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**CEBAS**  
CENTRO DE EDAFOLOGÍA Y  
BIÓLOGÍA APLICADA DEL SEGURA

**CSIC**  
CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTÍFICAS  
CENTRO DE EDAFOLOGÍA Y BIÓLOGÍA APLICADA DEL SEGURA

# The effect of fertilization regime on growth parameters of *Sonchus oleraceus* and two genotypes of *Portulaca oleracea*

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# 1. Introduction

## Wild Edible Plants importance

- ✓ Relevant nutricional values
- ✓ Medicinal properties
- ✓ High adaptance and climate conditions
- ✓ Good candidates for soil regeneration



*Portulaca oleracea*. L.

# 1. Introduction

## Wild Edible Plants importance

- ✓ Relevant nutricional values
- ✓ Medicinal properties
- ✓ High adaptance to soils and climate conditions
- ✓ Good candidates for soil regeneration



*Sonchus oleraceus* L.

# 1. Introduction

## Cultivation of WEPs

- ✓ Wide use in traditional diets
- ✓ Generally unknown cultivation practices
- ✓ Potential benefits of their cultivation:
  - Cultivation of high added value species
  - Exploitation of degraded soils
  - Restoration of degraded soils



## 2. Materials and Methods

Cultivation in Greenhouse  
conditions

## 2. Materials and Methods

Cultivation in pot experiment at different fertilization regime in Greenhouse conditions



*Sonchus oleraceus* L.



*Portulaca oleracea*. L.

Both genotypes: From Spain and Greece

## 2. Materials and Methods

Fertilization applied weekly

Inorganic Treatment

Organic Treatment  
(Compost extract)

Treatment	Fertilization
Control	No fertilization
IT1	NPK 100 - 100 - 100 ppm
IT2	NPK 300 - 100 - 100 ppm
IT3	NPK 600 - 100 - 100 ppm
IT4	NPK 300 - 200 - 100 ppm
IT5	NPK 300 - 300 - 100 ppm
IT6	NPK 300 - 200 - 200 ppm
IT7	NPK 300 - 300 - 300 ppm
OT1	NPK 300 - x - x ppm
OT2	NPK 300 - 200 - x ppm

- ✓ 3 Plants (Spanish and Greek purslane and sow-thistle)
- ✓ 9 Fertilization treatments + Control
- ✓ 4 Repetitions each

### 3. Results

### Greek Purslane

**Table 1.** Effects on Greek purslane of nutritional treatments: Control, no fertilization applied; IT1, 100-100-100 ppm; IT2, 300-100-100 ppm; IT3, 600-100-100 ppm; IT4, 300-200-100 ppm; IT5, 300-300-100 ppm; IT6, 300-200-200 ppm; IT7, 300-200-300 ppm; OT1, organic compost extracts (equivalent to 300 N ppm), OT2, organic compost extract + P inorg (equivalent to 300 N ppm – 200 P ppm) on leaves fresh and dry weight (LFW and LDW), shoots fresh and dry weight (SFW and SDW), and total aerial fresh and dry weight (TFW and TDW) of Greek purslane.

