



## **USES OF DRY VINASSE AS A FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENTAL MATERIAL TO IMPROVE PROPERTIES OF CEMENT MORTAR AND CONCRETE**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This study aims at using the sugar by-product (dry vinasse), as one of the concrete production requirements, instead of getting rid of them in vain. Dry vinasse was obtained by drying liquid vinasse at 250 ° C. In this study, dry vinasse is used as a friendly environmental material to improve properties of cement mortar and concrete, through studying its effect on setting time and compressive strength of cement mortar and concrete. Effect of dry vinasse on compressive strength of cement mortar and concrete by using different doses of dry vinasse 0 %, 0.2 %, 0.3 %, 0.4 %, and 0.5 % by weight content of cement is studied.

Compressive strength was determined by standard specimens (40x40x160mm) for cement mortar and standard cubes specimens (150X150X150mm) for concrete. By cylinder specimens (150X300mm), the splitting strength was determined and the flexural strength was determined by beam specimens (100X100X500mm). All the specimens were cured in water and tested for 7 and 28days for cement mortar and concrete. The splitting strength and flexural strength were done for 28 days.

It is found that, dry vinasse addition causes increase in setting times. With comparing the results of compressive strength of cement mortar and concrete with and without dry vinasse, it is showed that, there are noticeable increases in the results of compressive strength, splitting strength and flexural strength.

**Keywords:** Dry Vinasse, Compressive Strength, Splitting strength, flexural strength, cement mortar, Concrete

### **1. Introduction**

Molasses is considered as one of the most important by products of the sugar industry, which fully exploited in Egypt in animal nutrition and yeast industry acetone and ethyl alcohol, which led to the emergence of a new waste called vinasse. Vinasse is a liquid, produced from the fermentation of molasse to produce ethyl alcohol. Vinasse which represents a real environmental problem, it has also been a trend to dry this liquid for easy transportation and storage. Up till now this research is considered one of the first studies which studies using dry vinasse as admixture and friendly environmental material. There have been a lot of studies on the effect of sugars & sugar by-products on cement paste and concrete.

By studying the effect of adding vinasse liquid (VSW 2016) to the concrete mixing, it is concluded that, at 2.5 % from cement content is the optimum dose of the admixture (VSW

2016) at which maximum values of compressive, splitting and Flexural strengths of concrete specimens at hardened concrete. [1, 2]

The effect of diluted vinasse on concrete properties was studied, it is noticed that, adding diluted vinasse reduces in the amount of mixing water and increase compressive strength and indirect tensile strength. [3]

By studying the use of molasses (MKSC) and vinasses (VKSC) as concrete admixtures, the results of this study showed that addition of 0.3%MKSC permitted up to 20% water content reduction, while the 5% of VKSC allowed up to 10% water reduction. [4]

The effect of sugar powder on setting time and compressive strength in both cement and concrete was investigated, the result showed that, the initial and final setting time, at 0.1% of the total weight of cement, increases, and gives improved results in compressive strength, and workability of the mortar. [5]

The effects of sugar on physical properties in both Ordinary Portland cement paste and concrete was studied, the results obtained that, at 0.06% sugar content, the initial setting time of cement paste reaches to maximum, and improves the compressive strength.[6, 7]

The effect of both sugar (Beet & Cane) on the setting times of cement pastes was investigated, the results obtained that, adding sugar resulted in retarding the setting time under all conditions of curing. The setting time was increasing with an increase in sugar content up to ( $\approx 0.15\%$ ) and then decreases with further increasing in sugar content, and this is the optimum dose for retarding the setting time. [8]

By comparing between the use of sugar and jaggery as an additive to the properties of concrete, the results of this study showed that, workability and compressive strength of concrete increases when the dose of admixture increases, concrete with Sugar as admixture has given less strength values than the Jaggery. [9]

By studying the effect of molasses on properties of cement paste, it is concluded that, the dose of 0.1% of molasses is an optimum dose. [10]

Beet molasses, as a retarding and water-reducing admixture for concrete was investigated, the compressive strength of concrete mixes with molasses increases slightly compared with those with lignosulphonate based in all ages except for early ages. The flexural strengths of concretes with molasses are in the trend with those with the lignosulphonate. [11]

Molasses in concrete, as a water reducing and retarding admixture was studied, it is found that, the higher ratios of admixtures have caused the higher water reducing; also the Setting times are getting longer with increase of admixture ratio in cement paste. At 0.4 % molasses, used as a Water-reducing admixtures (Type A) and at 0.7 %, as a Water-reducing and retarding admixtures (Type D) in a concrete in accordance with ASTM C 494 standard. [12]

