NAKED SEED PUMPKIN, (Cucrbita pepo var. styriaca), A NEW PLANT FOR IRANIAN PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRIES AROIEE, HI, OMIDBAIGI, R1.

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Pumpkin seeds have been used for a long time in natural medicine because of their positive influence on bladder and prostate. Pumpkinseeds tone the bladder - muscles and minimize the enlargment of the prostate glands. Common pumpkin (var. styriaca) is an annual plant, has sprawling, prickly stems, tendrils opposite large leaves, large, orange - yellow male flowers in leaf axils, female flowers on stalks, and green to orange fruit. The hull - less seeds are high in unsaturated fats and protein as well as vitamins E and A. The specific components are known to prevent bladder and prostate problems. The inorganic elements specialy zinc (Zn) is high in the seeds that effective in prevention of prostate problem, too. Environmental conditions such as water, salt or nutritional stresses influenced the production of its active substances. In this research pumpkin seeds were soaked at four different levels of NaCl, 0, 2.5, 5 and 10 grl-1. After 36 hr the seeds rinsed in tap water, then the seeds of each treatments sowed. The statistical design was RCBD, that each groups of treatments has three replicates. In this research, seed yield, oil seed content and B - sitostrol of oil determined. The results showed that the 2.5 and 5 grl-1 NaCl result in oil seed and its B - sitostrol and zinc of seeds increased.