



ASSESSING THE CONTRIBUTION OF DATE PRODUCTION TO IRAQ'S GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT FROM 2004 TO 2020

Assistant. Lecturer. Mahdi Alwan Rahima Al-Uqabi
College of Administration and Economics / Wasit University
mrahima@uowasit.edu.iq

Article history:	Abstract:
<p>Received: 1st August 2022 Accepted: 1st September 2022 Published: 4th October 2022</p>	<p>The study assessed the influence of dates' productivity and contribution to the GDP, as well as their disadvantage to rising rates of economic expansion. The standard investigation indicated a direct relationship between each of the independent variables (date prices and the average productivity of dates) and the dependent variable, which is consistent with the logic of economic theory (GDP). Because of Iraq's economic comparative advantage, the study drew many conclusions and recommendations for enhancing date exports</p>
<p>Keywords: Income diversify, rentier countries, tax, reality, ambition</p>	

1. INTRODUCTION

The agricultural sector plays a vital part in the national economic structure of developing nations, as it is relied upon to meet the increased need for food resulting from rapid population growth as well as to generate the raw materials required by industry. Dates are regarded as one of the most essential agricultural products with a high nutritional value, as well as one of the most popular consumer items, and they serve as a primary raw material for a variety of manufacturing businesses. Dates are regarded as one of the most essential agricultural products with a high nutritional value, as well as one of the most popular consumer items, and they serve as a primary raw material for a variety of manufacturing businesses.

Along with other natural resources such as crude oil and other minerals, dates are regarded as one of Iraq's most valuable national assets, and they must be protected. Iraq is one of the world's most significant producers of dates in terms of both quality and quantity. In addition, substantial portions of the country's territory are covered with palm orchards, which offers Iraq a prominent position in the production and export of dates, as well as a significant source of international trade returns and earnings. Despite this, the percentage of all crops in Iraq has decreased. In recent years, there has been a notable drop in the proportion of what is marketed or exported to other nations, including dates. This increased the reliance of the Iraqi market on agricultural imports. To increase plant and animal agricultural production. If it is in the producer's or the consumer's best interest, it is vital to conduct an extensive amount of scientific research, particularly in regards to research and studies that are concerned with studying how to manufacture dates at greater levels. In addition, all specialized economic studies and research play a crucial role in identifying the most significant issues that plague agricultural output. Specifically the

manufacture of dates, analyzing production structure's strengths and flaws. Then, selecting the ideal stages and most essential programs, as well as drafting and outlining economic and agricultural policies that are compatible with the country's production realities and character

2. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Based on the significance of the agricultural sector and its successful role in the economic development of nations, and concentrating on the actual reality of date production in Iraq. As a result of its comparative advantage in production and its role in boosting Iraqi exports and generating added value to the gross domestic product. The research challenge can be described as follows:

What is the actual contribution of date production to Iraq's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and economic growth?

3. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

The significance of this research comes from the significance of this strategic crop. As palm production is among the key crops, there is numerous potential to diversify exports beyond the oil industry. As the trend toward diversification in the export structure toward commodities, goods, and crops in which Iraq has comparative advantages in production, such as dates, represents a key aspect of growth plans, diversification in the export structure is a fundamental objective. In light of whatever agricultural and economic policies may the production and export of dates in Iraq be planned?

4. THE OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The objective of this study is to assess the reality of date production and its contribution to Iraq's gross domestic product for the period 2004-2020 using



the (ARDL) model to calculate the impact of Iraqi date production on economic growth

5. THE HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY:

The study hypothesizes that Iraq has a strategic advantage in date production. The neglect of date production, marketing, and export determines the contribution of date production to bolstering the gross domestic product and achieving a greater rate of economic growth.

6. Data sources and analysis method:

Secondary data from the Iraqi Central Bureau of Statistics and Information Technology and the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development were utilized for the study. In addition to the mentioned analytical method, the quantitative standard method was utilized to identify and assess the aspects pertinent to the subject of the study from an economic standpoint.

6. DIVISION OF THE STUDY:

The study was divided into four main axes, in addition to the conclusions and recommendations.

First: Dates are a significant food item for humans through direct consumption, as well as their use in many local and manufacturing businesses as a method of food security for the country, and Iraq has and still controls huge territories in palm farming. The Ministry of Agriculture has devised some strategic strategies and projects to enhance the production of numerous date types. There are roughly 600 types of dates accessible in Iraq, and their vast annual production gives them a special commercial significance. After satisfying the needs of consumers, the surplus is sold outside of Iraq for human consumption and numerous It is one of the industries

and its many uses in addition to animal feed. Figure (1) depicts the number of dates produced in Iraq. The cultivation of date palms covers a large portion of the Iraqi landscape, extending from the center to the south and from the west to the east, except for the northern governorates (Nineveh), there are no date palms in Kirkuk.

