



IMPACT OF REGULATED DEFICIT IRRIGATION AND FOLIAR ZINC NANOPARTICLES APPLICATION ON PRODUCTIVITY OF MANGO TREES

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ABSTRACT: what is impact of regulated deficit irrigation and foliar Zn nanoparticles application on productivity of mango trees? the answer to this question represents the main objective of this study. To verify this, an experiment was performed during the 2016/2017 on the mango trees mango (*Mangifera indica* L.) cvs." Nawomy" and "Sokary" which have about 16 years old in sandy soil under drip irrigation system. 100, 50, 75% of the crop evapotranspiration "ETc" were used, in parallel with three levels of concentrations of NPs-Zn micronutrient (0, 50, and 100 ppm) were applied three times; i.e., before flowering, 10 days after full bloom and after fruit set stages in both seasons. The highest yield and water-use efficiency were obtained with applying the RDI-75% of ETc treatment without significant difference that 100% of ETc treatment. The average fruit weight and size, length and width were larger for mango fruits from the 100% of ETc and 75% of ETc, with TSS%, total reducing sugars and ascorbic acid content being significantly greater than fruits of other irrigation treatments. Therefore, using the nano zinc as foliar sprays on mango trees at a concentration of 100 ppm improved fruit set percentage, total yield fruit quality (physical and chemical properties), also increased water use efficiency. It could be concluded that irrigated trees with 75% of ETc plus foliar spraying of nano zinc (NPs-ZnSO₄) at 100 ppm was the most effective treatment for increasing fruit set, total yield and quality as well as water use efficiency of Nawomy and Sokary mango trees.

Key words: Mango, regulated deficit irrigation (RDI), Zn nano-particles, fruit quality and water use efficiency.

INTRODUCTION

Mango (*Mangifera indica* L.) belonging to family Anacardiaceae is one of most important strategic fruit crops and is a source of hard currency in Egypt. Egypt ranks the seventh after India, China, Thailand, Indonesia, Mexico and Pakistan in the world production of mango, which is estimated at 47.13 million tons according to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations (FAOSTAT, 2017). FAO report also showed that average growth rate of mango production in the country had been 3.76 per cent until 2007 from its production at 2016.

Cultivation of mango trees face factors that limit production in the newly reclaimed soils in the Mediterranean basin of Egypt, especially in North Sinai region. The major problem is the scarcity of rainfall or its irregularity (IPCC, 2000) and deficit of fresh water availability for agricultural is the most

pervasive impact environmental stress on mango productivity which limits the sustainable development under climatic changes with population growth (Shangguan *et al.*, 2000; Kang *et al.*, 2002; Jury and Vaux, 2005; Junya *et al.*, 2017). This scenario leads to an increasing demand for irrigation water and may cause many serious problems, reducing mango crop yield, intensified pressure on water availability making it to an increasingly scarce resource and increasing the cost of irrigation water (Kirnak *et al.*, 2005; Tognetti *et al.*, 2005; Durán-Zuazo *et al.*, 2011). Water stress decreases plant growth by reducing cell division and root enlargement; leads to lowering ion adsorption on the root surface. Also, deficit of water had adversely effect on different physiological process such as photosynthesis, translocation of sugars and phytohormones, ion uptake transport and assimilation, nitrogen fixation, cell turgidity and dark respiration, consequently, yield of different

crops was injured. (Fageria *et al.*, 2006). Therefore, irrigation with precision and high water use efficiency (WUE) is essential, requiring deficit irrigation strategies in order to not compromise production (Spreer *et al.*, 2009; Dos-Santos *et al.*, 2016).

The development of different water-saving irrigation strategies such as regulated deficit irrigation (RDI) in order to save water and increase water use efficiency (WUE) in fruit crops under semiarid conditions were studied by Romero *et al.* (2004) and Khan *et al.* (2009). Regulated deficit irrigation (RDI) is the strategy of irrigation with deficits in developmental stages of the culture whose growth and fruit quality have low sensitivity to water stress, and normal irrigation in the other stages (Grant *et al.*, 2004; Nakajima *et al.*, 2004; Wakrim *et al.*, 2005; Wahbi *et al.*, 2005; Carlos *et al.*, 2011). Regulated deficit irrigation management for the mango crop must follow technical criteria, so that water is applied at the right time and the right amount (Phene, 1991; Phene *et al.*, 1992). Most studies have shown that deficit water applied during the slow fruit growth period could control excessive vegetative growth, while maintaining or even increasing crop yield. These included studies on mango cv. "Tommy Atkins" (Dos-Santos *et al.*, 2016), cv. "Keitt" (Levin *et al.*, 2017) and cv. "Banganpalli" (Subbaiah *et al.*, 2017). Irrigation requirement and its effect on micro-nutrition in mango are still not well investigated, especially under the Mediterranean climate (Lechaudel *et al.*, 2005).

Micronutrient deficiencies is one of the most important problems in the Mediterranean region, where the soils are characterized by high pH content, low carbon content, high salinity level, and low organic matter as well as have free calcium carbonate. Micronutrients are essential for different biological functions that might be attributed to tree yield and fruit quality (Shoeib and El-Sayed 2003; Prasad *et al.*, 2012). In these soils, deficiencies of Zn can become severe (Tavallali and Rahemi, 2007) which lead to deficiency of synthesis of many enzymes needed for nitrogen metabolism, energy transfer, and protein synthesis (Beede *et al.*, 2005), retards growth and yield of trees (Rosati *et al.*, 2010; Hafeez *et al.*, 2013), low fruit setting in many fruit crops (Mozafari, 2005; Gursoz *et al.*, 2010) and limiting factors to fruit quality (Prasad *et al.*, 2012). Also, Zn is required for the synthesis of tryptophan which is a precursor of IAA, it also has an active role in the production of an essential growth hormone auxin (Alloway, 2004; Brennan, 2005; Zagzag and Gad 2017).

Nanotechnology has provided the feasibility of exploiting nanostructured materials as fertilizers carries or controlled – release vectors for building of so-called smart fertilizer as new facilities to

enhance nutrient use efficiency (Al-Amin and Jayasuriya, 2007). Utilization of foliar nanofertilizers is a new strategy has started to attract attention in agriculture currently increasingly growing in popularity day by day. The foliar sprays with nanofertilizers have been shown to be convenient for field use under high soil salinity, have a good effectiveness and very rapid trees response (Erdal *et al.*, 2004; Fernández *et al.*, 2013). They are also considered the most important promising approaches for sustainable agriculture with high production, low deterioration and feed the world grown rapidly (Sekhon 2014). The application of nanoparticles is an easy way to fertilizing plants, as they can increase transfer into the plant cell. On the basis of nanotechnology, some metals such as zinc oxide-based nanoparticles increase the permeability and create new holes in the cell wall. (Sondi and Salopek, 2004; Brayner *et al.*, 2006). Substitution of nano-fertilizer with traditional fertilizers is approach to reduce nutrient losses, improve soil fertility and increase orchard profitability (Naderi and Abedi 2012; Mishra *et al.*, 2016).

