

**Supplementary Materials:**

**Table S1.** Symbiotic efficiency of the isolates on the three Moroccan lentil varieties (Bakria, Chakkouf, and Zaria). The values are the mean of three replicates  $\pm$  standard deviation; \*represents significant difference compared to the not inoculated control using ANOVA at P-value < 0.05.

Lentil variety	Isolates	Average number of the root nodules (SD)	Mean plant dry weight (g)	Average plant height (cm)	Average total N in leave (PPM)
Bakria	<b>Control</b>	0	0.01 $\pm$ 0	5.33 $\pm$ 0.58	6.27 $\pm$ 0.3
	<b>318N211</b>	26.33* ( $\pm$ 0.58)	*0.15 $\pm$ 0.01	*26.33 $\pm$ 2.31	*21.42 $\pm$ 0.6
	<b>686N5</b>	*4.33 $\pm$ 0.58	0.05 $\pm$ 0.02	14.33 $\pm$ 4.51	*18.23 $\pm$ 0.2
	<b>115N2</b>	*14 $\pm$ 1	0.1 $\pm$ 0.02	*19.33 $\pm$ 3.06	6.82 $\pm$ 4
	<b>1574N4</b>	*15 $\pm$ 1	0.12 $\pm$ 0.07	*17.67 $\pm$ 11.06	*20.61 $\pm$ 0.6
	<b>318N2111</b>	*32.33 $\pm$ 2.52	*0.25 $\pm$ 0.02	*32 $\pm$ 3	*20.68 $\pm$ 0.3
	<b>996N2</b>	*21 $\pm$ 1	*0.35 $\pm$ 0.03	*31.33 $\pm$ 2.31	6.33 $\pm$ 0.1
	<b>322N32</b>	*36 $\pm$ 1	*0.52 $\pm$ 0.03	*34 $\pm$ 2	*20.74 $\pm$ 0.3
	<b>1145N5</b>	*32 $\pm$ 1	*0.39 $\pm$ 0.04	*32.67 $\pm$ 3.06	*21.05 $\pm$ 0.6
	<b>1159N32</b>	*30.33 $\pm$ 1.53	*0.37 $\pm$ 0.08	*34.33 $\pm$ 7.37	*21.07 $\pm$ 0.1
	<b>938N3</b>	*27 $\pm$ 1	*0.17 $\pm$ 0.01	*28 $\pm$ 1.73	*15.65 $\pm$ 0.2
	<b>1159N24</b>	*24.33 $\pm$ 1.15	*0.28 $\pm$ 0.06	*31.67 $\pm$ 7.23	7.22 $\pm$ 2
	<b>996N5</b>	*31 $\pm$ 1	*0.24 $\pm$ 0.01	*31 $\pm$ 1	*20.51 $\pm$ 0.1
	<b>1159N52</b>	*4 $\pm$ 1	0.11 $\pm$ 0.03	19 $\pm$ 4.36	*21.34 $\pm$ 0.4
	<b>1145N1</b>	*16 $\pm$ 1	*0.14 $\pm$ 0.01	*24.33 $\pm$ 2.08	*20.79 $\pm$ 0.2
Chakkouf	<b>Control</b>	0	0.02 $\pm$ 0.02	5.67 $\pm$ 2.52	5.5 $\pm$ 0.5
	<b>318N211</b>	*37 $\pm$ 1	*0.3 $\pm$ 0.05	26.33 $\pm$ 3.06	*6.43 $\pm$ 2.3
	<b>686N5</b>	*22 $\pm$ 1	*0.32 $\pm$ 0.09	*29 $\pm$ 7.94	*16.98 $\pm$ 0.2
	<b>115N2</b>	*14.33 $\pm$ 0.58	*0.23 $\pm$ 0.06	*28.33 $\pm$ 7.09	*20.55 $\pm$ 1
	<b>1574N4</b>	*22 $\pm$ 1	0.19 $\pm$ 0.06	25.33 $\pm$ 8.14	*20.85 $\pm$ 0.2
	<b>318N2111</b>	*30 $\pm$ 1	*0.24 $\pm$ 0.01	*31.67 $\pm$ 1.53	13.55 $\pm$ 0.6
	<b>996N2</b>	*22.67 $\pm$ 0.58	0.13 $\pm$ 0.05	22 $\pm$ 8.89	*20.74 $\pm$ 0.3
	<b>322N32</b>	*9 $\pm$ 1	0.04 $\pm$ 0.01	14.67 $\pm$ 4.04	*19.66 $\pm$ 1.5
	<b>1145N5</b>	*15.67 $\pm$ 0.58	0.18 $\pm$ 0.11	24 $\pm$ 6.56	*18.32 $\pm$ 0.4
	<b>1159N32</b>	*29.33 $\pm$ 1.15	0.15 $\pm$ 0.02	*28 $\pm$ 3.61	*20.87 $\pm$ 0.3
	<b>938N3</b>	*21 $\pm$ 1	0.15 $\pm$ 0.04	19.67 $\pm$ 5.03	*21.27 $\pm$ 0.5
	<b>1159N24</b>	*29 $\pm$ 1	0.15 $\pm$ 0.03	*25.67 $\pm$ 5.51	*12.64 $\pm$ 0.3
	<b>996N5</b>	*18 $\pm$ 2	0.08 $\pm$ 0.02	17.33 $\pm$ 1.15	*20.48 $\pm$ 0.1
	<b>1159N52</b>	*7 $\pm$ 1	*0.21 $\pm$ 0.1	21 $\pm$ 10.15	*13.27 $\pm$ 2

	<b>1145N1</b>	*15.33±0.58	*0.3±0.11	* 33.3±10.58	*20.57±0.1
Zaria	<b>Control</b>	0	0.06±0.04	5.8 ±1.04	5.35±0.7
	<b>318N211</b>	*13.33±0.58	0.21±0.07	*27.7 ±2.52	*16.42±0.9
	<b>686N5</b>	*5.33±1.53	0.03±0.02	8.33±1.53	7.42±1
	<b>115N2</b>	*8±1	0.08±0.07	13±10.58	*10.59±1.4
	<b>1574N4</b>	*12.67±0.58	0.1±0.03	21.33±6.35	*14.68±1.2
	<b>318N2111</b>	*15.33±0.58	*0.39±0.09	*27.33±6.35	*20.6±0.8
	<b>996N2</b>	*29.33±0.58	*0.26±0.01	*31.33±1.15	*20.48±0.6
	<b>322N32</b>	*16.67±0.58	0.09±0.03	21.67±8.74	7.29±0.8
	<b>1145N5</b>	*15.67±1.53	0.18±0.11	*28.67±0.58	*20.68±0.6
	<b>1159N32</b>	*26.67±1.53	0.13±0.01	*28±1	*21.82±1
	<b>938N3</b>	*23.33±1.53	0.15±0.03	25±5.29	7.54±0.9
	<b>1159N24</b>	*34.67±1.53	0.14±0.02	*26.67±2.89	6.29±0.5
	<b>996N5</b>	*33.33±1.53	*0.24±0.05	*27±6.08	*21.81±1.1
	<b>1159N52</b>	*13.67±1.53	0.15±0.09	21.33±12.5	*18.85±1.7
	<b>1145N1</b>	*13.67±0.58	0.12±0.08	22±13.53	*21.33±0.8