

**MAIZE YIELD AND ITS ATTRIBUTES AS AFFECTED  
BY CROPPING SEQUENCES, WATER  
REQUIREMENTS AND SOURCES  
OF NITROGEN FERTILIZATION  
UNDER DRIP IRRIGATION  
SYSTEM IN SANDY SOIL**

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**ABSTRACT:** This investigation was conducted at Wadi-El Areish North Sinai Governorate during the two growing seasons (2003/2004 and 2004/2005) to study the effect of double and triple sequences, water requirements and sources of nitrogen on grain yield of maize and its attributes ponents under drip irrigation system in sandy soil. The double sequence was faba bean (c.v. 461), followed by maize (S.C. 10). Triple sequence was faba bean (c.v. 461), followed by sunflower (c.v. Vedoc), followed by maize. Recommended water requirements of maize in sandy soils similar to that of Wadi-El-Areish soil was estimated to be 2841 m<sup>3</sup> under drip irrigation system per season. Irrigation treatments were; recommended + 25% (R1 = 3550 m<sup>3</sup>), recommended (R2 = 2841 m<sup>3</sup>) and recommended -25% (R3=2131m<sup>3</sup>) per season. The recommended dose of nitrogen per feddan (130 kg N) were added from different sources; all N in organic form, 1/2 N in organic + 1/2 in mineral form of ammonium nitrate (33.5% N) and all N in mineral form. The study was conducted in a split-split plots design with 3 replications. The results indicated that maize yield and all of its attributes were significantly higher for the double cropping than for the triple cropping sequence, this was also true regarding applicat the more irrigation water as well as the addition of N partly in mineral and organic form.

The interaction between cropping sequences and water requirements had a significant effect on No of days to 50% tassling and silking, plant height, ear position, ear diameter, kernels weight/ear, 100-kernels weight, shelling % and grain yield/feddan. The highest values of these traits were obtained under double

cropping sequence with the increase of water requirements as in R1 (3550 m<sup>3</sup>/fed). Also there were significant interactions effects between cropping sequences and sources of nitrogen on ear diameter, kernels weight/ear, shilling % and grain yield/fed.. The highest values of these traits were obtained under double cropping sequence and 50% organic and 50% mineral forms of N-fertilizer. In addition ear length, kernel weight/ear and grain yield/fed. were significantly affected by the interaction between water requirements and sources of N-fertilizer. It could be concluded that the highest values of ear length, kernel weight/ear and grain yield/fed. were obtained with the recommended irrigation treatment +25% (R1) with the treatment of fertilization (1/2 organic + 1/2 mineral). The effect of the 2<sup>nd</sup> order interaction was significant on grain yield/fed. Also, the highest yield and its components were obtained from double cropping sequence with water requirement of 3350 m<sup>3</sup>/fed/season with nitrogen fertilization (130 kg N/fed.) in half amount in organic form + half amount in mineral form.

Economically; grain yield for each crop of faba bean, sunflower and maize was calculated in double and triple cropping sequences, the highest net profit and C.U.s were obtained when maize plants were planted in triple sequence (faba bean – sunflower – maize) with water requirement 3550 m<sup>3</sup>/fed/season under drip irrigation system with nitrogen dose of 130 kg/fed. given as 50% in organic form and 50% in mineral form.

**Key words:** Maize, cropping, sequences, water requirements, nitrogen fertilization sources sandy soil .

## INTRODUCTION

The cropping sequence is a prime factor affecting yield potential, may have important role as a complex interaction of physical, chemical and biological equilibrium state. The effect of crop sequence and crop rotation in Egypt were studied by several investigators, Gouda (1989), Seif El-Nasr *et al.* (1993) and Hussein,

Samira *et al.* (1998) revealed that yield of summer crops tended to be higher after legumes than after non-legumes. Khalil *et al.* (2004), found that sunflower planted after clover produced greater seed yield than when it was grown after faba bean. Legumes as preceding crops were always recommended than cereals. (Dansa and Papastylianou, 1992). Double sequence (faba bean-follow maize)

expected to give higher maize yield than triple sequence (faba bean-sunflower-maize). Sunflower ranks the second to soybean among the world's oil crops, is receiving increasing attention in Egypt as a source of vegetable oil to decrease oil imports. Both of faba bean which is the most important legume crop and maize is one of the major cereal crops grown in Egypt and because no place in crop rotation for oil crops specially sunflower, could be grown in a triple cropping sequence as a solution for this problems. In Egypt as well as in other countries, maize growing several workers investigated the effect of irrigation requirements, forms of nitrogen application. Eid *et al.* (1996) reported that the total water requirements in the new lands for summer crops averages were 2841 m<sup>3</sup>/season under drip irrigation system. Haikel and El-Badry Ola (1995), reported that the water quantity in the whole season was 2688.00 m<sup>3</sup> for maize under drip irrigation system. The form of nitrogen fertilizer as a manure is very important to improve the physical and chemical characters of the soil; increasing cations exchange capacity, minimizing the loss of nutrients increasing water holding capacity, improvement bulk density, soil structure and formation (Alexander, 1977 and

Haikel *et al* 2000). However, some investigators found that, ammonium sulphate or ammonium nitrate were superior than slow-release N fertilizer on increasing growth and N-uptake (Sakia *et al.*, 1987). However Haikel *et al.* (2000) found that the fertilizer which has nitrogen in organic form and in the same time fast-release (Mokattam manure) gave higher yield of maize compared with cow manure or ammonium nitrate.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present investigation was conducted at Wadi-El-Areish, North Sinai Governorate during 2003/2004 and 2004/2005 growing seasons to investigate the effect of double and triple cropping sequences, water requirements and nitrogen fertilizer sources in form of organic and mineral (Ammonium nitrate 33.5% N) on yield and yield components of maize.

