



SMR/402 - 32

COLLEGE ON SOIL PHYSICS  
9 - 27 October 1989

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"Water Balance Studies"

G. VACHAUD  
Institut de Mécanique de Grenoble  
C.N.R.S.  
Saint Martin d'Hères  
France

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***Please note: These are preliminary notes intended for internal distribution only.***

# WATER BALANCE STUDIES

## SUMMARY OF LECTURE NOTES

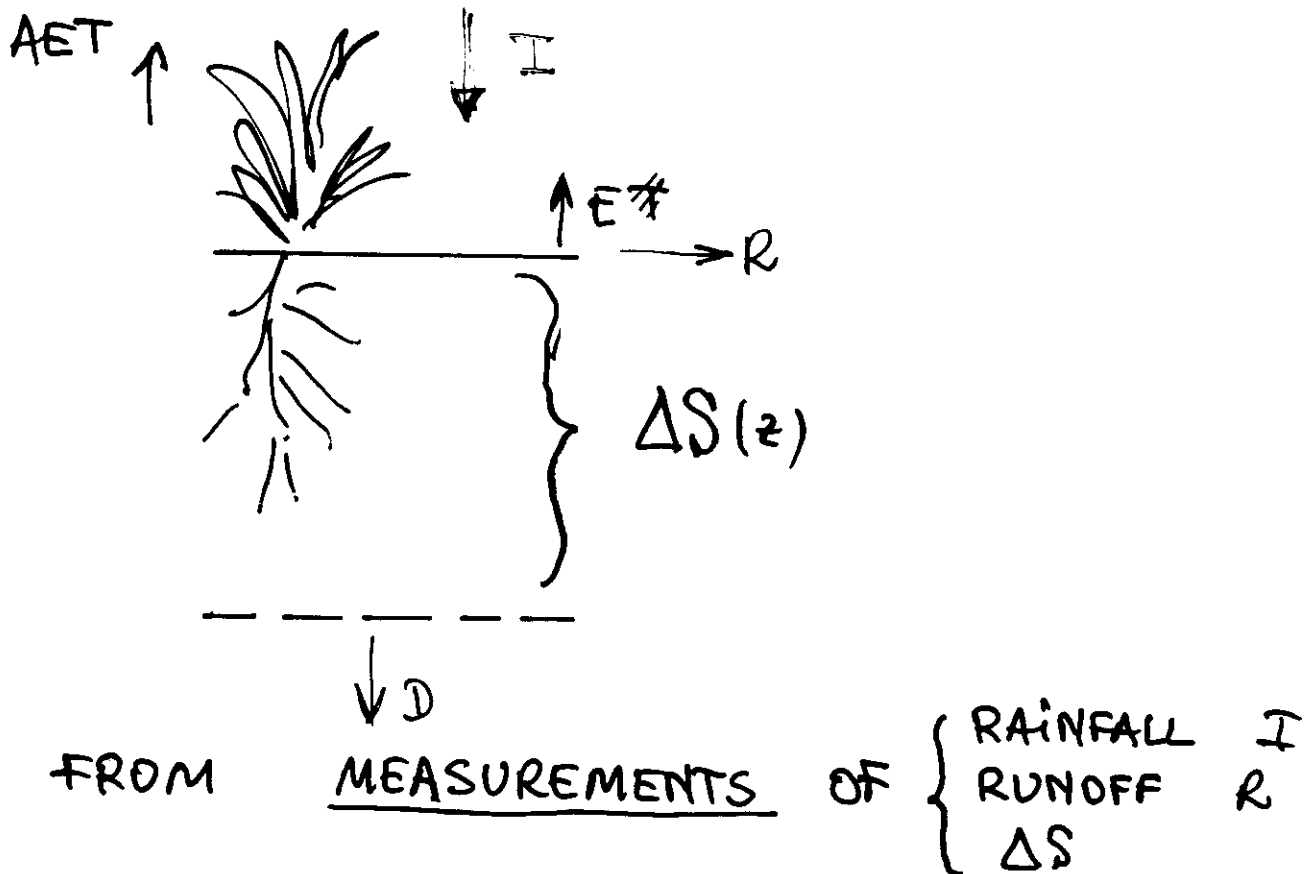
G. VACHAUD

Institut de Mécanique de  
Grenoble - France -

ICTP - Trieste - Oct 24, 1989.

