EVALUATION OF NINE SEEDLING DATE PALM MALES, USED IN POLLINATION AND THEIR METAZENIC EFFECT ON TWO FEMALE CULTIVARS (MWL) & (MWK) AT NEW HALFA AREA

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One of the main objectives was to select highly potent male palm to raise standard male varieties. This evaluation involved 63 male palms located in 18 private and governmental orchards in 4 districts of New Halfa. The result showed that the time of the flowering differed from on male to another, and the males differed in their spathe characteristics. Also the amount of pollen grains produce per spathe varied greatly from one male to another (25.3 - 83.10 gm / spathe). The male evaluation study took 4 successive seasons 1992-1996, then another experiment was conducted to study the metazenic effect of nine selected males on the most of two commercial female cultivars (MWK and MWL) for three successive seasons 1994 -97, strong metazenic effects of these pollens on various fruit characteristics of MWK and MWL cultivars, fruit set, diameter, length. weight,and maturity period, flesh or pulp weight, , seed characters, and yield per kilogram per tree were recorded .All the nine males shows significant differences in all parameters . Generally, we can recommend male 3 and male 6 as high compatible males for pollination MWK and MWL date palm cultivars under New Halfa conditions.