IMPACT OF GROUND WATER SALINITY AND SODICITY ON SOIL CHEMICAL PROPERTIES AT SOILS NEARBY QAROUN LAKE, FAYOUM, EGYPT.

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ABSTRACT

To study the effect of ground water salinity and sodicity on some soil chemical properties, the selected area under study comprised the nearest northern fringes of Qaroun lake shoreline, which considered as the main outlet of drainage water of El Fayoum Governorate via many drainage canals. The parent materials of most lands are more related to calcareous coarse textured nature. These soils were put under reclamation in sequence more than ten years ago, and most of their lands were put under cultivation. The newly cultivation, surface irrigation and the insufficient drainage system make up water ground table raised. In general, soil chemical properties showed that most of the soil profiles under investigation suffer from salinity appearances. Therefore, it is accepted that such soils might need to reclamation and amelioration processes. The relationships between different soil variables and ground water characteristics reflect highly positive correlation between soil salinity and ground water salinity, whereas, the reverse was observed with ground water depth, which showed a negative and highly significant correlation.

In order to permanently improve the studied soil area, it is necessary to not only leach salts, but also to have adequate drainage. The drainage system must provide a lot amounts let for the removal of the leachates as well as keep the water table deep enough to prevent salt ground water from moving up to the root zone. Gypsum must be added according to gypsum requirements.

Key words: Shallow water table – Soil salinity – Soil sodicity –Soil chemical properties – Qaroun Lake

INTRODUCTION

Salinity problems caused by the presence of saline ground water at shallow depths are widely acknowledged to adversely affect production from the world's irrigated land, especially in arid and semi-arid regions, **Elrick et al. (1994)**. Extensive areas of land in Egypt, particular, Fayoum area have been gone out of cultivation due to the rise of ground water and consequently accumulation of salts; meanwhile poor water management, excessive irrigation water, seepage from irrigation canals and inadequate drainage which considered as the main reasons of ground water table rise, water logging and active salt build-up **Hassan et al., (1999). Saeed et al., (2011)** found that under the same atmospheric demand, evaporation from the soil surface was

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significantly affected by the depth of the water table which increased soil ECe. A shallow water table in combination with high soil salinity often leads to permanent soil resources degradation. In arid and semi-arid climates, soil salinization constitutes a major problem for irrigated land sustainability, throughout the world, about 25 % of irrigated area are affected by salinity and waterlogging, **Rhoads** *et al.* (1992). Shallow ground water influences 22 to 32% of global land area, including -15% as ground water-fed surface water features and 7 to 17% with the water table or its capillary fringe within plant rooting depths (Fan, *et al.* 2013). A saline shallow water table can contribute significantly to salinity/sodicity development in the root zone, Ashraf et. al. (2006). Ali *et. al.* (2000) reported that under shallow water table conditions, ground water may be a significant source of salts in the development of salt affected soils.

Materials and Methods

The area under study comprised the nearest north-eastern fringes of Qaroun lake shoreline, which considered as the main outlet of drainage water of El Fayoum Governorate via many drainage canals. Eighteen soil profiles were selected representing, the new reclaimed soils north-eastern of Qaroun Lake (El-Fayoum Governorate, Egypt), in three sample areas Fig (1). The first includes 7 soil profiles in vertical direction with the lake shoreline (profiles no. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7), the second sample area includes 5 soil profiles scattered nearby and parallel to lake shoreline (profiles no. 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12), the third sample area conducted in slope way between the two other sample areas and presented by six soil profiles (13, 14,15,16,17 and 18). The eighteen soil profiles were dug to 120 cm or water table level. The particle size distribution and texture classes of the studied soil profiles were represented in Table (1).