By studying the effect of molasses in concrete as admixture, it is concluded that, by increasing the dose of admixture, workability and setting time of the concrete increase. Molasses have been water reducing and retarding effect on concrete. [13]

The effect of sugar cane juice, (SCJ) on some of concrete properties was investigated, it is found that, the final setting time of concrete increases as the dose of SCJ increases, up to 25% SCJ, the compressive strength of the concrete decreases as the dose of SCJ increases.[14]

## 2. Experimental work

The aim of present study is to investigate the effects of Sugar-Waste (Dry Vinasse) on the various properties of cement mortar and concrete. The Dry Vinasse was taken from ESIIC, whose main constituent is listed by varying the dose content of Dry Vinasse (0.2%, 0.3%, 0.4%, 0.5%) of the cement content, the tests were carried out on three mixes with different cement contents (3, 3.5 and 4  $\text{kn/m}^3$ ) of the cement mortar and the concrete.

This study was done as follows:

- 1- The setting time was compared with and without the use of Dry Vinasse for cement mortar and concrete with cement content 3.5  $\text{kn/m}^3$ .
- 2- Using standard specimens for 7 and 28 days, compressive strength were determined for cement mortar, which has been worked out for different doses of Dry Vinasse (0.2%, 0.3%, 0.4% and 0.5%) of the cement content.
- 3- The air-content of fresh mixed concrete by pressure method was determined at different doses of Dry Vinasse.
- 4- Water-reducing effect in three mixes with different cement content (3, 3.5, 4  $\text{kn/m}^3$ ) was worked out for different doses of dry vinasse.
- 5- Using standard cube specimens for 7 and 28 days, compressive strength were determined.
- 6- Splitting tensile strength and flexural strength of concrete at varying doses of dry vinasse were determined.

### 2.1. Material

#### 2.1.1. Aggregate

The using of fine aggregate was local natural sand and coarse aggregate was crushed stone obtain from local sources has been used. The properties of used aggregate are shown in tables No. (1&2).

**Table 1.**

Properties of used aggregate.

Property	Sand	Gravel	E.S.S Limits	
			sand	gravel
Volume weight ( $\text{t/m}^3$ )	1.63	1.72	---	---
Specific gravity	2.50	2.56	2.5 – 2.75	2.5-2.75
Fineness modulus	2.74	7.13	2 - 3.75	5 – 8
Crushing factor (%)	--	18.46	---	$\leq 30$
Maximum nominal size (mm)	--	20 mm	---	---

**Table 2.**

Chemical properties of used aggregate.

Property	Gravel	sand	E.S.S Limits	
			sand	gravel
% of Chloride ions content (Cl)	0.008 %	0.0514	$\leq 0.06$	$\leq 0.04$
% of Sulfate ions content (So3)	0.0145	0.155	$\leq 0.4$	$\leq 0.4$
P.H	7.5	7.6	$\geq 7$	$\geq 7$

#### 2.1.2. Cement

Ordinary Portland cement (CEMI 32.5 N) was used, which is produced from Assiut cement factory (CEMEX), the physical & mechanical properties of cement are given in table (3).

**Table 3.**

The physical &amp; mechanical properties of cement

property	value	E.S.S Limits
Initial setting times (min)	83	≥ 75 minutes
Specific gravity	3.15	--
Specific surface area (cm <sup>2</sup> / gm)	3417	≥ 2750
Compressive strength ( MPa)	7 day	≥ 16 MPa
	28 day	≥ 32.5 MPa ≤ 52.5 MPa

### 2.1.3. Mixing water

Fresh water was used for mixing and curing of cement mortar and concrete specimens.

### 2.1.4. Admixture

Dry vinasse is obtained by drying of liquid vinasse at inlet temperature 250 °C. It is collected from ESIIC, the typical properties of dry vinasse was listed in table (4).

**Table 4.**

Typical properties of dry vinasse.

Parameter	Test Method	Description
pH	ACAL-APR-08-01	5.66
Sulfate	ACAL-APR-21-00	4.658 % (wt/wt)
Chloride	ACAL-APR-14-00	-Ve
Total sugar	ACAL-APR-33-00	12.88 g/ kg

### - Cement mortar Specimens

Experimental tests have been done on 30 standard specimens, and tested under static loading up to failure.

