

Horticultural Research Directorate

Tasks:

1. Conducting applied scientific research in the following fields:
 - 1.1- Cultivation, evaluation, and popularization of new varieties of vegetables and fruits in different areas of the Kingdom under the different conditions.
 - 1.2- Introducing and evaluating new agricultural techniques such as soilless cultivation, grafting vegetable seedlings, and improving management of the protected cultivation systems
 - 1.3- Applying the good agricultural practices and developing the farm management.
 - 1.4- Improving the quality of the horticultural products and reducing the post-harvest losses.
 - 1.5- Dealing with emerging and evolving climatic conditions like frost and the drought and high temperature waves.
 - 1.6- Increasing the productivity of the olive tree and improving the quality of the resulting oil.
 - 1.7- Preserving the national wealth of olive, developing it, and increasing benefiting from it.
 - 1.8- Increasing palm fruit production and improving product quality.
 - 1.9- Organic Agriculture
 - 1.10- Expanding and developing food processing of the farm product.
2. Providing laboratory analysis services to examine quality of the olive oil and vitality of the palm pollen.
3. Rehabilitating the technical staff and building its capacity.
4. Documenting and publishing the results of the agricultural research conducted in the directorate.
5. Preparing the annual plan for execution of the works entrusted to the directorate and following up its implementation.

The directorate is affiliated with the following departments and divisions, which implement the tasks entrusted to it:

- 1) Department of Vegetative Research, to which the following divisions are attached:
 - 1.1- Irrigated Vegetables Research Division
 - 1.2- Rainfed Vegetables Research Division
 - 1.3- Soilless Agriculture Research Division
- 2) Arboreal Research Department, to which the following divisions are appended:
 - 2.1- Irrigated Trees Research Division
 - 2.2- Rainfed Trees Research Division
- 3) Olive Research Department, to which the subsequent divisions are attached:
 - 3.1- Production and Genetic Studies Research Division
 - 3.2- Olive Oil Quality Research Division
- 4) Department of Organic Agriculture, to which the sequent divisions are attached:
 - 4.1- Vegetable Research Division
 - 4.2- Fruit Trees Research Division
- 5) Palm Research Department, to which the following divisions are appended:
 - 5.1- Production and Genetic Studies Research Division
 - 5.2- Palm Fruit Quality Research Division
- 6) Post-Harvest Research Department, to which the following divisions are affiliated:
 - 6.1- Post Harvest Treatments Division
 - 6.2- Agricultural Value Chain Division
 - 6.3- Agricultural Processing Division