The first factor under study was cropping sequences as follows:

- A) Double cropping sequence; faba bean (c.v. Giza 461) was planted on 15<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of October in first and second seasons, respectively followed by maize (c.v. S.C. 10) which was planted on 10<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of

May in first and second seasons, respectively and was harvested on 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of September in the two seasons respectively.

- B) Triple cropping sequence; faba bean (c.v. Giza 461) was planted on the same dates of double cropping sequence, followed by sunflower (c.v. Vedoc) which planted on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of April in first and second seasons respectively, followed by Maize (c.v. S.C. 10) which planted on 15<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of July in first and second seasons, respectively and harvested on 10<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of October in the two seasons respectively.

The second factor was irrigation water requirements for maize were; R1 (recommended + 25%), R2 (recommended only) and R3 (recommended -25%). The recommended water requirement of maize in sandy soil under drip irrigation system was 2841 m<sup>3</sup>/season according to Eid *et al.* (1996). The irrigation treatments were R1 = recommended + 25% = 3550.0 m<sup>3</sup>/fed./season and R3 = recommended -25%=2131 m<sup>3</sup>/fed./ season, the distance between laterals was 70.0 cm and between drippers was 30 cm. This system gives 20000 drippers/fed. Maize seeds were sown on each dripper and thinned to one plant/ hill

expressed 20000 plants/fed. The discharge of each dripper was 2.4 liter/hour, as illustrated in Table 1 which shows the water requirements /season for maize and time of the irrigation/day for R1, R2 and R3 treatments.

The third factor was nitrogen fertilizer sources, maize plants received 130 kg N/fed/season as follows, (1) all the dose of nitrogen/fed was added as old chicken manure (1.73% N, 0.35% P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, 1.3% K<sub>2</sub>O, 1:17 C/N ratio and organic matter 45%) added at a rate of 7.52 ton/fed (2) half the amount of nitrogen as old chicken manure (3.76 ton/fed) and the other half applied as mineral nitrogen in ammonium nitrate 33.5% N at a rate of 194.0 kg/fed, and (3) all the nitrogen amount was added as mineral fertilizer in form of ammonium nitrate 33.5% N at a rate of 388 kg/fed. The mineral fertilizer was split into 5 equal splits added in 10 days interval and was injected through the drip irrigation system after two weeks from planting. The chicken manure was fully added at seed bed preparation.

Two experiments were conducted in two successive growing seasons in a split-split plot design with three replications. Cropping sequences occupied the main plots, water requirements

(R1, R2 and R3) occupied the sub-plots, whereas nitrogen sources were allocated in the sub-subplots. The sub-subplot area was 98 m<sup>2</sup> (10.0 x 9.8 m) included 14 ridges, 10m long. Phosphorus was applied as calcium superphosphate (15% P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>) at a rate of 200 kg/fed in one dose before plowing and potassium was applied as potassium sulphate (50% K<sub>2</sub>O) at a rate of 50 kg/fed. in 3 doses; 1/3 with superphosphate, 1/3 at tassiling and 1/3 at grain filling. Thinning took place after two weeks from planting leaving one plant/hill. The other cultural practices were applied as recommended. In double and triple sequences, faba bean yield was calculated and seed yield of sunflower was determine in triple sequence. The recorded data on maize were; number of days to 50% tasseling and silking, ten garded plants from each sub-

subplot were taken to determine some growth traits; i.e plant height (cm), stem diameter (cm), ear position (cm). After harvesting, 10 ears were taken at random from each sub-subplots to determine, ear length (cm), ear diameter (cm), kernels weight/ear (g), 100 kernals weight (g), shilling percentage. Grain yield/fed (ardab), maize plants in the four inner rows of each sub-subplot were harvested at maturity, tied and left to dry, then it was threshold, grain ratio was estimated in 15.5% moisture and converted to ardab/fed. before carrying out of the experiment, soil samples were taken from different places to represent the experimental site for analysis as well as before faba bean before sunflower and maize [P according to Olsen *et al.* (1954) and N & K according to Jackson (1967)] Table 2.