### - Concrete Specimens

Experimental tests were done on 285 standard cubes, 171 standard beams and 171 standard cylinders, then were tested under static loading up to failure according to (ESS1899-2006/1).

## 5. Results and discussion

### 5.1. Effect of dry vinasse on cement mortar

Effect of different doses of the dry vinasse (0.2%, 0.3%, 0.4%, and 0.5%) of cement content on the setting time and compressive strength of cement mortar specimens were studied, values of the setting time and compressive strength were determined. It is clear from the results that, by increasing the percentage of dry vinasse, the setting times of cement paste increase. At 0.2% dry vinasse of the cement content, compressive strength increases after 7 and 28 days by about 20 % and 15 % respectively compared to the control specimen, then compressive strength decreases by increasing the content of admixtures as shown in tables (5, 6) and Fig. (1).

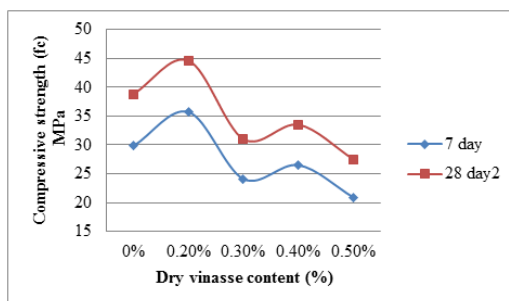
**Table 5.**

The setting time of mortar specimens

Initial setting time (min.)	Dose of Admixture
83	0.0 %
88	0.2 %
92	0.3 %
111	0.4%
119	0.5%

**Table 6.**Results of Compressive strength ( $f_c$ ) at age 7 and 28 days using dry vinasse for cement mortar

Doses of admixture / cement content	Compressive strength ( $f_c$ )	
	$f_{c7}$ MPa	$f_{c28}$ MPa
0.0 %	29.8	38.8
0.2 %	35.7	44.6
0.3 %	24.1	31.0
0.4 %	26.5	33.5
0.5 %	20.9	27.5

**Fig. 1.** Compressive strength ( $f_c$ ) for cement Mortar

## 5.2 Effect of dry vinasse on Concrete

### 5.2.1 Fresh Concrete Properties

#### 5.2.1.1 Consistency

Consistency was determined by the slump test. The slump was kept (100-120mm) to be suitable for the most usages of concrete and the mixes with dry vinasse were compared with the control mix to reduce the quantity of mixing water as shown in table (7). It is clear that, dry vinasse admixture reduces the quantity of mixing water, whereas the maximum of water reduction reach 10.28%, 16.41% and 18.05% at cement content 3, 3.5 and 4  $\text{kn/m}^3$  respectively. Accordingly, at cement content 3  $\text{kn/m}^3$  the water reduction is accepted with ES : 1899-1/2006 as a water-reducing admixture and at cement content 3.5  $\text{kn/m}^3$  and 4  $\text{kn/m}^3$  the water reduction is accepted with ES : 1899-1/2006 as a high water-reducing admixture.

**Table 7.**

The results of water reduction

Cement content $\text{kn/m}^3$	Water reduction %	Type & Percentage of admixture
3	---	0.0 %
	5.14 %	0.2 %
	6.86 %	0.3 %
	9.14 %	0.4 %
	10.28 %	0.5 %
3.5	---	0.0 %
	11.28 %	0.2 %
	13.33 %	0.3 %
	14.87 %	0.4 %
	16.41 %	0.5 %
4	---	0.0 %
	11.70 %	0.2 %
	13.66 %	0.3 %
	16.10 %	0.4 %
	18.05 %	0.5 %

### 5.2.1.2. Setting time

Table (8) shows the results of setting times for mixes of dry vinasse admixture with cement content  $3.5 \text{ kn/m}^3$ . It is clear that, by increasing the percentage of dry vinasse, the initial and final setting times of concrete increases. The difference in setting time are accepted according to ESS 203/2018 when dry vinasse is used with dosage up to 0.4% of cement content where the difference is less than +90 mins.

### 5.2.1.3. Air– Entraining

Table (8) shows the results of air– entraining for mixes with dry vinasse admixture at cement content  $350 \text{ kg/m}^3$ . It is found that, the maximum of air-entraining is 3% at percentage of admixture 0.3 % of cement content and the highest variance between the test mixes and the control mix is 0.6 %, this conforms with Egyptian Code of Practice No. 203,2018.

