

The effect of different levels of topping on some qualitative and quantitative characteristics of grape (*Vitis vinifera* L. cv. Soltana)

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The experiment was done based on the randomized complete block design (RCBD) with 4 replication and 11 treatments. Analysis of variance of the data was run and means were compared by "Duncan's multiple range test". The results showed that topping had significant effect on yield, total soluble solid (T.S.S), berry size and shoot dry matter, but no significant effect on the acidity and pH of the berry juice.

Topping 40% of shoots resulted in yield increment while it didn't show any difference when 50% of shoots were topped. Removing 50% of shoot increased sugar content of berries but no effect when 60% of shoot were removed.

Berry size increased in treatments of 40% and 50% topping and shoot dry matter of current season increased when 50% of shoots were topped.

It can be concluded that 50% topping consisting of removing all the lateral shoots 10% and 20% of the productive shoots (the last 16 leaves), plus removing of 20% fruitless shoots (the last 8 leaves), is useful practice to raise the quality and quantity of yield in the climate conditions similar to Khalaat Pooshan research station.