**Table 1. Averages of water requirements/season and period of irrigation/day for R1, R2 and R3 for maize productivity**

Irrigation requirements	R1	R2	R3
	Recommended + 25% m <sup>3</sup> /fed. /season	Recommended m <sup>3</sup> /fed./ season	Recommended - 25% m <sup>3</sup> /fed. / season
(1) Water requirements/ fed./ season	3550.0	2841.0	2131.0
(2) Water requirements/ day (1) ÷100 day	35.50	28.41	21.31
(3) Water requirements/ plant/day (2) ÷20000 drippers	1.78 liter	1.42 liter	1.07 liter
(4) Period of irrigation/day (3) ÷2.4 (discharge of dripper liter/hour)	0.74 hour = 44.4 minutes	0.59 hour = 35.4 minutes	0.45 hour = 27 minutes

**Table 2. Average of mechanical and chemical soil properties of the experimental site over the two seasons**

Characters	Mechanical analysis before faba bean over two season		
Clay	3.05		
Silt	5.85		
Fine sand	61.83		
Coarse sand	24.42		
O.M	0.75		
Ca carbonate	4.10		
Texture	Sandy		
Crops	Before faba bean	Before sunflower (Triple), after faba bean before maize (Double sequence)	Before maize (after sunflower) (Triple sequence)
Chemical analysis			
Aval. N ppm	15.9	25.5	21.6
Aval. P ppm	8.9	9.5	7.3
Aval. K ppm	132.0	129.8	118.6
pH	8.8	7.9	8.4
E.C. ds/m	2.8	2.3	2.5
Fe ppm	1.05	1.01	1.00
Mn ppm	0.76	0.63	0.61
Zn ppm	0.07	0.06	0.04
B ppm	0.006	0.004	0.003

\*1:2.5 soil-water suspension.

Obtained data were subjected to the proper statistical analysis as the usual technique of analysis of variance (ANOVA) for split-split plots design as mentioned by Gomez and Gomez (1984). The treatment means were compared using the newly least significant differences (N-LSD) as the procedures outlined by Waller and Duncan (1969).

Economical evaluation included Net return for crop sequences, of water consumption of maize and of different sources of nitrogen and cereal units (C.U.s) according to Brochhous (1962).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Effect of Cropping Sequences on Growth, Yield and Yield Attributes of Maize

Data in Tables 3a, b and c indicate that all studied growth traits, yield and yield attributes of maize were significantly affected by cropping sequences. Results revealed that all traits under study were higher after faba bean in double cropping sequence, than after sunflower in triple cropping sequence. The increase in growth duration to tasseling and silking along with the increase in maize grain yield and all of its attributes



Table 3 b. Effect of cropping sequences, water requirements and sources of nitrogen fertilization on ear position (cm), ear length and ear diameter (cm) in the two seasons.

Treatments	Ear position (cm)		Ear length (cm)		Ear diameter (cm)	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
<b>Cropping sequences (A)</b>						
Double sequence	142.0	146.8	17.1	19.3	4.8	5.0
Triple sequence	131.0	135.7	16.0	16.8	3.4	4.1
F-test	**	**	**	**	**	**
N.L.S.D. 5%	2.9	2.5	0.2	0.4	0.11	0.19
<b>Water requirements (B)</b>						
R1 = Recommended + 25%	148.4	152.9	18.3	19.2	4.5	5.0
R2 = Recommended	137.0	142.4	16.9	18.1	4.3	4.7
R3 = Recommended - 25%	124.1	128.4	14.4	16.9	3.5	3.9
F-test	**	**	**	**	**	**
N.L.S.D. 5%	2.6	3.0	0.4	0.5	0.15	0.24
<b>Sources of N fertilization (C)</b>						
All manure nitrogen	129.5	135.4	14.4	16.2	3.7	4.3
Manure 50% + Mineral 50%	144.1	148.0	18.5	20.0	4.5	4.8
All mineral nitrogen	135.9	140.3	16.7	18.0	4.1	4.5
F-test	**	**	**	**	**	**
N.L.S.D. 5%	2.1	2.2	0.3	0.4	0.08	0.16
<b>Interactions:</b>						
A x B	*	*	N.S.	N.S.	*	*
A x C	N.S.	N.S.	N.S.	N.S.	*	*
B x C	N.S.	N.S.	*	*	N.S.	N.S.
A x B x C	N.S.	N.S.	N.S.	N.S.	N.S.	N.S.

### Effect of Water Requirements on Growth, Yield and Yield Attributes of Maize

All studied traits were significantly affected by water requirements as results are presented in Tables 3a, b and c. Results clearly indicate that the application of 3550.0 m<sup>3</sup> (R<sub>1</sub>= recommended +25%) gave the highest values for all traits under study, followed by R<sub>2</sub> (recommended = 2841 m<sup>3</sup>/ season) and the lowest values were for R<sub>3</sub> (R<sub>2</sub>-25%=2131 m<sup>3</sup>). The increases of yield with increasing irrigation

water from R<sub>3</sub> (2131 m<sup>3</sup>/season) to R<sub>1</sub> (3550m<sup>3</sup>/season) was 35.17%. The increase in maize grain yield and all its attributes due to the increase in the amount of irrigation water was rather expected as the soil of the experimental site was sandy Table 3a, b and c. The averages grain yield/fed were 13.450, 15.895 and 18.180 for R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>1</sub> respectively over both seasons. The increase of yield and its attributes in R<sub>1</sub> (recommended +25%) attributed to the importance of the water in sandy soil and its availability in the soil which solve



