

Abstract

This study has dealt with cultivation of arable lands in al Bathan Valley (Fari'ah, Nassariyyah and 'Agrabaniyyah) for being . the most convenient areas in this regard .

The area of the West Bank is 5,800,060 dunum of which about 38.5% - i.e. 2,230,000 dunum - is, as far as cultivation is concerned, subject to some restrictions, it is remarkable to mention that about 5.5% of the percent mentioned is covered in this study .

As for the lands of the West Bank , they are divided into six types (regions ) according to the soil's convenience for cultivation. These divisions are geographically distributed and some of which are exploited in both irrigated and non-irrigated cultivation.

This study aims at collecting some statistical data concerning the areas cultivated and the farmers attitudes towards changing the agricultural pattern in the cultivated areas. This study also aims at studying lands productivity befor and after cultivation.

As regards the methods followed to collect infotmation, it is worth mentioning that a special questionnaire is formed to be completed by farmers (biassed sample), in addition to interviews with experts and agronomists and many other sources of information.

The cultivation process means the conversion of the non-arable lands into arable lands and the conversion of the economically non-viable lands into economically viable lands .