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

-Al-Obeed* R. S.; M. A. Harhash* and N. S. Fayez**

*** Plant Production Dept., college of Agriculture, King Saud Univ. Saudi Arabia.**

**** Buraydah college of Agricultural Technology**

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 using NAA (100-300 ppm) and Ethrel (100-300 ppm) as well as time of application (10-30 days of pollinations time) on yield and fruit properties of succary date palm cultivar grown under Riyadh region conditions. In general, the data indicated that NAA (100-300 ppm) treatments significantly decreased bunch weight as compared to control treatment especially, when it was used after 10 days from pollination time by using 300 ppm. However, Ethrel treatments (100-300 ppm) did not effect significant. The NAA (100-300 ppm) treatments led to significant increase in fruit weight ,volume , length , and diameter , flesh% , besides improving the fruit chemical properties, (T.S.S. reducing, non-reducing and total sugars) in both seasons. Otherwise , Ethrel treatments did not effect significant in both seasons. Under similar conditions of the present study, it could be recommended that using 100 ppm NAA after 30 days from pollination time to obtain a reasonable yield with good fruit quality.