

## **PHYSIOCHEMICAL EVALUATION AND STORABILITY OF 14 DATE CULTIVARS GROWN IN SUDAN**

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Fourteen date cultivars grown in the Northern Sudan were investigated to determine their physiochemical properties and their storage ability at ambient conditions. The study revealed that Kulma suda cultivar was the biggest and the heaviest one, while the two Mishriges Wad Khatieb and Wad Lagi were the lightest ones. Chemical analysis showed that Mishrig Wad Khatieb and Medina have the highest reducing and total sugars while Kulma suda has the lowest ones. According to moisture content, cultivars were ranging from soft ones having moisture content very high like Mishrig Wad Khatieb and Berier to hard ones like Barkawie, Bentamoda and Tunisi and semi dry like Mishrig Wadlagi, Gondaila and Medina. During the storage period no noticeable decrease in weight has been noticed in the first month in all cultivars. At the end of the storage period Jawa, Zuglullie and Kulma suda recorded a very high loss in weight, while Barakawie and Tunisi cultivars showed the least percentage loss. Bentamoda, Jawa, Tunisi, Barakawie cultivars showed no shriveling while Zuglulie showed a high shriveling percentage. Jawa cultivar showed a very high percentage of insect attack while Barakawie is the least.