

**Supplementary material Methods S1.** Chemical composition of fertilizers used in the experimental procedure (Theofrastos company, Korinthos, Greece) and fertilization treatments applied in the pilot cultivation of *Sideritis syriaca* subsp. *syriaca* with other Cretan endemic plants at the premises of the Hellenic Mediterranean University

**Scheme A.** Integrated nutrient management (INM) by foliar application (INM-fa): The nutrient solution consisted of THEORUN at 7 ml L<sup>-1</sup>, THEOCAL at 1.5 g L<sup>-1</sup>, THEOFAST at 5 ml L<sup>-1</sup>, 10-47-10 (AGRI.FE.M. LTD Fertilizers, Greece) at 3.2 g L<sup>-1</sup>, K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (0-0-52, AGRI.FE.M. LTD Fertilizers, Greece) at 2.07 g L<sup>-1</sup>, micronutrients (Plex Mix, AGRI.FE.M. LTD Fertilizers, Greece) at 1.5 ml L<sup>-1</sup> and MgSO<sub>4</sub> (Mg 25.6%, AGRI.FE.M. LTD Fertilizers, Greece) at 0.6 g L<sup>-1</sup>.

**Scheme B.** Conventional inorganic fertilization by foliar application (ChF-fa): The nutrient solution consisted of NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (34,4-0-0, Neofert®, Neochim PLC, Bulgaria) at 2.7 g L<sup>-1</sup>, Ca(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (NITROCAL, Agrohimiiki, Greece) at 1.7 g L<sup>-1</sup>, 10-47-10 at 3.2 g L<sup>-1</sup>, K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (0-0-52) at 2.27 g L<sup>-1</sup>, micronutrients Plex Mix at 1.5 ml L<sup>-1</sup> and MgSO<sub>4</sub> (Mg 25.6 %) at 0.6 g L<sup>-1</sup>.

**Scheme C.** Control, with foliar and soil applications with tap water.

**Scheme D.** INM by soil application (INM-sa): The nutrient solution consisted of THEORUN at 7 ml L<sup>-1</sup>, THEOCAL at 1.5 g L<sup>-1</sup>, THEOMASS at 10 ml L<sup>-1</sup>, 10-47-10 at 3.2 g L<sup>-1</sup>, K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (0-0-52) at 2.1 g L<sup>-1</sup>, micronutrients Plex Mix at 1.5 ml L<sup>-1</sup> and MgSO<sub>4</sub> (Mg 25.6 %) at 0.3 g L<sup>-1</sup>.

**Scheme E.** Conventional inorganic fertilization by soil application (ChF-sa): The nutrient solution was consisted of NH<sub>4</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (34,4-0-0) at 2.7 g L<sup>-1</sup>, Ca(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (NITROCAL) at 1.7 g L<sup>-1</sup>, 10-47-10 at 3.2 g L<sup>-1</sup>, K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (0-0-52) at 2.3 g L<sup>-1</sup>, micronutrients, Plex Mix at 1.5 ml L<sup>-1</sup> and MgSO<sub>4</sub> (Mg 25.6 %) at 0.3 g L<sup>-1</sup>.

**Scheme F.** Mixture of plant extracts as biostimulant by soil application (MPE-sa): The nutrient solution consisted of THEOMASS at 10 ml L<sup>-1</sup>.

**Supplementary Material Table S1.** Alignment presenting the nucleotide differences among 15 *Sideritis* species based on the molecular plastid markers *rbcL* and *trnL/trnF*. Accession numbers of DNA sequences obtained in this study from the GenBank are indicated next to taxon names. The clade marked in orange represents *S. syriaca* subsp. *syriaca* GR-1-BBGK-15,5939 studied herein. The taxon marked with asterisk (\*) is characterized as *S. syriaca* in the database, but based on the origin of the specimen, it should be identified as *S. euboica* due to the narrow distribution of *S. syriaca* in Crete.