In addition to other natural resources, dates are one of Iraq's most vital agricultural resources. Iraq is one of the world's leading producers of dates since it is distinguished by the production of numerous and uncommon types compared to other producing nations. In previous decades, Iraq led the world in terms of palm tree output volume and quantity. It is currently placed fifth due to a number of factors, the most significant of which is the significant decline in its prices relative to its manufacturing costs. Moreover, low marketing efficiency, as well as the diseases that affect palm trees, the lack of interest of farmers and producers in this tree, and the tendency to cultivate alternative grain and vegetable crops that generate greater revenues and returns than dates production all work against the production of dates.

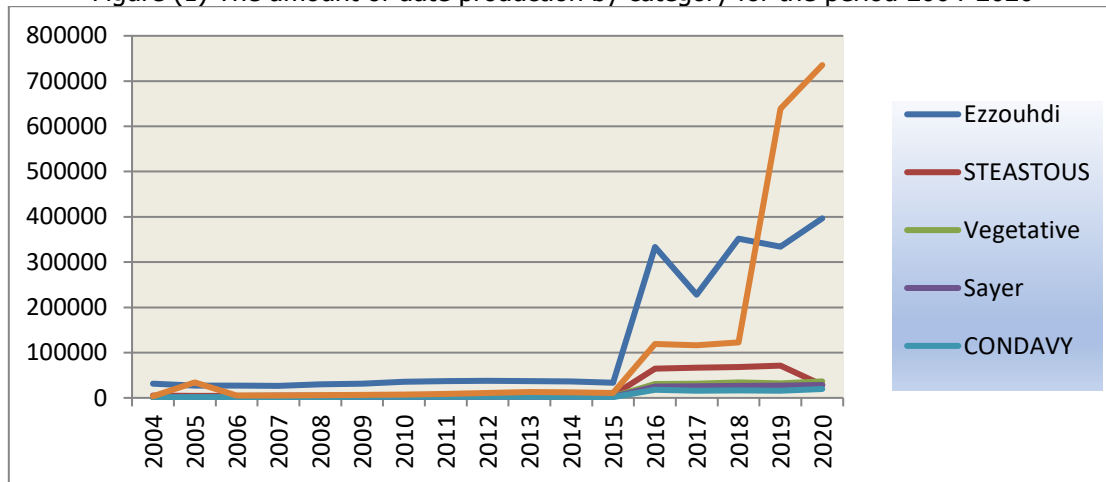
From the information in Table.1, which depicts the reality of date production in Iraq from 2004 to 2020: In addition to Figure.2, where it can be seen from the table's data that date production grew over the course of the study (Figure.2). This was demonstrated by the productivity of dates in the table, where all kinds had positive productivity and the rise in production may be attributed to two things. The first is the growth of palm trees that have occurred throughout the years. The first, according to the data in the table, and the second, by the growth in date crop yield

Table.1 Production of dates in Iraq of various varieties for the period from 2004-2020.

Other types	Hillawi	Sayer	Khadrawi	Al-Khastawi	Zuhdi	Year
3465	1373	1230	1737	5153	31376	2004
34432	1758	1314	1487	4450	27191	2005
5465	1765	1474	1674	4609	27302	2006
5050	1854	1557	1969	5157	26549	2007
5588	1867	1599	2126	5196	30239	2008
6344	2024	1731	2278	5649	31543	2009
7468	2139	1899	2486	6014	35390	2010
9082	2361	2154	2732	6819	37205	2011
11000	2418	2465	2914	7149	37616	2012
13336	2395	2541	2850	7149	36872	2013
12214	2372	2582	2971	7715	36064	2014
11114	1860	2492	2993	6212	32198	2015
119062	18206	25310	30833	64506	333161	2016
116191	16035	25582	31416	66668	228257	2017
122477	16368	26625	34505	68415	351558	2018
639315	15879	27438	32281	71296	334014	2019
735353	19652	28592	36404	28375	396686	2020

Source: The researcher compiled the data from the Ministry of Planning, the Central Statistical Organization, the Agricultural Statistics Directorate, and production and price reports for the study years.

Figure (1) The amount of date production by category for the period 2004-2020



Source: prepared by the researcher based on the data in Table.1.

Second: The analysis of palm productivity rate by varieties for the period 2004-2020:

As demonstrated in Table 1, the rate of overall productivity fluctuates across the 2004-2020 research period. This is due to a multitude of variables, with the current economic condition being the most relevant. The high costs of date production in Iraq, such as fertilizers and labor, demonstrate this. Work in cleaning orchards, in addition to the spread of diseases and epidemics, which require many medicines and treatments that are frequently expensive, especially