Therefore, this research aimed to study the effect of under regulated deficit irrigation (RDI) strategies and foliar spray of nano-zinc micronutrient (Zn NPs) on mango (*Mangifera indica* L.) cvs. "Nawomy" and "Sokary" yield and its components in El-Skiekh Zwaïd region, North Sinai Governorate, Egypt.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Location of the study area and Climatic conditions

The experiment was carried out on Mango trees (*Mangifera indica* L.) cvs. "Nawomy" and "Sokary" of about 16 years age at a commercial orchard in El-Skiekh Zwaïd region, North Sinai Governorate, Egypt, in two successive seasons of 2016 and 2017. The study area is bounded by longitudes 33° 54' 45.2" E and latitudes 30° 57' 22" N. The maximum temperature of 30.1 and 30.6 °C in July meanwhile the lower one was 12.3 and 11.6°C in January in both seasons with the average annual mean temperature 21.3 °C. The all climatic data were collected from meteorological station of the Faculty of Environmental Agricultural Sciences at El-Arish, Arish University.

Study treatments

The study included three levels of irrigation water and three ZnSO₄ NPs concentrations and their interaction. The three levels of irrigation water were 100 (as a control treatment), 75 and 50% of crop evapotranspiration (ETc). Trees were sprayed with different concentrations of nanoparticles of zinc micronutrient treatments (ZnSO₄ NPs) at 0, 50, and 100 ppm. Trees were applied three times before flowering, 10 days after full bloom and after fruit set

in both seasons. Spraying was done with a hand sprayer; the two mango varieties received uniform management practices including pruning, fertilizer, insecticide and pesticide applications.

The distances between the mango trees were 4*6 and 3*5 meter for Nawomy and Sokary mango

cultivars, respectively and it's were grown in sandy soil under drip irrigation system. Soil and water characteristics of the Mango orchard are presented in **Tables (1 and 2)** according to **Van Reeuwijk (2002)**. The selected trees received the same horticultural practices.

Table 1. Initial soil physical and chemical characteristics of the investigated orchard at El-Skiekh Zwaid region

Parameter	Soil depth (cm)				
	0-30		30-60		
	Season 2016		Season 2017		
<i>Physical characteristics</i>					
Sand gkg ⁻¹	967	933.9	961	930.1	
Silt gkg ⁻¹	14.1	25.1	13.3	24.9	
Clay gkg ⁻¹	18.9	41.0	24.7	45.0	
Soil texture	Sandy	Sandy	Sandy	Sandy	
Bulk density Mg.m ⁻³	1.57	1.59	1.58	1.61	
<i>Chemical characteristics</i>					
pH	8.34	8.40	8.21	8.35	
EC (dS.m ⁻¹)	0.46	0.50	0.48	0.52	
Cations (mmolc.l ⁻¹)	Ca ²⁺	2.22	2.50	2.60	2.49
	Mg ²⁺	1.38	1.60	1.33	1.72
	Na ⁺	0.86	0.82	0.80	0.85
	K ⁺	0.14	0.08	0.07	0.14
Anions (mmolc.l ⁻¹)	CO ₃ ²⁻	-	-	-	-
	HCO ₃ ⁻	2.60	1.30	2.50	1.40
	Cl ⁻	1.62	3.01	1.70	3.22
	SO ₄ ²⁻	0.38	0.69	0.60	0.58

Table 2. Some water chemical analysis of the investigated artesian well at El-Skiekh Zwaid region

pH	EC		Cations (mq.l ⁻¹)				Anions (mq.l ⁻¹)			
	(dS.m ⁻¹)	(ppm)	Ca ²⁺	Mg ²⁺	Na ⁺	K ⁺	CO ₃ ²⁻	HCO ₃ ⁻	Cl ⁻	SO ₄ ²⁻
<i>Season 2016</i>										
7.80	0.83	531.20	2.89	2.00	3.22	0.19	-	4.25	2.40	1.65
<i>Season 2017</i>										
7.85	0.84	537.60	2.98	2.20	3.03	0.21	-	4.35	2.61	1.44

Reference evapotranspiration (ET_o)

The ET_c is the irrigation volume required to meet the crops evapotranspiration demand for the irrigation period. The Modified Blaney-Criddle method was used to determine reference evapotranspiration (ET_o) recommended by **Doorenbos and Pruitt (1977) and Allen et al. (1998)**, the equation was given as:

$$ET_o = C [p(0.46 T + 8.13)] \text{ (mm. day}^{-1}\text{)}$$

Where:

ET_o= Reference crop evapotranspiration mm.day⁻¹ for the month considered.

C = Adjustment factor which depends on minimum relative humidity (RH min), ratio

of actual to maximum possible (tabulated) sunshine hours (n/N) and daytime wind speed at 2 meters from the soil surface in m/sec (U₂).

p = Mean daily percentage of total annual day time hours for given month and latitude.

T = Mean daily temperature in C° over the month considered.

Crop evapotranspiration (ET_c)

Crop evapotranspiration (ET_c) was calculated according to **Doorenbos and Pruitt, (1977) and Allen et al. (1998)** with the following formula:

$$ET_{crop} = Kc. ET_o \text{ (mm. day}^{-1}\text{)}$$

Where:

Kc = Crop coefficient.

ET_o = Reference crop evapotranspiration (mm.day⁻¹).

Crop coefficients (Kc) with the adjustment of tree size were estimated from drainage lysimeters located in the same orchard. The Kc values estimated for mango trees during the irrigation period were about 0.66, 0.79, 0.91 and 0.88 at flowering, fruit set, fruit growth and fruit

maturation, respectively according to **Durán-Zuazo et al. (2011)**. "Nawomy" and "Sokary" mango were irrigated using a drip irrigation system, with two on-line drippers with emitters discharge of 4 L.h⁻¹ per tree, each was placed 50 cm from the tree-trunk base. Irrigation treatments were applied from March and continued until February of next year and were programmed weekly during the afternoon based on calculation crop evapotranspiration (**Table 3**).

Table 3. Amount of irrigation water (m³.ha⁻¹) for Nawomy and Sokary mango cultivars during 2016 and 2017 seasons.

Parameter	Amount of irrigation water (m ³ .ha ⁻¹)					
	100%	RDI-75%	RDI-50%	100%	RDI-75%	RDI-50%
Month	"Nawomy" cv.			"Sokary" cv.		
March	731.18	548.38	365.59	1169.89	877.41	584.93
April	794.30	595.74	397.15	1270.90	953.17	635.44
May	930.98	698.24	465.48	1489.57	1117.17	744.80
June	1068.38	801.30	534.19	1709.41	1282.06	854.71
July	1188.24	891.19	594.12	1901.19	1425.91	950.60
August	1017.16	762.89	508.58	1627.47	1220.61	813.75
September	920.94	690.70	460.48	1473.51	1105.13	736.75
October	866.56	649.91	433.28	1386.49	1039.87	693.25
November	761.89	571.41	380.94	1219.01	914.25	609.52
December	760.10	570.08	380.06	1216.16	912.11	608.09
January	118.98	89.23	59.50	190.38	142.78	95.18
February	118.71	89.04	59.36	189.95	142.47	94.99
Total	9277.43	6958.10	4638.74	14843.92	11132.93	7421.98

Note: RDI refers to regulated deficit irrigation

Data recorded and measurements:

Water relationships

Consumptive use of water (CU): It was calculated using the equation given by **Israelson and Hansen (1962)** as follows:

$$CU = D \times AD \times [(e_z - e_i) \times 100]$$

Where:

CU = Consumptive use of water in cm,

D = Irrigated soil depth in cm,

AD = Bulk density, gm cm⁻³, of the chosen irrigated soil depth,

e_z = Soil moisture percent after irrigation, and

e_i = Soil moisture percent before the next irrigation.

