

most cultivable land until the 1930s was under cereal production. Although this does not imply that other commercial crops were absent, it nevertheless indicates that small-scale pre-capitalist forms of production were characteristic of the fallah economy.

The emergence and development of large-scale production, namely vegetables and fruits during the 1930s and 1940s, began to gradually take the place of cereal production. One indication of this process is shown in terms of the decline in the size of land under cereal and the growth of that under commercial crops (Table 1).

Table 1: Area Under Cereal, Vegetables and Fruits (other than citrus) for the Period 1935-44, (in Dunams).

Year	Cereal	Vegetables	Fruits
1935	6,535,031	118,542	879,813
1936	6,365,636	145,871	1,046,111
1937	6,300,310	151,520	1,062,753
1938	5,766,009	133,333	1,059,003
1939	5,366,900	138,621	1,071,992
1940	5,736,932	206,266	-----
1943	4,568,294	257,871	1,095,766
1944	4,235,053	294,496	1,094,820

Source: Statistical Abstract of Palestine, 1935-1944; 1945 in Ameri, tatawwor al-zira'a wa-alsina'a fi-falastin [The development of agriculture and industry in Palestine, 1900-1970] (Beirut, 1974: 34)

While the area under cereal cultivation was constantly in decline (Table 1); from 6,535,031d. in 1935 to 4,235,053 in 1944, that is, a decline of about 35 percent, both areas under vegetable and fruit cultivation were simultaneously expanding. Between 1935 and 1944 the area under vegetable cultivation increased by 175,954.d., or about 148 percent, and that under fruits increased by 215,005d. or 124 per cent.

Yet, the most significant feature in the process of transforming small-scale agriculture into large-scale production is in the amount