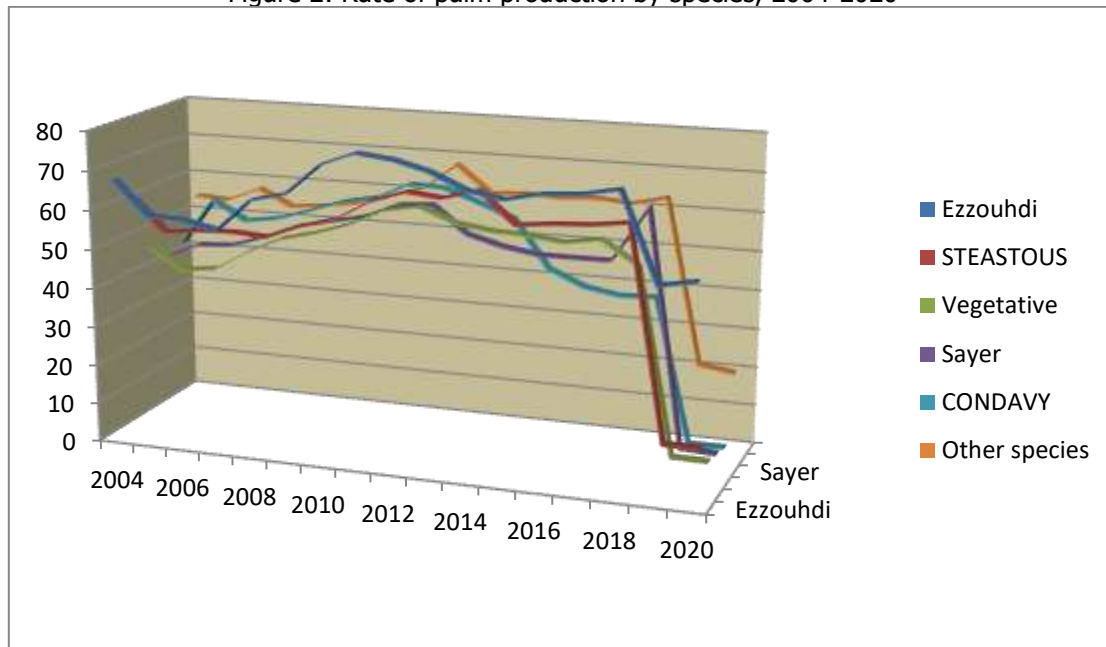
with good European standards, and the productivity of a single palm depends on a number of factors, including the type of palm, diseases that affect the palm, such as insect infestation, and others. Numerous researchers, farmers, and orchard owners are continuously attempting to increase palm production of dates in response to the risks of continuous bulldozing of orchards and to make up for the shortfall in production; this indicates an increase in the local production of Iraqi dates, assuming the stability of orchard cultivated areas

Table.2 The productivity rate of palm trees by varieties for the period 2004-2020

Other types	Hillawi	Sayer	Khadrawi	Al-Khastawi	Zuhdi	Year
54.2	43.4	41.6	46.3	61	67.4	2004
53.7	55.5	45.4	40.8	52.7	58.8	2005
57.4	50.6	46	41.9	53.8	58.5	2006
53.2	51.9	48.8	47.2	54.2	56.6	2007
54.1	54.7	52.4	51.2	53.6	64.8	2008
55.4	57.8	54.4	53.4	57.1	67	2009
58	59.5	56.3	56.3	59.6	74.8	2010
60.7	63.7	60.1	60.6	64.7	78.2	2011
67.7	63.2	60.8	62.2	67.7	77.2	2012
60.7	60.1	54	58.8	66.8	75	2013
61.3	56.7	51.6	57.5	69.4	71.1	2014
60.8	44.6	50.2	57.1	61.6	69.6	2015
61.5	40.7	50.2	56.1	62.6	71.6	2016
60.7	39.2	50.3	57.6	63.1	72.2	2017
62.9	39.6	64.3	51.9	64.3	74	2018
20.6	2.5	4.3	5.0	11.2	52.2	2019
19.3	2.6	3.9	4.9	11.2	54.0	2020

Source: Production and price reports for the study years, compiled by the researcher using data from the Ministry of Planning, the Central Statistical Organization, and the Agricultural Statistics Directorate.

Figure 2: Rate of palm production by species, 2004-2020



Source: Prepared by the researcher based on the data of Table No. (2).

Third: Analysis of Iraqi date pricing by variety from 2004 to 2020: Through the data of Table. 4, which depicts the prices of the field for the date crop and all the varieties listed in the field, it was established that all the varieties had an increase, and Table No. 5 illustrates this tendency. Dates' price is one of the most

