

Table 5 Different exposure periods of UV radiation on mutation tolerance and agronomic character of maize

Exposure periods of UV radiation ( minutes)	Days to plant emergence	Plant stand	Plant aspect	Mutation tolerance	Ear aspect	Plant husk	Ear harvest	Plant harvest
0	4.39 <sup>ab</sup>	1.56 <sup>ab</sup>	1.44 <sup>ab</sup>	2.22 <sup>ab</sup>	0.33 <sup>c</sup>	1.06 <sup>ab</sup>	1.00 <sup>ab</sup>	1.00 <sup>b</sup>
20	4.33 <sup>ab</sup>	1.72 <sup>ab</sup>	1.39 <sup>ab</sup>	2.39 <sup>ab</sup>	0.78 <sup>b</sup>	1.11 <sup>ab</sup>	1.67 <sup>ab</sup>	1.94 <sup>b</sup>
40	4.11 <sup>ab</sup>	1.06 <sup>ab</sup>	1.59 <sup>ab</sup>	2.11 <sup>ab</sup>	1.67 <sup>ab</sup>	1.67 <sup>ab</sup>	2.11 <sup>a</sup>	2.83 <sup>ab</sup>
60	4.28 <sup>ab</sup>	1.67 <sup>ab</sup>	1.56 <sup>ab</sup>	2.56 <sup>ab</sup>	0.33 <sup>c</sup>	0.56 <sup>b</sup>	0.61 <sup>b</sup>	0.67 <sup>c</sup>
80	3.78 <sup>b</sup>	1.89 <sup>ab</sup>	1.89 <sup>ab</sup>	2.94 <sup>ab</sup>	1.72 <sup>ab</sup>	1.67 <sup>ab</sup>	1.67 <sup>ab</sup>	2.17 <sup>ab</sup>
100	5.11 <sup>a</sup>	3.61 <sup>a</sup>	2.49 <sup>a</sup>	4.11 <sup>a</sup>	2.11 <sup>a</sup>	2.89 <sup>a</sup>	2.94 <sup>a</sup>	3.39 <sup>a</sup>

Means with the same letter in the same column are not significantly different at  $p < 0.05$  using Duncan's multiple range test, Mutational tolerance: Highly tolerant 1–3, moderately tolerant 4–6, moderately susceptible 7–8, highly susceptible 9. Drought tolerant rating: 1 is excellent, 2 is good, 3 is fairly good, 4 is fair, 5 is poor