

Effect of Harvesting Date on Yield and Quality of Lettuce

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ABSTRACT:

In reason to investigate the effect of different harvesting date and varieties on yield and quality of lettuce the experiment was conducted at the University of Guilan's Campus Agriculture Faculty with four local cultivars from Romaine (Baboli), Butter head (Mahalli), and Ice berg typ lettuce (Astaneh and Kochesfahan). Plants were harvested 100, 107 and 114 days after transplanting. A randomized complete block design with three replications was used. ANOVA determined that cultivar and harvesting date and their interaction had significant effect on root and leaves fresh and dry weight, total soluble solid and titrable acidity. cultivar and harvesting date also had significant effect of vitamin c and yield but their interaction was not significant. Results indicate that the delaying in harvest when the lettuce reaches to its maximum yield decreases their quality. It seems that 107 days after transplanting when plants reach to their maximum growth is suitable date to harvest them. Delaying to harvest decrease plants quality without any significant increasing in yield.