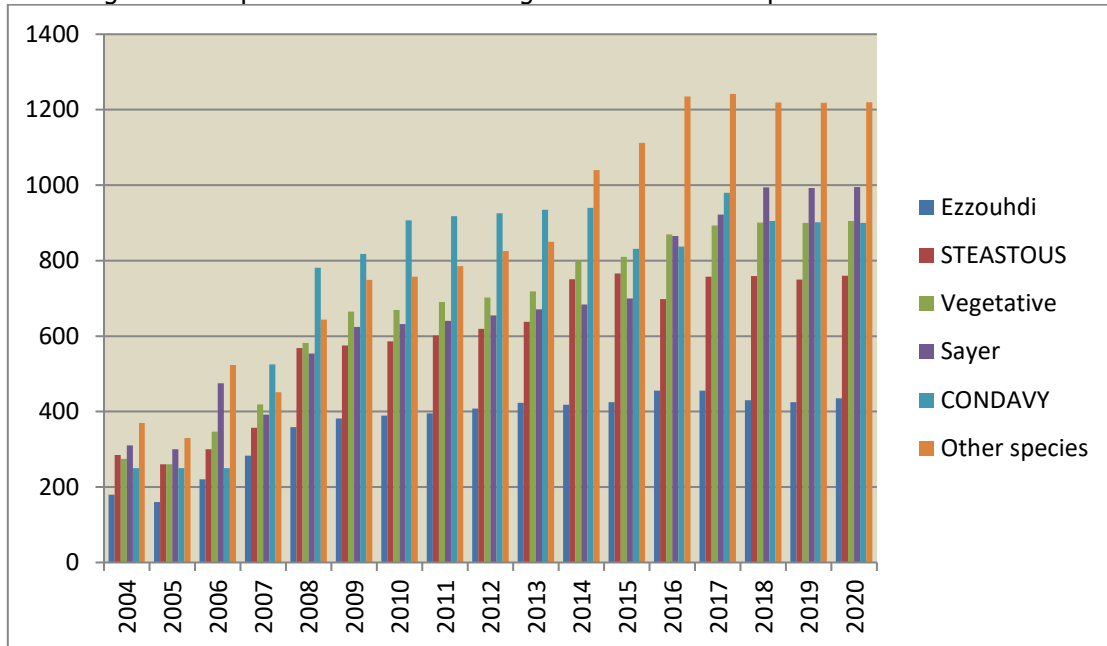
essential and influential aspects in the development of production, therefore an increase in date prices leads to an increase in production. Accordingly, it is considered that the price has a favorable effect on date production in Iraq; this will be clarified in terms of the standard

Table.3 The prices of dates according to varieties for the period from 2004-2020.

Zuhdi	Other types	Hillawi	Sayer	Khadrawi	Al-Khastawi	Zuhdi
370	250	310	275	285	180	2004
330	250	300	260	260	160	2005
523	250	475	347	300	220	2006
451	525	392	419	357	283	2007
644	781	554	582	568	359	2008
749	818	624	665	575	382	2009
757	907	632	669	586	389	2010
785	918	640	690	601	395	2011
825	925	655	702	619	408	2012
850	935	671	718	638	423	2013
1040	940	684	801	751	418	2014
1112	831	700	810	766	425	2015
1235	873	865	869	698	455	2016
1242	980	922	893	757	455	2017
1219	905	994	901	759	430	2018
1218	902	992	900	750	425	2019
1220	900	995	905	760	435	2020

Source: Prepared by the researcher, relying on the Ministry of Planning, the Central Statistical Organization, the Agricultural Statistics Directorate, production and prices reports for the years of study.

Figure.3 The prices of dates according to varieties for the period from 2004-2020



Source: prepared by the researcher based on the data in Table.3.

Fourth: Assessing, during the period 2004-2020, the contribution of Iraqi date production to the country's gross domestic product:

7. DATA

The analysis will be undertaken following the assumptions of economic theory. Hence ensuring that

the model is devoid of standard and statistical issues, as well as the long- and short-term stability of the data, and analyzing the relationship between the researched variables and their impact on gross domestic product (date prices, dates production).

Table.4 The GDP, numbers of palms, prices of dates, average production

GDP	DATE_PRICES	DATE_PRODUCTION
92745633136.15688	309.453125	22519.53125000002
92426565899.8028	284.0885416666667	39339.21875000001
92342732391.0666	265.6510416666668	52743.84375
92494132609.94829	254.1406250000001	62733.40625
92880766556.44785	249.5572916666668	69307.90624999999
93502634230.56529	251.9010416666668	72467.34375
94359735632.30062	261.1718750000001	72211.71874999999
95452070761.65384	277.3697916666668	68541.03124999996
97904722117.0824	324.1406250000001	48512.93750000003
99017491702.28838	344.7343750000001	43189.06250000003
99915462015.72925	362.7968750000001	39627.06250000003
100598633057.405	378.3281250000001	37826.93750000005
99521250908.03632	365.4947916666669	41469.62500000001
100393124973.8936	386.2968750000002	41720.87500000001
101668501335.6974	414.9010416666669	42261.62500000001
103347379993.4478	451.3072916666667	43091.87500000001
107161499993.7607	534.1875000000001	45173.65625000001
108954687624.7581	570.7291666666669	46198.09375000001
110458681933.0557	599.6041666666668	47127.21875000001
111673482918.6536	620.8125	47961.03125000002
111321512960.9504	620.34375	48012.34375000001
112468958349.3894	631.8229166666665	48930.40625000001



