SUMMARY

Two experiments were conducted in the new reclaimed soil of Noubaria Agricultural Research Station, Noubaria, Mariot, Behera Governorate during 1981 and 1982 seasons. The aim of these experiments was to find out the optimum doses of phosphorus and nitrogen fertilizers on yield performance of three sunflower (Helianthus annuus L.) varieties, i.e. Gizal, Mayak and Sorem 80.

The experimental layout was split-split-plot design with four replications where the varieties were asigned in the main plots , followed by phosphorus fertilizer with three levels, i.e. 0 , 15 and 30 kg P₂O₅ / fed., while nitrogen fertilizer were arranged the sub sub plots with three levels of 0 , 30 and 60 kg/fed. The measured characters were number of days 50 % flowering , number of days to physiological maturity , number of leaves per plant , leaf area per plant, stem diameter , plant height , head diameter , 100-seed weight, seed yield per head , seed husk percentage , seed oil content, seed yield per feddan and oil yield per feddan . The results obtained will be summerized as follows:

I - Effect of the varieties:

Sorem 80 was the earlist variety to reach flowering ,
 whereas Giza I was the latest one and Mayak was intermediate.

- 2. Sorem 80 was the earliest variety to reach physiological maturity followed by Mayak, while Giza 1 was the latest one.
- 3. Giza 1 had more number of leaves than Mayak and Sorem 80'.
- 4. Leaf area per plant of Giza l variety was significantly exceeds that of Mayak and Sorem 80 , while that of Mayak exceeds of Sorem 80 .
- 5. The thickest variety was Giza 1 followed by Mayak and the thinest one was Sorem 80.
- 6. Giza 1 variety was significantly taller than Mayak and Sorem 80 and Mayak had taller plants than Sorem 80.
- 7. Giza 1 significantly exceeds both Mayak and Sorem 80 in head diameter, Sorem 80 produced larger heads than Mayak in both seasons but the difference was significant only in 1982.
- 8. Generally Giza 1 had the heaviest 100-seed weight followed closely without significant difference by Sorem 80 and both exceeds that of Mayak.
- 9. Giza 1 variety significantly exceeds Mayak and Sorem 80 in seed yield per head . Whereas seed yield per head of Mayak variety significantly exceeds that of Sorem 80 .
- 10. Varieties differed significantly in seed husk percent where

 Giza 1 had the highest percent followed by Mayak and the lowest

 percent was for Sorem 80.
- 11. Sorem 80 had the highest oil percent followed closely by Mayak whereas Giza 1 had low oil percent.
- 12. Seed yield per feddan varied considerably among the used varieties.

 Giza 1 produced the highest seed yield and significantly exceeds

- the other two varieties . Mayak significantly produced more seed yield than Sorem 80 .
- 13. Oil yield per feddan was highest for Sorem 80 and lowest for Giza 1 while it was intermediate for Mayak .

II- Effect of phosphorus fertilizer :

- Phosphorus fertilizer had no significant influence on number of days from planting to flowering, number of days from planting to physiological maturity, number of leaves per plant, stem diameter, 100-seed weight, seed yield per plant and seed husk percent for the varieties under study in both seasons.
- Phosphorus fertilizer significantly increased the leaf area / plant whereas the difference between applying 15 and 30 kg P_2O_5 /fed. was significant only in 1982, season .
- 3 Phosphorus fertilizer significantly increased the plant height, the difference between applyind 15 and 30 kg P_2O_5 /fed was significant only in 1981 season .
- Phosphorus fertilizer significantly increased head diameter and seed oil content, with non significant difference between 15 kg P_2O_5 /fed and 30 kg P_2O_5 /fed levels in both seasons .
- Phosphorus fertilizer at 15 kg P_2O_5 /fed. significantly increased seed yield per feddan and oil yield per feddan, whereas applied 30 kg P_2O_5 /fed reduced it than the 15 kg P_2O_5 level significantly in 1981 season and the reduction did not reach the level of significance in 1982 season.

