. In January, the cultivar of Zebda showed the highest value of TSS, while the greater value was recorded by Nabeeh cultivar. In addition, the level of TSS reached to its maximum by the cultivar of Taimour and the minimum by Nabeeh one.

But in March, the cultivar of Helmand recorded the highest value of TSS in leachates of leaves with the lowest level of Nabeeh one. However, TSS level was significantly differed among the cultivars during the all sampling times. In this respect, Oweisi cultivar gave the highest value and the lowest one was given by Nabeeh cultivar. Regarding, the effect of sampling time, November month sample recorded the greatest value of TSS and the lowest one was given by the sample in January. Generally, the level of TSS was

significantly differed among the sampling times of the studied cultivars.

Total free amino acids (TFAA)

The data in Table (4) indicate the differences in TFAA level among the studied cultivars under the field condition. In this respect, Taimour cultivar showed the highest value in TFAA level as compared to the others, while the lowest value was recorded by Mabrouka cultivar in November sample. The cultivar of Hindi Besennara showed a higher level of TFAA than those recorded by the others in December month and the lowest one was obtained by Mestekawy cultivar. It is also clear that the level of TFAA was the highest by Alphonso cultivar and the lowest was recorded by Mestekawy one in January month.

Table.4 Total free amino acids concentration (mg 100g⁻¹ FW) in leachate of mango leaves at various sampling dates (November to march) under field conditions

Cultivars	**Sampling date					
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Mean
Alphonso	22.38	17.14	24.28	24.76	24.28	22.57
Baladi	17.62	19.52	18.57	26.66	18.57	20.19
Bullock's Heart	20.00	18.09	16.19	12.86	20.00	17.43
Helmand	20.00	17.62	17.14	17.14	13.33	17.05
Hindi Besennara	19.52	27.14	19.05	20.95	18.09	20.95
Mabrouka	15.71	18.57	23.33	36.66	34.28	25.71
Mestekawy	25.24	15.71	16.66	57.14	20.47	27.04
Nabeeh	18.57	22.38	16.66	23.33	19.52	20.09
Oweisi	16.19	17.62	18.09	20.47	16.66	17.81
Spates	17.14	20.95	14.28	16.66	17.62	17.33
Taimour	31.90	19.05	19.05	23.33	20.47	22.76
Zebda	15.71	16.66	15.24	18.57	14.28	16.09
Mean	20.00	19.20	18.20	24.90	19.80	
LSD_(5%)	A	4.75				
	B	7.36				
	A x B	16.47				

A= Sampling date B= Cultivars AxB= Sampling date x Cultivars

* Each value represents the mean of three replicates

**The sample was taken at the end of each month.

When the sampling time was lengthened, at February month, the TFAA level was the highest by Mestekawy cultivar as a compared to the others, while the lowest value was recorded by Bullock's Heart cultivar. At the end of experiment, at March month, the highest value of TFAA was recorded by Mabrouka cultivar and the lowest by Helmand one. However, TFAA was significantly differed among the cultivars during the all sampling times. Since Mestekawy cultivar gave the highest value of TFAA and the lowest by Zebda cultivar. Regarding, the effect of sampling time, at February month sample, recorded the highest level of TFAA and the lowest one was given by the sample in January month. Generally, the level of TFAA was significantly differed among the sampling times of the tested cultivars.

Sodium (Na⁺)

Relative leakage of sodium Na⁺ from Mango leaves of the different cultivars is shown in Table (5). It's obvious that the amount of leached Na⁺ in November month was maximal from leaves of Alphonso cultivar than those of the others. However, the lowest value was given by the leaves of Oweisi and Zebda cultivars. In December month, the greatest amount of leached Na⁺ was exhibited by Hindi Besennara cultivar, while the lowest one was recorded by Alphonso cultivar. In addition, the quantity of leached Na⁺ reached its maximum by the cultivar of Zebda and the minimum by Mabrouka one in January month, but in February month, the cultivar of Oweisi recorded the highest value of leached Na⁺ with the lowest value of Mestekawy cultivar.