Table 3c. Effect of cropping sequences, water requirements and sources of nitrogen fertilization on kernels weight (gm), 100 kernel weight (gm), shilling %, and grain yield ardab/fed. in the two seasons

Treatments	Kernels weight gm/ear		100 kernel weight (gm)		Shilling %		Grain yield ardab/fed	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	<b>Cropping sequences (A)</b>							
Double sequence	136.4	138.8	21.5	22.7	75.8	78.7	16.530	17.350
Triple sequence	122.5	126.0	20.1	21.1	70.2	74.3	14.130	15.350
F-test	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
N.L.S.D. 5%	1.5	1.7	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.350	0.410
<b>Water requirements (B)</b>								
R1 = Recommended + 25%	138.2	142.4	23.5	24.8	76.2	79.8	17.670	18.690
R2 = Recommended	130.9	133.5	20.3	21.4	73.6	77.3	15.270	16.520
R3 = Recommended - 25%	119.2	121.3	18.6	19.6	69.2	72.4	13.050	13.850
F-test	**	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
N.L.S.D. 5%	1.8	1.9	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.370	0.600
<b>Sources of N fertilization (C)</b>								
All manure nitrogen	126.6	129.0	19.2	20.2	70.4	75.2	13.970	14.530
Manure 50% + Mineral 50%	132.1	136.0	22.5	23.8	75.7	77.7	16.870	18.520
All mineral nitrogen	129.6	131.7	20.7	21.9	72.8	76.6	15.160	16.000
F-test	**	**	**	**	**	*	**	**
N.L.S.D. 5%	1.00	1.0	0.26	0.31	0.4	0.4	0.180	0.230
<b>Interactions:</b>								
A x B	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
A x C	*	*	N.S.	N.S.	*	*	*	*
B x C	*	*	N.S.	N.S.	N.S.	N.S.	*	*
A x B x C	*	*	N.S.	N.S.	N.S.	N.S.	*	*

the nutrition elements and became easier and faster uptake to the plants and covered the requirements of maize plant from irrigation water for growth and development. Similar results were reported by Haikel and El-Badry Ola (1995).

#### Effect of Nitrogen Sources on Growth, Yield, and Yield Attributes of Maize:

The data listed in Tables 3a, b and c revealed that all traits were significantly affected by nitrogen sources. It was noticed that

maximum values for all traits under study were obtained from the treatment of 50% organic N + 50% mineral N fertilizer. These results may be attribute to when nitrogen is used in mineral form the leaching was at the maximum value, however when all nitrogen fertilization was added as organic, nitrogen release was very slow and not enough to meet the growth and development of maize plants, while when nitrogen fertilization was added from both sources, organic and mineral, cations were

adsorbed and less leaching occurred. It is well known that organic matter improves soil structure, increase water holding capacity and exchangeable capacity, also decrease the susceptibility to erosion led to an increase in the availability of nutrients. Zohry *et al.* (1998), found that the maximum values of all studied traits of wheat were obtained from the treatment of 50% organic N + 50 % mineral N. Haikel *et al.* (2000) mention that organic matter has a role in stimulating cell division and encouraging the meristematic activity of the plant and gave highest yield than mineral forms. Abd El-All (2002) reported that the highest values of maize traits were obtained with the use of 75.0% organic +25% mineral,

#### **Effect of Interactions on Growth, Yield and Yield Attributes of Maize:**

The results of the interaction effects between water requirements and crop sequences Table 4 on number of days to 50% tassling revealed that the number of days to 50% tassling was increased with increasing irrigation water under both double and triple cropping sequences in both seasons, but this increase did not reach the 5% of significant with increasing water requirements from R3 to R2 in triple cropping

sequence. Concerning number of days to 50% silking, it can be concluded that this trait took the same trend of number of days to 50% tassling. Plant height in double sequence showed no significant differences when irrigation water was increased by 25% than recommended, but plant height was significantly reduced when irrigation water was decreased 25% than recommended. While by triple cropping sequence the height of maize plants were significantly increased with increasing irrigation water by 25% than recommended. The height of ear position on maize plants was significantly increased under both double and triple cropping sequences with increasing irrigation water by 25% than recommended and from R3 to R2. The results in Table 4 also showed that ear diameter, kernels weight/ear and 100-kernels weight were significantly increased in both double and triple cropping sequences with increasing irrigation water by 25% than recommended. Shelling percentage was significantly increased under both cropping sequences by 4.55 and 2.56% in the first seasons and by 4.92 and 1.46% in the second season respectively with increase of irrigation by 25% than recommended while the reduction in shelling percentage due to

Table 4. The interaction effects between cropping sequences and water requirements (A x B) on some growth traits of maize in the two sessions

