

MECHANICAL AND TRADITIONAL HARVESTING METHODS FOR WHEAT CROP

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ABSTRACT

Three combine harvesters at different service life (Fortschritt E514 {1} has been serving for 25 years – Class {2} has been serving for 15 years and John Deer {3} has been serving for 2 years) were tested and compared to another mechanical method mower than thresher (one thresher has free knives on the threshing drum {1} and the other has fixed knives on the drum {2}) compared to traditional method (sickle than thresher {1}). The mechanical harvesting methods were done at three different field speeds 1.9, 2.7 and 3.9 km/h for mower and combines. Also, three different moisture contents 12.1, 14.34 and 16.58 % were effected on harvesting, threshing unthreshing, damaged grain and total grain losses for the previous machines.

The experimental results showed that pre-harvesting losses for Sakha 93 was about 0.51 %. The highest total grain losses for combine 1, 2, 3 and mower were 10.36, 7.19, 3.14 and 3.98 % respectively at field speed 3.9 km/h and grain moisture content 12.1 %. Besides, the highest sickle loss is 2.01 % at moisture content 12.1 %. The highest un-threshing losses were 1.13 and 1.22 % for thresher 1 and 2 respectively at grain moisture content 16.58 %. The highest grain damage were 2.24 and 2.02 % at grain moisture content 12.1 % for thresher 1 and 2 respectively. Harvesting speed 2.7 km/h gave the lowest energy with combine 1, 2 and 3, which were 38.95, 34.76 and 43.61 kW.h/fed respectively. Mechanical method (mower then thresher) consumed about double energy consumed by combine; while, traditional method (sickle then thresher) consume about the same energy with combine. Thresher 2 consumed less energy than thresher 1 that because thresher 2 has free knives on the drum depend on the impact. The highest criterion cost with combine 1, 2, 3 and mower are 355.9, 277.59, 177.56 and 158.06 LE/fed respectively at field speed 3.9 km/h, and grain moisture content 12.1 %.

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The highest criterion cost with sickle is 229.65 LE/fed at grain moisture content 12.1 %. The highest criterion cost with thresher 1 and 2 are 225.89 and 223.67 LE/fed respectively at grain moisture content 12.1 %.

INTRODUCTION

Egyptian agricultural policy aimed to increase wheat yield not only by increasing cultivated area but also by increasing productivity per unit area. **Issakhan et al.** (2005) stated that wheat has a prominent position among all grain in the world and as the most important cereal grain in Egypt. While it is the cheapest and most stable source of proteins and calories in most East countries its average consumption can supply up to 30 to 40 % of human energy and protein requirements respectively. **Hassen et al** (1994) found that total grain losses and criterion cost for combine were minimum and performance efficiency was maximum under the following conditions:

- 1- Forward speed of 2.1km/h
- 2- Cutter-bar speed of 1.2 m/s
- 3- Cylinder speed of 2.5 m/s
- 4- Front concave clearance of 9 mm
- 5- Straw walker speed of 0.12 m/s
- 6- Shoe speed of 0.5 m/s
- 7- Grain moisture content of 12.5 %

Increasing forward speed from 2.1 to 3.9 Km/h at a constant cutter bar speed of 1.2 m/s and constant grain moisture content of 19.2 % increased header losses from 0.82 to 1.3 % from 0.72 to 1.09 % and from 0.22 to 0.87 when using yanmar, Deutz and Fortshritt combines for wheat crop. **Kassem** (1995) stated that the effect of some crop and machine parameters on wheat and barely harvesting losses in Saudi Arabia. He reported that cutter bar losses increased from 1.1 to 2.1 % as the field speed increased from 1 to 5 Km/h. **Abd El-Moawla** (1996) studied that combine harvesters have been developed to increase the combine capability in combining certain crops, to overcome hard conditions of crops to facilitate easier maintenance and to increase the overall efficiency of the combine. **Wange et al.** (1988) illustrated that at harvesting barely and wheat the separation loss was lower than 1 % for the test combine at material other than grain feed rate below 8 Mg/h. But when the feed rate increased to a certain level the loss increased drastically. **The ASAE Standard** (1996) contains a list of machine efficiencies and range of traveling speeds. For combine harvesters, values

of efficiencies in the range of 65-85 percent are usually obtained for machines operating speeds ranging between 3.34-6.68 Km/h. These yield effective field capacities ranging from 0.55 to 1.4 fed./h per meter width of the machine. **Awady et al** (1982) stated that the criterion cost of comparing different harvesting methods includes operating cost, losses evaluated at the current market price. The minimum criterion cost includes the most economical method.

