

Table 8:1

Crop Allocation in Ras el-Tin and Natufa (in dunums)

	<u>1980</u>	
	<u>Ras el-Tin</u>	<u>Natufa</u>
Olives	5,000	4,500
(of which)...fruit-bearing	----- 4,500	----- 4,000 (approx.)
Figs	1,000	1,000
Grapes	60	20
Almonds	15	10
Other orchards (apricots, etc.)	10	100
Wheat	150	500
Barley	50	100
Other grain	50	35
Onions	10	60
Tomatoes	30	60
Other vegetables	20	15
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Total Cultivated	6,395	6,355
Uncultivated	4,500	2,000

Source: Village Data Bank: Birzeit University (1980).

Despite similar ecologies, virtual lack of irrigated land (20 dunums in Ras el-Tin, 35 in Natufa) and kinds of crops, the two villages are worlds apart. While Ras el-Tin is a "poor" village by Palestinian standards, Natufa is "rich", by local and Middle Eastern criteria. In both case poverty and wealth, as we shall see, are related to the relations village had developed with the external world and their inability to transcend the limitations of their natural economy. In each case migration was a central key determining changes in social structure: internal (to Israel) in the case of Ras el-Tin, and external (abroad) in the case of Natufa.

Ras el-Tin: A Village of Peasant-workers

Ras el-Tin is typical of these hilly West Bank villages where the majority of peasants were, until recently, owner-cultivators. The village