Table.5 Concentration of Na⁺ (ppm) in leachate of mango leaves at various sampling dates (November to march) under field conditions

Cultivars	**Sampling date* (Month)					
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Mean
Alphonso	6.61	2.05	2.99	2.99	2.99	3.53
Baladi	3.78	2.83	2.83	3.46	4.41	3.46
Bullock's Heart	6.14	5.67	2.83	3.62	2.83	4.22
Helmand	3.31	2.83	3.78	4.41	3.78	3.62
Hindi Besennara	5.20	7.09	3.31	3.78	3.94	4.66
Mabrouka	4.72	3.62	2.36	2.83	4.88	3.69
Mestekawy	4.25	4.41	3.31	2.68	3.78	3.69
Nabeeh	2.83	2.83	3.15	4.41	3.94	3.43
Oweisi	2.36	2.52	3.46	6.14	6.14	4.13
Spates	6.14	2.36	2.83	2.99	2.83	3.43
Taimour	5.20	4.72	3.15	4.41	2.99	4.09
Zebda	2.36	2.52	4.25	3.94	4.72	3.56
Mean	4.41	3.62	3.19	3.81	3.94	
LSD (5%)	A	0.39				
	B	0.60				
	A x B	1.34				

A= Sampling date B= Cultivars AxB= Sampling date x Cultivars

* Each value represents the mean of three replicates

**The sample was taken at the end of each month.

In March month, the greatest amount of leached Na⁺ was given by Oweisi cultivar and the lowest ones were recorded by Bullock's Heart and Spates cultivars. However, leached Na⁺ was significantly differed among the cultivars during the sampling times. In this respect, Hindi Besennara cultivar gave the highest and the lowest ones were given by Nabeeh and Spates cultivars. Regarding, the effect of sampling time, November month sample recorded the highest value of leached Na⁺ and the lowest one was given by the sample in January. Generally, the level of Na⁺ efflux was significantly differed among the sampling time of the tested cultivars.

Potassium (K⁺)

The results in Table (6) clearly show that the changes in potassium (K⁺) efflux into the external medium (distilled water) were

differed according to the cultivars and the sampling times. It's clear that the maximum leakage of K⁺ was obtained from the leaves of Zebda cultivar and minimum value by Mabrouka one in November month. The cultivar Helmand was found to has the greatest value of leaked K⁺ as a compared by the others, while the lowest value was given by the cultivars of Mabrouka, Oweisi and Zebda in December month.

In January month, the cultivar of Helmand recorded the highest value of leaked K⁺ and the lowest one was given by the cultivars of Mabrouka, Oweisi and Taimour. In February month, the greatest value was recorded by Helmand cultivar and the lowest one by the cultivar of Baladi. At the end of experiment, in March month, the highest value of leaked K⁺ was exhibited by Zebda cultivar and the lowest one by Baladi and Taimour cultivars.

Table.6 Concentration of K⁺ (ppm) in leachate of mango leaves at various sampling dates (November to march) under field conditions

Cultivars	**Sampling date* (Month)					
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Mean
Alphonso	6.98	2.99	1.74	3.49	1.99	3.44
Baladi	5.48	2.74	2.58	1.91	1.74	2.89
Bullock's Heart	5.98	2.99	1.91	2.49	2.49	3.17
Helmand	7.81	3.99	3.90	4.49	2.74	4.59
Hindi Besennara	9.47	2.49	1.99	2.99	2.49	3.89
Mabrouka	4.49	2.99	1.25	3.49	2.49	2.94
Mestekawy	8.47	2.99	1.50	3.99	3.49	4.09
Nabeeh	9.47	2.41	2.16	2.49	2.91	3.89
Oweisi	8.47	2.24	1.25	3.49	2.24	3.54
Spates	4.98	3.99	1.50	2.74	1.99	3.04
Taimour	6.98	2.24	1.25	2.99	1.74	3.04
Zebda	9.97	2.24	1.99	1.99	3.99	4.04
Mean	7.38	2.86	1.92	3.05	2.53	
LSD _(5%)	A	0.20				
	B	0.31				
	A x B	0.70				

A= Sampling date B= Cultivars AxB= Sampling date x Cultivars

*Each value represents the mean of three replicates

**The sample was taken at the end of each month.

Moreover, the leaked K^+ was significantly differed among the cultivars during the whole sampling times. Since the cultivar of Helmand recorded the highest value of leaked K^+ and the lowest one was given by Baladi cultivar. The effect of sampling times was observed.

