

Investigation on Fruit Growth and Development and Interoducing Optimum Date of Harvesting with Determining of Oil Content in Four Olive Cultivars

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For investigation of olive fruit growth and development, oil synthesis and that accumulation in mesocarpe, fruit sampling was carried out during of fruit growth and ripening. Sampling of each cultivar (Zardzeitoun, Roghani, Belidi and Lechino) took place at two weekly intervals throughout the test period. The carpometric characteristics of the fruits were measured at various stage. Fruit weight of Zardzeitoun increased rapidly after fruit set until end of summer and maximum weight was obtained in November. Curve of dry matter had a decreasing slope at the first period of fruit growth and fixed at the summer and then increased until final harvesting stage.

About 60% of total oil accumulation was obtained at the end of summer and reminder synthesized in full. The optimum harvesting date for Zardzeitoun (with 36% oil in dry matter) was at the end of November.

Lechino: In first month after fruit set carpometric charactristics had rapid growth. Oil accumulation was rapid in summer and only 36% of oil synthesized at the fall. Lechino had 53.2% oil in dry matter and the optimum date of harvesting determined end of November. In cultivar of Belidi fruit length reached to final size after two months of fruit set. Maximum oil percent (51.2%) in dry matter was obtained at the end of November. The