

ESTIMATIONS OF WATER REQUIREMENTS FOR DATE PALMS IN IRAQ

R.O. Salih

IPA, Agricultural Research Center, P.O. Box 39094 Baghdad, Iraq.

The date palm (*Phoenix dactylifera* L.) is the most important tree crop in Iraq. It is a drought resistant plant but it responds well to irrigation. It can give good growth and high yield when regular water supply is achieved throughout the growing season. Number of field trials were conducted to estimate water requirements for date palm in Iraq. Equations were also used to calculate water requirements on monthly basis for different regions of the country using climatic data. The present paper gives summary of results of these trials and studies. In addition to that, some information will be given about the contribution of ground water to supply part of water requirements to the plant.