Effect of nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizer on herb yield and cadmium content of Hypericum perforatum L.

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Unsuitable application of fertilizer can cause inevitable problems such as cadmium and nitrate accumulation in plants, contaminating of the under ground water, lower efficiency of fertilizer and waste of money. In this respect the reserach caried out for the study of nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizer on herb yield and cadmium content of ( Hypericum perforatum L.). St. john's wort is one of the most important medicinal plant that used in pharmaceutical industry of developing country. Cultivation of the plant developed during recent years in Iran. Results show that higher yield of the plant in the first harvest (3195 g/plot) belong to treatment number seven (N250P0) and the lowest one (2375 g/plot) belong to check treatment. Results on the fresh herb yield of second harvest show no significant difference . All fertilizer treatments increased number offlowering stem significantly at 0.05 level in comparision to control. Results on the cadmium content of the sample show that fertilizer treatments increase cadmium accumulation. There is the lowest content of cadmium (0.091 mg/Kg dry weight) in control and the highest one (0.269 mg/Kg dry weight) in the treatment number eight (N150P200). Cadmium content of the sample from treatment number eight was lower than the recomended level (0.5 mg/Kg dry weight ) and therefor there is no harmfull effect.