The objectives of this research were to evaluate different combine harvesters at different service life comparing with mechanical method (mower then thresher) and traditional method (sickle then thresher) in addition to, studying the performance of two different geometrical designs for thresher drum with respect to grain losses, energy and cost.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The experiments were conducted at Nubaria site during summer season 2007 for harvesting wheat crop Sakha 93. Three combine harvesters at different service life (Fortschritt E514 has been serving for 25 years – Class has been serving for 15 years and John Deer has been serving for 2 years) were tested and compared to another mechanical system mower then thresher (one thresher has free knives fixed on the threshing drum and the other has fixed knives on the drum) compared also with traditional method (sickle than thresher). Table (1). summarized some technical specifications on the utilized tractor, combines, mower and threshers.

Standard measuring instruments were used to measure, length of plants number of grains/panicle, number of panicle/m² and weight of 1000 grain.

Electric oven:

To determine the grain and straw moisture contents, an electric oven was used according to the ASAE standard 1998; 130 °C for one hour.

Electric balance:

An electric balance model XT 4200C has maximum weight 4200 gm and minimum weight 0.5 gm was used to measure weight of samples.

Experimental Design:

Randomization Complete Block Design (RCBD) was used to determine the optimum values of three forward speeds, three moisture content and three harvesting systems. Each value was repeated three times.

Table 1. Some technical data of machines

Tractor	Nasr 48.5 kW
Combine 1	Fortschritt E514, cutting width 4.2 m
Combine 2	Class 3 m cutting width
Combine 3	John Deer 155 WTS, cutting width 6.2 m
Mower	Gasbardo, Single knife 100 cm width
Thresher 1	Gabr drum diameter 74 cm and length 120cm. Number of beater 4, concave width 80 cm, number of holes in 100 cm ² 14. Free knives fixed on 4 rows
Thresher 2	Shams drum diameter 72 cm and length 120 cm. Number of beater 4, concave width 80 cm, number of holes in 100 cm ² 14. Fixed knives on 4 row

Forward speed:

Forward speed was determined by measuring the time consumed for distance of 30 meter of rear tractor wheels and combine.

$$S = d/t$$

S = forward speed, m/s

t = traveling time, sec

d = traveling distance, m

Germination:

Germination was calculated by the following equation:

$$G = \frac{P}{d} \times 100, \%$$

Where:

P = Average number of plants

d = Average number of seeds

Harvesting methods:

Three different harvesting methods have been considered in this study:

1- Three combines at different service life 25, 15 and 2 years where compared with each other (they have the same threshing system)

2- Mower then thresher

Two different threshers with different geometrical design, one has free knives fixed on the threshing drum and the other has fixed knives fixed on the threshing drum in four rows

3- Sickle then thresher (traditional methods)

The previous mechanical methods were compared with traditional one.

Test procedure of harvesting losses:

Pre-harvesting loss:

Select unharvested area of the field well in from the edges. Place a frame 1 square meter in the standing crop to evaluate weight of grains laying on the ground within the frame.

$$Pre - harvestingloss = \frac{Grains\ on\ the\ ground\ before\ harvesting}{Total\ yield} \times 100, \%$$

Sickle, mower and combine header losses:

After baking the length of the machine, place the one-square-meter measuring frame on the ground in the front of the machine within the harvested area. Count the number of kernels found in the frame. Several other samples area have been checked and average of kernels was count. Subtract the number of kernels found in the pre-harvest loss.

$$Harvestingloss = \frac{H}{T} \times 100, \%$$

Where:

H= Sickle, mower or combine header losses weight, kg/m²

T= Total grain yield, kg/m²

Drum straw walker and shoe losses for combine harvester:

Role of screen was hold behind combine to receive all material falling during harvesting operation. After the combine was moving for the distance of 10 meter (length of the screen), the grains on the screen were separated and weighed. Replications were done for the test. Drum, straw walker and cleaning losses were calculated using the following equation

$$(D+ Sw+ C)losses = \frac{D+ Sw+ C}{T} \times 100, \%$$

Where:

D = drum losses, kg/m²

Sw = straw walker losses, kg/m²

C = cleaning losses, kg/m²

T = total grain yield, kg/m²

Thresher losses:

Thresher losses included damaged and unthreshed grains were calculated as follow:

$$\text{Grain damage} = \frac{\text{Mass of grain damage}}{\text{Total mass of grains}} \times 100, \%$$

$$\text{Un-threshed grains} = \frac{\text{Mass of unthreshed grains}}{\text{Total mass of grains}} \times 100, \%$$

Total grain losses = damaged grains + un-threshed grains

Actual field capacity (A.F.C):

Field capacity was measured for each case by recording the operating time for combines and mower, ignoring transportation time. Also, feed rate one ton/h has been recorded for threshers.

$$\text{Actual field capacity} = \frac{1}{\text{Total time in hours required per fed.}} \text{ , (fed./h)}$$

Fuel consumption:

Fuel consumption per unit time was determined by measuring the volume of fuel consumed during each operation.

