

Table 1. Analysis of variance (ANOVA) and F-test for the mean of the measured growth parameters and plant chemical composition of corn seedlings under different salinity levels

NaCl (g/L)	Growth criteria						Plant chemical contents				
	GP, %	PL, cm	RL, cm	RL/PL	VI	TDW, g	SI	Chl-C	PSC	PPC	Prol-C
0	97.00 ^a	34.04 ^a	41.58 ^a	1.28 ^a	32.90 ^a	0.42 ^a	100.00 ^a	20.30 ^a	0.04 ^f	0.55 ^a	200.00 ^f
1	95.50 ^{ab}	22.67 ^b	27.75 ^b	1.24 ^b	22.42 ^b	0.28 ^b	64.61 ^b	19.30 ^{ab}	0.64 ^e	0.41 ^b	375.00 ^e
2	94.00 ^{ab}	12.33 ^c	10.12 ^c	0.95 ^c	11.99 ^c	0.18 ^c	45.78 ^c	20.03 ^a	1.11 ^d	0.31 ^c	495.00 ^d
4	92.66 ^b	6.75 ^d	2.08 ^d	0.57 ^d	6.70 ^c	0.15 ^d	34.44 ^d	18.42 ^b	1.84 ^c	0.19 ^d	725.00 ^c
6	87.50 ^c	5.70 ^e	1.80 ^d	0.50 ^e	5.04 ^c	0.11 ^e	24.85 ^e	15.25 ^c	2.61 ^b	0.13 ^e	825.00 ^b
8	76.50 ^d	3.25 ^f	0.94 ^e	0.39 ^f	2.56 ^d	0.05 ^f	19.50 ^e	13.60 ^d	4.14 ^a	0.06 ^f	960.00 ^a
Priming	94.83 ^a	14.52 ^a	14.37 ^a	0.89 ^a	14.04 ^a	0.21 ^a	48.34 ^a	19.37 ^a	1.99 ^a	0.31 ^a	626.66 ^a
Un-priming	86.22 ^b	13.73 ^b	13.72 ^b	0.73 ^b	13.16 ^b	0.19 ^b	48.05 ^a	16.72 ^b	1.45 ^b	0.25 ^b	566.66 ^b
LSD _{0.05} (Salinity)	3.12	0.53	0.50	0.02	0.76	0.01	5.17	1.24	0.11	0.03	12.94
LSD _{0.05} (Priming)	1.80	0.31	0.28	0.01	0.44	0.01	3.30	0.71	0.06	0.02	7.47
LSD _{0.05} (Salinity X Priming)	26.84	2.17	1.64	0.13	1.44	0.04	14.54	3.18	0.93	0.04	51.34
Source of variance	<i>F-test</i>										
Salinity	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
Priming	**	**	**	**	**	**	ns	**	**	**	**
Salinity X Priming	**	**	**	**	ns	*	*	*	**	ns	*

GP: germination percentage; PL: plumule length; RL: radical length; RL/PL: radical/Plumule length; VI: vigor index; TDW: total dry weight; SI: salinity index; Chl-C: chlorophyll content; PSC& PPC: plumule sodium and potassium concentration, respectively; Prol-C: proline concentration.

* **: Significant at 0.05and 0.01 probability levels, respectively. ns: non-significant