113838241463.3692	641.2395833333331	50028.03125000001
115429362302.8898	648.5937499999995	51305.21875000002
117508962429.7844	649.7187500000002	53346.8125
119437102095.6534	654.6145833333335	54749.1875
121480422862.33	659.1145833333336	56097.18749999999
123638924729.8142	663.2187500000004	57390.81249999998
124799243813.9181	665.5208333333335	58767.25000000001
127633453436.6925	669.3958333333334	59897.25000000002
131028189713.9497	673.4375000000001	60918.00000000002
134983452645.6896	677.6458333333334	61829.50000000002
141962703177.068	682.5416666666668	62613.00000000001
146053635039.7109	686.8750000000002	63313.50000000001
149719709178.7742	691.1666666666668	63912.25000000001
152960925594.2579	695.4166666666669	64409.25000000001
156426436390.1089	691.7604166666668	64988.56250000001
158558276516.8545	699.0729166666668	65208.43750000001
160005598078.4415	709.4895833333335	65252.93750000001
160768401074.8702	723.0104166666669	65122.06250000001
158009114685.6657	757.5260416666668	65131.125
158537908879.9672	770.0989583333332	64523.375
159517212837.3002	778.6197916666668	63614.125
160947026557.6646	783.0885416666666	62403.375
161536050282.1129	765.4322916666667	-24121.68749999988
164383403432.119	769.0260416666667	8069.687500000232
168197786248.7354	775.7968750000002	73964.68750000011
172979198731.9622	785.7447916666671	173563.3125
185277569771.8651	807.4635416666667	491146.1874999998
189373070032.2861	820.3281250000004	584439.8124999996
191815628403.2913	832.9322916666667	637724.8124999998
192605244884.8805	845.2760416666671	651001.1874999995
186303228823.0968	865.3281250000001	486321.1250000004
185962437787.4368	873.9635416666668	474759.3750000005
186144181123.9436	879.1510416666666	478368.1250000005
186848458832.6172	880.890625	497147.3750000006
188368409648.9508	870.0416666666665	512074.0000000001
190000500607.7608	868.5416666666665	568803.5
192037870444.5402	867.2499999999998	648312.75
194480519159.2891	866.1666666666664	750601.7499999998
205083443597.2925	864.5364583333335	991281.7500000002
205234651329.8665	864.171875	1092885.75
202689139202.296	864.3177083333335	1171025
197446907214.5811	864.9739583333334	1225699.5
189507955366.7216	866.140625	1256909.25
178872283658.7177	867.8177083333332	1264654.25
165539892090.5693	870.0052083333332	1248934.500000001
149510780662.2764	872.7031249999999	1209750.000000001

The researcher compiled data from the Ministry of Planning, the Central Statistical Organization, the Agricultural Statistics Directorate, production and price reports for the study years, and the Versos 12,0 software

8. DESCRIPTION OF STANDARD MODEL VARIABLES:

The table below provides a summary of the Standard Model and an explanation of its presumed relevance to economic reasoning.



Table.5 Characterization of Standard Model Variables

Interpreting the relationship according to economic logic	variable formula	Variable name and symbol
responds to future changes	dependent	(Gross domestic product)GDP
The dependent variable is affected according to a direct relationship	independent	DATE PRICES
The dependent variable is affected according to a direct relationship	independent	DATE PRODUCTION

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on general economic assumptions of the behavior of the studied variables

9. UNIT ROOT TESTS:

As the aforementioned data was submitted to the unit root test, static tests must be administered to

ensure that the data does not exhibit a general trend and variance (Dickey Feller Extended), as shown in the Table. 7

Table.6 Dickey Feller Extended Unit Root Test

UNIT ROOT TEST RESULTS TABLE (ADF)				
Null Hypothesis: the variable has a unit root				
	<u>At Level</u>			
		DATE_PRICES	DATE_PRODUCT ION	GDP
With Constant	t-Statistic	-3.2783	1.3301	-2.0689
	Prob.	0.0202	0.9985	0.2577
		**	n0	n0
With Constant & Trend	t-Statistic	-2.3150	0.4954	0.3991
	Prob.	0.4197	0.9991	0.9987
		n0	n0	n0
Without Constant & Trend	t-Statistic	0.9591	1.6875	-1.7098
	Prob.	0.9087	0.9767	0.0826
		n0	n0	*
	<u>At First Difference</u>			
		d(DATE_PRICES)	d(DATE_PRODU CTION)	d(GDP)
With Constant	t-Statistic	-2.6570	-1.8192	-1.3385
	Prob.	0.0874	0.3678	0.6068
		*	n0	n0
With Constant & Trend	t-Statistic	-3.6847	-3.1714	0.7341
	Prob.	0.0308	0.1003	0.9996
		**	n0	n0
Without Constant & Trend	t-Statistic	-1.7523	-1.3323	-1.4905
	Prob.	0.0757	0.1673	0.1264
		*	n0	n0

According to Table.2, the variables are characterized by a mixture of dormancy between the level and the first difference. To date prices were consistent significantly above the level (5%). While the remaining variables will not settle at the level, the initial

difference will stabilize them, as seen in the table above. Thus, the ARDL test, which corresponds to the case, is a suitable model for examining the influence of each price and average production of dates on the GDP, as shown in the accompanying table.