Water use efficiency (WUE): The consumed water by mango trees was calculated according

to **Yaron et al., (1973)** as follows:

$$WUE = Y / ETa$$

Where:

WUE = Water use efficiency

Y = Crop yield (kg.ha⁻¹), and

ETa = Evapotranspiration (m³.ha⁻¹.)

The actual evapotranspiration, ETa, is assumed to be synonymous to the calculated consumptive use of water (CU). Consequently, daily and monthly consumptive use of water were calculated for specified soil depths for all treatments.

The yield reduction and water saving: They were calculated from the following equations according to **Ismail, (2010)** as follows:

$$YR = 100 - \left[\left(\frac{Y \text{ of RDI} - 75 \text{ or } 50\% \text{ of WR}}{Y \text{ of } 100\% \text{ of WR}} \right) \times 100 \right]$$

$$IWS = 100 - \left[\left(\frac{CU \text{ of } RDI - 75 \text{ or } 50\% \text{ of } WR}{CU \text{ of } 100\% \text{ of } WR} \right) \times 100 \right]$$

Where:

Y = Yield

WR = Water requirements

CU = Water consumption

YR = Yield reduction

IWS = Irrigation water saver

Plant measurements

At maturity stage of "Nawomy" and "Sokary" mango fruits, the yield (kg.tree⁻¹) was estimated by multiplying fruits number per tree. In addition, mean fruit weight (g), fruit length (cm), fruit width (cm), fruit size (cm³), fruit TSS (%), fruit acidity (%) and fruit total sugars (TSS %) according to the methods in association of official analytical chemists (A.O.A.C., 1999) were determining.

Experiment design and statistical analysis

The treatments were arranged in different experimental plots using a randomized complete blocks design (as a factorial experiment). Each treatment was replicated thrice and each replicate was consisted of two trees. All measured variables occurred under the influence of two factors as follows: the 1st factor was concentrations of NPs-Zn which have three levels (0, 50, and 100 ppm of ZnSO₄ NPs, whilst, the 2nd factor one was irrigation treatments which have three levels (100, 75 and 50% of ETc). Data were statistically analyzed using MSTATC computer program (Russell, 1986). The two-way ANOVA test was performed to determine the effect of studied factors (i.e. NPs-Zn concentration and irrigation treatments) on the measured variables. If the p-value is less than 0.05, we reject the null hypothesis that there's no difference between the means and conclude that a significant difference does exist. If the p-value is larger than 0.05, we cannot conclude that a significant difference exists (Steel and Toorrie, 1980). The ANOVA test was followed by post hoc test using Duncan multiple range (DMR) test for comparisons between means of differences

treatments (Duncan, 1955). The means followed by the same letter in each column are not significantly different from each other at the 5-percent probability level.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Water relationships

1.1. Actual evapotranspiration (ETa)

Water consumptions were computed from the data of soil moisture depletions; i.e., the differences between soil moisture contents before and after irrigations. Results in **Table (4)** show that, the ETa (m³.ha⁻¹), for mango "Nawomy" and "Sokary" during the two investigated seasons were affected by regulated deficit irrigation. They obviously decreased with increasing deficit irrigation. Their highest total monthly values were 8689.81 and 8187.59 m³.ha⁻¹, for "Nawomy", and 13903.69 and 13100.14 m³.ha⁻¹ for "Sokary" obtained with 100% irrigation treatment, in the first and second growth seasons, respectively. The lowest ones were 4103.52 and 3826.80 m³.ha⁻¹ for "Nawomy", and 6797.36 and 6051.70 m³.ha⁻¹ for "Sokary" with 50% irrigation treatment in the first and second growth seasons, respectively. Consequently, the average total consumed water for both seasons were 8442.07, 6301.00 and 3966.76 m³.ha⁻¹. for Nawomy and 13507.31, 9912.29 and 6427.10 m³. ha⁻¹. for Sokary plants irrigated with 100, 75% and 50% of ETc, respectively.

It could notice that, the value of the wet surface area per hectare that used for the calculation of total volumes of water was 10000 m², due to the fact that all experimental plots surface areas were moistened during irrigation. Also, the total applied volumes of irrigation water for "Naomy" or "Sokary" plants, in both seasons were 9281.17, 6960.88 and 4640.57 m³. ha⁻¹; and 14849.86, 11137.40 and 7424.93 m³. ha⁻¹ for 100, 75 and 50% of ETc in first and second seasons, respectively. Hence, as the total applied irrigation water increases the total consumed water also increases. Apparently, there is a critical limit for the ratio of the depth of consumed water to the depth of applied water. In respect to the variations in daily ETa values, it generally increased from February till July.

Table (4): Actual evapotranspiration ($\text{m}^3.\text{ha}^{-1}$) for "Nawomy" and "Sokary" mango cultivars during 2016 and 2017 seasons.

Parameter Month	Actual evapotranspiration ($\text{m}^3.\text{ha}^{-1}$)					
	100%	RDI-75%	RDI-50%	100%	RDI-75%	RDI-50%
	"Nawomy" cv.			"Sokary" cv.		
<i>First season (2016)</i>						
March	706.63	535.86	333.69	1130.61	838.54	552.75
April	772.45	585.78	364.77	1235.92	916.65	604.23
May	877.80	665.67	414.52	1404.48	1041.66	686.63
June	1041.56	789.85	491.85	1666.49	1235.98	814.73
July	1142.16	866.14	539.36	1827.46	1355.37	893.43
August	908.94	689.28	429.22	1454.31	1078.61	711.00
September	850.16	644.70	401.47	1360.26	1008.86	665.01
October	798.09	605.21	376.87	1276.94	947.06	624.28
November	702.51	532.73	331.74	1124.01	833.64	549.52
December	698.62	529.78	329.90	1117.78	829.02	546.47
January	96.22	72.96	45.44	153.95	114.18	75.26
February	94.67	71.79	44.71	151.48	112.34	74.05
Total	8689.81	6589.77	4103.52	13903.69	10311.90	6797.36
<i>Second season (2017)</i>						
March	623.03	457.11	291.20	996.85	723.26	460.50
April	671.91	492.97	314.04	1075.05	780.00	496.63
May	815.70	598.48	381.25	1305.12	946.92	602.91
June	901.13	661.15	421.18	1441.80	1046.09	666.05
July	1018.83	747.51	476.19	1630.12	1182.72	753.05
August	942.45	691.47	440.49	1507.92	1094.06	696.59
September	825.48	605.66	385.82	1320.78	958.28	610.14
October	778.64	571.29	363.93	1245.83	903.90	575.52
November	683.75	501.66	319.58	1093.99	793.74	505.38
December	684.44	502.17	319.90	1095.11	794.55	505.89
January	120.57	88.46	56.35	192.91	139.96	89.11
February	121.67	89.27	56.87	194.67	141.24	89.93
Total	8187.59	6007.20	3826.80	13100.14	9504.72	6051.70

Note: RDI refers to regulated deficit irrigation

1.2. Water use efficiency (WUE)

The water use efficiency for full and deficit irrigation treatments are presented in **Tables (5 and 6)**. Increasing the irrigation deficit gained a high increase in the WUE. The highest value of WUE was obtained with 50% of IWR treatment, while the lowest one was recorded with 100% of IWR treatment. The difference in WUE between 100% of IWR and 75% of IWR was slight compared to that between 75% of IWR and 50% of IWR treatments; however, these differences were significant in the two tested seasons.