DNA Sequences	Translated Protein Sequences
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[illegible][illegible]

Species/Abbrev																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																			
1. s. canariensis MVB18149 DQ900798	A	G	A	G	C	C	T	T	G	G	A	A	A	A	G	A	T	A	T	A	T	T	G	T	T	A	C	C	C	T	T	A	G	A	C	T	T	T	T	T	A	G	A	A	G	G	T	C	T	T	A	C	A	C	T	T	T	A	C	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T	T

[illegible]

Species/Accession

Species/Accession	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1. <i>S. canariensis</i> MW018149 DQ900798	A	T	G	T	A	C	T	T	A	A	C	C	G	A	A	T
2. <i>S. dasynophala</i> AF501993 DQ900803	A	T	G	T	A	C	T	T	A	A	C	C	G	A	A	T
3. <i>S. dendro-chahorra</i> MN783850 DQ900804	A	T	G	T	A	C	T	T	A	A	C	C	G	A	A	T
4. <i>S. eriocephala</i> MN783851 AF335646	A	T	G	T	A	C	T	T	A	A	C	C	G	A	A	T
5. <i>S. euboea</i> KT315764 AF335656	A	T	G	T	A	C	T	T	A	A	C	C	G	A	A	T
6. <i>S. gomerae</i> MN783852 AF502036	A	T	G	T	A	C	T	T	A	A	C	C	G	A	A	T
7. <i>S. hyssopifolia</i> AF501995 AF502037	A	T	G	T	A	C	T	T	A	A	C	C	G	A	A	T
8. <i>S. lotaty</i> MN783853 DQ900810	A	T	G	T	A	C	T	T	A	A	C	C	G	A	A	T
9. <i>S. macrostachys</i> MN783854 AF502038	A	T	G	T	A	C	T	T	A	A	C	C	G	A	A	T
10. <i>S. montana</i> AF501997 FJ329771	A	T	G	T	A	C	T	T	A	A	C	C	G	A	A	T
11. <i>S. proteneriflax</i> MN783855 DQ900814	A	T	G	T	A	C	T	T	A	A	C	C	G	A	A	T
12. <i>S. romana</i> AF501998 FJ329772	A	T	G	T	A	C	T	T	A	A	C	C	G	A	A	T
13. <i>S. xanthophylla</i> AF335657	A	T	G	T	A	C	T	T	A	A	C	C	G	A	A	T
14. <i>S. soluta</i> MN783856 DQ900817	A	T	G	T	A	C	T	T	A	A	C	C	G	A	A	T
15. <i>S. syntica</i> AF501999 AF335659	A	T	G	T	A	C	T	T	A	A	C	C	G	A	A	T
16. <i>S. syntica</i> subsp. <i>syntica</i> OR090095 OR090095	A	T	G	T	A	C	T	T	A	A	C	C	G	A	A	T



**Supplementary Material Table S2** Phylogenetic analysis of *Sideritis* taxa using the plastid molecular marker *rbcl*. Alignment of 20 *Sideritis* DNA sequences retrieved from GenBank compared to *Sideritis syriaca* subsp. *syriaca* GR-1-BBGK-15,5939 specimen of the current study (OP909056); the conserved areas (100%) are toggled.

[illegible]

**Supplementary Material Table S3** Phylogenetic analysis of *Sideritis* taxa using the plastid molecular marker *psbA-trnH*. Alignment of 94 *Sideritis* DNA sequences retrieved from GenBank compared to *Sideritis syriaca* subsp. *syriaca* GR-1-BBGK-15,5939 specimen of the current study (OP909054); the conserved areas (100%) are toggled.

[illegible]