Figure 1: Location map of the studied area and soil profiles. Fayoum J. Agric. Res. & Dev., Vol. 31, No.1, January, 2017

Pr	Donth (am)	Particle	size distribu	Toyturo aloga	
No.	Deptn (cm)	Sand%	Silt%	Clay%	I exture class
1	0-20	76.7	5.9	17.4	Sandy loam
1	20-40	89.1	5.5	5.4	Sandy
2	0-30	46.6	11.6	41.8	Sandy clay
2	30-60	50.1	30.8	19.1	Loam
	0-30	51.2	8.7	40.1	Sandy clay
- 3	30-70	74.9	5.3	19.8	Sandy loam
	0-30	26.5	12.3	61.2	Clay
4	30-60	29.1	12.5	58.4	Clay
_	0-30	33.1	6.2	60.7	Clay
5	30-55	33.1	39.3	27.6	Clay loam
	0-40	29.5	30.7	39.8	Sandy clay
6	40-80	74.4	6.7	18.9	Sandy loam
	0-30	36.6	12.3	51.1	Clay
7	30-70	84.9	5.4	9.7	Loamy sand
	0-20	46.9	5.3	47.8	Clay
8	20-45	77.1	5.1	17.8	Sandy loam
0	45.75	75.4	7.4	17.0	Sandy loam
	43-73	25.6	12.1	52.2	Clay
9	0-30	35.6	12.1	52.5	Clay
	30-60	48.7	33.2	18.1	Loam
10	0-30	74.7	6.1	19.2	Sandy loam
	30-60	79.3	15.6 29.3	5.1	Loamy sand
11	30-60	75.7	6.2	18.1	Sandy loam
	0-30	75.1	6.6	18.3	Sandy loam
12	30-70	88.4	5.9	5.7	Sandy
12	70-100	88.3	6.1	5.6	Sandv
	100-120	83.1	5.8	11.1	Loamy sand
13	0-40	71.3	9.1	19.6	Sandy loam
	40-80	74.6	7.6	17.8	Sandy loam
14	0-20	73.7	7.6	18.7	Sandy loam
14	20-70	76.7	16.8	6.5	Loamy sand
15	0-40	46.1	7.1	46.8	Sandy clay
15	40-100	77.1	16.5	6.4	Loamy sand
16	0-30	48.6	5.7	45.7	Sandy clay
10	30-80	73.9	7.3	18.8	Sandy loam
17	0-30	30.3	41.4	28.3	Clay loam
1/	30-100	32.1	38.7	24.2	Loam
18	0-40	32.5	12.1	55.4	Clay
18	40-80	71.3	9.1	19.6	Sandy loam

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The disturbed and undisturbed soil samples were collected to determine the soil properties. Soil chemical properties and chemical determinations of ground water samples (pH, ECe, ECw, CaCO₃, OM, soluble cations, soluble anions, CEC, exchangeable Na) were conducted according to **Page** *et al.* (1982). Nitrate (NO₃) was determined using uv-spectrophotometer according to (method 4500-NO⁻₃ B) APHA- AWWA and WEF (2005). The percent sodium (Na⁺%) was calculated according to Wicox (1995) as follows:

$$Na\% = \frac{Na^{+}}{Ca^{+2} + Mg^{+2} + Na^{+} + K^{+}}\%$$

Some soil physical properties were conducted to **Klute (1986)** Table (1). Statistical relationships between ground water characteristics and some soil properties (soil variables) were statistically analyzed by using the program outlined by **SPSS Software** to distinguish the possible statistical and mathematical relationships between the tested ground water characteristics and soil properties.

Results and Discussions

Chemistry of ground water

Chemistry of ground water plays an important role in soil salinity and sodicity. Date in Table (2) show that the pH values of the studied ground water samples ranged from 7.07 to 8.07, the normal recommended pH range for irrigation water from 6.5 to 8.4 according to (**Ayres and westcot, 1985**). The ECw values of the ground water samples ranged from 4.76 dS/m to 23.20 dS/m. All the collected ground water samples are very high saline according the classification of ground water samples (**Ayres and westcot, 1985**). Also date in Table (2) show that the concentration of soluble Na , Ca + Mg and K ions ranged from 36.66 to 187.88, 6.08 to 100.9 and 0.60 to 2.04 mmole L⁻¹ with an average value of 74.23, 31.18 and 0.97 mmole L⁻¹ respectively. Cations chemistry indicated that all the studied ground water samples have the descending arrange of Na> Ca +Mg > K. Anions chemistry indicated that 55.55 % of the studied ground water samples have Cl⁻ > SO₄⁼ > HCO₃ > CO₃ while the remaining sample here 44.44 SO₄ > Cl⁻ >HCO₃ > CO₃.

date in Table (3) show that SAR values ranged from 10.71 to 30.43, according to (**Todd,1980**) six ground water samples (4, 3, 13, 16, 15 and 12) are good, nine are fair (1, 5, 2, 9, 11, 7, 14, 8, 6 and 17) and two samples are poor (10 and 18). Also date in Table (3) show that the nitrate (NO₃) values of the studied ground water samples ranged from 0.77 to 347 mg/l. According to **FAO** (**1976**) in guidelines are reported as nitrate in three categories, as follows:

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Water class	NO ₃ mg/l	Ground water samples
No problem	<5	14 and 15
Increasing	5-30	5, 2,10,7,16,6, 17 and 15
Sever problem	>30	1, 4, 9, 11, 3, 8,13 and 18
Data presented i	in Table (3) sl	how that percent sodium value of the studied
ground water sa	mples varied	from 49.9 to 87.78 %. A maximum of 60%

ground water samples varied from 49.9 to 87.78 %. A maximum of 60% sodium in ground water is allowed for agricultural. It could be concluded from the classification of (**Ragunath**, **1987**) that, 15 ground water samples are doubtful (83.3%), one sample is permissible (5.5%) and two samples are unsuitable (11.1%).

 Table (2): Some chemical analysis of the ground water table samples of the studied soil profiles of the three sample areas.

	Water table		Soluble cations (mmole L ⁻¹)				Soluble anions (mmole L ⁻¹)			
Pr.No	depth (cm)	EC dS/m	$Mg^{++} + Ca^{++}$	Na ⁺	K ⁺	CO ⁼	HCO ₃	Cl	SO ₄ ⁼	
1	40	17.70	55.36	120.43	1.19	-	10.04	100.40	66.54	
2	60	8.00	20.16	59.09	0.74	-	4.43	42.97	32.59	
3	70	6.46	16.00	47.98	0.61	-	4.12	29.92	30.55	
4	60	7.64	21.76	53.92	0.71	-	3.96	40.25	32.18	
5	55	10.33	29.60	72.34	1.35	-	5.20	51.74	46.35	
6	80	7.15	16.64	53.94	0.91	-	6.96	30.09	34.44	
7	70	7.90	18.56	59.84	0.60	-	7.76	33.26	37.98	
8	75	12.13	60.76	59.07	1.45	-	21.19	52.87	47.22	
9	60	8.04	16.75	62.67	0.96	-	7.49	37.62	35.27	
10	60	15.35	48.01	104.43	1.04	-	8.71	87.06	57.71	
11	60	23.20	100.9	187.88	1.03	-	5.94	155.00	128.87	
12	120	9.83	21.76	75.61	0.92	-	6.71	42.43	49.15	
13	80	9.92	38.20	59.58	1.41	-	7.43	44.83	46.93	
14	70	4.98	6.08	43.01	0.70	-	4.36	21.67	23.76	
15	100	4.76	10.24	36.66	0.69	-	8.71	13.2	25.68	
16	80	7.25	19.04	52.75	0.70	-	8.32	35.37	28.8	
17	100	10.20	39.93	87.10	0.46	-	2.97	83.41	41.11	
18	80	12.38	21.6	100.01	2.04	-	10.69	61.88	51.08	

Pr.No	Water table depth(cm) (cm)	рН	SAR	NO ₃ mg/L	Na %
1	40	7.48	22.89	80.50	68.04
2	60	7.75	18.61	29.00	73.87
3	70	7.37	16.96	126.00	74.28
4	60	7.63	16.34	90.00	70.58
5	55	7.54	18.80	9.63	70.03
6	80	7.54	18.70	15.88	75.45
7	70	7.54	19.64	7.92	75.74
8	75	7.07	10.71	13.60	48.70
9	60	7.71	21.68	58.46	77.96
10	60	7.55	21.31	46.50	68.04
11	60	7.45	26.45	5.47	64.82
12	120	7.74	22.92	135.50	76.92
13	80	7.58	13.63	347.00	60.06
14	70	8.07	24.66	2.83	86.38
15	100	7.46	16.20	0.77	77.03
16	80	7.41	17.09	7.52	72.76
17	100	7.45	19.49	24.88	68.31
18	80	7.79	30.43	149.00	80.88

 Table (3):Some chemical analysis of the ground water table samples of the studied soil profiles of the three sample areas.

Soil chemical properties

Data in Table (4) show that the pH values of the studied soil profiles are in the alkali side and ranged from 7.08 to 8.29 indicating the effects of prevailing the alkali ions in soil solution and their considerable contents of calcium carbonate.

Soil salinity is extremely important during germination and emergence of seedling. Failure in germination and emergence leads to poor stand and significant reduction in yield (Maas and Hoffman, 1977).

The obtained data of the electrical conductivity (ECe) which were determined in the saturated soil paste extract. Table (4) showed that the electrical conductivity values of the studied soil profiles ranged from 6.28 to 23.14 dS/m.

Pr No	Depth	nH	ECe ds/m	Soluble cations (mmole L^{-1}) (mmole L^{-1})				Soluble anions (mmole $L^{\cdot 1}$) (mmole $L^{\cdot 1}$)			
11.110	(cm)	pii		Ca ⁺⁺	Mg^{++}	Na^+	\mathbf{K}^{+}	CO3.	HCO ₃ -	Cl.	$SO_4^=$
1	0-20 0-20	8.29	20.50 20.50	65.05	30.86	108.01	1.06	-	20.91	96.94	87.13
	20-40	8.01	18.10	69.37	31.30	78.72	1.58	-	15.60	100.65	64.72
2	0-30	7.79	15.45	30.36	20.79	101.49	1.84	-	14.74	68.96	70.78
2	30-60	7.79	14.06	33.44	24.79	80.69	1.66	-	13.21	49.87	77.50
2	0-30	7.78	12.14	36.55	32.74	50.12	1.97	-	45.85	68.78	6.75
5	30-70	7.87	12.24	63.14	13.67	43.92	1.65	-	28.89	71.18	22.31
4	0-30	7.87	15.07	32.05	19.26	96.88	1.48	-	18.28	73.28	58.11
4	30-60	/.8/	14.41	21.43	8.12	113.18	1.35	-	14.28	117.29	12.51
5	0-30	7.84	23.14	24.30	18.9	242.40	1.90	-	7.50	221.50	58.50
5	30-55	7.54	12.03	22.56	14.33	81.85	1.55	-	4.02	79.83	36.44
6	0-40	8.23	12.92	33.69	8.16	46.55	0.78	-	1.24	58.03	29.91
0	40 -80	8.25	9.80	39.70	6.15	51.63	0.51	-	10.06	46.34	41.59
7	0-30	7.65	17.43	25.95	17.25	129.19	1.89	-	8.04	40.65	125.509
/	30-70	7.43	16.82	29.67	30.06	107.16	1.29	-	15.02	92.24	60.92
	0-20	7.35	17.46	51.89	21.11	99.70	1.78	-	10.35	135.61	28.52
8	20-45	7.50	13.85	37.24	13.46	86.11	1.63	-	6.16	106.60	25.58
	45-75	1.57	10.83	27.78	12.54	98.21	1.85	-	8.02	115.53	16.83
0	0-30	7.98	18.35	27.54	27.54	126.57	1.84	-	20.01	150.19	13.29
9	30-60	7.88	14.36	16.24	16.24	110.24	0.88	-	12.56	75.76	55.28
10	0-30	8.24	27.40	81.60	49.30	199.80	1.80	-	20.30	241.70	70.50
	30-60	7.82	17.10	37.12	8.72	123.88	1.26	-	15.04	107.54	48.40
11	0-30	8.09	8.72	25.36	7.44	53.76	0.63	-	8.96	41.84	36.39
	30-60	7.99	7.94	13.94	8.65	55.91	0.88	-	13.94	17.45	47.99
	0-30	7.50	7.30	18.12	12.45	41.51	0.89	-	7.66	32.12	33.19
12	30-70	7.43	7.22	22.09	14.58	34.54	0.98	-	9.38	36.24	26.57
12	70-100	7.65	8.41	24.62	14.16	44.44	0.86	-	13.24	45.85	24.99
	100-120	7.68	10.09	27.79	11.66	60.94	0.48	-	12.81	72.15	15.85
13	0-40	7.22	15.03	50.83	30.79	67.55	1.10	-	16.85	48.59	84.83
	40-80	7.28	10.00	21.25	18.13	59.63	0.98	-	8.22	56.85	34.92
14	0-20	7.68	8.15	20.37	6.98	53.00	0.82	-	19.69	41.85	19.63
	20-70	7.93	6.28	15.87	5.13	40.49	1.32	-	14.31	30.41	18.07
15	0-40	7.33	8.11	21.08	9.78	49.11	1.00	-	13.61	23.64	43.72
15	40-100	7.35	6.81	29.66	5.89	31.69	0.85	-	10.78	8.76	48.55
16	0-30	7.37	16.77	35.50	22.68	107.59	1.90	-	14.78	69.06	83.83
10	30-80	7.32	14.96	41.57	19.85	101.80	1.40	-	13.48	91.99	59.15
17	0-30	7.85	9.82	25.30	16.84	54.58	1.30	-	2.01	52.96	43.05
17	30-90	7.85	9.81	27.87	16.47	52.70	0.96	-	4.03	43.41	50.56
10	0-40	7.17	18.44	40.98	31.77	110.23	1.36	-	10.63	102.905	70.76
18	40-80	7.08	12.22	29.32	17.41	74.39	1.04	-	10.60	63.68	47.88

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Table (4) shows also the obtained soluble cations and anions values of the investigated soil profiles. It is noteworthy to indicate that the dominate soluble cations in all studied soil profiles are sodium followed by calcium and / or magnesium while potassium exhibits extremely low contents. Also, the dominant soluble anions in the investigated soil profiles were chloride followed by sulphate while soluble bicarbonate was low and rather constant compared to the other anions. Thus, it can be noticed that the dominant salt in the studied soil profiles was NaCl followed by Na₂SO₄, MgCl₂, MgSO₄ and CaCl₂. However, the concentration of soluble cations and/or anions may differ when water table got deeper, such findings are parallel with those stated by (Salassie et al.,1992).

Data in Table (5) illustrates the values of CEC in Cmole/kg soil of the first sample area. Values of CEC varied between 4.05 to 45.90 Cmole/kg soil. It is noteworthy to mention that, CEC values of the surface layers are higher than that of subsurface layers in most of the investigated soil profiles. Such findings may be attributed to the high content of organic matter in the surface layers when compared with the subsurface layers, which may rendered to cultivation practices.

Pr. No	Depth (cm)	Organic	$Ca CO_2(\%)$	Exchangeable Na ⁺	CEC Cmole	ESP (%)
		matter (%)	0	Cmole/kg soil	/kg soil	(/0)
	0-20	0.54	5.50	2.28	13.05	17.47
1	20-40	0.49	4.60	0.93	4.05	22.96
	0-30	0.94	4.30	1.96	31.35	6.25
2	30-60	0.77	3.40	2.20	14.32	15.36
3	0-30	0.92	3.00	7.10	30.07	23.61
	30-70	0.78	2.50	1.20	14.85	8.08
	0-30	0.98	7.10	4.05	45.90	8.82
4	30-60	0.80	6.70	2.13	43.80	4.86
	0-30	0.81	6.00	8.36	45.52	18.35
5	30-55	0.46	5.60	3.12	20.70	15.07
	0-40	0.40	3.80	1.67	29.85	5.59
6	40-80	0.37	3.50	2.89	14.17	20.39
	0-30	0.77	6.60	7.10	38.32	18.52
7	30-70	0.52	4.10	1.20	7.27	16.51
	0-20	0.77	3.90	16 60	35.85	46.30
8	20-45	0.56	3.00	3.72	13.35	27.86
	45-75	0.44	4.50	3.60	12.90	27.90
0	0-30	0.78	8.60	8.36	39.22	21.31
9	30-60	0.52	6.20	3.12	15.57	20.03
10	0-30	0.98	4.00	3.05	14.40	21.18
10	30-60	0.86	3.00	3.90	9.65	40.41
11	0-30	0.77	12.50	2.42	24.67	9.80
	30-60	0.68	7.50	3.08	13.57	22.69
	0-30	0.41	5.70	0.28	13.72	2.04
10	30-70	0.36	5.30	0.18	4.27	4.21
12	70-100	0.34	6.00	0.19	4.20	4.52
	100-120	0.32	4.80	0.29	8.32	3.48
12	0-40	0.92	5.00	1.65	14.70	11.22
13	40-80	0.57	5.00	2.35	15.35	15.30
	0-20	0.80	3.60	3.05	14.02	21.75
14	20-70	0.61	3.30	1.22	4.87	25.05
15	0-40	0.45	4.90	0.77	35.10	9.61
15	40-100	0.40	3.20	1.15	4.80	23.95
	0-30	0.67	6.00	1.31	34.27	3.82
16	30-80	0.49	4.00	2.90	14.10	20.56
15	0-30	0.51	1.20	2.20	21.22	10.36
17	30-90	0.46	1.90	1.96	18.15	10.79
10	0-40	0.82	7.00	2.13	41.55	5.12
18	40-80	0.61	6.00	4.05	14.70	27.55

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While the values of ESP ranged from 2.04 to 46.30 % reflecting the nature of salinity and cations distributions. It could be concluded that 68.75 % of the studied soil profiles are sodic soils.

Statistical analysis

The descriptive statistical parameters for studied ground water characteristics and soil variables are shown in Table (6).

Characteristics of ground water	Characteristics of soil samples								
	layer	ECe	ESP	Clay	PH				
G.W-depth	Surface	-0.529*	-0.477*	-0.150	-0.587*				
	Sub	-0.514*	-0.521*	-0.220	-0.458				
G.W-EC	Surface	0.778^{**}	0.376	0.344	0.400				
	Sub	0.872**	0.442	-0.262	0.240				
G.W- SAR	Surface	0.479^{*}	0.732^{**}	0.043	0.234				
	Sub	0.487^{*}	0.795^{*}	-0.172	0.116				
G.W-Na ⁺	Surface	0.793**	0.543^{*}	-0.280	0.434				
	Sub	0.861**	0.495^{*}	-0.232	0.260				
G.W-pH	Surface	-0.108	0.323	0.142	0.034				
	Sub	-0.112	0.277	0.136	0.049				

Table (6):Simple correlation	between	ground	water	characteristics	and
some soil properties.					

**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level

* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level

From data in Table (6), negative significant correlations (-0.529*) and (-0.514*) were recorded between depth of ground water and soil salinity values (ECe) in the surface and subsurface layers respectively.

Also, negative significant correlations (-0.477^*) and (-0.521^*) between depth of ground water and exchangeable sodium percent% (ESP) in the surface and subsurface layers respectively.

While negative significant correlations (-0.587^*) between depth of ground water and pH in soil for surface layers and no significant correlations in subsurface layers with correlation coefficient (-0.458). The general trend line showed that soil salinity increased with an increased in water salinity.

This reveals to contribution of shallow ground water in the salinization process in the profiles. Which the increased of the ground water depth to be lower in soil salinity. The aforementioned conclusion is confirmed by the high significant positive correlations with correlation coefficient (0.778^{**}) and (0.872^{**}) for surface and subsurface layer respectively. Significant positive correlations with correlation coefficient (0.479^{*}) and (0.487^{*}) between ground water salinity and sodium adsorption ratio (SAR) in the surface and subsurface layers respectively.

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Significant high positive correlation between sodium adsorption ratio (SAR) in ground water and Exchangeable sodium percent% (ESP) in soil with correlation coefficient of (0.732^{**}) and (0.795^{**}) for surface and subsurface layers respectively.

While significant high positive correlation between sodium cation in ground water and soil salinity with correlation coefficient (0.793^{**}) and (0.861^{**}) for surface and subsurface layer respectively. While significant positive correlation between sodium cation in ground water and exchangeable sodium percent% (ESP) in soil with correlation coefficient of (0.543^{*}) and (0.495^{*}) for surface and subsurface layer respectively.

Non-significant correlation between soil pH and ground water pH with correlation coefficient (0.034 and 0.049) for surface and subsurface layers respectively.

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تأثير ملوحة وصودية الماء الارضى على خواص التربة الكميائية في الأراضي المجاورة لبحيرة قارون الفيوم _ مصر

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لدراسة تأثير ملوحة وصودية الماء الارضى على بعض الخواص الكميائية تم إختيار منطقة الدراسة شمال بحيرة قارون بمحافظة الفيوم حيث تتميز هذه المنطقة بأنها المنفذ الرئيسى لمياه الصرف الداخله إلى البحيرة وذلك من خلال العديد من قنوات الصرف . حيث ترتبط مادة أصل أغلب هذه الأراضى بالقوام الجيرى الخشن، وقد خضعت أراضى هذه المنطقة للإستصلاح منذ حوالى أكثر من عشر سنوات و نظرا لإستخدام الرى السطحى فى الإستزراع مع عدم وجود أنظمة صرف كافية وذات كفاءة أدى ذلك إلى إرتفاع مستوى الماء الأرضى فى أراضى هذه المنطقة ومن ثم أصبح الماء الأرضى سطحى wallow ويعتبر هو المسئول والمحدد الموات الأرضى فى أراضى هذه المنطقة ومن ثم أصبح الماء الأرضى سطحى shallow ويعتبر هو المسئول والمحدد لصفات الأراضى الكميائية المختلفة ، ومن خلال دراسة نتائج تحليلات التربة الكميائية لهذه المنطقة وجد أنها تربة ملحية ولذلك فإنها تحتاج إلى عمليات إستصلاح.

أظهرت نتائج التحليل بعض العلاقات بين بعض متغيرات التربة وصفات الماء الأرضى والتى توضح أن هناك إرتباط موجب عالى المعنوية بين ملوحة التربة وملوحة الماء الأرضى، فى حين كان الإرتباط بين ملوحة التربة وعمق الماء الأرضى عكسى وعالى المعنوية ، ومن خلال هذه الدراسة أمكن وضع تصور لإمكانية إستصلاح هذه الأراضى مع رفع كفائتها الإنتاجية وذلك من خلال:

 ١- إجراء عمليات الغسيل المناسبة مع وجود نظام للصرف الجيد وذلك للمحافظة على مستوى الماء الأرضى ليكون على عمق يمنع تكون الأملاح مرة آخرى بقطاع التربة .

٢- إضافة الجبس الزراعي وذلك طبقا للإحتياجات الجبسية .

الكلمات الدالة: الماء الأرضى السطحى – ملوحة التربة – صودية التربة – خواص التربة الكميانية – بحيرة قارون

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