The sampling time of November recorded the highest value and the lowest one was exhibited by January month. In general, the leaked K^+ level was significantly differed among sampling times of the studied cultivars.

Inorganic phosphate (P_I)

Relative P_I Leakage from leaves of the different cultivars of Mango is shown in Table (7). It's evident that the amount of leached P_I reached to its maximal by

Alphonso cultivar but the minimal was observed by Helmand one. The maximum amount of leached P_I in December sample was exhibited by Spates cultivar and the lowest one was recorded by Bullock's Heart cultivar. In January, the cultivar of Bullock's Heart given the highest value of leached P_I and lowest one was observed by Helmand cultivar. In addition, the value of P_I reached to its maximum by the cultivar of Bullock's Heart and minimum by Mestekawy one in February month. But in March, the cultivar Zebda recorded the highest value of leached P_I in leachate of leaves with the lowest value by Nabeeh one. However, leached P_I value was significantly differed among the cultivars throughout the all sampling times. In this respect, Bullock's Heart cultivar gave the highest value and the lowest one was given by Helmand cultivar.

Table.7 Inorganic phosphorus concentration (mg 100g⁻¹ FW) in leachate of mango leaves at various sampling dates (November to march) under field conditions

Cultivars	**Sampling date* (Month)					
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Mean
Alphonso	13.09	8.81	10.59	11.66	6.31	10.09
Baladi	7.85	7.73	9.16	11.66	6.66	8.62
Bullock's Heart	8.45	5.35	14.52	16.78	8.69	10.76
Helmand	4.52	6.07	4.88	11.30	6.19	6.59
Hindi Besennara	5.71	9.76	12.85	7.73	7.38	8.69
Mabrouka	7.14	7.73	8.21	12.73	7.97	8.76
Mestekawy	6.31	8.81	6.07	6.78	7.38	7.07
Nabeeh	4.88	7.73	5.24	15.59	5.83	7.85
Oweisi	8.57	8.57	12.73	12.97	7.38	10.04
Spates	8.21	10.95	5.95	11.07	8.45	8.92
Taimour	6.43	7.85	5.59	11.90	6.31	7.62
Zebda	5.95	5.95	10.00	12.38	10.11	8.88
Mean	7.26	7.94	8.82	11.88	7.39	
LSD_(5%)	A	0.55				
	B	0.85				
	A x B	1.89				

A= Sampling date B= Cultivars AxB= Sampling date x Cultivars

* Each value represents the mean of three replicates

**The sample was taken at the end of each month.

Regarding, the effect of sampling time, February month sample recorded the greatest value leached PI and the lowest one was given by November month. Generally, the level of leached PI was significantly differed among the sampling times of the tested cultivars.

Calcium (Ca²⁺)

It's evident from data presented in Table (8) that there is a cultivaral differences the amount of leached Ca⁺² from Mango leaves during the sampling times. In this respect, the cultivar of Taimour was found to has the highest value of leached Ca⁺², while the lowest value was recorded by Bullock's Heart cultivar in November month. The highest value of leached Ca⁺² from leaves, in December month, was observed to be the highest by the cultivar of Mestekawy and the

lowest one by Nabeeh. In January, the highest value was recorded by Zebda cultivar and the lowest by Helmand one. In February month, the cultivar of Oweisi was exhibited the highest value of leached Ca²⁺ and the lowest by Nabeeh cultivar. Also, Taimour cultivar gave the highest value and Bullock's Heart cultivar recorded the lowest one in March month. However, the amount of leached Ca²⁺ was significantly differed among the cultivars during the whole sampling times, since the cultivar of Hindi Besennara shown the highest value and Bullock's Heart cultivar gave the lowest one. Regarding, the effect of sampling time; March month sample exhibited the highest value of leached Ca⁺² and the lowest was noticed by the sample in December month. Generally, the value of leached Ca²⁺ was significantly differed among the sampling times of the tested cultivars.

