

THE USE OF SOLAR DISTILLERS IN SALT WATER DESALINATION

By

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B.Sc. Agric. Eng. and Biological, Fac. Agric., Ain Shams Univ., 2015

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ABSTRACT

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In this study, solar energy was utilized to distillate and purify saline water through a conventional solar still, which is considered one of the best solutions to overcome the potable water shortage in remote arid areas. The experiments were conducted at four saline water depths (1, 2, 3 and 4 cm from the still bottom) and at two levels of water salinity (15000 ppm and 35000 ppm). But this system is not popular because of its lower productivity, so the aim of this study is to use another system to increase the performance of the solar desalination. Wick solar still using one of the methods to increase the productivity is by decrease the volumetric heat capacity of the basin. The use of tilted wick material in the basin will increase the evaporation area and enhance the production. Research experiment was statistically designed and practically applied at the Solar Energy Laboratory, Dept. of Agric. Eng., Fac. of Agric., Ain Shams University, Cairo ($\phi=30^{\circ}\text{N}$).

The results proved that the highest quantity of distillate water rate in conventional still was 3487 mL at water depth of 1cm and water salinity of 15000 ppm in May, while, the lowest value of distillate water rate was 1615 mL at water depth of 1 cm with salinity 35000 ppm in January. On the other hand the results explained that the highest amount of distillate water rate in wick solar still was 5066 mL at water salinity at 15000 ppm in May, while the lowest value of distillate water rate was 2844 mL at salinity 35000 ppm in January.

Keywords: Solar desalination; Solar still; Tilted wick; Passive solar stills; Active solar stills.

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