Supplementary material

Table S1. Summary of the analysis of variance of biometric variables of three cactus clones subjected to different irrigation depths.

First experimental cycle														
Medium Square														
SV	DF	PH	PW	TNC	NC1	NC2	NC3	NC4	NC5	CL	CW	CT	CP	CAI
Blocks	3	553.52^{ns}	1380.88*	312.50^{ns}	12.72*	34.81^{ns}	69.24^{ns}	2.71^{ns}	0.01^{ns}	2.54^{ns}	2.99^{ns}	23.80^{ns}	7.59^{ns}	13.54^{ns}
Irrigation depth (ID)	3	41.87^{ns}	58.16^{ns}	44.61^{ns}	0.72^{ns}	20.69^{ns}	35.41^{ns}	4.57*	0.02^{ns}	18.17**	18.94*	17.89^{ns}	74.16**	1.83^{ns}
Residue^{1}	9	214.02	320.89	146.78	1.89	30.90	22.28	0.31	0.01	4.55	9.82	11.73	13.74	6.90
Cactus (C)	2	571.98**	176.43^{ns}	453.58*	14.39**	85.89^{ns}	344.02**	28.05**	0.02^{ns}	420.39**	601.15**	134.19**	3537.24**	39.57**
ID × C	6	599.85*	240.46^{ns}	98.44^{ns}	1.78^{ns}	18.51^{ns}	25.41^{ns}	3.79*	0.01^{ns}	5.72^{ns}	4.27^{ns}	26.61^{ns}	27.91^{ns}	1.71^{ns}
Residue^{2}	24	127.79	167.22	91.47	1.78	31.29	15.15	1.77	0.02	3.66	6.22	13.73	13.43	3.35
CV^{1}	%	17.10	25.84	48.62	31.72	51.91	69.72	120.70	372.82	8.64	18.85	12.51	6.19	74.46
CV^{2}	%	13.63	15.10	33.75	30.47	52.36	52.17	105.80	301.82	7.39	13.28	13.90	6.10	40.37
Second experimental cycle														
Medium Square														
SV	DF	PH	PW	TNC	NC1	NC2	NC3	NC4	NC5	CW	CL	CT	CP	CAI
Blocks	3	22.19^{ns}	39.53^{ns}	8.47^{ns}	5.96^{ns}	9.30^{ns}	5.96^{ns}	2.31^{ns}	0.02^{ns}	0.29^{ns}	1.56^{ns}	18.21^{ns}	5.03^{ns}	0.44^{ns}
Irrigation depth (ID)	3	219.80^{ns}	136.26^{ns}	34.03^{ns}	1.35^{ns}	5.80^{ns}	5.69^{ns}	3.47*	0.02^{ns}	25.18^{ns}	20.80**	73.40*	164.13*	0.31^{ns}
Residue^{1}	9	169.82	189.14	26.86	2.89	10.30	5.89	0.81	0.02	7.89	2.47	14.22	30.28	0.78
Cactus (C)	2	535.19^{ns}	34.60^{ns}	179.31**	16.40**	36.52^{ns}	227.08**	18.75**	0.02^{ns}	352.70**	471.49**	256.07**	2487.13**	15.78**
ID × C	6	62.55^{ns}	285.67^{ns}	124.84**	2.81^{ns}	24.96^{ns}	12.25^{ns}	3.47*	0.02^{ns}	2.61^{ns}	1.15^{ns}	24.25^{ns}	9.60^{ns}	1.75^{ns}
Residue^{2}	24	169.01	217.61	29.93	2.01	11.63	6.26	1.18	0.02	5.23	3.41	22.56	24.90	0.78
CV^{1}	%	17.08	20.60	26.08	35.03	33.71	62.98	143.60	692.82	11.95	10.01	13.75	9.71	35.26
CV^{2}	%	17.04	22.09	27.53	29.23	35.82	64.94	173.85	691.82	9.73	11.75	17.32	8.80	35.26

** and * – Significant at $p \leq 0.01$ and 0.05, respectively, and ^{ns} – not significant by the F test. FV – Source of variation; CV – Coefficient of variation (%); GL – Degree of freedom; PH – plant height (cm); PW – Plant width (cm); TNC – Total number of cladodes; NC1, NC2, and NC3 – Number of first, second and third order cladodes, respectively; CL, CW, and CP – Length, width, and perimeter of the cladode (cm), respectively; CT – Cladode thickness (mm); CAI – Cladode area index ($m^2\ m^{-2}$).

Table S2. Summary of the analysis of variance of forage yield of cactus subjected to different levels of irrigation in two successive cycles.

First experimental cycle					
		Medium Square			
SV	DF	PD	FM	DM	DMC
Blocks	3	143901915.0**	9475.9^{ns}	60.5^{ns}	0.0004^{ns}
Irrigation depth (ID)	3	78920815.2**	5562.8^{ns}	55.1^{ns}	0.0004^{ns}
Residue^{1}	9	8098014.1	4193.5	22.0	0.0002
Cactus (C)	2	5.7 exp$^{+0009**}$	362211.6**	1877.2**	0.0028**
ID × C	6	38406117.4^{ns}	7764.4^{ns}	27.9^{ns}	0.0005^{ns}
Residue^{2}	24	15367375.2	6429.4	51.1	0.0002
CV^{1}	%	14.2	49.0	46.0	16.9
CV^{2}	%	19.6	60.7	70.1	18.7
Second experimental cycle					
		Medium Square			
SV	DF	PD	FM	DM	DMC
Blocks	3	363574056.5**	2487.6^{ns}	102.1^{ns}	0.0015**
Irrigation depth (ID)	3	227113599.9**	4386.2^{ns}	30.3^{ns}	0.0001^{ns}
Residue^{1}	9	8688747.6	3829.8	16.5	0.0001
Cactus (C)	2	5.6 exp$^{+0.0009**}$	222722.1**	1620.5**	0.0010**
ID × C	6	37971269.0^{ns}	3798.6^{ns}	22.5^{ns}	0.0002^{ns}
Residue^{2}	24	15670950.7	3944.1	32.7	0.0002
CV^{1}	%	15.1	58.3	42.9	12.0
CV^{2}	%	20.3	59.2	60.4	13.7

** and * – Significant at $p \leq 0.01$ and 0.05, respectively, and ns – not significant by the F test. SV – Source of variation; CV – Coefficient of variation (%); DF – Degree of freedom; PD – Plant density (plants ha^{-1}); FM and DM – Fresh and dry matter (Mg ha^{-1}), respectively; DMC – Dry matter content.