A sharp increase in WUE was obtained by deficit irrigation. This indicates that water movement into fruits may be decreased with the progressive in water deficit without any effect on the translocation of dry matter into the seed and this effect resulted in an increase in mass production per unit of water, which in turn increased water use efficiency.

The water use efficiency for addition of ZnSO_4 NPs fertilization treatments are presented in **Tables (5 and 6)**. Increasing the addition of nano Zn fertilization gained a high increase in the WUE. The highest value of WUE was obtained with addition of 100 ppm of nano Zn fertilization treatment, while the

lowest one was recorded with no addition of nano Zn fertilization treatment. The difference in WUE between addition of 100 ppm of nano Zn fertilization and addition of 50 ppm of nano Zn fertilization was slight compared to that between addition of 100 ppm of nano Zn fertilization and no addition of nano Zn fertilization treatments.

Data in **Tables (5 and 6)** show the effect of interaction between regulated deficit irrigation and ZnSO₄ NPs fertilization on water use efficiency for "Nawomy" and "Sokary" mango cultivars during 2016 and 2017 seasons. The highest values were recorded with the interaction between 50% irrigation treatment with 100 ppm nano Zn fertilization treatment (1.259, 1.01 and 1.491, 1.28 with Nawomy and Sokary mango plant in the first and second season, respectively). However, the lowest values were recorded with the interaction between 100% irrigation treatment and no nano Zn fertilization treatment (0.827, 0.650 and 0.931, 0.72 in the first and second season, respectively). Similarly, the results of this study are in agreement with **Spreer et al. (2009)** who concluded that a potential to increase water-use efficiency (WUE) of "Chok Anan" mango was obtained by deficit irrigation. Also, **Junya et al. (2017)** concluded that comprehensive evaluation of the effect of indexes of correlation on irrigation treatment by subordinate function showed that when the soil moisture content were controlled at about 65–70% of the field water moisture capacity, water demand in the growth and development of mango could be ensured, and maximum production efficiency of irrigation and the best quality of fruit could be achieved.

1.3. Yield reduction (YR) and irrigation water saving (IWS)

Obviously, deficit irrigation saves water but reduces the yield (**Tables 5 and 6**). Irrigating Nawomy trees with 75% of irrigation water requirements increased the total yield by (6.35% and 5.01%) and saved about (24.16% and 26.63%) of (IWR) in the 1st and 2nd seasons, respectively. Increasing the deficit irrigation to 50% of IWR resulted in a severe yield reduction (32.95 % and 28.31%), but increased the water saving to about 52.77% and 53.26% of IWR in the 1st and 2nd seasons, respectively. However, irrigating Sokary plants with 75% of irrigation water requirements (IWR) increased the total yield by 10.72% and 13.43% and saved about 25.83% and 27.44% of (IWR) in the 1st and 2nd seasons, respectively. Increasing

the deficit irrigation to 50% of IWR resulted in a severe yield reduction (29.20 % and 24.30%), but increased the water saving to about 51.11% and 53.80% of IWR in the 1st and 2nd seasons, respectively. From the present study, it could observe that the highest fruit yield was obtained from plants grown with no-stress (100% of IWR), while, deficit irrigation decreased fruit yield. The amount of saved water increased sharply by deficit irrigation treatments. In conclusion, deficit irrigation could be considered as a suitable irrigation technique for mango production, where the benefit from saving large amounts of water outweighs the decrease in total yield.

Date in **Tables (5 and 6)** show the effect of ZnSO₄ NPs fertilization on reduction of yield. Addition of 100 ppm of nano Zn fertilization to Nawomy plants increased the total yield by 5.83% and 5.44% in the first and second seasons, respectively, while the low concentration (50 ppm) resulted in a severe yield increasing (0.62% and 2.88%) in the first and second seasons, respectively. On the other hand, addition of 100 ppm of nano Zn fertilization to Sokary plants increased the total yield by 7.67% and 11.02% in the 1st and 2nd seasons, respectively, while, the low concentration (50 ppm) resulted in yield reduce of 2.78% and increased 0.82% in the first and second seasons, respectively. It could conclude that the highest fruit yield was obtained from plants grown with addition of 100 ppm of nano Zn fertilization.

Data in **Tables (5 and 6)** show the effect of interaction between regulated deficit irrigation and ZnSO₄ NPs fertilization on irrigation water saving (%), reduction in yield (%) for "Nawomy" and "Sokary" mango cultivars during 2016 and 2017 seasons. The results show that the best treatments were the interaction between 75% irrigation treatment with addition of 100 ppm nano Zn treatment, where this interaction saved water of about 24.17, 25.83 and 26.63, 27.45% with Nawomy and Sokary plants which was reflected on increased yield of about 13.62, 23.10 and 14.10, 22.91% in the first and second season, respectively. The data show that the highest increase in yield was with the interaction between 100% irrigation treatment with 100 ppm nano Zn treatment, while the highest reduction was recorded with the interaction between 50% irrigation treatment with no addition of nano Zn fertilization.

Table 5. Effect of interaction between regulated deficit irrigation and ZnSO₄ NPs fertilization on irrigation water saving (%), reduction in yield (%) and water use efficiency (kg.m⁻³) of "Nawomy" mango cultivar during 2016 and 2017 seasons

Parameter Zn T. (ppm)	WUE (kg.m ⁻³)				IWS (%)				YR (%)			
	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean of Zn	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean of Zn	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean of Zn
<i>First season (2016)</i>												
0	0.827	1.076	1.061	0.988					0.00	1.39	39.46	13.617
50	0.884	1.165	1.205	1.085	0.00	24.167	52.778	25.65	-6.89	-6.84	31.23	-5.83
100	0.963	1.239	1.259	1.154					-16.40	-13.62	28.16	-0.62
Mean of RDI	0.891	1.160	1.175						-7.76	-6.357	32.950	
<i>Second season (2017)</i>												
0	0.931	1.238	1.169	1.113					0.00	2.40	37.78	13.393
50	0.995	1.311	1.38	1.229	0.00	26.63	53.261	26.63	-6.89	-3.33	26.54	-5.44
100	1.072	1.448	1.491	1.337					-15.19	-14.1	20.63	-2.88
Mean of RDI	0.999	1.332	1.347						-7.36	-5.010	28.317	

Notes: RDI, WUE, IWS, YR refers to regulated deficit irrigation, Water use efficiency, Irrigation water Save and Reduction in yield and the negative sign in the tables indicates an increase in the crop, respectively.