# SOIL WATER BALANCE

FOR A GIVEN SOIL LAYER  
WITH OR WITHOUT VEGETATION



- DETERMINE
    - $AET$  OR  $E$
    - DRAINAGE
      - LEACHING BEYOND ROOT ZONE OR REPLENISHMENT AQUIFER
- (DEPENDING THICKNESS OF SOIL LAYER)

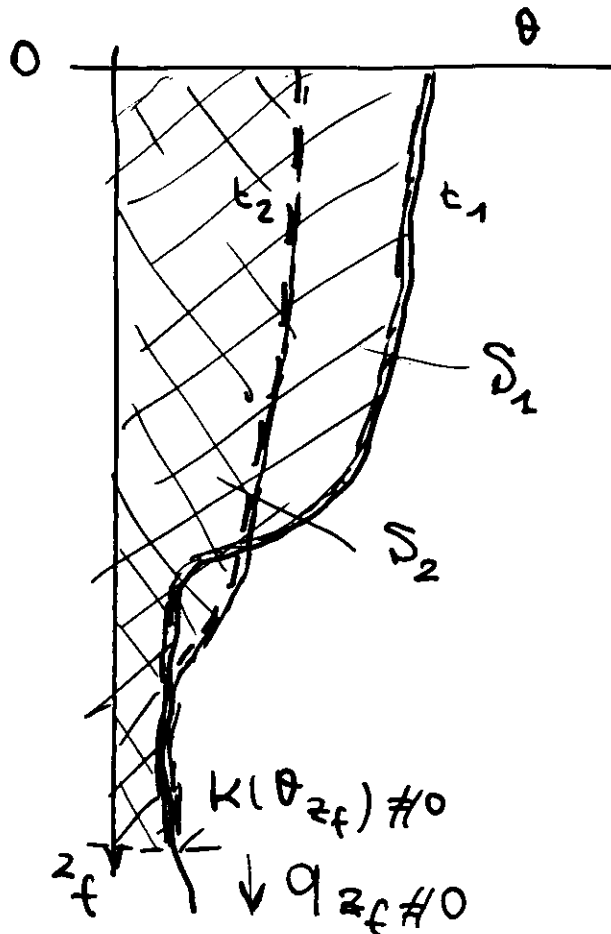
IN TERM OF FIELD STUDIES

2 METHODS OF ESTIMATION S.W.B.

# METHOD 1

D #0

- \* SOIL WATER CONTENT MEASUREMENTS ARE DONE TO A DEPTH SUCH THAT THE SOIL REMAINS ALWAYS AT A LOW WATER CONTENT BELOW  $z_f$ .



$$\Rightarrow q_{z_f} \neq 0 \quad \forall t$$

BETWEEN  $0 - z_f$

$$AET = (S_1 - S_2) + I$$

- \* REQUIRES ONLY NEUTRON PROBE MEASUREMENT
- \* IS THE MOST ACCURATE TECHNIQUE IF ASSUMPTION SATISFIED

METHOD . WELL ADAPTED TO ARID - SEMI ARID  
NOT FEASIBLE | IN HUMID - SUB. HUMID  
OR IF WATER TABLE

## EXAMPLE 1.

CHARACTERIZATION OF THE EFFECT  
OF ORGANIC AMENDMENT (DRY MANURE -  
10T/ha EVERY 2 YEARS)

ON WATER CONSUMPTION AND  
CROP PRODUCTION OF MILLET & PEANUT

FOR A DEGRADATED SAND OF  
NORTH-SENEGAL

RESEARCH DONE WITH L. Cisse,  
SENEGALERE INST. OF AGRIC. RESEARCH,  
WITHIN THE FRAME OF A TECHNICAL  
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME BETWEEN  
AIEA / SENEGAL

RESULTS PUBLISHED IN  
"AGRONOMIE", 1988.