Determination of the power requirement:

The following formula was used to estimate Power (P) Embaby, (1985):

$$P = (Fc/3600) \times \rho \times \text{L.c.v} \times 427 \times \eta_{th} \times \eta_m \times (1/75) \times (1/1.36), \text{ kW}$$

Where:

- Fc = Fuel consumption, L/h
- ρ = Density of fuel, kg/L (0.85 kg/L for diesel fuel)
- L.c.v = Lower calorific value, kCal/kg (10000 for diesel fuel)
- 427 = thermo-mechanical equivalent, kg.m/kCal.
- η_{th} = Thermal efficiency of the engine (40 % for diesel engine)
- η_m = Mechanical efficiency of the engine (80 % for diesel engine)

Energy requirements:

The following formula was used to calculate the energy requirements for combines and mower:

$$\text{Energy requirement} = \frac{\text{Power, kW}}{\text{Actual field capacity, fed./h}} \text{ , kW.h/ fed}$$

The following formula was used to calculate the energy requirements for threshers.

$$\text{Energy requirement} = \frac{\text{Power, kW}}{\text{Feed rate, Mg/h}} \text{ , kW.h/ fed}$$

The human energy expenditure involved in the field operations can be estimated as a normal and healthy human labor supplies 0.1 hp (Chancellor, 1981).

$$\text{Human energy (kW)} = 0.1 \times 0.746 \times \text{number of labors}$$

Yield:

Yield was recorded as a final target for harvesting operation. Three random samples were taken for each experimental plot. Aluminum square frame 1 x 1 m has been made as a sampler to determine yield per feddan (weight of kernels/m²).

Harvesting cost:

The cost of performing the different operations was estimated considering the conventional way of estimating both fixed and variable costs: The value of grain losses for each different variety has been considered at the different field speeds and grain moisture contents; besides, the operating cost for combines and mower was calculated by the following equation.

$$\text{Operating cost} = \frac{\text{Machine cost, L.E./h}}{\text{Actual field capacity, fed./h}}, \text{L.E./ fed}$$

The operating cost for threshers was calculated by the following equation.

$$\text{Operating cost} = \frac{\text{Machine cost, L.E./h}}{\text{Feed rate, Mg/h}}, \text{L.E./ Mg}$$

$$\text{The criterion cost} = \text{Operating cost} + \text{Value of grain losses, L.E./ Mg}$$

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Crop characteristics

Some crop characteristics are tabulated in table 2. The average value of germination is 89.89 %.

Table 2. Mean values of crop characteristics of wheat crop.

plant height, Cm	108.85
No. of grain /panicle	51
No. of panicles /m ²	380
weight of 1000 grain, gm	46.75
yield, Mg/fed.	2.47

Pre-harvesting loss:

Pre-harvesting loss decreased by increasing moisture contents (w.b). grain moisture content and straw moisture content were also affected by daily hours table 3.

Table 3. Pre-harvesting loss as affected by daily time and moisture content.

Daily time	Grains moisture content, %	Straw moisture content, %	Pre-harvesting loss, %
9 ^{AM}	16.58	32.3	0.38
12 ^{PM}	12.1	26.71	0.76
4 ^{PM}	14.34	31.01	0.51

Manual loss:

Traditional method of harvesting and threshing requires four important operations: harvesting, transporting, threshing and winnowing the grain. Grain loss using sickle was measured and tabulated in table 4. The highest manual harvesting loss is 2.01 % at moisture content 12.1 %, while the lowest manual loss is 1.33 % at moisture content 16.58 %. Plants were collected next to thresher.

The highest amount of losses was in the transportation stage as seen in the following table

Table 4. Grain loss for sickle at different daily moisture contents

Moisture content, %	Manual loss, %	Transportation loss, %
12.1	2.01	11.32
14.34	1.67	10.81
16.58	1.33	10.52

Mechanical harvesting losses:

Combine header and mower losses:

The results of grain harvesting losses for the tested mower and each combine header at three harvesting speeds of 1.9, 2.7 and 3.9 km/h were recorded and compared with manual harvesting using sickle. It is clear from Fig (1) that mower and combine header 1, 2 and 3 increase losses with the increase of harvesting speed. The highest header losses for combine 1, 2, 3 and mower were, 5.15, 3.27, 1.19 and 3.98% respectively at forward speed 3.9 km/h and grain moisture contents 12.1 %. This may be due to the system of gathering, cutting and transporting which is considered more effective for combine 3. However, the lowest

header losses for combine 1, 2, 3 and mower were 2.84, 1.93, 0.64 and 1.03% respectively at forward speed 1.9 km/h and grain moisture content 16.58 %.

Drum, straw walker and cleaning losses for combine harvester:

The performance parameters of drum, straw walker and cleaning units are the percentage of detached and the percent of damaged seeds from threshing unit and separate the threshed seeds from straw (straw walker effectiveness) then to separate seeds from the chaff and other plant residues that have passed through the openings.