Table 6. Effect of interaction between regulated deficit irrigation and ZnSO₄ NPs fertilization on irrigation water saving (%), reduction in yield (%) and water use efficiency (kg.m⁻³) of "Sokary" mango cultivar during 2016 and 2017 seasons

Parameter Zn T. (ppm)	WUE (kg.m ⁻³)				IWS (%)				YR (%)			
	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean of Zn	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean of Zn	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean of Zn
<i>First season (2016)</i>												
0	0.65	0.87	0.85	0.790					0.00	0.52	35.94	12.153
50	0.72	0.96	0.96	0.880	0.00	25.833	51.111	25.65	-10.11	-9.59	28.04	2.78
100	0.80	1.08	1.01	0.963					-23.54	-23.1	23.62	-7.67
Mean of RDI	0.723	0.970	0.940						-11.21	-10.723	29.200	
<i>Second season (2017)</i>												
0	0.72	1.03	1.03	0.927					0.00	-3.75	30.92	9.057
50	0.84	1.13	1.08	1.017	0.00	27.446	53.804	27.08	-16.34	-13.65	27.53	-0.82
100	0.90	1.22	1.28	1.133					-24.61	-22.91	14.46	-11.02
Mean of RDI	0.820	1.127	1.130						-13.65	-13.437	24.303	

Notes: RDI, WUE, IWS, YR refers to regulated deficit irrigation, Water use efficiency, Irrigation water Save and Reduction in yield and the negative sign in the tables indicates an increase in the crop, respectively.

2. Fruit set percentage

As shown in **Table (7)**, fruit set percentage was significantly improved in response to spraying nanoparticles of Zn micronutrient at 100 ppm on both mango cultivars during both seasons as compared to the control treatment (without Zn spray). The increasing in number of set fruits was associated with increasing concentrations of nano Zn micronutrient. The highest values of fruit set were detected on the Nawomy and Sokary mango trees that sprayed with NPs-ZnSO₄ at 100 ppm (13.09 and 13.50 %) and (12.17 and 12.55 %) during both seasons. The untreated trees produced the lowest values (10.82 and 10.96 %) and (10.41 and 10.65%) during both seasons.

Data in **Table (7)** show the effect of RDI treatments on fruit set % of Nawomy and Sokary mango trees, it could be noticed that trees irrigated with 100 and 75 % of ETc gave the highest values of fruit set percentage in both seasons, respectively compared to 50% of ETc treatment which recorded the lowest values in this respect. Concerning the interaction between the two factors under study, the highest values were recorded with application of 100% or 75% of ETc +100 ppm nano Zn treatments without significant differences between them in both seasons, while, the 50% of ETc + no nano Zn had the most depressive effect in this respect. These results are matched with those of **Kamiab and Zamanibahramabadi (2016)** who found that the highest percentages of initial and final fruit set and yield per shoot were observed in "Shokufeh Almond" cultivar with nano-chelate super plus ZFM 2g/l (Zinc, Iron and Manganese), fertilizer spraying in two stages and the lowest percentage of initial and final fruit set was observed in control treatment in all tested cultivars.

3. Total yield and number of fruits per tree

Data in **Table (7)** show the effect of nanoparticles of Zn micronutrient, regulated deficit irrigation and their interaction treatments on yield (Kg.tree⁻¹) of "Nawomy" and "Sokary" mango cvs. during 2016 and 2017 seasons. Concerning, the nanoparticles effect, NPs-ZnSO₄ at 100 ppm treatment gave the highest significant values (17.37 and 18.56 kg.tree⁻¹) on Nawomy and Sokary mango cvs. (14.59 and 15.53 kg.tree⁻¹) in both seasons, respectively. Regarding to RDI treatments effect, 100 % and 75 % of ETc treatments showed a higher significant values (18.60 and 19.65 kg. tree⁻¹); (18.36 and 19.22 kg. tree⁻¹) on Nawomy cv. and (15.07 and 16.07 kg. tree⁻¹); (15.00 and 16.04 kg. tree⁻¹) on Sokary mango cvs. compared to 50% of ETc treatment in both seasons, respectively. **Subbaiah et al. (2017)** found that the maximum

fruit number, yield per tree, fruit weight and total sugars were observed in RDI at 100 % Ep, followed by PRD at 75% Ep on Banganpalli mango trees during two seasons. The interaction between the two studied factors, 100 and RDI-75 % of ETc with NPs-ZnSO₄ at 100 ppm treatments gave the highest values (20.09 and 21.08 kg.tree⁻¹); (19.61 and 20.88 kg.tree⁻¹) for "Nawomy" cv. and (16.74 and 17.62 kg.tree⁻¹); (16.68 and 17.38 kg.tree⁻¹) for "Sokary" cv. in both seasons, respectively. However, 50 % of ETc without NPs-ZnSO₄ treatment gave the lowest values (10.45 and 10.74 kg.tree⁻¹) for "Nawomy" cv. and (8.68 and 9.36 kg.tree⁻¹) for "Sokary" in both seasons, respectively. These results are in harmony with those obtained by **Zagzog and Gad (2017)** on mango trees and **El-Said et al. (2019)** who worked on Flame Seedless Grape using five levels of nano-zinc (0, Zinc sulphat at 565 ppm, Zinc EDTA at 140 ppm, nano zinc at 0.4 ppm, nano zinc at 0.8 ppm and nano zinc at 1.2 ppm). They showed that 0.4, 0.8 and 1.2 ppm of nano-zinc had a significant increase in yield compared with the conventional fertilizer.

As for the nanoparticles effect on number of fruits per tree, data in **Table (8)** revealed that number of fruits per tree was significantly improved owing to spraying Nawomy and Sokary mango trees with NPs-ZnSO₄ fertilization compared to the control. Spraying NPs-ZnSO₄ at 100 ppm was significantly superior than using NPs-ZnSO₄ at 0.00 or 50 ppm in improving the number of fruits per tree in both seasons. Concerning, the effect of RDI treatments, data in the same table clearly show that increasing amount of irrigation water from 50 to 100% ETc had no significant promotion on number of fruits per tree for "Nawomy" and "Sokary" mango cvs. in the first season, while trees irrigated with 100 and RDI-75 % of ETc gave the highest values of number of fruits per tree (47.42 and 46.42) and (34.67 and 35.66) for "Nawomy" and "Sokary" mango cvs. in the second season, respectively. Regarding the interaction between nanoparticles and regulated deficit irrigation treatments, the irrigation treatments with NPs-ZnSO₄ were significantly interactive for number of fruits per tree. The highest number of fruits per tree was given by 100% of ETc + NPs-ZnSO₄ at 100 ppm for "Nawomy" cv. and 100 or 75% of ETc + NPs-ZnSO₄ at 100 ppm for "Sokary" cv. in both seasons. However, RDI-50% of ETc without NPs-ZnSO₄ treatment had the lowest number of fruits per tree for the two cultivars in the both seasons. These observations are supported by the previous findings of **Davarpanah et al. (2016)** who reported that the foliar sprays of nano-fertilizers of zinc (636 mg Zn tree⁻¹) increased pomegranate fruit yield, and this was mainly due to increases in the number of fruits per tree.

