

Supplementary files

Table S1. Growth parameter of lettuce seedling as affected by drought stress during the experiment.

Treatment time (day)	Treatment	Epicotyl (cm)	Number of leaves (ea)	Leaf length (cm)	Leaf width (cm)
0	Control	0.11±0.03e	2.0±0.00e	3.78±0.41f	1.92±0.17c
	Drought	0.28±0.04cd	3.2±0.42cd	6.66±0.44cd	2.96±0.17b
2	Control	0.26±0.05cd	3.0±0.47d	6.06±0.84cd	2.81±0.36b
	Drought	0.28±0.04cd	3.2±0.42cd	6.66±0.44cd	2.96±0.17b
4	Control	0.33±0.05cd	4.1±0.32bc	6.94±0.79bc	3.05±0.27b
	Drought	0.31±0.03bc	3.9±0.32cd	6.76±0.60bcd	2.90±0.19b
6	Control	0.39±0.06ab	4.8±0.42b	8.15±0.53ab	3.47±0.21ab
	Drought	0.20±0.00d	3.4±0.52	5.42±0.56de	2.17±0.22c
8	Control	0.44±0.07a	6.1±0.57a	8.69±0.74a	3.92±0.41a
	Drought	0.20±0.00d	3.3±0.48cd	4.47±0.49ef	1.93±0.26c

Values are mean ± SD of three replicates. Different letters within a column of each parameter are statistically significant at $p < 0.05$ using Duncan's multiple range test.

Table S2. Changes in chlorophyll fluorescence parameters measured for lettuce seedlings as affected by drought stress during progressive treatment time.

Treatment time (day)	Treatment	Fv/Fm	Y(NO)	F'v/F'm	Y(PSII)	qP	qL	Rfd	qN	NPQ	Y(NPQ)
0	Control	0.82±0.01a	0.14±0.01b	0.67±0.01a	0.37±0.04bcd	0.56±0.05bc	1.05±0.06a	2.34±0.22bc	0.64±0.03cde	1.22±0.14cde	0.48±0.03bc
	Drought	0.82±0.01a	0.14±0.01b	0.67±0.01a	0.37±0.04bcd	0.56±0.05bc	1.05±0.06a	2.34±0.22bc	0.64±0.03cde	1.22±0.14cde	0.48±0.03bc
2	Control	0.82±0.00a	0.15±0.00b	0.66±0.01ab	0.35±0.05cd	0.52±0.06c	1.01±0.07ab	2.37±0.16bc	0.66±0.03bcde	1.32±0.15bcd	0.51±0.04bc
	Drought	0.82±0.00a	0.16±0.01b	0.36±0.01ab	0.27±0.04ef	0.41±0.06de	0.88±0.06c	2.14±0.29c	0.67±0.03bcd	1.36±0.13bcd	0.57±0.03a
4	Control	0.81±0.00a	0.14±0.00b	0.67±0.02a	0.44±0.03ab	0.65±0.03ab	1.11±0.05a	2.58±0.17abc	0.63±0.04de	1.14±0.17de	0.42±0.03d
	Drought	0.81±0.00a	0.15±0.00b	0.37±0.02b	0.40±0.04abc	0.64±0.05ab	1.04±0.06a	2.88±0.18a	0.69±0.04abc	1.43±0.24abc	0.45±0.04cd
6	Control	0.81±0.00a	0.14±0.00b	0.37±0.01a	0.46±0.02a	0.68±0.02ab	1.13±0.02a	2.75±0.14ab	0.63±0.02de	1.14±0.09de	0.40±0.02d
	Drought	0.81±0.01a	0.16±0.01b	0.61±0.01c	0.31±0.02abc	0.51±0.03cd	0.90±0.03bc	2.56±0.28abc	0.73±0.02abc	1.66±0.17abc	0.53±0.02ab
8	Control	0.82±0.00a	0.14±0.00b	0.65±0.01ab	0.41±0.02abc	0.64±0.03ab	1.07±0.03a	3.04±0.16a	0.70±0.02abc	1.49±0.13ab	0.45±0.02cd
	Drought	0.71±0.05b	0.29±0.09a	0.56±0.03d	0.21±0.05f	0.38±0.09e	0.67±0.13d	1.35±0.56d	0.62±0.09e	0.97±0.36e	0.50±0.05bc

Values are mean ± SD of ten biological replicates. Different letters within a column of each parameter are statistically significant at $p < 0.05$ using Duncan's multiple range test. Refer to the table 1 for the description of each parameter.

Table S3. Summary of analysis of variance of chlorophyll fluorescence (CF) parameters in lettuce seedlings at the drought stress and treatment time.

CF parameters	Water level (W)		Treatment time (T)		S x T	
	F-value	Significance	F-value	Significance	F-value	Significance
F _v /F _m	48.552	***	37.059	***	41.866	***
F' _v /F' _m	111.044	***	44.626	***	25.865	***
φPSII	138.768	***	30.733	***	24.681	***
NPQ	2.632	NS	3.409	*	20.825	***
qN	3.983	*	2.209	NS	13.038	***
qP	104.997	***	32.330	***	22.094	***
qL	151.187	***	32.989	***	27.369	***
Rfd	50.308	***	17.560	***	44.366	***
φNO	39.198	***	19.855	***	24.483	***
φNPQ	57.122	***	22.365	***	11.216	***

*, **, *** indicate being significant at $p < 0.05$, 0.01 , and 0.001 , respectively. NS: non-significant. Refer to the table 1 for the description of each parameter.