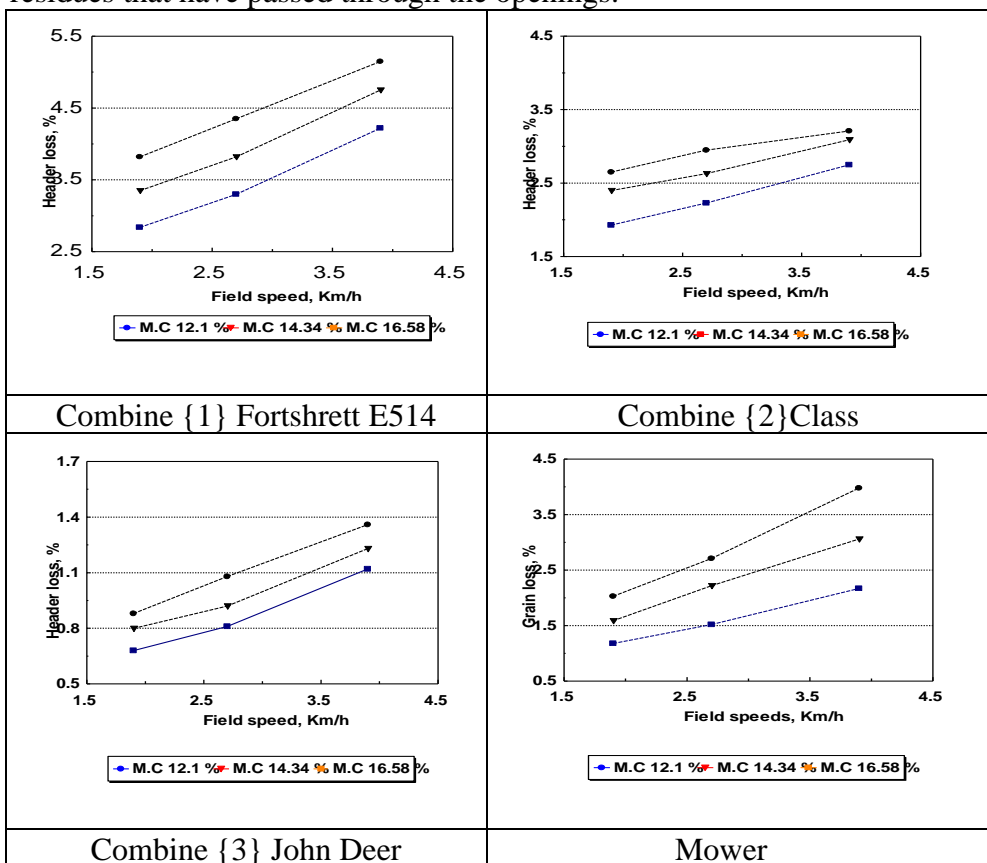


Fig. 1. Combine header and mower losses as affected by field speeds and grain moisture contents

Fig (2). showed that increasing harvesting speed increased grain losses. The highest drum, straw walker and shoe grain losses for combine 1, 2 and 3 were 5.21, 3.98 and 1.36 % respectively at forward speed 3.9 km/h

and moisture content 12.1 % while the lowest drum, straw walker and cleaning grain losses for combine 1, 2 and 3 were 3.35, 2.27 and 0.74 % respectively at forward speed 1.9 km/h and moisture content 16.58 %.

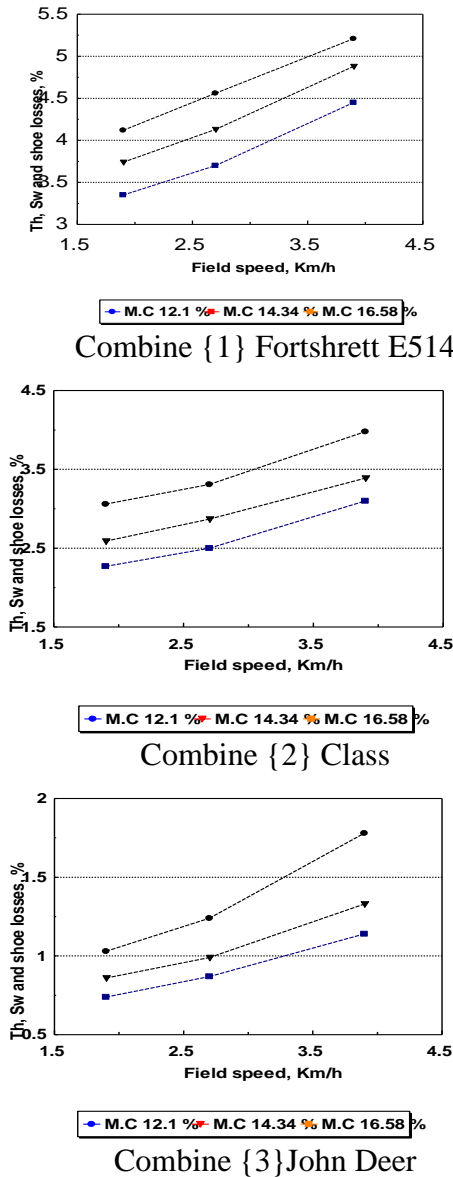


Fig. 2. Drum, straw walker and shoe losses as affected by field speeds, wheat variety and grain moisture contents