Table 7. Effect of regulated deficit irrigation (RDI) and ZnSO₄ NPs fertilization treatments on fruit set and total yield per tree of "Nawomy" and "Sokary" mango cultivars during 2016 and 2017 seasons

Zn T. (ppm)	Fruit set (%)								Total yield (kg.tree ⁻¹)							
	"Nawomy" cv.				"Sokary" cv.				"Nawomy" cv.				"Sokary" cv.			
	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean
<i>First season (2016)</i>																
0	11.75 c	10.62 d	10.09 e	10.82C	10.94c	10.72cd	9.56e	10.41C	17.26 c	17.02 c	10.45 f	14.91 C	13.55 c	13.48 c	8.68 f	11.90 C
50	12.28 b	11.75 c	11.33 cd	11.79B	11.83ab	11.66b	10.08d	11.19B	18.45 b	18.44 b	11.87 e	16.25 B	14.92 b	14.85 b	9.75 e	13.17 B
100	13.70 a	13.65 a	11.91 bc	13.09A	12.92a	12.81a	10.77cd	12.17A	20.09a	19.61a	12.40 d	17.37 A	16.74 a	16.68 a	10.35 d	14.59 A
Mean	12.58 A	12.01 A	11.11 B		11.90A	11.73A	10.14B		18.60 A	18.36 A	11.57 B		15.07 A	15.00 A	9.59 B	
<i>Second season (2017)</i>																
0	12.46c	11.15e	9.28g	10.96C	11.89bcd	11.26cd	8.80f	10.65C	18.30 bc	17.86 c	10.74 f	15.63 C	14.14 c	14.67 c	9.36 e	12.72 C
50	13.02b	12.34c	10.42f	11.93B	12.62b	12.24bc	9.48e	11.45B	19.56 ab	18.91 b	12.68 e	17.05 B	16.45 ab	16.07 b	9.82 e	14.11 B
100	14.52a	14.54a	11.43d	13.50A	13.61a	13.58a	10.45d	12.55A	21.08 a	20.88 a	13.70 d	18.56 A	17.62 a	17.38 a	11.59 d	15.53 A
Mean	13.33A	12.68B	10.38C		12.71A	12.36A	9.57B		19.65 A	19.22 A	12.37 B		16.07 A	16.04 A	10.26 B	

Means having the same alphabetical litter (s) are not significantly differ at 0.05 level according to Duncan's multiple range test.

Table 8. Effect of regulated deficit irrigation (RDI) and ZnSO₄ NPs fertilization treatments on number of fruits per tree of "Nawomy" and "Sokary" mango cultivars during 2016 and 2017 seasons

Zn T. (ppm)	Number of fruits.tree ⁻¹							
	"Nawomy" cv.				"Sokary" cv.			
	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean
<i>First season (2016)</i>								
0	63.50d	62.83e	60.31g	62.21C	51.74c	51.83c	49.41e	50.99C
50	65.46b	64.24c	61.43f	63.71B	54.99b	54.46b	50.65d	53.37B
100	66.26a	65.89ab	63.27de	65.14A	56.39a	56.24a	54.97b	55.87A
Mean	65.07A	64.32B	61.67C		54.37A	54.18A	51.68B	
<i>Second season (2017)</i>								
0	66.11c	65.40d	59.84g	63.78B	52.52c	52.47c	48.90e	51.30C
50	67.12b	64.97e	59.03h	63.71B	53.91b	54.09b	50.69d	52.90B
100	69.03a	68.87a	63.46f	67.12A	58.57a	58.41a	53.92b	56.97A
Mean	67.42A	66.41A	60.78B		55.00A	54.99A	51.17B	

Means having the same alphabetical litter (s) are not significantly differ at 0.05 level according to Duncan's multiple range test.

4. Fruit physical characteristics

4.1. Fruit weight and size

Data presented in **Table (9)** reveal that fruit weight and volume were affected significantly by different concentration of NPs-ZnSO₄ fertilization treatments in both seasons. The highest fruit weight and volume values were recorded by NPs-ZnSO₄ at 100 ppm, followed by NPs-ZnSO₄ at 50 ppm in the both seasons. On the contrary, the lowest values were detected in NPs-ZnSO₄ at 0 ppm (control) treatment. The enhancement in fruit weight and size may be due to the catalytic action of micronutrients particularly at higher concentration (NPs-ZnSO₄ at 100 ppm). Hence, the foliar application of nano zinc quickly increased the uptake of macronutrients in the tissues and organs of the mango plants, decreased the nutritional deficiencies and improved fruit quality. These results are in harmony with those obtained by **Al-Amin and Jayasuriya (2007)**. As for the effect of regulated deficit irrigation (RDI) treatments on fruit weight and volume, data in the same table show that the irrigating mango trees with 100% of ETc and RDI-75 % of ETc showed the most effective effect on fruit weight and volume as compared with irrigating trees with RDI-50 % of ETc in both seasons. Regarding the interaction effect, data in the same table indicate that the highest fruit weight and volume were observed in RDI-100 % or RDI-75 % of ETc + NPs-ZnSO₄ at 100 ppm, while, the lowest ones were obtained with irrigating trees with RDI-50 % of ETc without applying NPs-ZnSO₄ in both seasons.

4.2. Fruit length and width

The obtained results from **(Table 10)** show that fruit length and width of "Nawomy" mango cultivar was affected by foliar application of NPs-ZnSO₄ fertilization and the highest values of fruit length and width were recorded with NPs-ZnSO₄ at 100 ppm, followed by NPs-ZnSO₄ at 50 ppm in comparison to NPs-ZnSO₄ at control (without Zn applications) in both seasons. However, there were no significant differences among NPs-ZnSO₄

treatments on "Sokary" cv. in both seasons. As for regulated deficit irrigation (RDI) effect, the highest values of fruit length and width were found with applying RI-100 % followed by RDI-75% of ETc without significant differences compared to RDI-50 % of ETc treatment. Concerning, the interaction effect between regulated deficit irrigation (RDI) and application of NPs-ZnSO₄ treatments, data in the same table show that irrigating trees with RDI-100 % and RDI-75 % of ETc + spraying NPs-ZnSO₄ at 100 ppm gave the highest fruit length and width, while RDI-50 % of ETc without NPs-ZnSO₄ treatment had the lowest fruit length and fruit width in both seasons. These results are in harmony with those obtained by **Zagzog and Gad (2017)**, who found that nano-zinc treatments recorded the highest values of fruit length and width as well as increased yield as number of fruit or weight per tree of mango trees. Also, **Razzaq et al. (2013)** reported that trees sprayed with 0.6% zinc sulfate exhibited highest increase in fruit diameter and fruit weight compared to control treatment with better fruit quality in 'Kinnow' mandarin.

5. Fruit chemical characteristics of the fruit

5.1. Total soluble solids (TSS %) and total reducing sugars

Data in **Table (11)** show that foliar application of NPs-ZnSO₄ positively improved total soluble solids percentage (TSS %) and total sugar in juice of "Nawomy" and "Sokary" mango cultivars. The statistical analysis show that the highest values of total soluble solids in juice (TSS %) and total sugar were recorded with spraying 100 ppm NPs-ZnSO₄ treatment, followed by 50 ppm NPs-ZnSO₄ in both seasons. Data also reveal that in both study seasons, total soluble solids percentage in fruit juice (TSS %) and total sugar percentages were increased linearly with increasing the amount of irrigation water. The irrigating trees with RDI 100 % ETc gave the highest TSS % and total sugar values, followed by RDI-75 % of ETc in 2016 and 2017 seasons. On the other hand, irrigating trees with RDI- 50% of ETc had the most depressive effect on total soluble solids (TSS %) and total sugar values in both

seasons. These results are matched with those of **Gugulethu (2006)** who reported that the RDI treatment (75 % of the amount of irrigation water applied) improved the total soluble solids concentration (TSS %) of "Kent" mango fruits.