Cropping sequences	Irrigation requirements	No. of days to 50% tassling					
		2004			2005		
		R1	R2	R3	R1	R2	R3
Double sequence		66.22	62.47	59.40	69.41	66.66	60.40
Triple sequence		59.51	56.37	55.67	61.18	60.00	56.40
N.L.S.D. 5%			0.9			1.02	
		No. of days to 50% selking					
Double sequence		70.3	68.0	63.9	73.5	71.8	67.4
Triple sequence		63.1	62.2	61.2	70.1	65.4	64.2
N.L.S.D. 5%			1.5			1.7	
		Plant height (cm)					
Double sequence		265.0	261.5	247.5	277.1	264.0	241.0
Triple sequence		249.1	242.7	218.4	258.1	247.2	210.4
N.L.S.D. 5%			5.0			5.6	
		Ear position (cm)					
Double sequence		158.6	141.0	126.4	162.9	146.4	131.2
Triple sequence		138.3	133.0	122.1	142.9	138.4	125.7
N.L.S.D. 5%			2.3			2.4	
		Ear diameter (cm)					
Double sequence		5.3	5.2	3.8	5.7	5.3	4.0
Triple sequence		3.7	3.4	3.1	4.4	4.1	3.8
N.L.S.D. 5%			0.08			0.10	
		Kernels weight/ear (g)					
Double sequence		145.9	139.7	123.5	150.5	141.1	124.6
Triple sequence		130.5	122.0	114.9	133.8	125.6	118.0
N.L.S.D. 5%			2.6			2.7	
		100-Kernels weight (gm)					
Double sequence		25.0	20.7	18.8	26.6	22.1	20.2
Triple sequence		22.0	19.9	18.4	23.0	20.7	19.0
N.L.S.D. 5%			0.4			0.5	
		Shilling (%)					
Double sequence		80.4	76.9	70.2	83.2	79.3	73.5
Triple sequence		72.1	70.3	68.2	76.4	75.3	71.3
N.L.S.D. 5%			0.6			0.7	
		Grain yield (ardab/fed.)					
Double sequence		19.015	16.803	13.773	19.370	17.966	14.726
Triple sequence		16.324	13.740	12.326	18.006	15.080	12.974
N.L.S.D. 5%			0.3			0.4	

R1=Recommended + 25% R2=Recommended R3=Recommended - 25%

reducing irrigation water by 25% than recommended were 8.5 and 3.1% in both cropping sequences, respectively in the first season and 5.8 and 4.0% in the second seasons, respectively. Grain yield/feddan was significantly higher in both double and triple cropping sequences by 13.16 and 18.81%, respectively in the first season and by 7.81 and 19.4% respectively in the second season, when irrigation water was increased by 25% than recommended. On the other hand, the reduction in grain yield/fed. due to reducing irrigation water by 25% than recommended was 18.0 and 10.29% under double and triple cropping sequences, respectively in the first season and 18.03 and 13.96% respectively in the second season.

The interaction effects between cropping sequences and nitrogen sources on ear diameter, kernels weight/ear, shelling percentage and grain yield/fed. are presented in Table 5. The results showed that ear diameter was significantly increased under the two cropping sequences when maize plants fertilized with 50% manure and 50% mineral N fertilization. The same trends were found with kernels weight/ear and shelling percentage, where the highest kernel weight/ear and shelling percentage were produced when maize was fertilized with the

mixed nitrogen sources (50% manure and 50% mineral) under the two cropping sequences. Grain yield/feddan appeared to be significantly higher in both cropping sequences when maize fertilized with 50% manure + 50% mineral nitrogen. The increments in grain yields due to adding mixed fertilization under the two cropping sequences were 20.9 and 20.6% in the first season and were 30.97 and 23.8% in the second season compared with manure fertilization, respectively and were 10.81 and 11.91% in the first season and 11.49 and 20.9% in the second season compared with mineral nitrogen source alone, respectively. In general ear diameter, kernels weight/ear, shelling % and grain yield/fed. under double cropping sequences surpassed that under triple cropping sequence.

The interaction effects between water requirements and nitrogen sources on ear length, kernels weight / ear and grain yield/fed. are illustrate in Table 6. The significant longest ears of maize were produced under recommended + 25% with the mixed nitrogen sources (50% manure + 50% mineral N), but the shorts ears were found with all manure under reducing water requirement (recommended -25%),

**Table 5. The interaction effects between cropping sequences and sources of nitrogen fertilization (A x C) on some growth traits of maize in the two seasons**

Cropping sequences	Sources of N fertilization		Ear diameter (cm)			
			2004		2005	
	All manure	50% manure + 50% mineral	All mineral	All manure	50% manure + 50% mineral	All mineral
Double sequence	4.4	5.2	4.8	4.6	5.3	4.9
Triple sequence	3.0	3.8	3.4	4.0	4.3	4.1
N.L.S.D. 5%		0.04			0.05	
			Kernel weight/ear (g)			
Double sequence	132.5	140.0	136.6	135.1	143.5	137.9
Triple sequence	120.7	124.1	122.6	124.1	128.5	125.5
N.L.S.D. 5%		1.3			1.6	
			Shelling (%)			
Double sequence	72.9	79.0	75.5	77.0	80.5	78.7
Triple sequence	68.0	72.4	70.1	73.3	75.0	74.5
N.L.S.D. 5%		0.61				
			Grain yield (ardab/fed.)			
Double sequence	15.030	18.164	16.400	14.938	19.565	17.548
Triple sequence	12.907	15.576	13.920	14.120	17.474	14.452
N.L.S.D. 5%		0.28			0.25	

