

In the case of European farms, egg production was intensive in method from its inception including the use of incubators and brooders. As pointed out earlier, egg production on European farms more than doubled between 1937 and 1945 from forty million to ninety million, respectively. The latter, using all intensive methods, represented 60 percent of total output for the country. This increase in output points to the continued extension of mechanization in absolute and relative terms. In 1937, European egg production, again using all intensive methods, represented 40 percent of the total output of the country. Arab egg production was primarily of the traditional extensive type. However, mechanization increased so that by 1937, 12 percent of Arab egg production used intensive methods.¹³ After that date, it does not appear that much more mechanization was used given that Arab egg production increased from sixty million to only seventy million units between 1937 and 1945, respectively.

5.2 Irrigation

Throughout history, irrigation was perhaps the most important factor in the extension of cultivated areas and the increase in the productivity of land. In Palestine, the main sources of irrigation available were underground water, springs, and rivers. Another important potential source involved the construction of reservoirs to store the large quantities of rain runoff, which was acknowledged but

¹³Horowitz and Hinden, 51.