

Title Effect of pollen grain source on physical and chemical properties of four date cultivars grown in Libya

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Abstract

This study has been carried out during seasons of 2008 and 2009, on Date Palm trees (*Phoenix dactylifera* L.) grown in Wadi Etba (Tasawah). Female trees of four local varieties were chosen viz: Tafert, Talees, Adawy and Simlbl to be fertilized with three different males referred to as (A, B and C). This study was performed in an object to know the effect of pollen source on physical and chemical properties as well as crop of tested varieties. Percentage of pollen viability was high for B male, medium for C male and low for A male. Male B had the highest value of pollen grain germination percentage followed by male A and male C, pollen source has no effect on fruit set percentage. Fruit weights, lengths and diameters as well as seed weight of percentage of flesh to stone were varied according to varieties and development stage. The effect of source of pollen was either significant or highly significant on all traits at all development stages. Non-reducing sugars have increased when pollen of male A or C used, however, reducing or total sugars have increased by using pollen of male A or B, Tannins content decreased by using pollen of male A or B.