Species

1. D. obscura subsp. dendroidea KT63321  
 2. D. obscura subsp. dendroidea KT63348  
 3. D. obscura subsp. dendroidea KT63361  
 4. S. obscura KT633278  
 5. S. obscura KT633277  
 6. S. obscura KT633286  
 7. S. obscura KT633287  
 8. S. obscura KT633289  
 9. S. obscura KT633307  
 10. S. obscura KT633313  
 11. S. obscura KT633362  
 12. S. perfoliata subsp. perfoliata KT633280  
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 14. S. perfoliata subsp. perfoliata KT633364  
 15. S. reserri subsp. reserri KT633275  
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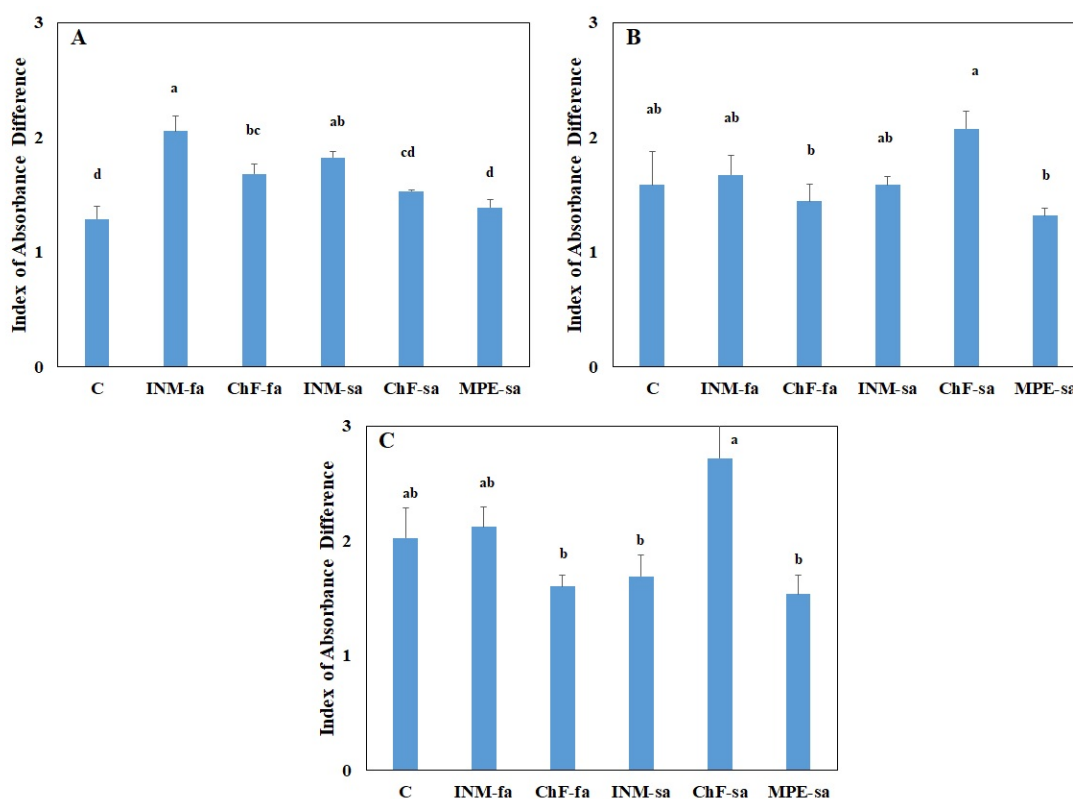
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Species