Total grain losses for combine harvesters

Fig. (3) shows that total grain losses were increased with increasing field speeds and decreasing moisture contents. The highest total grain losses for combine 1, 2 and 3 were 10.36, 7.19 and 3.14 % respectively at forward speed 3.9 km/h and moisture content 12.1 % while, the lowest total grain losses for combine 1, 2 and 3 were 6.19, 4.2 and 1.42 % respectively at forward speed 1.9 km/h and moisture content 16.58 %. The polynomial equation form was used and R^2 was not less than 0.98.

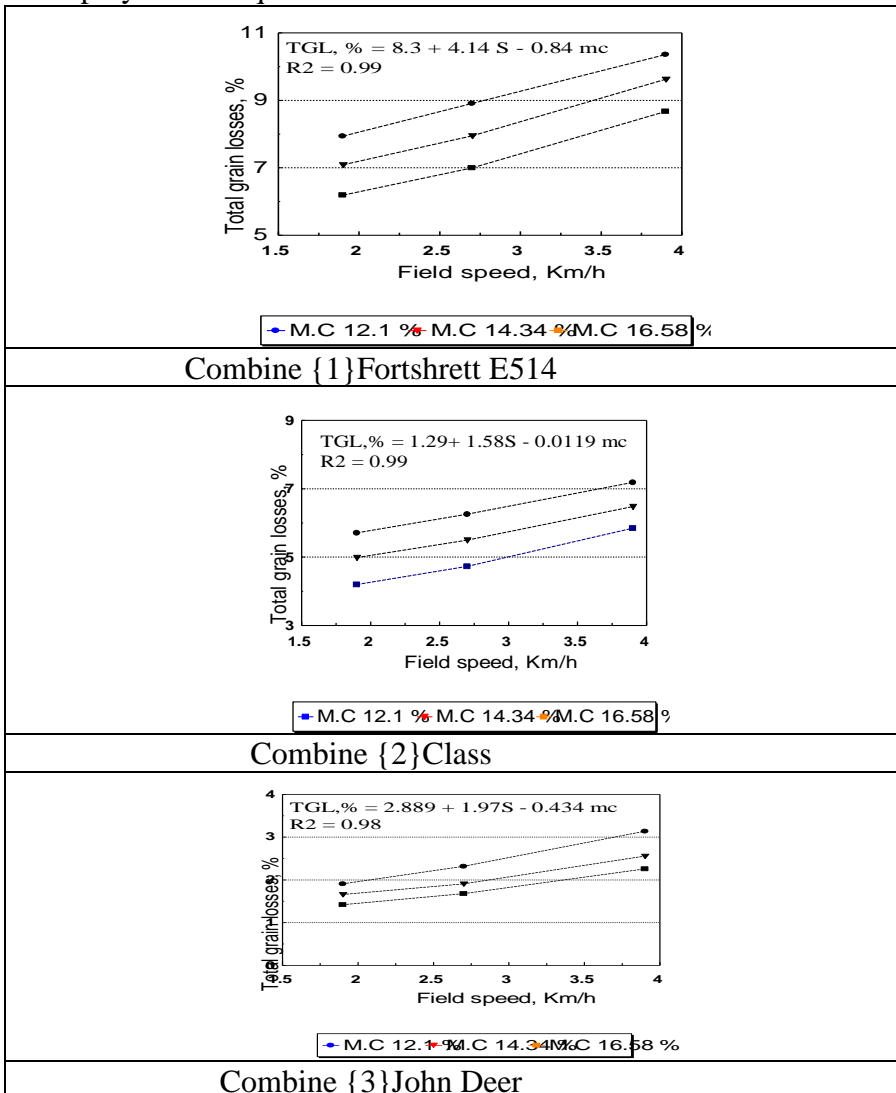


Fig.3. Total grain losses as affected by field speeds and grain moisture contents

Fig. (4) shows that total grain losses was affected by different moisture contents with the three combines at forward speed 2.7 km/h which gave the least energy.

