

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE .....	vii
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS .....	xiii
INTRODUCTION .....	1
 GENERAL PART	
 CHAPTER I. Soil and Salt .....	5
1. Soils Generally .....	5
a. Origins and Age .....	5
b. Sodium and Salt in Watertable .....	5
c. Deposition in Upper Soil Layers .....	6
d. Effects .....	6
e. Resultant Soil Types .....	7
f. Prevention and Cure .....	7
2. Saline Soil in Antiquity .....	8
a. Terminology .....	8
b. Proto-imperial Period ( <i>ca.</i> 2400 B.C.) .....	8
c. Agade Period ( <i>ca.</i> 2300 B.C.) .....	9
d. Ur III Period ( <i>ca.</i> 2100 B.C.) .....	9
e. Cassite and Middle-Babylonian Periods ( <i>ca.</i> 1900-1000 B.C.) .....	10
f. Assyrian Period ( <i>ca.</i> 700-600 B.C.) .....	11
g. Neo-Babylonian Period ( <i>ca.</i> 500 B.C.) .....	12
h. Later Periods .....	12
i. Summation .....	12
 CHAPTER II. Crops and Crop Preferences in Antiquity .....	14
1. Field Crops in Antiquity .....	14
2. Crop Preferences in Antiquity .....	15
Appendix 1A. Carbonized Material .....	18
Appendix 1B. Carbonized Material North .....	19
Appendix 2. Carbonized Material South .....	20
Appendix 3. Preliminary Identifications of Qantara Deposit ( <i>ca.</i> 900 A.D.) .....	21
Appendix 4. Imprints North .....	22
Appendix 5. Imprints South .....	23
Appendix 6. Major Field Crops Attested in Contemporary Documents .....	24
Appendix 7. Major Field Crops, Babylonia, Assyria .....	25
Appendix 8. Crop Preferences, Girsu ( <i>ca.</i> 2400 B.C.) .....	26
Appendix 9. Crop Preferences, Girsu ( <i>ca.</i> 2300 and 2100 B.C.) .....	28

*Table of Contents*

Appendix 10. Crop Preferences, Gasur ( <i>ca.</i> 2300 B.C.) . . . . .	29
Appendix 11. Crop Preferences, Girsu ( <i>ca.</i> 2100 B.C.) . . . . .	30
Appendix 12. Crop Preferences, Nippur ( <i>ca.</i> 1300 B.C.) . . . . .	31
Appendix 13. Crop Preferences, Nippur ( <i>ca.</i> 500 B.C.) . . . . .	32
Appendix 14. Crop Preferences, Central and Southern Iraq (9th Cent. A.D.) . . . . .	34
Appendix 15. Crop Preferences, Southern Iraq: Map ( <i>ca.</i> 850 A.D.) . . . . .	36
 CHAPTER III. Fertility in Antiquity . . . . .	38
1. Data on Yields in Antiquity . . . . .	38
2. Summation of Data on Yields in Antiquity . . . . .	39
Appendix 16. Yields, Girsu ( <i>ca.</i> 2400 B.C.) . . . . .	40
Appendix 17. Yields, Girsu ( <i>ca.</i> 2100 B.C.) . . . . .	42
Appendix 18. Yields, Larsa ( <i>ca.</i> 1700 B.C.) . . . . .	43
Appendix 19. Yields, Northern Babylonia ( <i>ca.</i> 1900-1600 B.C.) . . . . .	44
Appendix 20. Yield, Nippur ( <i>ca.</i> 500 B.C.) . . . . .	47
Appendix 21. Herodotus on Fertility . . . . .	48
Appendix 22. Taxes paid by Central and Southern Iraq (Early 9th Cent. A.D.) . . . . .	49
Appendix 23. Estimates of Yields on the Basis of Ibn Khurdadbeh's Tax Figures . . . . .	50
 CHAPTER IV. Evaluation of Evidence for Salinity in Antiquity . . . . .	52
1. Correlation of Lines of Inquiry . . . . .	52
2. Southern Babylonia . . . . .	53
3. Middle and Northern Babylonia . . . . .	54
4. Assyria . . . . .	54
5. Differences in Vulnerability to Salt . . . . .	55
6. Causes and Ways of Ascertaining Them . . . . .	55
 CHAPTER V. Agricultural Practices of Antiquity . . . . .	57
1. The Cycle of Agricultural Works in the "Georgica" . . . . .	57
a. Preparatory Irrigation . . . . .	57
b. Weeding . . . . .	58
c. Readyng the Ploughing Teams . . . . .	58
d. Ploughing and Harrowing . . . . .	58
e. Clod-breaking with Mattocks and Hoes . . . . .	58
f. Sowing . . . . .	59
g. Gathering of Clods . . . . .	59
h. Irrigating . . . . .	59
i. Reaping . . . . .	59
j. Preparing the Threshing Floor and Bringing in the Harvest . . . . .	60
k. Threshing . . . . .	60
l. Winnowing . . . . .	60
m. End of Instructions . . . . .	60
2. Irrigation . . . . .	60
a. Method, Number and Volume of Irrigations . . . . .	60
b. Possibility of Sudden Increase in Supply . . . . .	61
c. The Tigris Feeder of Entemenak . . . . .	63

