

**Supplementary Figure 1:** Germination % of two wheat varieties, Giza 168 and Oakley under 20% PEG-6000. Data are shown as means  $\pm$  SE of three independent measurements, 30 seeds have been used to calculate the germination % and analysis of variance (ANOVA) with a level of significance of a P  $\leq$  0.05 to identify significant differences between the treatments. For determining the significant effects between the treatments, comparison was made using the least significant difference (LSD) test with a P  $\leq$  0.05