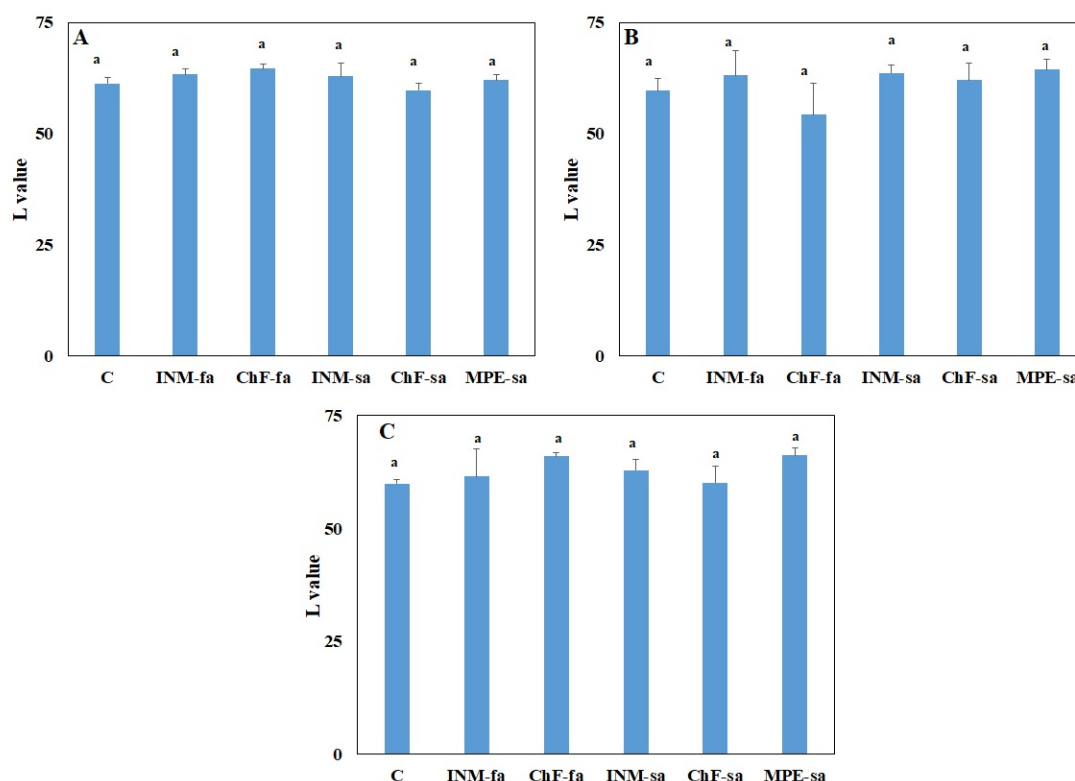
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59. *S. xanadica* KT633326  
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61. *S. xanadica* KT633330  
62. *S. xanadica* KT633331  
63. *S. xanadica* KT633339  
64. *S. xanadica* KT633343  
65. *S. xanadica* KT633348  
66. *S. xanadica* KT633357  
67. *S. xanadica* KT633358  
68. *S. xanadica* KT633363  
69. *S. xanadica* KT633365  
70. *S. xanadica* voucher KT633367  
71. *S. xiphioides* KT633302  
72. *S. xiphioides* KT633303  
73. *S. xiphioides* KT633304  
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76. *S. xiphioides* KT633311  
77. *S. xiphioides* KT633312  
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81. *S. xiphioides* KT633332  
82. *S. xiphioides* KT633337  
83. *S. xiphioides* KT633338  
84. *S. xiphioides* KT633341 (Turkey)  
85. *S. xiphioides* KT633344  
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88. *S. xiphioides* KT633359  
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92. *S. xiphioides* subsp. *xiphioides* KT633328  
93. *S. xiphioides* subsp. *xiphioides* KT633350  
94. *S. xiphioides* subsp. *xiphioides* OR909054  
95. *S. xiphioides* KT633346 (Turkey)

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2. *d. andersonii* subsp. *d. andersonii* KT633348  
3. *d. andersonii* subsp. *d. andersonii* KT633351  
4. *S. euboea* KT633276  
5. *S. euboea* KT633277  
6. *S. euboea* KT633286  
7. *S. euboea* KT633287  
8. *S. euboea* KT633299  
9. *S. euboea* KT633307  
10. *S. euboea* KT633313  
11. *S. euboea* KT633352  
12. *S. perfoliata* subsp. *perfoliata* KT633260  
13. *S. perfoliata* subsp. *perfoliata* KT633306  
14. *S. perfoliata* subsp. *perfoliata* KT633364  
15. *S. raseisi* subsp. *raseisi* KT633275  
16. *S. raseisi* subsp. *raseisi* KT633278  
17. *S. raseisi* subsp. *raseisi* KT633279  
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19. *S. raseisi* subsp. *raseisi* KT633284  
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30. *S. raseisi* subsp. *raseisi* KT633301  
31. *S. raseisi* subsp. *raseisi* KT633308  
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34. *S. raseisi* subsp. *raseisi* KT633323  
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36. *S. raseisi* subsp. *raseisi* KT633325  
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38. *S. raseisi* subsp. *raseisi* KT633334  
39. *S. raseisi* subsp. *raseisi* KT633335  
40. *S. raseisi* subsp. *raseisi* KT633336  
41. *S. raseisi* subsp. *raseisi* KT633340  
42. *S. raseisi* subsp. *raseisi* KT633342  
43. *S. raseisi* subsp. *raseisi* KT633353  
44. *S. raseisi* subsp. *raseisi* KT633354  
45. *S. raseisi* subsp. *raseisi*