Treatment	LFW(g)	LDW(g)	SFW(g)	SDW(g)	TFW(g)	TDW(g)
<b>Control</b>	5.66 ± 0.69 a	0.48 ± 0.08 a	4.43 ± 1.59 a	0.4 ± 0.14 a	10.09 ± 1.92 a	0.88 ± 0.19 a
<b>IT1</b>	21.58 ± 2.35 bcd	1.79 ± 0.15 bc	20.36 ± 4.62 bc	1.72 ± 0.44 bcd	41.95 ± 3.31 bcd	3.51 ± 0.35 bc
<b>IT2</b>	28.53 ± 3.60 cde	2.43 ± 0.33 cd	29.03 ± 4.59 de	2.41 ± 0.67 cd	57.56 ± 7.24 de	4.84 ± 0.98 cd
<b>IT3</b>	42.12 ± 12..74 f	2.93 ± 0.68 d	40.24 ± 5.80 f	2.76 ± 0.67 d	82.36 ± 17.98 f	5.68 ± 1.31 d
<b>IT4</b>	31.99 ± 5.12 def	2.51 ± 0.60 cd	29.62 ± 3.89 de	2.27 ± 0.51 cd	61.61 ± 6.42 e	4.78 ± 1.07 cd
<b>IT5</b>	25.06 ± 3.17 bcde	2.09 ± 0.14 bcd	23.10 ± 2.71 cd	1.92 ± 0.47 bcd	48.15 ± 3.02 cde	4.00 ± 0.41 bcd
<b>IT6</b>	33.73 ± 4.02 ef	2.76 ± 0.46 d	30.78 ± 2.64 de	2.19 ± 0.54 bcd	64.50 ± 6.43 e	4.95 ± 0.98 cd
<b>IT7</b>	30.41 ± 1.54 def	2.61 ± 0.13 cd	32.13 ± 2.96 ef	2.69 ± 0.57 d	62.54 ± 2.08 e	5.30 ± 0.69 cd
<b>OT1</b>	15.98 ± 1.80 ab	1.41 ± 0.16 b	17.12 ± 3.23 bc	1.45 ± 0.25 abc	33.10 ± 3.63 bc	2.85 ± 0.38 b
<b>OT2</b>	17.21 ± 1.04 abc	1.5 ± 0.09 b	12.60 ± 1.04 ab	1.06 ± 0.11 ab	29.82 ± 1.70 b	2.56 ± 0.19 ab
<b>ANOVA</b>						
(F value	18.26 (0.001)	18.61 (0.001)	34.86 (0.001)	9.79 (0.001)	34.99 (0.001)	15.53 (0.001)
(P value)						

### 3. Results

### Greek Purslane

**Table 1.** Effects on Greek purslane of nutritional treatments: Control, no fertilization applied; IT1, 100-100-100 ppm; IT2, 300-100-100 ppm; IT3, 600-100-100 ppm; IT4, 300-200-100 ppm; IT5, 300-300-100 ppm; IT6, 300-200-200 ppm; IT7, 300-200-300 ppm; OT1, organic compost extracts (equivalent to 300 N ppm), OT2, organic compost extract + P inorg (equivalent to 300 N ppm – 200 P ppm) on leaves fresh and dry weight (LFW and LDW), shoots fresh and dry weight (SFW and SFW), and total aerial fresh and dry weight (TFW and TDW) of Greek purslane.

Treatment	LFW(g)	LDW(g)	SFW(g)	SDW(g)	TFW(g)	TDW(g)
<b>Control</b>	5.66 ± 0.69 a	0.48 ± 0.08 a	4.43 ± 1.59 a	0.4 ± 0.14 a	10.09 ± 1.92 a	0.88 ± 0.19 a
<b>IT1</b>	21.58 ± 2.35 bcd	1.79 ± 0.15 bc	20.36 ± 4.62 bc	1.72 ± 0.44 bcd	41.95 ± 3.31 bcd	3.51 ± 0.35 bc
<b>IT2</b>	28.53 ± 3.60 cde	2.43 ± 0.33 cd	29.03 ± 4.59 de	2.41 ± 0.67 cd	57.56 ± 7.24 de	4.84 ± 0.98 cd
<b>IT3</b>	42.12 ± 12..74 f	2.93 ± 0.68 d	40.24 ± 5.80 f	2.76 ± 0.67 d	82.36 ± 17.98 f	5.68 ± 1.31 d
<b>IT4</b>	31.99 ± 5.12 def	2.51 ± 0.60 cd	29.62 ± 3.89 de	2.27 ± 0.51 cd	61.61 ± 6.42 e	4.78 ± 1.07 cd
<b>IT5</b>	25.06 ± 3.17 bcde	2.09 ± 0.14 bcd	23.10 ± 2.71 cd	1.92 ± 0.47 bcd	48.15 ± 3.02 cde	4.00 ± 0.41 bcd
<b>IT6</b>	33.73 ± 4.02 ef	2.76 ± 0.46 d	30.78 ± 2.64 de	2.19 ± 0.54 bcd	64.50 ± 6.43 e	4.95 ± 0.98 cd
<b>IT7</b>	30.41 ± 1.54 def	2.61 ± 0.13 cd	32.13 ± 2.96 ef	2.69 ± 0.57 d	62.54 ± 2.08 e	5.30 ± 0.69 cd
<b>OT1</b>	15.98 ± 1.80 ab	1.41 ± 0.16 b	17.12 ± 3.23 bc	1.45 ± 0.25 abc	33.10 ± 3.63 bc	2.85 ± 0.38 b
<b>OT2</b>	17.21 ± 1.04 abc	1.5 ± 0.09 b	12.60 ± 1.04 ab	1.06 ± 0.11 ab	29.82 ± 1.70 b	2.56 ± 0.19 ab
<b>ANOVA</b>						
(F value	18.26 (0.001)	18.61 (0.001)	34.86 (0.001)	9.79 (0.001)	34.99 (0.001)	15.53 (0.001)
(P value)						