Table.8 Concentration of Ca⁺² (mg g⁻¹ FW) in leachate of mango leaves at various sampling dates (November to march) under field conditions

Cultivars	**Sampling date* (Month)					
	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Mean
Alphonso	9.67	8.33	6.33	12.67	10.00	9.40
Baladi	9.00	5.00	4.67	2.67	18.67	8.00
Bullock's Heart	3.67	4.33	7.67	10.33	4.67	6.13
Helmand	8.00	6.67	4.33	5.67	13.00	7.53
Hindi Besennara	5.33	7.67	11.67	12.00	22.00	11.73
Mabrouka	5.67	5.67	6.67	14.67	6.67	7.87
Mestekawy	5.67	10.00	7.67	7.00	9.67	8.00
Nabeeh	4.00	2.67	12.67	2.33	8.67	6.07
Oweisi	12.00	4.00	8.67	18.00	14.00	11.33
Spates	6.00	8.67	7.33	11.00	9.33	8.47
Taimour	16.00	7.67	6.00	8.67	18.33	11.33
Zebda	13.33	7.67	16.00	8.00	6.67	10.33
Mean	8.19	6.53	8.31	9.42	11.81	
LSD_(5%)	A	2.45				
	B	3.79				
	A x B	8.47				

A= Sampling date B= Cultivars AxB= Sampling date x Cultivars

* Each value represents the mean of three replicates

**The sample was taken at the end of each month.

Table.8 Concentration of Ca⁺² (mg g⁻¹ FW) in leachate of mango leaves at various sampling dates (November to march) under field conditions.

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Bullock's Heart	3.67	4.33	7.67	10.33	4.67	6.13
Helmand	8.00	6.67	4.33	5.67	13.00	7.53
Hindi Besennara	5.33	7.67	11.67	12.00	22.00	11.73
Mabrouka	5.67	5.67	6.67	14.67	6.67	7.87
Mestekawy	5.67	10.00	7.67	7.00	9.67	8.00
Nabeeh	4.00	2.67	12.67	2.33	8.67	6.07
Oweisi	12.00	4.00	8.67	18.00	14.00	11.33
Spates	6.00	8.67	7.33	11.00	9.33	8.47
Taimour	16.00	7.67	6.00	8.67	18.33	11.33
Zebda	13.33	7.67	16.00	8.00	6.67	10.33
Mean	8.19	6.53	8.31	9.42	11.81	
LSD_(5%)	A	2.45				
	B	3.79				
	A x B	8.47				

Discussion

Chilling temperatures (lower than 15°C) lead to numerous physiological disturbances in the cells of chilling-sensitive plant and result in chilling injury and death of tropical and subtropical (Lukatkin *et al.*, 2012). Obviously, the problem of plant resistance to chilling temperature, which often occurs in spring and autumn in many countries, is important for practical plant breeding. A change in the Egyptian climate has already been observed during the last decades, and this is expected to continue throughout this century. This change in climate affects the behavior of fruit trees and their productivity. In 2008, Egypt was exposed to a wave of frost that caused severe damage to mango trees; Hence, there is a need to know which cultivars are resistant to winter cold (Ismail, 2014).

As a result of this sensitivity, low temperature

produce a range of physiological and metabolic disorders that lead to serious losses. The various dysfunctions that arise under low temperature conditions result in various physical and metabolic changes that are easily scored and which can therefore be used to assess the degree of chilling injury. Thus, the objective of this trail is to study the some of physiological changes as indicators for determine index of some mango cultivars and to know which of them are resistant to chilling temperatures. In this respect, the following physiological indices were detected. Electrolytes leakage is widely used to measure chilling damage as well as to quantity species resistance to cold and chilling injury in conifer (Mckay, 1992) and in apple (Suwapanich and Haesungcharoen, 2006).

Low temperature alters the physical properties of cell membranes. Chilling of sensitive plants leads to multiple changes in their

membranes, which enhance permeable properties of cell membrane (Lukatkin *et al.*, 2012). These changes in the state of membranes may lead to secondary of irreversible reactions, depending on temperature, exposure duration and sensitivity of the species (or cultivars).