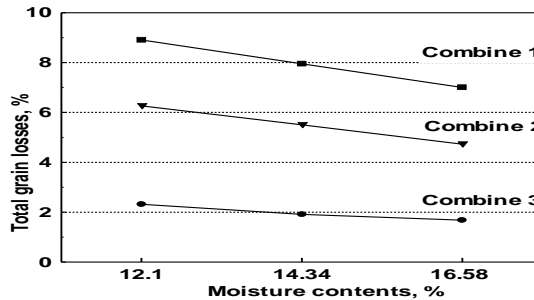


Fig. 4. Total grain losses as affected by different moisture contents at forward speed 2.7 km/h which gave the least energy.

Effect of threshing drum design and grain moisture contents on unthreshing losses and grain damage:

Table 5. Illustrated that the highest un-threshing losses were 1.13 and 1.42 % for thresher 1 and 2 respectively at moisture content 16.58 % while, the highest grain damage were 2.24 and 2.02 % for thresher 1 and 2 respectively at moisture content 12.1 %. Un-threshing losses increased about 0.13 % when using thresher 2 compared to thresher1. However, grain damage decreased about 0.22 % when using thresher 2 compared to thresher 1.

Table5. Grain damaged and un-threshed grains as affected by drum geometrical design, grain moisture content and crop varieties at feed rate one Mg/h.

Grain moisture contents, %	Thresher 1		Thresher 2	
	Un-threshing loss, %	Grain damaged, %	Un-threshing loss, %	Grain damaged, %
12.1	0.63	2.24	0.76	2.02
14.34	0.86	1.73	1.03	1.46
16.58	1.13	1.45	1.22	1.28

Actual field capacity and field efficiency:

Although the field capacity increased, the field efficiency decreased with the increase of harvesting speed. The actual field capacity was low under manual harvesting (one labor can harvest 0.025 fed./h) that due to low

human energy. Fig. (5). Showed that the highest actual field capacity for combine 1, 2, 3 and mower were 2,08, 1.66, 2.68 and 0.68 fed/h respectively at field speed 3.9 km/h while, the highest field efficiency for combine 1, 2, 3 and mower were 72.73, 78.14, 66.37 and 88.74 % respectively at field speed 1.9 km/h. Moussa 1994 indicated that field capacity increased from 1.57 to 2.17 fed/h by increasing field speed from 2.5 to 4.4 km/h while, field efficiency decreased from 72 to 58 % by increasing field speed from 2.5 to 4.4 km/h.

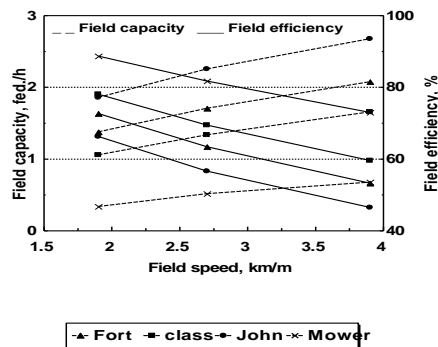


Fig. 5. Field capacity and field efficiency for Combines 1, 2, 3 and mower as affected by field speeds and cutting width

Energy requirements:

Energy was calculated and tabulated in table 6. It is clear that harvesting speed 2.7 km/h gave the lowest energy with combine 1, 2 and 3 which were 38.95, 34.76 and 43.61 kW.h/fed respectively.

Mechanical method (mower then thresher) consumed about double energy consumed by combine method; while, traditional method (sickle then thresher) consume about the same energy with combine.

Harvesting cost:

The total harvesting cost is affected by the harvesting speed. Total grain losses cost increased by increasing harvesting speeds in case of using combines and mower.

Table7. shows that the highest criterion cost with combine1, 2, 3 and mower are 255.9, 277.59, 177.56 and 158.06 LE/fed respectively at field speed 3.9 km/h, and grain moisture content 12.1 %; while the lowest criterion cost with combine1, 2, 3 and mower are 252.89, 203.74, 135.07 and 89.15 LE/fed at field speed 1.9 km/h, and grain moisture content 16.58 %.

Table 6. Energy requirements as affected by field speeds and machines

Machines	Speed, km/h	Power, kW	Actual field capacity, fed./h or feed rate, Mg/h.	Energy, kW.h/fed.
Combine 1	1.9	56.91	1.38	41.24
	2.7	66.60	1.71	38.95
	3.9	85.46	2.08	41.09
Combine 2	1.9	40.64	1.06	38.34
	2.7	46.58	1.34	34.76
	3.9	61.04	1.66	36.77
Combine 3	1.9	84.03	1.86	45.18
	2.7	95.92	2.26	43.61
	3.9	126.17	2.68	47.08
Mower	1.9	16.05	0.34	47.20
	2.7	23.16	0.52	44.54
	3.9	33.11	0.68	48.84
Manual	-	0.373	0.025	2.98
Thresher 1	-	34.62	1.0 Mg/h.	34.62
Thresher 2	-	31.76	1.0 Mg/h.	31.76

Fig. 6. shows that criterion cost was affected by different combines at forward speed 2.7 km/h and moisture content 16.58 % (which gave the least energy and criterion cost).