**Table 8.**

Setting times & Air– entraining for mixes with dry vinasse

Type & Percentage of admixture	Air entraining %		Setting time (min.)				Cement content $\text{kn/m}^3$
	Result	Diff	Initial	Diff	Final	Diff	
0.0 %	2.4	----	215	----	345	----	3.5
0.2 %	2.6	0.2	265	50	350	5	
0.3 %	3	0.6	285	70	375	30	
0.4 %	2.8	0.4	302	87	385	40	
0.5 %	2.8	0.4	370	155	420	75	

### 3.2.2. The hardened concrete properties

#### 3.2.2.1. Compressive strength ( $f_c$ )

Table (9) and Figs. (2, 3) show compressive strength results of concrete mixes with dry vinasse at age 7 and 28 days. In general, as for the cement content (3, 3.5 and  $4 \text{ kn/m}^3$ ), it is noticed that, the compressive strength increases by increasing dry vinasse up to 0.4%, then decreases by increasing the content of dry vinasse admixture. At the cement content  $3 \text{ kn/m}^3$ , it is noticed that, at 0.2% dry vinasse addition, the compressive strength slightly increases and clearly increases in other doses. The maximum of increase in the compressive strength at the age of 7 days reaches 78.27%, 56.92% and 36.40% at cement content 3, 3.5,  $4 \text{ kn/m}^3$  respectively, at the age of 28 days reaches 57.43%, 45.10% and 32.31% at cement content 3, 3.5,  $4 \text{ kn/m}^3$  respectively.

**Table 9.**

Results of ( $f_c$ ) at age 7 and 28 days using dry vinasse

Doses of admixture / cement content	Cement content $\text{kn/m}^3$	Compressive strength ( $f_c$ )			
		$f_{c7}$ Mpa	$f_{c7}/f_{c7(c)}\%$	$f_{c28}$ Mpa	$f_{c28}/f_{c28(c)}\%$
0.0 %	3	16.8	100	24.9	100
0.2 %		18.1	107.73	27.7	111.25
0.3 %		28.7	170.83	38.8	155.82
0.4 %		30.0	178.57	39.2	157.43
0.5 %		22.4	133.33	34.4	138.15
0.0 %	3.5	19.5	100	28.6	100
0.2 %		24.3	124.62	34.3	119.93
0.3 %		29.7	152.31	40.1	140.21
0.4 %		30.6	156.92	41.5	145.10
0.5 %		27.3	140	37.0	129.37
0.0 %	4	23.9	100	32.5	100
0.2 %		28.4	118.83	35.2	108.31
0.3 %		31.0	129.71	40.5	124.61
0.4 %		32.6	136.40	43.0	132.31
0.5 %		29.9	125.10	39.6	121.84

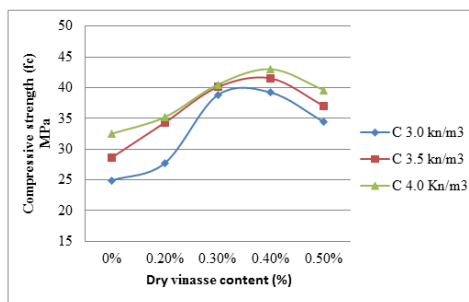


Fig. 2. Compressive strength ( $f_c$ ) at 7 days using dry vinasse

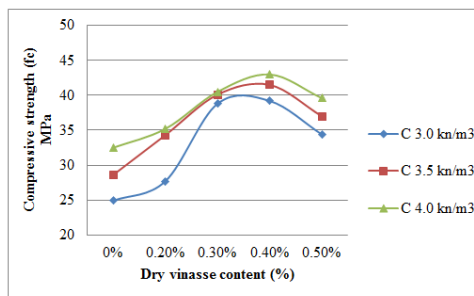


Fig. 3. Compressive strength ( $f_c$ ) at 28 days using dry vinasse

### 3.2.2.2. Indirect tensile strength

#### 3.2.2.2.1. Splitting strength

Table (10) and Fig. (4), show the results of splitting strength ( $F_{sp}$ ) of concrete mixes with dry vinasse at age 28 days, the results show that, the addition of dry vinasse causes significant improvement in the results of splitting strength compared to control mixes. The maximum increase in the splitting strength at the age of 28 days reaches 52.14%, 51.04% and 44.63% at cement content 3.0, 3.5, 4.0kn/m<sup>3</sup> respectively.