After a prolonged chilling, these changes will cause loss of membrane integrity and compartmentation, the leakage of solutes, decrease of oxidative activity of mitochondria, increase of the activation energy of membrane-bound enzymes including H⁺-ATPase, reduce the rate of photosynthesis, cause disruption and imbalance of metabolism, the accumulation of toxic substances and the symptoms of chilling injury (Kasamo *et al.*, 2000). In addition, A number of species of tropical have the lateral phase separation temperature some higher (15°C) than in plants from temperate zones (6-8°C) suggesting that plants reduce the freezing point of membranes with the distance from zone of tropical origin (Terzaghi *et al.*, 1989).

However, the increased leakage of electrolytes from the cultivar of HindyBesennara (Table 2) was interpreted as resulting from deteriorative changes in membranes and corresponds to the presence of released inorganic and organic ions. Similar results were obtained by Chinnusamy *et al.*, (2007). Whereas ion uptake in plants receives considerable attention, the release of solutes from the plant into the environment is less investigated. Considerable amounts of solutes are lost after cell damage and cell death. In this respect, the basic assumption is that the greater the injury of the living tissue, the greater the efflux of ions from stressed cells (Palta *et al.*, 1977).

A maximal level of Na⁺ leakage was observed by the cultivar of HindyBesennara (Table 3).

The differences in the rate of Na⁺ efflux among these leaves of different cultivars reflect actual differences in membrane permeability and have protective effect on membrane damage. Thus, may be attributed to the cultivars had lower Na⁺ content in the tissues resulted in lesser damage to the cells.

These results are in accordance with those of Taiz and Zeiger (1998) who found that Na⁺ ions leak from the leaves of chill sensitive more than those of chill resistant. Loss of Na⁺ to water reflects damage to the plasma membrane and possibly also the tonoplast. The leakage of K⁺ from the leaves into the imbibing medium was differed between the tested cultivars under the condition of field. The highest rate of K⁺ efflux was observed at the leaves of Helmand (Table 3) this, reflects the impairment of membrane under environmental stress.

It is also clear from data in Table (4) that, the amount of leaked K⁺ was similar to that of leaked Na⁺ at field conditions. Thus, may be attributed to the cultivars had lower K⁺ content in the tissues resulted in lesser damage to the cells. Similar results had found by (Taiz and Zeiger, 1998). Relative Pi leakage as a function of the conditions of field recorded the highest values of leached Pi from leaves of Bullock's heart (Table 5). This increased leakage with these cultivars suggests a marked damage to the membrane which limits leakage from tissues.

Also, the origin of Pi could be from decomposition of different phosphate-containing metabolites and structural components by various phosphatases and subsequent leaching of Pi under cold stress. These results are in a good agreement with those reported by Taiz and Zeiger (1998). Leaf electrolytes values of Ca²⁺ in Table (6) indicate that Nabeehcultivar are more resistant to leakage of Ca²⁺ than the others.

Increased resistance to cold stress in these cultivars may occur as a result of the role of Ca^{2+} in conforming cold resistance (Percival *et al.*, 1999). Ca^{2+} is involved in the control and maintenance of physiological plant responses to chilling injury such as the maintenance of membrane integrity and transport function (Palta, 1996). Additionally, cold stress induces transient Ca^{2+} permeable channels for this Ca^{2+} influx are considered as sensors for low temperature (Monroy and Dindsa, 1995).

The activation of Ca^{2+} channels by cold is thought to be the result of physical alterations in cellular structure. Previous studies had the same trends (Catala *et al.*, 2003). Differential rates of total soluble sugars (TSS) leakage had developed in response to the conditions of field (Table 7). Maximum leakage of TSS was obtained by from the leaves of Ewais. While, the lowest values were recorded by the cultivar of Nabeeh.

This trend reflects the membrane dysfunction with chilling sensitive cultivars to the conditions of study more than the tolerant ones. It has been reported that under natural conditions, TSS increase during the onset of winter when plants are subjected to low temperatures; conversely, decrease in spring when plants are deacclimating (Sauter *et al.*, 1996). These results are similar to those obtained by Lennartsson and Ögren (2004). Relative leakage of total free amino acids (TFAA) from the collected leaves from the field explained that the loss of TFAA in the leakage of the cultivar of Zebda more than others (Table 8) may be associated with loss of membrane integrity. This result is in good agreement with that obtained by Ghosh *et al.*, (1981).

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