3. Seeding Rates . . . . .	64
a. Southern Babylonia . . . . .	64
b. Middle and Northern Babylonia . . . . .	65
4. Drainage . . . . .	66
5. Fallow . . . . .	67
6. Summer Crops . . . . .	67
7. Levelling . . . . .	67
Appendix 24. Russel on Salinity . . . . .	68
 SPECIFIC PART: Investigations in the Diyala Region . . . . .	69
 CHAPTER VI. Human Occupation in the Diyala Region in Antiquity . . . . .	71
1. Diyala Water: The Turan-Daban System . . . . .	71
a. Ubaid to Agade ( <i>ca.</i> 4200-2300 B.C.) . . . . .	71
b. The Early-Dynastic/Agade Setback . . . . .	72
c. Resumption, Ur III to Old Babylonian ( <i>ca.</i> 2200-1600 B.C.) . . . . .	75
d. Old-Babylonian/Cassite Abandonment . . . . .	75
e. Resumption and Trailing Off. Cassite to Neo-Babylonian ( <i>ca.</i> 1500-500) . . . . .	76
2. Diyala Water: Gukha System ( <i>ca.</i> 500 B.C.-550 A.D.) . . . . .	77
a. Consolidation around Gukha Course (Achaemenid to <i>ca.</i> Middle Sassanian) . . . . .	77
3. Diyala and Tigris Water: The Tamarra-Nahrawan System ( <i>ca.</i> 550-1150 A.D.) . . . . .	78
a. The Cut of Chosroes . . . . .	78
b. The Sassanian Abandonment . . . . .	80
c. Resumption. Umayyad and Early Abbasid Periods ( <i>ca.</i> 650-950 A.D.) . . . . .	80
d. The Breach of al-Kufi and the Samarran Abandonment . . . . .	81
4. The Coming of the Salt . . . . .	82
Appendix 25. Basis for Dating of Mounds from Surface Pottery . . . . .	84
Appendix 26. Early Periods (map) . . . . .	85
Appendix 27. Neo-Babylonian, Achaemenian, and Seleucid-Parthian Periods (map) . . . . .	86
Appendix 28. Sassanian and Islamic Periods (map) . . . . .	87
Appendix 29. Soils, Canals, and Abbasid Administrative Districts (map) . . . . .	88
Appendix 30. Lower Nahrwan Irrigation and Settlement, Early Islamic and Samarran Periods (map) . . . . .	89
Appendix 31. Lower Nahrwan Irrigation and Settlement, Post-Samarran Period (map) . . . . .	90
 CHAPTER VII. Functional Aspects of the Nahrawan System . . . . .	91
1. The Vulnerability of Irrigation Agriculture . . . . .	91
2. The Struggle for Command of the Land . . . . .	92
3. Specific Investigations between Aberta and Smaka . . . . .	93
a. Progress and Scope of Investigations . . . . .	93
b. The Weir at Qantara . . . . .	93
c. The Mosque at Smaka . . . . .	97
d. Trenches at Smaka . . . . .	98
e. The Palace at Smaka . . . . .	99
f. Trenches at Aberta . . . . .	100
Appendix 32. Table of Data in Sections . . . . .	102

**PLANS BY MOHAMMED ALI MUSTAPHA**

A. Aberta .....	109
B. The Weir .....	110
C. The Weir, continued .....	111
D. Right Bank Regulator .....	112
E. Double Mouth Regulator .....	113
F. Sumaka (Uskaf-Bani-Junayd) .....	114
ILLUSTRATIONS .....	after p. 114