### 3. Results

### Spanish purslane

**Table 2.** Effects on Spanish purslane of nutritional treatments: Control, no fertilization applied; IT1, 100-100-100 ppm; IT2, 300-100-100 ppm; IT3, 600-100-100 ppm; IT4, 300-200-100 ppm; IT5, 300-300-100 ppm; IT6, 300-200-200 ppm; IT7, 300-200-300 ppm; OT1, organic compost extracts (equivalent to 300 N ppm), OT2, organic compost extract + P inorg (equivalent to 300 N ppm – 200 P ppm) on leaves fresh and dry weight (LFW and LDW), shoots fresh and dry weight (SFW and SDW), and total aerial fresh and dry weight (TFW and TDW).

Treatment	LFW(g)	LDW(g)	SFW(g)	SDW(g)	TFW(g)	TDW(g)
<b>Control</b>	4.08 ± 0.60 a	0.17 ± 0.04 a	5.63 ± 0.48 a	0.54 ± 0.07 a	9.72 ± 0.41 a	0.71 ± 0.07 a
<b>IT1</b>	15.24 ± 1.63 bc	0.98 ± 0.08 bc	25.83 ± 2.92 bcd	2.34 ± 0.29 bc	41.07 ± 3.51 bcd	3.32 ± 0.27 bcd
<b>IT2</b>	21.08 ± 2.44 cd	1.36 ± 0.37 cd	29.75 ± 3.83 cd	2.32 ± 0.55 bc	50.84 ± 5.68 cd	3.68 ± 0.80 bcd
<b>IT3</b>	36.01 ± 2.11 f	2.10 ± 0.14 e	44.92 ± 5.51 e	3.12 ± 0.68 c	80.93 ± 7.34 e	5.22 ± 0.69 e
<b>IT4</b>	23.90 ± 3.62 d	1.47 ± 0.17 cd	38.77 ± 8.13 de	3.09 ± 0.54 c	62.65 ± 11.69 d	4.55 ± 0.68 de
<b>IT5</b>	90.00 ± 3.13 cd	1.08 ± 0.42 bcd	29.10 ± 9.7 cd	2.22 ± 1.10 bc	48.08 ± 11.57 cd	3.30 ± 1.42 bcd
<b>IT6</b>	21.59 ± 4.46 d	1.05 ± 0.20 bcd	33.9 ± 3.60 de	2.62 ± 0.53 bc	55.54 ± 7.26 cd	3.67 ± 0.66 bcd
<b>IT7</b>	20.93 ± 1.76 cd	1.52 ± 0.13 d	33.00 ± 6.71 de	2.66 ± 0.78 bc	54.00 ± 6.33 cd	4.18 ± 0.70 cde
<b>OT1</b>	10.26 ± 1.27 ab	0.78 ± 0.08 b	18.40 ± 0.96 abc	1.82 ± 0.16 ab	28.66 ± 1.46 bc	2.60 ± 0.20 b
<b>OT2</b>	9.43 ± 2.22 ab	0.62 ± 0.16 ab	14.71 ± 5.55 ab	1.35 ± 0.50 ab	24.14 ± 7.75 b	1.97 ± 0.63 ab
<b>ANOVA</b>						
(F value)	48.81 (0.001)	25.56 (0.001)	18.08 (0.001)	7.07 (0.001)	32.19 (	
(P value)						