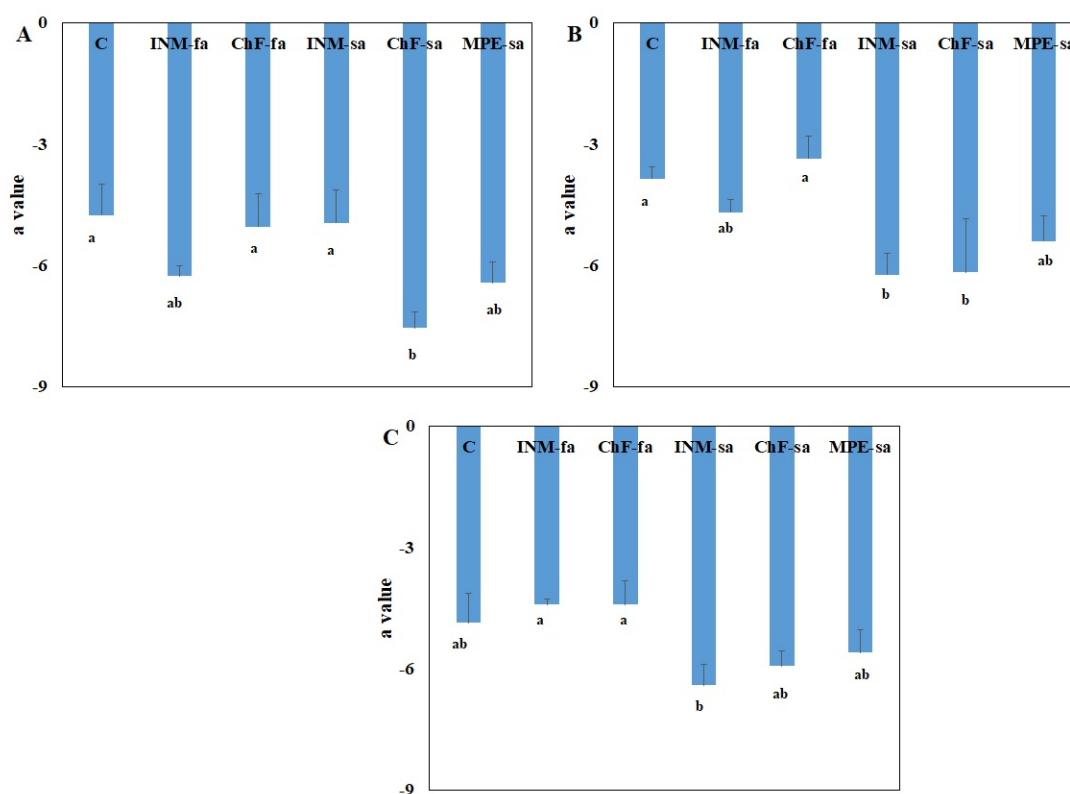
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8. S. subsp. K033299	T T A A A - - - A -	97	100%
9. S. subsp. K033307	T T A A A - - - A -	97	100%
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11. S. subsp. K033352	T T A A A - - - A -	97	100%
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14. S. perlati subsp. perlati K033364	T T A A A - - - A -	97	100%
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70. S. xanadu xanadu K033367	T T A A A - - - A -	97	100%
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82. S. lythra K033327	T T A A A - - - A -	97	100%
83. S. lythra K033338	T T A A A - - - A -	97	100%
84. S. lythra K033341 (Turkey)	T T A A A - - - A -	97	100%
85. S. lythra K033344	T T A A A - - - A -	97	100%
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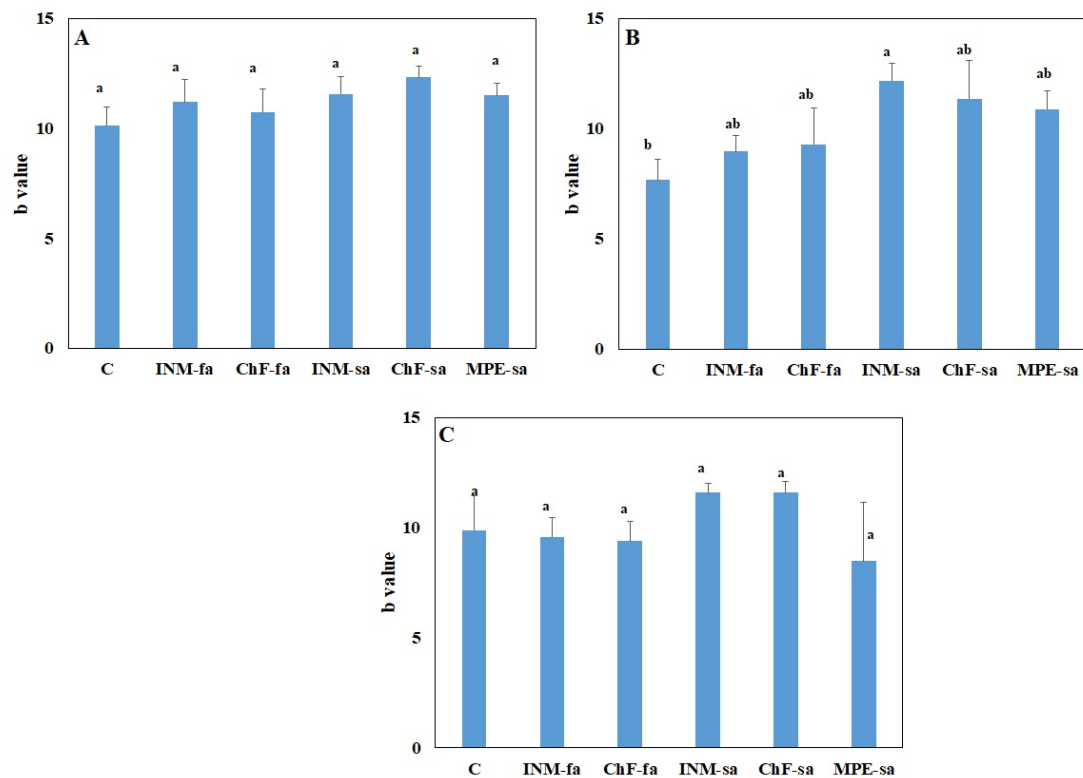
**Supplementary Figure S1.** Effect of fertilization scheme applied through foliar or soil on leaf index of absorbance difference of *Sideritis syriaca* subsp. *syriaca* at vegetative (A), early flowering (B), and full flowering (C) stage. C: Control (water); INM-fa: Integrated nutrient management (INM) by foliar application; ChF-fa: Conventional inorganic fertilization (ChF) by foliar application; INM-sa: INM by soil application; ChF-sa: ChF by soil application; MPE-sa: Mixture of plant extracts as biostimulant by soil application (THEOMASS). Columns represent the mean of three replicates  $\pm$  SEM. Within each plot, different letters indicate significant differences among means.