**Table 10.**

Splitting Strength ( $F_{sp}$ ) results of concrete mixes with dry vinasse

Doses of admixture / cement content	Cement content kn/m <sup>3</sup>	Splitting strength $f_{sp}$	
		$f_{sp28}$ MPa	$f_{sp28}/f_{sp28c}$ %
0.0 %	3.0	1.99	100
0.2 %		2.05	103.12
0.3 %		2.79	140.42
0.4%		3.03	152.14
0.5%		2.57	129.26
0.0 %	3.5	2.17	100
0.2 %		2.37	109.12
0.3 %		3.05	140.40
0.4%		3.28	151.04
0.5%		2.55	117.60
0.0 %	4.0	2.31	100
0.2 %		2.55	110.40
0.3 %		3.19	138.10
0.4%		3.34	144.63
0.5%		2.94	127.47

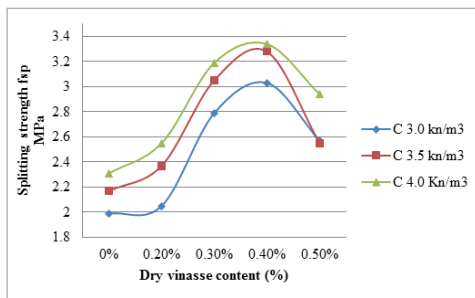


Fig. 4. Splitting strength  $f_{sp}$  at 28 days

3.2.2.2.2. Flexural Strength ( $F_{cr}$ )

The results of flexural strength of concrete mixes with dry vinasse at age 28 days increases by increasing doses up to 0.4 % then decreases. The maximum increase in the flexural strength reaches 22.6%, 23.17% and 38.82% for cement content of 3.0, 3.5, 4.0  $kn/m^3$  respectively as shown in table (11) and Fig. (5).

Table 11.

Flexural Strength ( $F_{cr}$ ) results of concrete mixes with dry vinasse

Doses of admixture / cement content	Cement content $kn/m^3$	Flexural strength $f_{cr}$	
		$F_{cr28}$ MPa	$F_{cr28}/F_{sp128(c)}$ %
Control mix	3.0	4.16	100
0.2 %		4.26	102.5
0.3 %		5.04	121.21
0.4%		5.10	122.66
0.5%		4.92	118.33
Control mix	3.5	4.73	100
0.2 %		5.12	108.36
0.3 %		5.75	121
0.4%		5.82	123.17
0.5%		5.58	118.1
Control mix	4.0	5.00	100
0.2 %		5.30	106
0.3 %		6.43	128.57
0.4%		6.94	138.82
0.5%		6.14	122.78

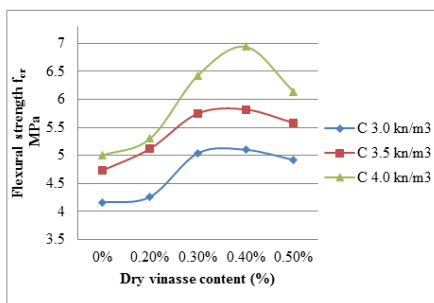


Fig. 5. Flexural strength  $f_{cr}$  at 28 days

4. Conclusions

For mortar, the addition of dry vinasse causes an increase in compressive strength at 0.2 % dry vinasse then decreases. The most favourable dose of dry vinasse is 0.2% dose.



For concrete, the addition of dry vinasse achieves reducing in the quantity of mixing water, and it causes a noticeable increase in compressive strength, flexural strength and splitting strength compared to control mixes. The most favourable dose of dry vinasse is 0.4% dose. In conclusion, results obtained in the present study can be drawn for the effects of dry vinasse on the cement mortar and concrete as follows:

- The setting times of cement-paste increase by increasing dry vinasse addition with respect to the selected doses.
- For cement mortar, compressive strength increases by increasing dry vinasse up to 0.2%, then it decreases by increasing the content of admixtures.
- At cement content  $3.0 \text{ kn/m}^3$  the water reduction are accepted with ES : 1899-1/2006 as a water-reducing admixture and at cement content  $3.5 \text{ kn/m}^3$  and  $4.0 \text{ kn/m}^3$  the water reduction are accepted with ES : 1899-1/2006 as a high water-reducing admixture.
- The setting time of concrete increases as the dose of dry vinasse increases.
- Results of Air – entraining percentages for test mixes, which contains of dry vinasse with cement content  $3.5 \text{ kn/m}^3$  conform to Egyptian code of practice No 203, 2018.
- For concrete the compressive strength increases as the dose of dry vinasse increases up to 0.4%, then decreases.
- The addition of dry vinasse causes noticeable increase in flexural strength and splitting strength compared to control mixes.