Table.7 The Estimation of the ARDL Model

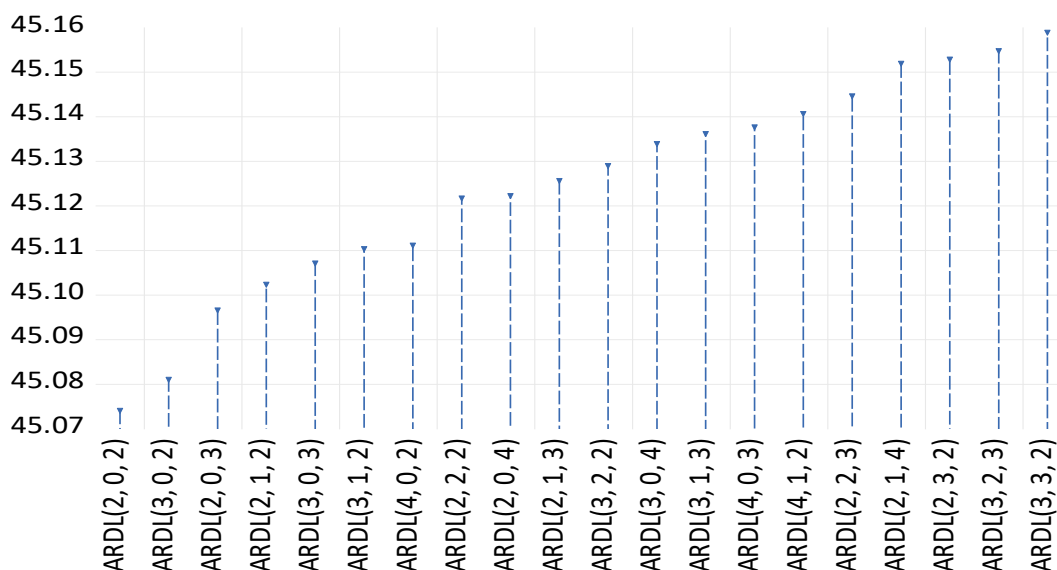
Selected Model: ARDL(2, 0, 2)				
Note: final equation sample is larger than selection sample				
Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.*
GDP(-1)	1.736726	0.098235	17.67928	0.0000
GDP(-2)	-0.729520	0.101933	-7.156826	0.0000
DATE_PRICES	268390.3	2198839.	0.122060	0.9033
DATE_PRODUCTION	37721.88	3436.068	10.97821	0.0000
DATE_PRODUCTION(-1)	-67802.75	7173.346	-9.452040	0.0000
DATE_PRODUCTION(-2)	26082.94	6013.321	4.337526	0.0001
C	-2.69E+08	9.53E+08	-0.281974	0.7790
R-squared	0.998718	Mean dependent var	1.45E+11	
Adjusted R-squared	0.998588	S.D. dependent var	3.69E+10	
S.E. of regression	1.39E+09	Akaike info criterion	45.03733	
Sum squared resid	1.13E+20	Schwarz criterion	45.26957	
Log likelihood	-1479.232	Hannan-Quinn criter.	45.12910	
F-statistic	7660.788	Durbin-Watson stat	2.207863	
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000			

According to the results of the analysis, the ideal combination of slowdowns is (2,0,2), which means that the GDP is slowing and prices are not slowing, while production averages are slowing. Based on a test, it was determined that the parameters of the variables were mainly stable at (1 percent) and that the model is stable at (1 percent). F.

The graphic below depicts the wavelength of the ideal deceleration model, as determined by an experiment (AKaike Information Criteria) (top20 models). Or calculate the comparison between twenty models; according to the above-mentioned test, the model (2.0.2) with the shortest wavelength was selected by my agencies:

Diagram.1 The wavelength of the optimum model

Akaike Information Criteria (top 20 models)





10. BOUND TESTS

It is evident from Table.3 that the table tests for the team model were positioned between the minimum I(0) (3.243) and maximum I(1) (4.043), with

a value of 3.753% at a significance level of 5%. The following table explains our choices.

ARDL Long Run Form and Bounds Test
 Dependent Variable: D(GDP)
 Selected Model: ARDL(2, 0, 2)
 Case 2: Restricted Constant and No Trend
 Date: 06/22/22 Time: 08:15
 Sample: 2004Q1 2020Q4
 Included observations: 66

Conditional Error Correction Regression

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	-2.69E+08	9.53E+08	0.000000	0.0000
GDP(-1)*	0.007206	0.014765	0.488046	0.6273
DATE_PRICES**	268390.3	2198839.	0.000000	0.0000
DATE_PRODUCTION(-1)	-3997.935	1253.894	-3.188415	0.0023
D(GDP(-1))	0.729520	0.101933	7.156826	0.0000
D(DATE_PRODUCTION)	37721.88	3436.068	10.97821	0.0000
D(DATE_PRODUCTION(-1))	-26082.94	6013.321	-4.337526	0.0001

* p-value incompatible with t-Bounds distribution.
 ** Variable interpreted as $Z = Z(-1) + D(Z)$.