**Table 6. The interaction between water requirements and sources of nitrogen fertilization (B x C) on some growth traits of maize in the two seasons**

Water requirements	Sources of N fertilization		Ear length (cm)			
			2004		2005	
	All manure	50% manure + 50% mineral	All mineral	All manure	50% manure + 50% mineral	All mineral
R1=Recommended + 25%	17.0	20.7	18.0	17.6	21.1	19.0
R2 = Recommended	14.3	19.9	16.7	16.6	20.0	17.8
R3 =Recommended -25%	12.1	14.8	15.4	14.4	18.9	17.2
N.L.S.D. 5%		0.4			0.5	
			Kernel weight/ear (g)			
R1 = Recommended+25%	134.4	143.1	137.6	138.3	147.4	141.6
R2 =Recommended	128.7	134.0	130.0	131.4	136.6	132.5
R3 =Recommended -25%	116.17	122.0	119.0	118.9	124.1	120.8
N.L.S.D. 5%		1.0			1.2	
			Grain yield (ardab/fed.)			
R1=Recommended + 25%	16.163	19.346	17.507	16.159	21.210	18.700
R2 =Recommended	13.883	16.766	15.197	15.435	18.722	15.405
R3 =Recommended -25%	11.863	14.496	12.777	12.005	15.635	13.902
N.L.S.D. 5%		0.380			0.420	

kernels weight/ear was the highest by mixed fertilization (50% manure + 50% mineral N) under the different water requirements in the two seasons but in the second season, there was no significant differences between the fertilization with all manure and all mineral under recommended water application in the second season grain yield/feddan was increased by using mixed fertilizer (50% manure + 50% mineral N) in the three water requirements with 19.7, 20.8 and 22.2% in the first season, respectively and 31.3, 21.3 and 30.2% in the second season, respectively compared with all manure treatment which increased by 10.5, 10.3 and 13.4% in the first season and 13.4, 21.5 and 12.5% in the second season, respectively compared with mineral fertilization in the three water requirements, respectively but in the second season there was no

significant differences between the fertilization with all manure and all mineral form under recommended water. From the for mentioned percentages it could be concluded that mixed fertilization (50% manure + 50% mineral N) was more benefit with increasing water requirement.

From the triple interaction effects on grain yield/feddan Table 7, it could be conclude that the highest grain yield/feddan was produced when maize plants grown under double cropping sequence and received more irrigation water (recommended + 25%) as well as fertilized with 50% manure + 50% mineral N, this was true in the two seasons. While the lowest grain yield/feddan was obtained when maize plants grown under triple cropping sequence, water requirements - 25% and manure fertilization only.

**Table 7. The interaction effects between cropping sequences, water requirements and sources of nitrogen fertilization (A x B x C) on grain yield ardab/fed. in the two seasons.**

Cropping sequences	Water requirements	Sources of N fertilization		Grain yield (ardab/fed.)			
				2004		2005	
		All manure	50% manure + 50% mineral	All mineral	All manure	50% manure + 50% mineral	All mineral
Double sequence	R1 = Recommended+25%	17.590	21.157	19.058	18.647	21.767	18.768
	R2 = Recommended	14.957	17.947	16.464	16.229	19.619	17.159
	R3 = Recommended -25%	12.520	15.350	13.734	12.641	17.081	14.232
Triple sequence	R1 = Recommended+25%	14.714	17.521	15.908	15.055	20.265	17.635
	R2 = Recommended	12.837	15.621	13.848	13.677	17.747	14.717
	R3 = Recommended -25%	11.164	13.621	11.948	10.779	14.839	13.529
	N.L.S.D. 5%		0.31			0.41	

### **Economical Evaluations**

Although yield and yield attributes of maize recorded the highest values in double cropping sequence, but net-income (L.E.) in triple cropping sequence was higher than double cropping sequence by 462.25 L.E. per feddan Table 8a. The explanation of this view that the double cropping sequence started by planting faba bean with net-profit of 1940.0 L.E, following with maize with net profit of 1244.0 L.E., whereas in triple cropping sequence if started with faba bean with net profit of 1820 L.E., followed with sunflower with net profit of 802.25 L.E, followed with maize with net-profit of 1024.0 the total profit in double sequence was 3184.0 L.E. compared with triple cropping sequence 3646.25 L.E. According by an increase of 462.25 L.E. was obtained in the triple sequence. Also, the data presented in Table 8a indicated that the average value of C.Us of triple sequence was higher than those obtained under double sequence.

Results in Table 8b show that the highest average grain yield ard./fed. (18.180) obtained from R1=3550 m<sup>3</sup>/fed. / season (recommended + 25%), and with the highest cost of irrigation 355.0 [the cost of one m<sup>3</sup> = 0.1 (L.E.)]. The gained increase of income

amounts to 473.0 L.E. due to the increase of maize grain yield (4.730 ardab/fed.) from R3 to R1. The cost of the additional irrigation water was 141.9 L.E., therefore the net profile amounted to 331.1 L.E. as the cost of one cubic meter of water is 0.1 L.E. From another angle of data the highest C.Us was obtained from yield of maize under water requirement R1 (25.45), while the lowest value of C.Us was obtained when maize was irrigated with R3 (18.83).