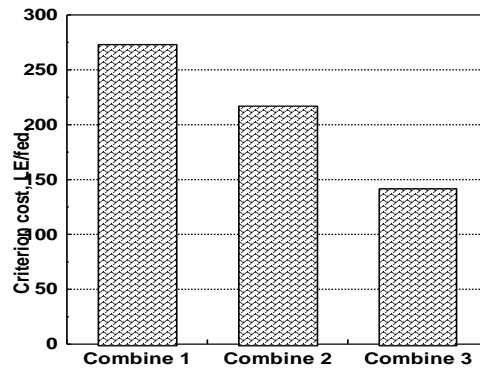


Fig.6. Criterion cost as affected by different combines at forward speed 2.7 km/h and moisture content 16.58 % (which gave the least energy and criterion cost).

Table 7. Criterion cost and grain losses costs for combines and mower at different moisture contents and field speeds

Machines	Field speed, km/h.	12.1, %		14.34, %		16.58, %	
		Grain loss cost, LE/fed.	Criterion cost, LE/fed.	Grain loss cost, LE/fed.	Criterion cost, LE/fed.	Grain loss cost, LE/fed.	Criterion cost, LE/fed.
Combine1	1.9	196.1	296.1	175.12	275.12	152.89	252.89
	2.7	240.6	340.6	196.37	296.37	172.9	272.9
	3.9	255.9	355.9	237.86	337.86	214.15	314.15
Combine2	1.9	141.04	241.04	123.25	223.25	103.74	203.74
	2.7	154.62	254.62	135.85	235.85	116.83	216.83
	3.9	177.59	277.59	160.06	260.06	144.5	244.5
Combine3	1.9	47.18	147.18	41	141	35.07	135.07
	2.7	57.3	157.3	47.18	147.18	41.5	141.5
	3.9	77.56	177.56	63.23	163.23	55.82	155.82
Mower	1.9	50.14	110.1	39.27	99.27	29.15	89.15
	2.7	66.94	126.94	54.83	114.83	37.54	97.54
	3.9	98.06	158.06	75.58	135.58	53.6	113.6

*Combine cost was 100 L.E./fed.

*Mower cost was 60 L.E./fed.

The highest criterion cost with sickle is 229.65 LE/fed at grain moisture content 12.1% while the lowest criterion cost is 212.85 LE/fed at moisture content 16.58 %. The highest criterion cost with thresher1 and 2 are 225.89 and 223.67 LE/fed respectively at grain moisture content 12.1 %; while, the lowest criterion cost with thresher 1 and 2 are 218.73 and 216.75 LE/fed respectively at grain moisture content 16.58 %. see Table 8.

Table 8. Operating and losses costs for threshers and manual harvesting

Machine	12.1, %		14.34, %		16.58, %	
	Grain loss cost, LE/fed.	Criterion cost, LE/fed.	Grain loss cost, LE/fed.	Criterion cost, LE/fed.	Grain loss cost, LE/fed.	Criterion cost, LE/fed.
Sickle	49.65	229.65	41.25	221.25	32.85	212.85
Thresher 1	70.89	225.89	63.97	218.97	63.73	218.73
Thresher 2	68.67	223.67	61.50	216.5	61.75	216.75

*Thresher cost was 25 L.E./h

* 8-labour for feeding machine/day

* Labor salary/day is 20 L.E

Combine reduced the criterion cost of harvesting about 32 and 36 % compared with semi mechanical system (mower + transportation + thresher) and traditional system (manual + transportation + thresher) respectively.

CONCLUSION

From the previous study it may say that:

* The highest harvesting loss for sickle and mower are 2.01 and 3.98 % respectively at grain moisture content 12.1 % and field speed 3.9 km/h (for mower).

* The highest header losses for combine 1, 2 and 3 were, 5.15, 3.27 and 1.19 % respectively at forward speed 3.9 km/h and grain moisture content 12.1 %.

* The highest drum, straw walker and shoe grain losses for combine 1, combine 2 and combine 3 were 5.21, 3.98 and 1.76 % respectively at forward speed 3.9 km/h and moisture content 12.1 %

* The shorter service life for combine the less total grain losses.

* the highest un-threshing losses were 1.13 and 1.22 % for thresher 1 and 2 respectively at moisture content 16.58 % while, the highest grain damage were 2.24 and 2.02 % for thresher 1 and 2 respectively at moisture content 12.1 %.

* Un-threshing losses increased about 33 % when using thresher 1 compared to thresher 2. However, grain damage decreased about 13 % when using thresher 2 compared to thresher 1.

* the highest actual field capacity for combine 1, 2, 3 and mower were 2.08, 1.66, 2.68 and 0.68 fed/h respectively at field speed 3.9 km/h while, the highest field efficiency for combine 1, 2, 3 and mower were 72.73, 78.14, 66.37 and 88.74 % respectively at field speed 1.9 km/h.