**In future studied:** It is hoped that take into consideration the effect of dry vinasse on durability of concrete and steel.

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## استخدامات الفيناس الجاف كمادة صديقة للبيئة لتحسين خصائص المونة الاسمنتية والخرسانة

### الملخص العربي

تتجه معظم بلدان العالم المتحضر للاستفادة من المخلفات الصناعية المختلفة بإعادة تصنيعها وإدخالها في صناعات أخرى مفيدة وذلك حفاظا على البيئة من التلوث وتجنبا للأضرار الكثيرة الناجمة عن القاء هذه المخلفات سواء البيئة المائية أو التخلص منها بالقائها في الصحارى والأماكن غير المستغلة، ومن المخلفات الصناعية التي استطاعت كثير من بلدان العالم الاستفادة منها استفادة كاملة هي المخلفات الثانوية لصناعة السكر. ومن اهم النواتج الثانوية لصناعة السكر هو المولاس والذي استغل بصورة كاملة في مصر في تغذية الحيوانات وصناعة الخميرة والاسيتون والكحول الايثيلي، مما أدى الى ظهور مخلف جديد يدعى الفيناس. الفيناس هو عبارة عن سائل ينتج من عملية تخمير المولاس لإنتاج الكحول الايثيلي، وقد اتجهت أنظار العلماء الى محاولة الاستفادة من هذه المادة في كثير من المجالات المختلفة في تسميد الاراضى وكبديل للفيرنست وكعلف للحيوان، وكذلك في مجال الإنشاءات كإضافة للخرسانة. ونظرا لان صناعة الكحول الايثيلي من المولاس تخلف وراؤها كميات كثيرة من الفيناس والذي يمثل مشكلة بيئية حقيقية، حيث 1 لتر من الكحول الايثيلي يخلف ورائه (12-17) لتر من الفيناس السائل، تم الاتجاه الى تجفيف هذا السائل لسهولة النقل والتخزين. تم استخدام الفيناس الجاف في تسميد الاراضى وكعلف للحيوانات.

وحيث إن مجال الإنشاءات يستهلك كمية كبيرة من الموارد الطبيعية والمخلفات الصناعية، لذا يهدف هذا البحث لدراسة تأثير الفيناس المجفف على خواص المونة الاسمنتية والخرسانة.

قامت منهجية هذه الدراسة على دراسة تأثير جرعات مختلفة من الفيناس الجاف ( 0.2 ، 0.3 ، 0.4 ، 0.5 % ) من وزن الاسمنت على خواص المونة الاسمنتية و الخرسانة، وذلك من خلال عمل اختبار قياس زمن الشك للعجينة الاسمنتية وكذلك اختبار مقاومة الضغط للمونة الاسمنتية و عمل الاختبارات وقياس الخواص الاساسية للخرسانة في المرحلة الطازجة وبعض الخواص الميكانيكية والفيزيائية في المرحلة المتصلدة بعد 7 ، 28 يوم للمكعبات الخرسانية القياسية وبعد 28 يوم للكمرات والاسطوانات القياسية وقورنت نتائجها مع الخلطات المرجعية بدون اضافة .

نتائج هذه الدراسة بصفة عامة اوضحت ان اضافة الفيناس المجفف قد حققت تحسن ملحوظ على خواص الخرسانة سواء الطازجة او المتصلدة.

حيث تشير النتائج الى الآتي:-

- 1- بزيادة جرعات اضافة الفيناس المجفف تزداد زمن الشك للعجينة الاسمنتية.
- 2- تزداد مقاومة الضغط للمونة الاسمنتية مع زيادة نسبة اضافة الفيناس الجاف حتى نسبة 0.2 % بعد ذلك تقل المقاومة بزيادة نسبة الاضافة.
- 3- حققت اضافة الفيناس الجاف خفض في كمية ماء الخلط مع الحفاظ على قوام الخرسانة اللدن، حيث تصل نسبة التخفيض الى 10.28 % ، 16.41 % ، 18.05 % عند خلطات ذات محتوى اسمنتى 350، 300، 400 كجم / م<sup>3</sup> على التوالي.
- 4- حققت اضافة الفيناس المجفف تحسن ملحوظ في مقاومة الضغط والشد الغير مباشر (مقاومة الانفلاق والانحناء) للخرسانة.