**Supplementary Figure S2.** Effect of fertilization scheme applied through foliar or soil on leaf L value of *Sideritis syriaca* subsp. *syriaca* at vegetative (A), early flowering (B), and full flowering (C) stage. C: Control (water); INM-fa: Integrated nutrient management (INM) by foliar application; ChF-fa: Conventional inorganic (ChF) fertilization by foliar application; INM-sa: INM by soil application; ChF-sa: ChF by soil application; MPE-sa: Mixture of plant extracts as biostimulant by soil application (THEOMASS). Columns represent the mean of three replicates  $\pm$  SEM. Within each plot, different letters indicate significant differences among means.



**Supplementary Figure S3.** Effect of fertilization scheme applied through foliar or soil on leaf a value of *Sideritis syriaca* subsp. *syriaca* at vegetative (A), early flowering (B), and full flowering (C) stage. C: Control (water); INM-fa: Integrated nutrient management (INM) by foliar application; ChF-fa: Conventional inorganic fertilization (ChF) by foliar application; INM-sa: INM by soil application; ChF-sa: ChF by soil application; MPE-sa: Mixture of plant extracts as biostimulant by soil application (THEOMASS). Columns represent the mean of three replicates  $\pm$  SEM. Within each plot, different letters indicate significant differences among means.



**Supplementary Figure S4.** Effect of fertilization scheme applied through foliar or soil on leaf b value of *Sideritis syriaca* subsp. *syriaca* at vegetative (A), early flowering (B), and full flowering (C) stage. C: Control (water); INM-fa: Integrated nutrient management (INM) by foliar application; ChF-fa: Conventional inorganic fertilization (ChF) by foliar application; INM-sa: INM by soil application; ChF-sa: ChF by soil application; MPE-sa: Mixture of plant extracts as biostimulant by soil application (THEOMASS). Columns represent the mean of three replicates  $\pm$  SEM. Within each plot, different letters indicate significant differences among means.