### 3. Results

### Spanish Purslane

**Table 2.** Effects on Spanish purslane of nutritional treatments: Control, no fertilization applied; IT1, 100-100-100 ppm; IT2, 300-100-100 ppm; IT3, 600-100-100 ppm; IT4, 300-200-100 ppm; IT5, 300-300-100 ppm; IT6, 300-200-200 ppm; IT7, 300-200-300 ppm; OT1, organic compost extracts (equivalent to 300 N ppm), OT2, organic compost extract + P inorg (equivalent to 300 N ppm – 200 P ppm) on leaves fresh and dry weight (LFW and LDW), shoots fresh and dry weight (SFW and SDW), and total aerial fresh and dry weight (TFW and TDW).

Treatment	LFW(g)	LDW(g)	SFW(g)	SDW(g)	TFW(g)	TDW(g)
<b>Control</b>	4.08 ± 0.60 a	0.17 ± 0.04 a	5.63 ± 0.48 a	0.54 ± 0.07 a	9.72 ± 0.41 a	0.71 ± 0.07 a
<b>IT1</b>	15.24 ± 1.63 bc	0.98 ± 0.08 bc	25.83 ± 2.92 bcd	2.34 ± 0.29 bc	41.07 ± 3.51 bcd	3.32 ± 0.27 bcd
<b>IT2</b>	21.08 ± 2.44 cd	1.36 ± 0.37 cd	29.75 ± 3.83 cd	2.32 ± 0.55 bc	50.84 ± 5.68 cd	3.68 ± 0.80 bcd
<b>IT3</b>	36.01 ± 2.11 f	2.10 ± 0.14 e	44.92 ± 5.51 e	3.12 ± 0.68 c	80.93 ± 7.34 e	5.22 ± 0.69 e
<b>IT4</b>	23.90 ± 3.62 d	1.47 ± 0.17 cd	38.77 ± 8.13 de	3.09 ± 0.54 c	62.65 ± 11.69 d	4.55 ± 0.68 de
<b>IT5</b>	90.00 ± 3.13 cd	1.08 ± 0.42 bcd	29.10 ± 9.7 cd	2.22 ± 1.10 bc	48.08 ± 11.57 cd	3.30 ± 1.42 bcd
<b>IT6</b>	21.59 ± 4.46 d	1.05 ± 0.20 bcd	33.9 ± 3.60 de	2.62 ± 0.53 bc	55.54 ± 7.26 cd	3.67 ± 0.66 bcd
<b>IT7</b>	20.93 ± 1.76 cd	1.52 ± 0.13 d	33.00 ± 6.71 de	2.66 ± 0.78 bc	54.00 ± 6.33 cd	4.18 ± 0.70 cde
<b>OT1</b>	10.26 ± 1.27 ab	0.78 ± 0.08 b	18.40 ± 0.96 abc	1.82 ± 0.16 ab	28.66 ± 1.46 bc	2.60 ± 0.20 b
<b>OT2</b>	9.43 ± 2.22 ab	0.62 ± 0.16 ab	14.71 ± 5.55 ab	1.35 ± 0.50 ab	24.14 ± 7.75 b	1.97 ± 0.63 ab
<b>ANOVA</b>						
(F value)	48.81 (0.001)	25.56 (0.001)	18.08 (0.001)	7.07 (0.001)	32.19 (0.001)	13.44 (0.001)
(P value)						

