

## 2<sup>nd</sup> National Congress on Medicinal Plants 15, 16 May 2013 Tehran- Iran



## STUDY OF DIFFERENT WEED MANAGEMENT METHODS OF THYME (THYMUS VULGARIS L.)

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In order to compare different weed management methods and selection of the best control method in Thyme, an experiment was carried out into a randomized complete block design with 16 treatments and three replications in 2008-2009 at the research field of the medicinal plants departments, Shahed University, Tehran, Iran. Two series of 8 treatments were applied on 2 and 3 year old of Thyme (Thymus vulgaris L.). At each experiment, treatment included: Weeding (Spring), Cultivation (Autumn and Spring), Cultivation (Spring), Ronstar (2 litr/ha), Ronstar (3 litr/ha), Ronstar (4 litr/ha) and two treatments weeding or keep weedy in whole season were also included as checks. Although, all treatments in both experiments showed significant effects (p≤0.01) on the fresh and dry weights of weeds and Thyme yield including fresh and dry weight, percentage of essence and yield of essence, but the effect of each treatment by itself, was not as much as the effect of full-season control of weed . The best treatment for reduction of fresh and dry weed weight and also to increase fresh and dry yield and essence yield for 2 and 3 year old Thyme was weeding after full-season control of weed. In contrast, the best treatment to increase the percentage of essence was cultivation (Autumn and Spring) and to reduce the percentage of essence was Ronstar (2litr/ha).