DETERMINATION OF ESTRONE IN THE DATE PITS OF THE MAJOR CULTIVARS OF DATE PALM (*PHOENIX DACTYLIFERA*) GROWN IN SAUDI ARABIA AND POSSIBLE USE AS A NATURAL HORMONAL SOURCE.

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ABSTRACT

In this work, we have investigated the date pits of eight cultivars grown in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the hormone estrone. Results have shown that, six of the studied cultivars have shown no estrone content, while only two cultivars have shown the presence of estrone, these are Sokkary and Thamani. The level of estrone in the two samples was 3.3 and 1.4 mg/100 g powdered date pits, respectively. The extracted estrone was analyzed using HPLC.

KEYWORDS

*Phoenix dactylifera*, date pits, estrone, HPLC.