### 3. Results

### Sow-thistle

Table 3. Effects on sow-thistle of nutritional treatments: Control, no fertilization applied; IT1, 100-100-100 ppm; IT2, 300-100-100 ppm; IT3, 600-100-100 ppm; IT4, 300-200-100 ppm; IT5, 300-300-100 ppm; IT6, 300-200-200 ppm; IT7, 300-200-300 ppm; OT1, organic compost extracts (equivalent to 300 N ppm), OT2, organic compost extract + P inorg (equivalent to 300 N ppm – 200 P ppm) on leaves fresh weight (LFW), shoots fresh weight (SFW), and total aerial fresh (TFW).

Treatment	LFW (g)	SFW(g)	TFW(g)
<b>Control</b>	1.85 ± 1.39 a	5.04 ± 3.07 a	6.88 ± 4.45 a
<b>IT1</b>	12.07 ± 2.72 b	14.67 ± 4.19 ab	26.74 ± 4.84 b
<b>IT2</b>	31.05 ± 1.07 d	22.71 ± 5.54 bcd	53.76 ± 5.72 cd
<b>IT3</b>	39.16 ± 5.93 e	34.39 ± 6.44 e	73.55 ± 11.47 e
<b>IT4</b>	25.10 ± 0.83 cd	29.06 ± 2.57 cde	54.16 ± 3.12 cd
<b>IT5</b>	28.33 ± 3.71 cd	25.69 ± 4.21 bcde	54.01 ± 2.58 cd
<b>IT6</b>	24.65 ± 3.10 cd	27.52 ± 4.69 cde	52.17 ± 7.24 cd
<b>IT7</b>	28.17 ± 2.75 cd	31.97 ± 0.92 de	60.14 ± 2.23 de
<b>OT1</b>	23.09 ± 3.35 c	20.24 ± 4.06 bc	43.33 ± 4.75 c
<b>OT2</b>	22.76 ± 3.47 c	22.92 ± 7.26 bcd	45.68 ± 5.39 c
<b>ANOVA</b>			
(F value	42.09 (<0.001)	13.88 (<0.001)	41.18 (<0.001)
(P value)			

### 3. Results

### Sow-thistle

Table 3. Effects on sow-thistle of nutritional treatments: Control, no fertilization applied; IT1, 100-100-100 ppm; IT2, 300-100-100 ppm; IT3, 600-100-100 ppm; IT4, 300-200-100 ppm; IT5, 300-300-100 ppm; IT6, 300-200-200 ppm; IT7, 300-200-300 ppm; OT1, organic compost extracts (equivalent to 300 N ppm), OT2, organic compost extract + P inorg (equivalent to 300 N ppm – 200 P ppm) on leaves fresh weight (LFW), shoots fresh weight (SFW), and total aerial fresh (TFW).

Treatment	LFW (g)	SFW(g)	TFW(g)
<b>Control</b>	1.85 ± 1.39 a	5.04 ± 3.07 a	6.88 ± 4.45 a
<b>IT1</b>	12.07 ± 2.72 b	14.67 ± 4.19 ab	26.74 ± 4.84 b
<b>IT2</b>	31.05 ± 1.07 d	22.71 ± 5.54 bcd	53.76 ± 5.72 cd
<b>IT3</b>	39.16 ± 5.93 e	34.39 ± 6.44 e	73.55 ± 11.47 e
<b>IT4</b>	25.10 ± 0.83 cd	29.06 ± 2.57 cde	54.16 ± 3.12 cd
<b>IT5</b>	28.33 ± 3.71 cd	25.69 ± 4.21 bcde	54.01 ± 2.58 cd
<b>IT6</b>	24.65 ± 3.10 cd	27.52 ± 4.69 cde	52.17 ± 7.24 cd
<b>IT7</b>	28.17 ± 2.75 cd	31.97 ± 0.92 de	60.14 ± 2.23 de
<b>OT1</b>	23.09 ± 3.35 c	20.24 ± 4.06 bc	43.33 ± 4.75 c
<b>OT2</b>	22.76 ± 3.47 c	22.92 ± 7.26 bcd	45.68 ± 5.39 c
<b>ANOVA</b>			
(F value	42.09 (<0.001)	13.88 (<0.001)	41.18 (<0.001)
(P value)			

