Effect of saline and saline-sodic soils on soil *Rhizobium* population and yield of soybean

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**SUMMARY**

A pot culture experiment was conducted to study the effect of saline and saline-sodic soils on *Rhizobium* population and its influence on growth and yield of soybean during Kharif-2008, in the Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry at Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri. The maximum rhizobial population and root nodulation was observed in normal soil with low pH and lower salt concentration. The pH of this soil was observed to be favourable for the microbial growth. The soil rhizobial population was lower in saline soil than the normal soil due to increased pH and high salt concentration. A significant increase in yield was also observed by *Bradyrhizobium* seed inoculation in saline-sodic soils over the uninoculated treatment.

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