

One of the important consequences of drip irrigation technology has been the intensification of Zbeidat's integration into the West Bank and export market, and the peasant's increased awareness of his budget calculations. The use of hybrid seeds, expensive fertilizers, and a variety of drip lines entails today a substantial investment of his income, or potential income, and careful calculation of the cropping arrangement during the agricultural cycle. In fact, the only differentiating factor between his and the capitalist farmer's approach to these calculations is his predominant dependence on his household labour for field work, with the exception of the harvesting season - when the Zbeidat peasant is compelled to hire extra help.

The farm budget of Salameh Abu Dabbus (23.6 owned dunums; 17 sharecropped dunums from the landlord Saleh Suleiman) for the year 1979) 1980 (see Appendix D) clearly shows the magnitude of income increase after the introduction of drip irrigation. His net income per dunum of cultivated land (without counting an experimental plot in which he erected a vineyard) was \$598. From the 17 dunums he sharecropped from Abu Hashem, he netted \$202 per dunum. Abu Dabbus' total income from both farms was \$14,583. Thus, access to the new technology moved this farmer from the lower income households in Zbeidat to the top fifth category (see discussion below).

The Marketing Network and the Structure of the Peasant's Dependency

In Zbeidat there are four main systems of marketing the yield, all of which apply to field crops:

Sales to wholesalers via the commission-agent: the dis-