From this Table 8c it is clear that highest grain yield/fed was obtained from source of nitrogen in form of 50% organic and 50% mineral which gave 17.695 ard./fed. with net return of 1295.7 L.E., however the lowest grain yield was obtained when nitrogen source was fully in organic (14.25 ard./fed. with net return of only 749.1 L.E.). However, addition of N fully in mineral form produced a yield of 15.58 ardab/fed. with net return of 1286.4 L.E. The data presented in Table 8c indicate that the average values of C.Us of grain maize behaved the same trend. The percentage increase of grain C.Us of maize reached 24.18% due to the use of N as 50% organic and 50% mineral compared with manure from. Also, C.Us of maize yield was increased due to the use of nitrogen in organic N form (19.95) to source of nitrogen in

Table 8a. Net return (L.E.) and cereal units (C.U.s) of maize yield as affected by cropping sequences over the two seasons

	Faba bean					Sun flower					Maize					C.U.s				
	Average yield ard./ fed	Price of ard. (L.E)	Income (L.E)	Cost L.E./fed.	Net profit L.E	Yield kg/ fed	Price of kg (L.E)	Income (L.E)	Cost	Net profit L.E	Yield ard./ fed	Price of ard. (L.E)	Income (L.E)	Cost	Net profit L.E	Net income L.E.	Faba bean	Sun flower	Maize	Total/fed.
Double sequence	6.1	400.0	2440.0	500.0	1940.0	-	-	-	-	-	16.940	100.0	1694.0	450.0	1244.0	3184.0	11.346	-	23.716	35.062
Triple sequence	5.8	400.0	2320.0	500.0	1820.0	685.0	1.85	1267.25	465.0	802.25	14.740	100.0	1474.0	450.0	1024.0	3646.25	10.788	13.300	20.636	44.724

C.U.s for 100 kg from faba bean = 1.2 C.U.s

C.U.s for 100 kg from sunflower = 2.0 C.U.s

C.U.s for 100 kg from maize = one C.U.s



form 50% organic N + 50% mineral N form (24.77) by 24.18%.

Therefore recommending that the highest net return when maize planting in triple sequence (faba

bean – sunflower – maize) with water irrigation 3550 m<sup>3</sup>/season under drip irrigation system using nitrogen fertilization at rate 130 kg N/fed in form 50% organic and 50% mineral in sandy soil.

**Table 8b. Net return (L.E.) and cereal units (C.U.s) of maize yield as affected by water requirements into two seasons**

	Average water consumption m <sup>3</sup> /season/fed	Average grain yield ard./fed.	Income return (L.E./fed.)	Cost of irrigation L.E./fed.	Cost of one ardab L.E.	Net return L.E./fed.	C.U.s.
R1	3550.0	18.180	1818.0	355.0	19.53	1463.0	25.45
R2	2841.0	15.895	1589.5	284.1	17.87	1305.4	22.25
R3	2131.0	13.450	1345.0	213.1	15.84	1131.9	18.83

**Table 8c. Net return (L.E.) and cereal units (C.U.s) of maize yield as affected by different sources of nitrogen over the two seasons**

Source of nitrogen fertilization	Amount of N. fertilization per fed.	Average grain yield ard./fed.	Income return L.E./fed	Fertilizer price cost (L.E.)	Net return L.E.	C.U.s
(All organic nitrogen 1.73% N)	7.51 ton	14.250	1425.0	675.90	749.1	19.950
All mineral nitrogen (ammonium nitrate 33.5% N)	388 kg	15.580	1558.0	271.60	1286.4	21.810
50% organic + 50% mineral	3.76 ton (organic) + 194.0 kg N (mineral)	17.695	1769.5	338.0 + 135.8 (473.8)	1295.7	24.773

\* Price of ard./maize = 100 L.E., one ton organic fert. = 90.0 L.E., one kg ammonium nitrate = 0.7 L.E.

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### تأثر حاصل الذرة الشامية ومكوناته بالتعاقب المحصولي والاحتياجات المائية ومصادر التسميد الأزوتى تحت نظام الري بالتنقيط فى الأراضى الرملية

