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Effect of Growth Season on Forage Yields of Different Brassica Cultivars Under Ankara Conditions

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Abstract: This research was carried out at the experimental field of Ankara University, Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Field Crops in Turkey in 1997 and 1998. Spring and summer seedings were employed in both years. The introduced kale cultivars Vates, Siberian and Premier (Brassica oleracea L. var. acephala), forage rape cultivar Emerald (Brassica rapa L.) and Collard cultivars Vates, Champion and Georgia Southern (Brassica oleracea L.) were used as the research materials. The effect of the growth season on forage Brassica yields was evident, and generally the yields of summer-grown cultivars were higher. The highest forage yields and crude protein contents were obtained from the summer-grown forage rape cultivar Emerald. This cultivar can be seeded in July under irrigated conditions. The yield of the kale cultivar Premier was also high. It was concluded that the forage kale cultivar Premier can also be summer-seeded under irrigated conditions. It appears that July 15 is a suitable time for seeding these as a second crop, and that they can be grown successfully under irrigated conditions.

Key Words: Forage brassicas, kale, rape, collard, forage yields

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