Data presented in **Table (11)** indicate that total soluble solids (TSS%) and total reducing sugar were significantly influenced by the interaction between different irrigation levels and NPs-ZnSO₄ treatments. The highest TSS % and total reducing sugar were noticed with applying irrigation water at 100 % of ETc with spraying NPs-ZnSO₄ at 100 ppm treatment which did not differ statistically than RDI-75% of ETc with spraying NPs-ZnSO₄ at 100 ppm treatment in 2016 and 2017 seasons. However, the lowest TSS % and total reducing sugar values were recorded with applying RDI-50% of ETc without spraying NPs-ZnSO₄ in both seasons. These results are matched with those of **Davarpanah et al. (2016)** who found that foliar sprays of nano-fertilizers of zinc increased total soluble solids (TSS %) and decreased total acidity (TA) of pomegranate fruits cv. "Ardestani". Also, **Razzaq et al. (2013)** found that foliar application of zinc sulfate up to 0.6% improved ascorbic acid content with better fruit quality in 'Kinnow' mandarin.

5.2. Total acidity and ascorbic acid content

Concerning total acidity percentage, data in **Table (12)** show that there were no significant differences among regulated deficit irrigation treatments and spraying mango with nano-zinc in both seasons. Total acidity percentage showed close values (1.31 and 1.44 %); (1.32 and 1.48 %) for "Nawomy" and (1.16 and 1.31%); (1.21 and 1.33%) for "Sokary" mango cultivars in first and second seasons, respectively. As, regard to the specific effect of foliar application of NPs-ZnSO₄ on ascorbic acid content (mg/ 100 g of pulp), data in **Table (13)** show that nano-zinc application caused the highest significant increase in ascorbic acid values. The highest values were obtained with NPs-ZnSO₄ at 100 ppm treatment (34.78 and 35.81 mg/ 100 g of pulp) for Nawomy and (25.50 and 26.31 mg/ 100 g of pulp) for Sokary

mango trees, followed by NPs-ZnSO₄ at 50 ppm treatment (34.24 and 34.64 mg/ 100 g of pulp) for Nawomy and (25.12 and 25.58 mg/100 g of pulp) for Sokary mango trees during first and second seasons, respectively. However, the lowest values of ascorbic acid were noticed with non-sprayed trees in both seasons. **Table (12)** reveal that irrigating trees with 100 % and RDI-75 % of ETc gave the highest ascorbic acid values as compared to RDI- 50 % of ETc which had the most depressive effect of ascorbic acid values in both seasons. Regarding, the interaction effect between regulated deficit irrigation (RDI) and nano-zinc applications, the results in the same table indicate that ascorbic acid content of both mango cultivars was increased due to regulated deficit irrigation + nano- zinc treatments. Furthermore, the irrigating trees with RDI-100 or RDI-75 % of ETc + NPs-ZnSO₄ at 100 ppm treatments proved to be the superior interaction treatment in increasing ascorbic acid values in both seasons, However, irrigating trees with 50% of ETc + without NPs-ZnSO₄ treatment gave the lowest ascorbic acid values. These observations are supported by the previous findings by various workers (**Anees et al., 2011; Kumar and Singh, 2018**) on mango trees who revealed that the application of foliar spray of ZnSO₄ at 0.4 % + Boric acid at 0.2 % + CuSO₄ at 0.2 % significantly increased the chemical properties of fruits than the control. Whereas, trees sprayed with ZnSO₄ showed the maximum total soluble solids, ascorbic acid and non-reducing sugars with low acidity in comparison to rest of control.

Table 9. Effect of regulated deficit irrigation (RDI) and ZnSO₄ NPs fertilization treatments on fruit weight and size of "Nawomy" and "Sokary" mango cultivars during 2016 and 2017 seasons

Zn T. (ppm)	Fruit weight (g)								Fruit size (ml)							
	"Nawomy" cv.				"Sokary" cv.				"Nawomy" cv.				"Sokary" cv.			
	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean
<i>First season (2016)</i>																
0	271.81b	270.89b	173.27d	238.66B	261.89c	260.08c	175.67f	232.55C	333.69b	328.18bc	248.71d	303.53C	326.60ab	315.21b	243.88d	295.23B
50	281.85ab	287.05ab	193.23c	254.04AB	271.32b	272.68b	192.50d	245.50B	349.52ab	339.31b	262.58cd	317.14B	348.07a	319.71b	245.87d	304.55A
100	303.20a	297.62a	195.99c	265.60A	296.86a	296.59a	188.28 e	260.58A	361.33a	358.34a	300.92c	340.20A	351.90a	322.02ab	252.90c	308.94A
Mean	285.62A	285.19A	187.49B		276.69A	276.45A	185.48B		348.18A	341.94A	270.74B		342.19A	318.98B	247.55C	
<i>Second season (2017)</i>																
0	276.74b	273.03b	179.46d	243.08B	269.17b	279.50b	191.41d	246.70B	353.71b	344.59c	228.81e	309.04C	346.20a	330.97a	224.37b	300.51B
50	291.37ab	291.09ab	214.81c	265.76AB	305.16a	297.10a	193.79d	265.35AB	370.49ab	356.28b	241.57de	322.78B	368.95a	335.70a	231.12b	311.92AB
100	305.42a	303.25a	215.95c	274.87A	300.91a	297.55a	214.98c	271.15A	383.01a	381.63a	288.88d	351.17A	373.01a	341.34a	245.31b	319.89A
Mean	291.18A	289.12A	203.41B		291.75A	291.38A	200.06B		369.07A	360.83A	253.09B		362.72A	336.00A	233.60B	

Means having the same alphabetical litter (s) are not significantly differ at 0.05 level according to Duncan's multiple range test.

Table 10. Effect of regulated deficit irrigation (RDI) and ZnSO₄ NPs fertilization treatments on fruit length and width of "Nawomy" and "Sokary" mango cultivars during 2016 and 2017 seasons

Zn T. (ppm)	Fruit length (cm)								Fruit width (cm)							
	"Nawomy" cv.				"Sokary" cv.				"Nawomy" cv.				"Sokary" cv.			
	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean	100% of ETc	RDI-75% of ETc	RDI-50% of ETc	Mean
<i>First season (2016)</i>																
0	10.19b	9.00c	8.93c	9.37C	9.65abc	9.93ab	8.85c	9.48A	7.65b	7.27c	7.05d	7.32B	7.60a	7.50ab	7.00b	7.37A
50	10.89ab	10.83ab	9.00c	10.24B	10.32a	10.00ab	9.03bc	9.78A	8.17a	7.93ab	7.33bc	7.81AB	7.80a	7.60a	7.00b	7.47A
100	11.63a	11.45a	9.95bc	11.01A	10.50a	10.27a	9.07bc	9.95A	8.56a	8.23a	7.74b	8.18A	8.00a	7.85a	7.03b	7.63A
Mean	10.90A	10.43A	9.29B		10.16A	10.07A	8.98 B		8.13 A	7.81AB	7.37B		7.80A	7.65A	7.01B	
<i>Second season (2017)</i>																
0	10.80c	9.45d	8.22e	9.49C	10.23a	10.43a	8.14b	9.60 A	8.11ab	7.63b	6.49c	7.41B	8.06a	7.88ab	6.44b	7.46A
50	11.54b	11.37b	8.28e	10.40B	10.94a	10.50a	8.49b	9.98 A	8.66a	8.33a	6.75c	7.91AB	8.27a	7.98a	6.58b	7.61A
100	12.33a	12.19a	9.55d	11.36A	11.13a	10.89a	8.80b	10.27A	9.07a	8.76a	7.43b	8.42A	8.48a	8.32a	6.82b	7.87A
Mean	11.56A	11.01A	8.68B		10.77A	10.61A	8.48 B		8.61A	8.24A	6.89B		8.27A	8.06A	6.61B	

Means having the same alphabetical litter (s) are not significantly differ at 0.05 level according to Duncan's multiple range test.

