

Statistical Abstract of Palestine published in 1929 by the Keren Hayesoud (Palestine Foundation fund) estimated the area at 10,170 s.g miles or about 26,340,000 metric dunams. It is not so much the total area of Palestine's land which has been the issue of controversy but rather the cultivable or agricultural part of it. In 1930, two estimates of the agricultural land were provided. The first was the estimate of the "Commissioner of Land" and the second was the estimate of the "Director of Survey".

The Estimate of the Commissioner of Land:

The Commissioner of Land who was appointed by the Palestine Government, and who worked closely with the Jewish Agency's Department of Agriculture and Settlement, estimated the cultivable land at 12,233,000m.d and the rest he found to be uncultivable. The "Commissioner of Land" divided the land as follows:

Table One

Plain of Beersheba sub-district.....	1,641,000d.
The five principle Plains.....	5,216,000d.
The Hill country.....	5,376,000d.
Total.....	12,233,000d.

Source: "Simpson's Report", 1930, p. 22.

The Estimate of the Director of Survey

The Director of Survey, commissioned by Lord Passfield, the Principal Secretary of States for the Colonies, conducted an independent survey and gave an estimate of 8,044,000 d. as the total cultivable land available in Palestine. The rest or 18,114,000d. were