

CHAPTER VII

ECONOMICS OF RAINFED FRUIT TREES

Fruit trees constitute the backbone of West Bank agriculture, whether in terms of area or contribution to agricultural income. Counting on the average for the last three years, fruit trees have occupied 905.6 thousand dunums (60 percent of the area under cultivation) and contributed 45 percent of gross agricultural income (see Table VII-1)

Table (VII - 1)

Area, output, and income from fruit trees

(Average for 1977,78,79).

	Area _000 dun.	% of total	Output _000 tons	Share in agr. income percentage
<u>Grand Total</u>	940.8	100.0	210.0	45.2
<u>Rainfed - total</u>	905.6	96.3	117.7	35.3
Olives	669.1	71.2	41.0	22.1
Grapes	92.2	9.8	41.4	6.1
Almonds	78.5	8.3	6.3	2.6
Plums	32.1	3.4	17.3	2.7
Apricots	4.7	0.5	1.7	0.2
Figs	29.0	3.1	10.0	1.6
<u>Irrigated - total</u>	27.5	2.9	87.4	9.1
Citrus	25.5	2.7	81.8	8.2
Bananas	2.0	0.2	5.6	0.9
<u>Others - total</u>	7.7	0.8	4.9	0.8

Source: 1. For areas: Files of the Department of Agriculture.

2. For output and income: Administered Territories Statistics (Quarterly 1980, vol 1 - 2., pp 88-89.