Levels Equation
 Case 2: Restricted Constant and No Trend

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
DATE_PRICES	-37245018	3.72E+08	-0.100186	0.9205
DATE_PRODUCTION	554800.7	1053700.	0.526526	0.6005
C	3.73E+10	9.37E+10	0.397773	0.6922

$$EC = GDP - (-37245018.0903 * DATE_PRICES + 554800.7259 * DATE_PRODUCTION + 37280245838.7966)$$

F-Bounds Test Null Hypothesis: No levels relationship

Test Statistic	Value	Signif.	I(0)	I(1)
F-statistic	3.753968	10%	2.63	3.35
k	2	5%	3.1	3.87
		2.5%	3.55	4.38
		1%	4.13	5
Actual Sample Size	66		Finite Sample: n=70	



10%	2.73	3.445
5%	3.243	4.043
1%	4.398	5.463
Finite Sample: n=65		
10%	2.74	3.455
5%	3.285	4.07
1%	4.538	5.475

Besides related to the tests, it is noted that the error correction treatment is
 $(EC = GDP - (-37245018.0903 * DATE_PRICES + 554800.7259))$.

This equation demonstrates that enlightenment prices have a direct relationship with GDP, which is consistent with economic assumptions, since an increase in prices generally leads to an increase in GDP, whereas production averages had a negative relationship with GDP, which is inconsistent with economic assumptions. This can be explained by the fact that, given the state of the Iraqi economy, local production costs more than imported dates, indicating

that its prices are not competitive, and causing the parameter to appear in this manner

11. Serial residual test

To ensure the completeness and accuracy of the model employed for the serial correlation. The Breusch-Godfrey Serial Correlation LM Test was conducted on the chains investigated in this study. Chi-Square) My organizations:

Table.4 The sequential test for residuals

Breusch-Godfrey Serial Correlation LM Test:
 Null hypothesis: No serial correlation at up to 2 lags

F-statistic	0.771805	Prob. F(2,57)	0.4669
Obs*R-squared	1.740212	Prob. Chi-Square(2)	0.4189

In relation to the tests, and in terms of assessing the heterogeneity of variance for the residuals, Table.5 demonstrates that the model is not affected by the aforementioned issue, as shown in the next section.

Table.5 Test for the inconsistency of homogeneity of variance for the residuals

Heteroskedasticity Test: Breusch-Pagan-Godfrey

Null hypothesis: Homoskedasticity

F-statistic	0.713295	Prob. F(6,59)	0.6403
Obs*R-squared	4.463743	Prob. Chi-Square(6)	0.6142
Scaled explained SS	6.644579	Prob. Chi-Square(6)	0.3550

And the remaining tests for the cumulative sum and its squares were finished. The route of the phenomena does not deviate from between the two admissible weighted limits, as depicted in chart 2. The course of the phenomena tends to deviate from the weighted binomial, which shows that the researched phenomenon is afflicted. One of the structural changes

over time, and this is a natural occurrence in the Iraqi economy, which suffers from a major deficiency in the agricultural sector and a heavy reliance on foreign agricultural imports to meet local demand, as in Scheme No. 1, is the increasing reliance on foreign agricultural imports (3)

