

**FLORAL BIOLOGY AND POLLINATION
REQUIREMENTS OF SOME OLIVE CULTIVARS**

By

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B.Sc. Agric. Sci. (Pomology), Fac. Agric., Cairo Univ., Egypt, 2003

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ABSTRACT

The present research has been carried out during two successive seasons (2005 and 2006) on nine olive cultivars; Arbequina, Criola, Koroneiki, Blanquette, Dermilali, Picual, Sourì, Manzanillo, and Mostazal to evaluate flowering density, number of flowers/ inflorescence, inflorescence length, percentage of perfect flowers, pollen germination and to determine the degree of self-incompatibility. Fruit set were recorded following different pollination treatments (Self, open and 2 cross pollination), and SI-index were calculated. In addition Xenia effect on olive fruit was determined by comparing the effect of pollination type on fruit characteristics. The obtained results showed high degree of annual variation; flowering density was the highest in Arbequina (97.5) and the lowest in Dermilali and Blanquette (41.83 and 51.29 respectively), inflorescences were longer in Blanquette and Criola compared with other cultivars. number of flowers/ inflorescences ranged from 12.87 in Picual to 24 in Dermilali, the percent of perfect flowers was the highest in Manzanillo, Arbequina and Blanquette (86.41, 83.5 and 80.4 respectively) pollen germination was higher in Kalamata and Arbequina compared with the other cultivars. Evaluation of self-fertility showed that Koroneiki, Criola, Picual, Sourì, Mostazal and Blanquette can be classified as self-incompatible cvs. with SI-index less than 0.15 while Arbequina, Manzanillo and Dermilali considered to be partially self-incompatible with SI-index from 0.15 to 0.28. All the studied cultivars showed a positive response to cross pollination either as open pollination or artificial cross pollination. The effect of pollination type on fruit characteristics differed according to cultivars and the studied character. A considerable influence of pollination type was observed on fruit weight, size, length and diameter, but no effect was observed on fruit moisture content and oil percentage. Generally open pollination gave the highest value followed by cross pollination while self pollination gave the lowest value.

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Special deep appreciation is given to my father, and my mother.

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اسم الطالب: عبده محمد عبد اللطيف احمد
 عنوان الرسالة: بيولوجيا التزهير و احتياجات التلقيح في بعض أصناف الزيتون
 المشرفون : الأستاذ الدكتور : السعيد صادق حجازي
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المستخلص العربي

أجريت هذه الدراسة خلال موسمي ٢٠٠٥ و ٢٠٠٦ علي تسعة أصناف من الزيتون و هي Arbequina, Criola, Dermilali, Blanquetta , Koroneiki Souri, Picual و Manzanillo و Mostazal ذلك لتقييم بيولوجيا التزهير شاملة (كثافة التزهير, عدد الأزهار \ النورة, طول النورة, نسبة الأزهار الكاملة و نسبة أنبات حبوب اللقاح) و لتحديد درجة عدم التوافق الذاتي فقد تم تسجيل نسبة العقد الثمري بعد إجراء كلا من التلقيح الذاتي و الخلطي و المفتوح وحساب دليل عدم التوافق الذاتي. بالإضافة الي ذلك فقد تم تقدير الصفات الثمرية المختلفة لتحديد مدي تأثير التلقيح علي الخصائص الثمرية. وقد أظهرت النتائج أن هناك تباين موسمي كبير في كل قياسات التزهير و اظهر الصنف Arbequina اعلي كثافة تزهر خلال الموسم الثاني (٩٧,٥ نورة/ المتر) بينما سجل الصنف Dermilali و الصنف Blanquetta أقل قيمة (٤١,٨٣ و ٥١,٢٩ علي التوالي) متوسط عدد الأزهار الكلي تراوح بين ١٢,٨٧ في صنف Picual إلي ٢٤ في صنف Dermilali و سجل كلا من Arbequina و Blanquetta اعلي نسبة للأزهار الكاملة (٨٣,٥% و ٨٠,٤% علي التوالي) , اعطي كلا من الصنف Blanquetta و الصنف Criola نورات زهرية أطول. كانت نسبة أنبات حبوب اللقاح أعلي في كلا من Arbequina و Kalamata مقارنة بباقي الأصناف. كما أظهرت الدراسة أن الاصناف Koroneiki و Criola و Arbequina و Souri و Picual و Mostazal غير متوافقة ذاتيا و أعطت قيمة لدليل عدم التوافق الذاتي أقل من ٠,١٥ بينما اعتبر كلا من Arbequina و Dermilali و Manzanillo أصناف متوافقة ذاتيا جزئيا و أعطت قيمة لدليل عدم التوافق الذاتي تراوحت بين ٠,١٥ إلي ٠,٢٨ . و قد استجابت جميع الأصناف بصورة ايجابية للتلقيح الخلطي و المفتوح اما بالنسبة لتأثير التلقيح علي الخصائص الثمرية فقد تباين تأثير الملقح حسب الصنف و الصفات المدروسة و كانت أكثر الصفات المدروسة تائراً هي الحجم , الوزن , الطول و القطر بينما لم يكن للتلقيح أي اثر علي نسبة الرطوبة او نسبة الزيت و بصفة عامة أدي التلقيح المفتوح و الخلطي لتحسين الصفات الثمرية مقارنة بالتلقيح الذاتي.

بيولوجيا التزهير و احتياجات التلقيح لبعض أصناف الزيتون

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في العلوم الزراعية
(بساتين الفاكهة)

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للحصول على

درجة الماجستير

في

العلوم الزراعية
(بساتين الفاكهة)

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٢٠٠٧

INTRODUCTION

Olive (*Olea europaea* L.) is one of the most important cultivated trees in the Mediterranean basin, it was originated in the eastern side of the Mediterranean basin, and spread to other countries around the Mediterranean basin which is still the major region of olive production. This species is of immense historical importance as the principle source of edible oil for people in the Mediterranean area.

Olive cultivation plays an important role in the economy of many countries in the Mediterranean basin, it is not only increase the land value where the soil is unsuitable for other crops, but also contributes to soil conservation and helps to overcome environmental problems (Denis, 1977).

The total harvested world area as shown in Table (1) is about 9 million hectares producing 15 million tons, most of the production consumed as olive oil, and the rest processed mainly to table olive, the leading world producer is Europe (80%), in particular Spain (42%), Italy (20%) and Greece (12%) (FAO, 2005).

Olive trees were cultivated in Egypt thousands years ago, according to statistics of Ministry of Agriculture (2005), the cultivated area in Egypt increased rapidly from 6000 feddan in 1960s to 118,382 feddan in 2005 (Table 2), this increase is due to the high stress tolerance of olive.

Modernization of olive cultivation around the world includes new techniques in all the cultivation practices, as well as establishing the large mono-cultivar orchard, to facilitate the mechanical management systems. However establishing the mono-cultivar model

creating further production problems due to the self-incompatibility phenomenon of most olive cultivars.

So, it is necessary to achieve a good production to have adequate knowledge about the reproductive behavior of the used cultivars before spared it.

Olive is a wind-pollinated allogamous species and generally considered to be self-incompatible also cross-incompatibility exist between some cultivars.

Since, most olive cultivars are self-incompatible, fruit set may be very low when a self-incompatible cultivar is grown in an isolated area without suitable pollinizers.

In addition a beneficial effect of cross pollination has been demonstrated in various olive cultivars, so it is necessary to add the proper pollinizer to ensure maximum fruit production with a good quality .

This study aimed to investigate the floral biology, pollination requirements, and the suitable pollinizers for some olive cultivars in effort to increase their production efficiency.