Table 11. Effect of regulated deficit irrigation (RDI) and ZnSO₄ NPs fertilization treatments on TSS and total sugar of "Nawomy" and "Sokary" mango cultivars fruits during 2016 and 2017 seasons

Zn T. (ppm)	TSS (%)								Total sugars (%)							
	"Nawomy" cv.				"Sokary" cv.				"Nawomy" cv.				"Sokary" cv.			
	100% of ETc	RDI- 75% of ETc	RDI- 50% of ETc	Mean	100% of ETc	RDI- 75% of ETc	RDI- 50% of ETc	Mean	100% of ETc	RDI- 75% of ETc	RDI- 50% of ETc	Mean	100% of ETc	RDI- 75% of ETc	RDI- 50% of ETc	Mean
<i>First season (2016)</i>																
0	21.56bc	21.33cd	20.76e	21.22B	14.38bc	14.11c	12.41e	13.63C	10.11b	9.73bcd	8.85d	9.56 C	11.82d	11.69de	11.27e	11.59C
50	21.94ab	21.85abc	21.22d	21.67AB	15.25ab	14.78b	12.93de	14.32B	10.47ab	9.95bc	9.33cd	9.92 B	12.94abc	13.02ab	12.41c	12.79B
100	22.56a	22.51a	21.47bcd	22.18A	15.81a	15.55a	13.39d	14.92A	10.84a	10.41ab	9.97bc	10.41A	13.64a	13.32a	12.72bc	13.23A
Mean	22.02A	21.90A	21.15B		15.15A	14.81AB	12.91B		10.47A	10.03AB	9.38B		12.80A	12.68A	12.13B	
<i>Second season (2017)</i>																
0	22.85abc	22.40bc	19.10e	21.45B	15.24cd	14.82d	11.42f	13.83C	10.72b	10.22c	8.14e	9.69 C	12.53b	12.27c	10.37d	11.72B
50	23.26c	22.94ab	19.52e	21.91AB	16.17b	15.52c	12.15ef	14.61B	11.10ab	10.45bc	8.58e	10.04B	13.72ab	13.67ab	11.67cd	13.02A
100	23.91a	23.97a	20.61d	22.83A	16.76a	16.48ab	12.99e	15.41A	11.49a	11.09ab	9.57d	10.72A	14.46a	14.12a	12.34bc	13.64A
Mean	23.34A	23.10A	19.74B		16.06A	15.61B	12.19C		11.10A	10.58AB	8.77B		13.57A	13.35A	11.46B	

Means having the same alphabetical litter (s) are not significantly differ at 0.05 level according to Duncan's multiple range test.

Table 12. Effect of regulated deficit irrigation (RDI) and ZnSO₄ NPs fertilization treatments on acidity and ascorbic acid of "Nawomy" and "Sokary" mango cultivars fruits during 2016 and 2017 seasons

Zn T. (ppm)	Acidity (%)								Ascorbic acid (mg/100 g of fresh pulp)							
	"Nawomy" cv.				"Sokary" cv.				"Nawomy" cv.				"Sokary" cv.			
	100% of ETc	RDI- 75% of ETc	RDI- 50% of ETc	Mean	100% of ETc	RDI- 75% of ETc	RDI- 50% of ETc	Mean	100% of ETc	RDI- 75% of ETc	RDI- 50% of ETc	Mean	100% of ETc	RDI- 75% of ETc	RDI- 50% of ETc	Mean
<i>First season (2016)</i>																
0	1.38a	1.41a	1.44a	1.41A	1.22a	1.25a	1.31a	1.26A	33.39bc	32.95cd	32.45d	32.93B	24.28b	24.32b	23.61c	24.07B
50	1.35a	1.38a	1.43a	1.39A	1.24a	1.27a	1.29a	1.27A	34.82ab	34.80ab	33.11bcd	34.24A	25.71ab	25.54ab	24.12bc	25.12A
100	1.31a	1.34a	1.37a	1.34 A	1.16a	1.24a	1.27a	1.22A	35.45a	35.41a	33.47b	34.78A	26.45a	25.95a	24.11bc	25.50A
Mean	1.35A	1.38A	1.41A		1.21A	1.25A	1.29A		34.55A	34.39A	33.01B		25.48A	25.27A	23.95B	
<i>Second season (2017)</i>																
0	1.32a	1.42a	1.48a	1.41 A	1.21a	1.31a	1.33a	1.29A	35.39c	34.60d	29.85g	33.28B	25.74bc	25.54bc	21.72d	24.33C
50	1.32a	1.42a	1.45a	1.39A	1.21a	1.29a	1.31a	1.27A	36.91b	36.54bc	30.46f	34.64AB	27.25ab	26.82abc	22.67cd	25.58B
100	1.32a	1.39a	1.43a	1.38A	1.23a	1.23a	1.31a	1.26A	37.58a	37.71a	32.13e	35.81A	28.04a	27.51a	23.39c	26.31A
Mean	1.32B	1.41A	1.45A		1.22A	1.28A	1.32A		36.63A	36.28A	30.82B		27.01A	26.62A	22.59B	

Means having the same alphabetical litter (s) are not significantly differ at 0.05 level according to Duncan's multiple range test.

Conclusions

The amount of mango irrigation is important to improve the water-saving strategies for sustainable subtropical agriculture in orchard mango trees. In the Nawomy and Sokary mango trees studied, the highest yield and water-use efficiency were obtained with RDI-100% of ET_c or RDI-75% of ET_c treatment, and thus the RI-75% of ET_c is a recommended irrigation treatment that save 25% of irrigation water. In addition, the average fruits weight and size, length and width were larger for mango from the 100% of ET_c and RDI-75% of ET_c, with TSS %, total reducing sugars and ascorbic acid content being significantly greater than fruit of other irrigation treatments. Also, the results of this research are due to the beneficial effects of nano zinc foliar spray treatments that enhanced the fruiting of Nawomy and Sokary mango trees and this may be reflect on enhancing nutrient use efficiency. It could be concluded that irrigated trees at RDI- 75% of ET_c with foliar spraying of nano zinc (NPs-ZnSO₄ at 100 ppm) was the most effective treatment for increasing fruit set, total yield and physical and chemical characteristics of fruit as well as water use efficiency of Nawomy and Sokary mango trees.

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