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## Horticultural Research (Japan)

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### **Evaluation of Nitrogen Availability Based on the Arsenic-Induced Extractable Soil Organic Nitrogen and Suggestion for Fertilization in Rain Shelter-grown Spinach**

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Absorbance at 280 nm in soil extracts with 0.4 M sulfate solution was used to estimate the concentration of total N in the extracts of different soils. Therefore, an easy detection procedure for evaluating available N in soil. To estimate the amount of spinach grown triannually under a rain shelter, the amount of 0.4 M sulfate solution and organic nitrogen in the soil was determined before cultivation in the

prefecture, Japan. Total nitrogen uptake of spinach grown without fertilizer sites showed a tendency to increase when the amount of 0.4 M sulfanilic acid nitrogen in soil was increased, while N uptake efficiency tended to decrease over 540 mg•kg<sup>-1</sup> of the extractable organic N in soil. Application of 200 mg•kg<sup>-1</sup> was effective in increasing the yield, while reducing internal nitrate concentration in spinach. However, the internal nitrate concentration in spinach exceeded 3,000 mg•kg<sup>-1</sup> when there was over 540 mg•kg<sup>-1</sup> of 0.4 M sulfanilic acid nitrogen in soil. These findings indicate that the determination of 0.4 M sulfanilic acid organic nitrogen in soil might contribute to the fertilization of rain shelter-grown spinach.

**Key Words:** [fertilization](#), [manure compost](#), [nitrogen uptake](#), [sulfanilic acid nitrogen](#)

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