### 3. Results

Table 4. Effects on Greek purslane total leaves nutrient content of nutritional treatments: Control, no fertilization applied; IT2, 300-100-100 ppm; IT3, 600-100-100 ppm; IT4, 300-200-100 ppm; IT6, 300-200-200 ppm; OT1, organic compost extracts (equivalent to 300 N ppm) on leaves nutrient content: C (Carbon g/Kg), N (Nitrogen g/Kg), P (Phosphorous g/Kg) and K (Potassium g/Kg)

Treatment	C (g/Kg)	N (g/Kg)	P (g/Kg)	K (g/Kg)
Control	346.9 ± 6.4 a	10.9 ± 0.8 a	13.2 ± 1.3 c	41.1 ± 3
IT2	359.4 ± 7.5 b	16 ± 1.6 ab	4 ± 1.1 ab	40.5 ± 7.1
IT3	385.4 ± 5.9 c	29.9 ± 6.9 c	2.7 ± 0.4 a	36.1 ± 2.1
IT4	366.7 ± 0.8 b	18.6 ± 4.2 ab	5.3 ± 2.6 ab	41.3 ± 7.5
IT6	368.6 ± 3.2 b	19.2 ± 3.4 b	5.3 ± 1 ab	40.1 ± 4.9
OT1	357.3 ± 4.7 ab	15 ± 1 ab	5.8 ± 0.9 b	42.3 ± 7.1
ANOVA (F value (P value)	24.49 (<0.001)	12.47 (<0.001)	28.57 (<0.001)	0.58 (<0.72)

### 3. Results

**Table 5.** Effects on Greek purslane total leaves nutrient content of nutritional treatments: Control, no fertilization applied; IT2, 300-100-100 ppm; IT3, 600-100-100 ppm; IT4, 300-200-100 ppm; IT6, 300-200-200 ppm; OT1, organic compost extracts (equivalent to 300 N ppm) on leaves nutrient content: K (Potassium g/Kg), Mg (Magnesium g/Kg), Fe (Iron g/Kg), Ca (Calcium g/Kg) and S (Sulfur g/Kg).

Treatment	Mg (g/Kg)	Fe(g/Kg)	Ca (g/Kg)	S (g/Kg)
Control	7.7 ± 3.7 b	0.059 ± 0.026	9.30 ± 4.2 b	0.9 ± 0.1 a
IT2	4.2 ± 0.5 ab	0.061 ± 0.040	4.7 ± 1.1 a	1.9 ± 0.8 ab
IT3	3.56 ± 0.2 a	0.011 ± 0.054	4.7 ± 0.4 a	2.6 ± 0.4 b
IT4	3.5 ± 0.07 a	0.073 ± 0.036	4.3 ± 0.37 a	1.9 ± 0.6 ab
IT6	3.1 ± 0.3 a	0.045 ± 0.050	3.8 ± 0.6 a	2 ± 0.5 ab
OT1	3.5 ± 0.5 a	0.061 ± 0.027	4.3 ± 0.6 a	1.5 ± 0.4 ab
ANOVA (F value (P value)	4.99 (0.005)	1.60 (0.20)	5.02 (0.005)	4.83 (<0.05)

# Conclusions

- ✓ The application of both inorganic and organic fertilization promoted growth in both WEPs
- ✓ The response to nutrient demand differed between species: Purslane only showed high response to nitrogen. Sow-thistle also showed high response to potassium and compost extract.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION**