



Degradation of olive production system in Tunisian semi arid

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The production systems in olive growing is integral part of Mediterranean ecosystems. Among these system, the "Meskat" model is a system known for its dense plantations with an impluvium, which provides the increased needs for water.

A study of the degradation of this system was initiated and revealed on one side, an imbalance of olive fields and hence, a shortage in the availability of rainwater runoff which increased from 40 to 5 m³/olive tree/year and on another side, a transformation in the organic fertility (0.4%) and physical properties of soil. This diagnosis was justified by aberrations in terms of crop management.

Key words: olive tree - production system - soil proprieties- Tunisian semi arid