* harvesting speed 2.7 km/h gave the lowest energy with combine 1, 2 and 3 which were 38.95, 34.76 and 43.61 kW.h/fed respectively.

* The highest criterion cost with sickle is 229.65 LE/fed at grain moisture content 12.1%

* The highest criterion cost with thresher1 and 2 are 225.89 and 223.67 LE/fed respectively at grain moisture content 12.1 %.

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الملخص العربي

طرق الحصاد الميكانيكية والتقليدية لمحصول القمح

*
على إبراهيم موسى

أجريت هذه الدراسة بمنطقة النوبارية خلال الموسم الصيفي ٢٠٠٧ لحصاد محصول القمح صنف سخا ٩٣ بغرض مقارنة واختبار أداء ثلاث كومباينات استخدمت في الحصاد لفترات خدمة مختلفة (فرتشرت موديل E514 تم استخدامها لمدة ٢٥ عام & كلاس تم استخدامها في الحصاد لمدة ١٥ عام وكومباين جون دير موديل 155 WTS تم استخدامها في الحصاد لمدة ٢ عام) تم مقارنتهم بطرق ميكانيكية أخرى وهي الحصاد بمحشة خلف الجرار ثم الدراس والتذرية باستخدام آلة دراس ثابتة (أحدهم مركب على جهاز الدراس سكاكين ثابتة والاخري مثبت على درفيل الدراس سكاكين حرة وقد تم مقارنة استخدام الكومبيانات بالطريقة الميكانيكية باستخدام محشة ثم آلات الدراس ثم المقارنه بالطريقة التقليدية وهي استخدام (المنجل اليدوي ثم آلة الدراس).

* باحث أول بمعهد بحوث الهندسة الزراعية

تم اختبار طريقة الحصاد بالكومبينات والمحشة عند ثلاث سرعات حقلية ١,٩ و ٢,٧ و ٣,٩ كم/ساعة وعند ثلاث محتويات رطوبية مختلفة ١٢,١, ١٤,٣٤, ١٦,٥٨ % حيث أثرت على فاقد الحبوب الغير مدروسة ونسبة الكسر وكذا على كل من الطاقة المستهلكة والسعة الحقلية والكفاءة الحقلية والتكاليف.

وقد أوضحت النتائج مايلي:

- فاقد ما قبل الحصاد حوالى ٠,٥١ %
- أعلى فاقد كلى للحبوب ١٠,٣٦, ٧,١٩, ٣,١٤, ٣,٩٨ % مع الكومباين ١ & ٢ & ٣ & المحشة الترددية علي التوالي وذلك عند سرعة حقلية ٣,٩ كم/س ومحتوي رطوبي للحبوب ١٢,١ %.
- أعلى فاقد فى الحصاد اليدوي ٢,٠١ % عند محتوى رطوبي للحبوب ١٢,١ %.
- أعلى فاقد فى الحبوب الغير مدروسة ١,١٣, ١,٢٢ % لألة الدراس ١, ٢ علي التوالي عند محتوى رطوبي للحبوب ١٦,٥٨ % . وأن أعلى نسبة كسر للحبوب هى ٢,٢٤, ٢,٠٢ % لألة الدراس ١ & ٢ علي التوالي مع عند محتوى رطوبي للحبوب ١٢,١ %.
- أقل طاقة مستهلكة مع الكومباين ١ & ٢ & ٣ هى ٣٨,٩٥, ٣٤,٧٦, ٤٣,٦١ كيلو وات. ساعة/فدان علي التوالي عند سرعة حصاد ٢,٧ كم/ساعة.
- طريقة الحصاد الميكانيكية (محشة ترددية تم آلة دراس) استهلكت حوالى ضعف الطاقة المستهلكة فى حالة الكومباين.
- طريقة الحصاد التقليدية (محشة يدوية تم آلة دراس) استهلكت حوالى نفس كمية الطاقة المستهلكة فى حالة الكومباين.
- أعلى تكلفة فى الحصاد بالكومباين ١ & ٢ & ٣ هى ٣٥٥,٩, ٢٧٧,٥٩, ١٧٧,٥٦, ١٥٨,٠٦ جنية/فدان علي التوالي عند سرعة ٣,٩ كم/ساعة ومحتوي رطوبي للحبوب ١٢,١ %
- أعلى تكلفة فى الحصاد بالمحشة اليدوية هى ٢٢٩,٦٥ جنية/فدان عند محتوى رطوبي للحبوب ١٢,١ %.
- أعلى تكلفة للدراس بألة الدراس ١ & ٢ هى ٢٢٥,٨٩, ٢٢٣,٦٧ جنية/فدان علي التوالي عند محتوى رطوبي للحبوب ١٢,١ %.