

in the process of shifting from open canal irrigation to the new system. An important factor in this shift was the presence of peasants willing to invest their total savings in an unfamiliar form of agricultural technology. The example of farmer Salem Abu Dabbus is even more daring than that of farmer Abdallah Hassan since he installed the drip on his own land rather than on leased land held in partnership, as is the case with Abdallah. In 1977 Salem installed the new irrigation system on ten dunums of his 23-dunum plot, with the Voluntary Agency subsidizing 30 percent of the initial cost. The difference in crop yield can be seen in Table 12:6.

From his ten-dunum plot alone Salem Abu Dabbus had a gross income of JD.4,000 (\$12,000) in 1978. In 1979 his dunums of tomatoes produced eight tons only, a drop of two tons over the previous year, but by then most Zbeidat land was covered by "drip".

Table 12:6

First Crop Yield in Zbeidat

From Drip Irrigation - 10 Dunums Plot (1978)

CROP	No. of Dunums Under Cultivation	Dunum Productivity Under "Drip" (1978) (tons/dunum)	Dunum Productivity Furrow Irrig. (1977) (tons/dunum)
Tomatoes	6	10	1.5
Eggplants	2	1.5	0.5
Pepper	2	1.0	0.25

Source: Interview with Salem Abu Dabbus and Author's Zbeidat Household Survey