

Abstracts

This study aims to analyze the effects of agricultural policies on the production of the Palestinian medjool dates using the policy analysis matrix (PAM). This is done by calculating the matrix elements and deriving its coefficients in order to determine the effects of the existing policies, the competitiveness of Palestinian medjool dates in the local and global markets, as well as to determine the comparative advantage and economics importance of it.

The policy analysis matrix is a modern mathematical system Its importance lies on its ability to examine the effects of all existing policies in all stages of the crop production, from planting to harvest, which helps to measure the impacts and effectiveness of the policies and achievement of its goals.

The policy analysis matrix depend on the farm budget, which are mainly based on revenue and cost, the costs are divided into two types, tradable and non-tradable inputs. The data were obtained through a questionnaire and based on interviews with farmers, packing houses, government agencies.

The results show that Domestic Resources Cost (DRC) – comparative advantage coefficient of medjool dates – is equal to 0.18, this value less than one, which means that Palestine has a high comparative advantage in producing the medjool dates.

The results also show that the value of Nominal Protection Coefficient (NPCO) is equal to 0.7, less than one, which means that the private price of outputs less than the border

price, while the value of Effective Protection Coefficient (EPC) is 0.64, which reflects the negative impacts of the existing policies on the sales of outputs and purchasing of production tradable inputs. The value of the **Private Cost Ratio (PCR)** is equal to 0.2. Since its value is smaller than one, this indicates a strong incentive to continue in this type of investment.

According to the results above, the study recommends to take effective policies in the process of buying the tradable inputs, sale of the crop, packing house and storage refrigerators. The study also recommends taking effective policies to address the problem of water, which is the main binding factor to the growth and development of this vital sector.