III- Effect of nitrogen fertilizer:

- 1 Nitrogen fertilizer had no influence on the number of days from planting to flowering .
- 2 Maturation significantly was retarded by nitrogen fertilization.
- 3 Nitrogen fertilizer significantly decreased the number of leaves per plant .
- 4 Leaf area/plant, stem diameter, plant height, head diameter, seed yield/plant and seed yield per feddan significantly increased with increasing nitrogen fertilizer rates.
- Nitrogen fertilizer at 30 kg N/fed. significantly increased

 100-seed weight , wheras applied 60 kg N/fed. increased it more than
 the 30 kg N/fed. level significantly only in 1982 season .
- Nitrogen fertilizer at 30 kg N/fed. had no significant effect on seed husk percent , whereas applied 60 kg N/fed. significantly increased it , in both seasons .
- 7 Nitrogen fertilizer at 30 kg N/fed significantly decreased seed oil content only in 1981 season , whereas applied 60 kg N/fed. decreased it significantly , in both seasons .
- 8 Nitrogen fertilizer significantly increased oil yield per feddan, whereas the difference between 30 kg N/fed and 60 kg N/fed. levels was significant only in 1981 season.

IV- Effect of the interaction :

The interaction between all the studied factors had no significant effect on number of days to flowering, No. of days to physiological maturity, No. of leaves/plant, seed husk percent and seed oil content.

- Leaf area/plant was significantly influenced by the interaction between varieties and phosphorus fertilizer levels in 1981 season and between varieties and nitrogen fertilizer in both seasons . Addition of 15 and 30 kg P_2O_5 /fed increased the varieties by 16.5 % and 17.3 % for Giza 1 , by 8% and 18.6% for Mayak and by 5.3 % and 8.3 % for Sorem 80 . Giza 1 was the most responsable variety to nitrogen fertilization in the two seasons .
- Stem diameter was significantly influenced by the interaction between phosphorus and nitrogen fertilization in both seasons, the thickest stem was recorded for applying 30 kg P_2O_5 + 60 kg N/fed. in 1981 and for 15 kg P_2O_5 + 60 kg N/fed. in 1982 season.
- Plant height was significantly influenced by the interaction between varieties and nitrogen fertilizer and between phosphorus and nitrogen fertilizers in both seasons. The most responsable varieties were Mayak in 1981 and Sorem 80 in 1982 season, the tallest plant were recorded for applying 30 kg P_2O_5 + 60 kg N/fed. in both seasons.
- Head diameter was significantly influenced by the interaction between varieties and nitrogen in 1982 and between phosphorus x nitrogen fertilizers in both seasons. The largest heads were recorded for Giza 1 fertilized with 60 kg N/fed. in 1981 season, and for applying 30 kg P₂O₅ + 60 kg N/fed. in both seasons.
- The weight of 100-seed was significantly influenced by the interaction between phosphorus x nitrogen fertilizers only in 1981
 season. The highest 100-seed weight was recorded for applying
 30 kg P₂O₅ + 60 kg N/fed.

- 7 Seed yield per plant was significantly influenced by the interaction between varieties x nitrogen fertilizer in 1982 season. The highest seed yield/head was obtained from Giza 1 received 60 kg N/fed.
- 8 Seed yield per feddan was significantly influenced by the interaction between varieties x nitrogen fertilizer and between phosphorus x nitrogen fertilizers in both seasons . The highest seed yield/feddan was obtained from Giza 1 received 60 kg N/fed. and by applying 15 kg $P_2O_5 + 60$ kg N/fed. in 1981 and 30 kg $P_2O_5 + 60$ kg N/fed. in 1982 .
- 9 0il yield per feddan was significantly influenced by the interaction between varieties x nitrogen in 1982 and between phosphorus x nitrogen in both seasons. The highest oil yield/feddan was obtained from Sorem 80 , fertilized by 60 kg N/fed., and by applying 15 kg P_2O_5 + 60 kg N/fed. in 1981 and 30 kg P_2O_5 + 60 kg N/fed. in the second season .