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English summary

Effect of bunch removing on yield and fruit quality of succary date palm cultivar grown in Riyadh region.

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The present study was carried out during 2000 (1420/1421H) and 2001 (1421/1422H) growing seasons at the Agricultural Experimental Station, College of Agriculture, King Saud University, Riyadh. The aim of this research was to study the effect of fruit thinning by bunches removal and time of application on the number of raised bunches in subsequent seasons, yield and fruit properties of Succary date palm under Riyadh region conditions. In general, the data indicated that thinning by bunch removal (20% and 40%) led to uniformity of bunches number that grew up during the next flowering period and limited alternate bearing, but did not affect the flowering date. However, the time of thinning showed no a significant effect. Treatment of 40% removal of bunches during bunch support (8 week after pollination) gave a significant increase in bunch weight, besides improving the physical and chemical fruit qualities. The same treatment gave a significant increase in fruit physical properties (fruit weight, volume, diameter, seed weight and flesh percentage) and chemical constituents of fruit flesh (TSS, reducing, non reducing and total sugars) in both seasons. Under the same conditions of