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أجريت هذه الدراسة فى المحطة البحثية بوادى العريش محافظة شمال سيناء خلال موسمى النمو ٢٠٠٣ / ٢٠٠٤ ، ٢٠٠٤ / ٢٠٠٥ لدراسة تأثير التعاقب الثنائى والثلاثى والاحتياجات المائية ومصادر التسميد النيتروجينى على حاصل الذرة الشامية ومكوناته تحت ظروف منطقة العريش. وفى نظام التعاقب الثنائى تم زراعة الفول البلدى صنف ٤٦١ تبعه الذرة الشامية هجين فردى ١٠، حيث تمت زراعة الفول البلدى فى ١٥، ١٨ أكتوبر والذرة الشامية فى ١٠، ١٥ مايو بالموسم الأول والثانى على التوالى. وفى التعاقب الثلاثى تم زراعة الفول البلدى صنف ٤٦١ فى ١٥، ١٨ أكتوبر تبعه زراعة عباد الشمس صنف فيدوك فى الأول والرابع من أبريل ثم زراعة الذرة فى ١٥، ٢٠ يوليو فى موسمى النمو الأول والثانى على التوالى. هذا وقد تم تحديد متوسط كميات المياه الموصى بها التى تعطى للذرة فى الأراضى الرملية القريبة من خواص وادى العريش من نتائج البحوث السابقة وكانت ٢٨٤١ م<sup>٣</sup> (R<sub>1</sub>) لموسم النمو وأقل منها ٢٥% فكانت ٣٥٥٠ م<sup>٣</sup> (R<sub>2</sub>) تحت نظام الري بالتنقيط وأعطى أكثر منها ٢٥% فكانت ٣٥٥٠ م<sup>٣</sup> (R<sub>1</sub>) لموسم النمو وأقل منها ٢٥% فكانت ٢١٣١ م (R<sub>3</sub>) لموسم النمو وسمد الذرة بمعدل ١٣٠ كجم نيتروجين للفدان من مصادر النيتروجين المختلفة إما كلها على صورة عضوية (١,٧٣% ن) بمعدل ٧,٥١ طن / فدان أو كله على صورة معدنية (٣٨٨ كجم نترات أمونيوم ٣٣,٥% ن) أو نصف كمية السماد فى صورة سماد عضوى ٣,٧٦ طن للفدان والنصف الآخر معدنى

١٩٤,٠ كجم نترات أمونيوم للفدان. نفذت الدراسة في تصميم القطع المنشقة مرتين في شرائح في ثلاث مكررات. وخصصت القطعة الرئيسية لنظام التعاقب المحصولي وخصصت القطع الشقية الأولى لمعدلات الري ( $R_1, R_2, R_3$ ) بينما القطع الشقية الثانية لمصادر التسميد النيتروجيني وتتلخص أهم نتائج الدراسة فيما يلي:

\* تفوقت جميع الصفات تحت الدراسة في نباتات الذرة الشامية في التعاقب الثنائي عنه في التعاقب الثلاثي حيث أعطى أعلى حاصل من الحبوب.

\* أعطى معدل الري ( $R_1$ ) (الموصى به +٢٥%) أعلى القيم في جميع الصفات المدروسة لنباتات الذرة الشامية.

\* أعطى السماد النيتروجيني في صورة نصفه عضوي ونصفه معدني أعلى القيم لحاصل الحبوب ومكوناته لنباتات الذرة الشامية.

التفاعل:

كان تأثير التفاعل بين التعاقب المحصولي وكميات المياه المستخدمة زيادة معنوية لمعظم الصفات المدروسة عدد الأيام لظهور ٥٠% من النورة المذكرة والمؤنثة، وطول النبات، وإرتفاع وقطر الكوز، ووزن حبوب الكوز، ووزن ١٠٠ حبة، ونسبة التصافي، حاصل الحبوب للفدان، وكانت أعلى قيم ناتجة من معاملة التعاقب الثنائي ومعدل الري ( $R_1$ ) ٣٥٥٠م<sup>٣</sup> في الموسم للفدان.

كان تأثير التفاعل بين التعاقب المحصول ومصادر النيتروجين معنوية على صفات قطر الكوز، ووزن حبوب الكوز، ونسبة التصافي، وحاصل الحبوب للفدان، حيث كانت أعلى القيم ناتجة من التفاعل بين التعاقب الثنائي والتسميد النيتروجيني بمعدل ٥٠% من كل من المصدرين.

كان تأثير التفاعل بين معدلات الري ومصادر التسميد النيتروجيني معنوية على طول الكوز، ووزن حبوب الكوز، وحاصل الحبوب للفدان، وكانت أعلى القيم ناتجة من التسميد النيتروجيني بمعدل ٥٠% من السماد العضوي والمعدني، ومعدل الري ( $R_1$ ) ٣٥٥٠م<sup>٣</sup> في الموسم للفدان.

كان تأثير التفاعل الثلاثي معنوية على وحاصل الفدان، حيث كانت أعلى القيم للحاصل ناتجة من التفاعل بين التعاقب الثنائي ومعدل الري ( $R_1$ ) ٣٥٥٠م<sup>٣</sup> في الموسم للفدان والتسميد النيتروجيني (٥٠% عضوي + ٥٠% معدني).

التقييم الإقتصادي:

وللحصول على أعلى عائد اقتصادي وكذلك عند حساب معامل الحبوب الذي أخذ نفس الاتجاه فإنه يتم زراعة الذرة الشامية في نظام التعاقب الثلاثي (فول بلدي \_ عباد الشمس \_ ذرة شامية) مع استخدام معدل الري ٣٥٥٠م<sup>٣</sup> في الموسم للفدان بنظام الري بالتنقيط مع التسميد النيتروجيني بمعدل ١٣٠ كجم للفدان تضاف جزئياً على صورة معدنية (٥٠%) وفي صورة عضوية (٥٠%) تحت ظروف الأراضي الرملية.