Chart (2) Cumulative Total

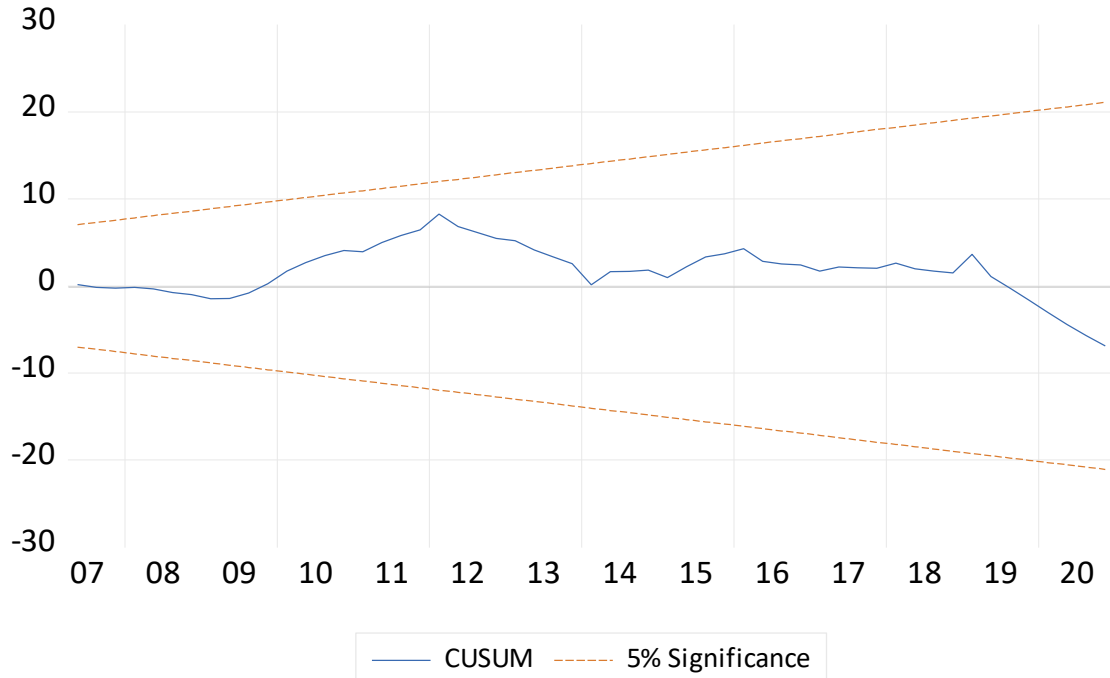
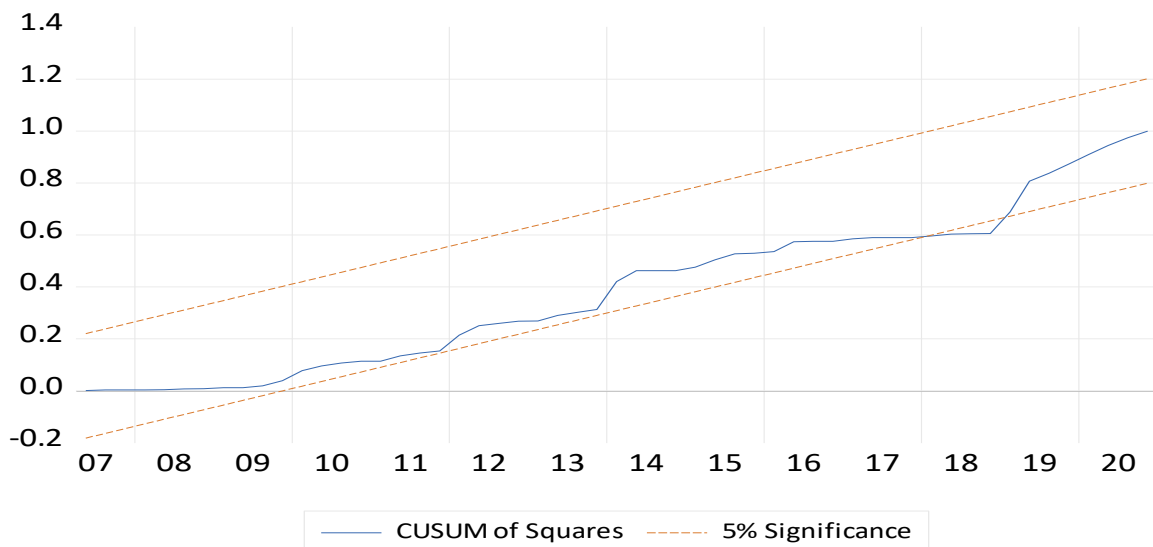


Diagram.3 Accumulation Sum Squares



12. CONCLUSIONS:

1. In addition, the remaining cumulative sum and its square tests were finished. The phenomenon's course does not deviate from the two permissible weighted limits depicted in chart 2.
2. The tendency of the phenomenon under study to deviate from the weighted binomial suggests that it is influenced. This is one of the structural changes that the Iraqi economy undergoes organically over time. Scheme No. 1 is characterized by a deficit in the agriculture sector and a heavy reliance on agricultural imports from abroad to meet local demand.

3. Scheme No. 2 is characterized by an increasing reliance on agricultural imports from abroad (3).
3. The inconsistency between the behavior of the average production parameter and the gross domestic product runs counter to the economic theory's presumptions. The truth of the Iraqi economy, however, is that the average output of dates has declined significantly in recent years for a variety of causes, including (ignoring the fight against epidemics and agricultural diseases. As well as the deterioration and deterioration of the competitiveness criterion of locally produced goods in comparison to foreign



and imported goods, as well as high domestic production costs

13. RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Encouraging the export of Iraqi date goods while adhering to international export standards to increase income and economic progress.
2. As dates are one of the country's vital crops, the government should do everything possible to boost their yield, particularly in terms of combatting illnesses, insects, and pests that inflict extensive damage to palm orchards.
3. The Iraqi government should restrict individuals from razing palm trees for building purposes.

REFERENCES

1. Muhammad Abdul Salam Owaidah, (Technical competencies for producing dates in Iraq), 2016, pp. 599-609.
2. Zahid Qasim Badan Al-Saadi, and Suad Kazem Khudair Al-Mousawi, (Estimation of the function of dates display in Basra Governorate for the period (1965-2009), 2012, Maysan Research Journal, Volume 8, Number 16.
3. Raad Muslim Ismail, (Palm and dates in Iraq and ways of development, agriculture and production, marketing and industrialization), Ministry of Agriculture, Public Authority for Palms, Baghdad, 2010, p. 3-4. Pharaoh Ahmed Hussein, Palm cultivation and date production in Iraq, Iraqi Agriculture, Agricultural Extension Journal, No. 4, 2008, p. 37.
4. Farran Hussein, Abdul-Amir Hubal Raheef, and Raad Muslim Ismail, a study of marketing dates in Iraq and price support for the agricultural season, Baghdad, 2008.
5. Ministry of Planning, Central Statistical Organization, Agricultural Statistics Directorate, date production report for the years studied.