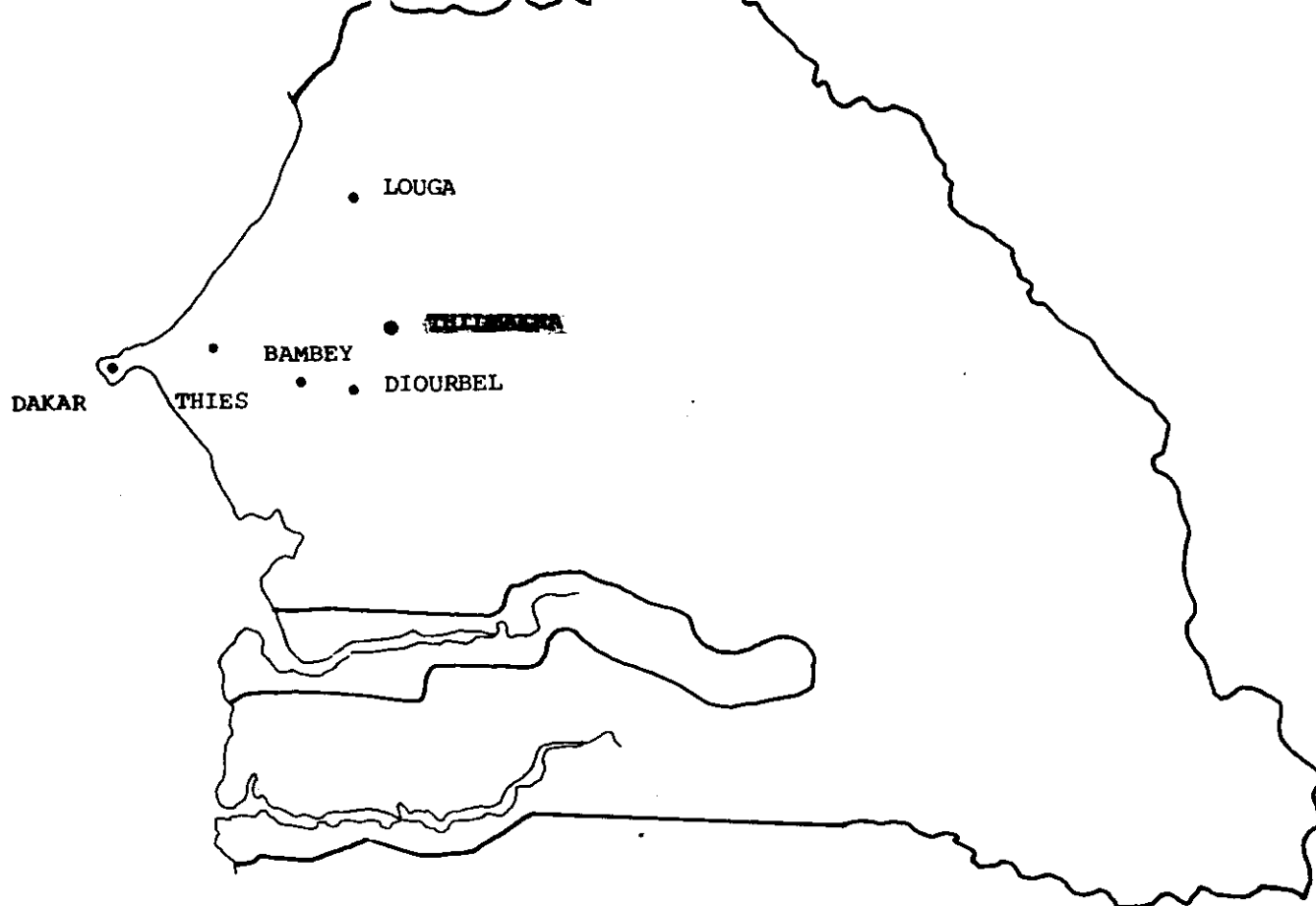


FIGURE 1.a : LIEU D'IMPLANTATION DE L'EXPERIMENTATION AGRONOMIQUE (THILMAKHA)

SERIE II

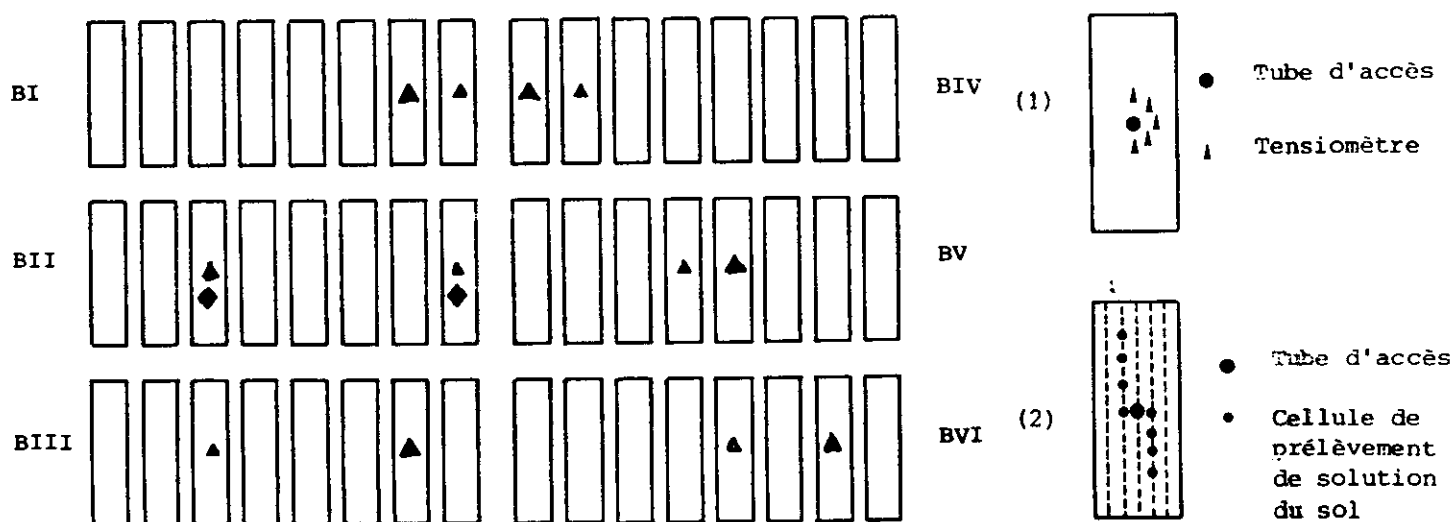
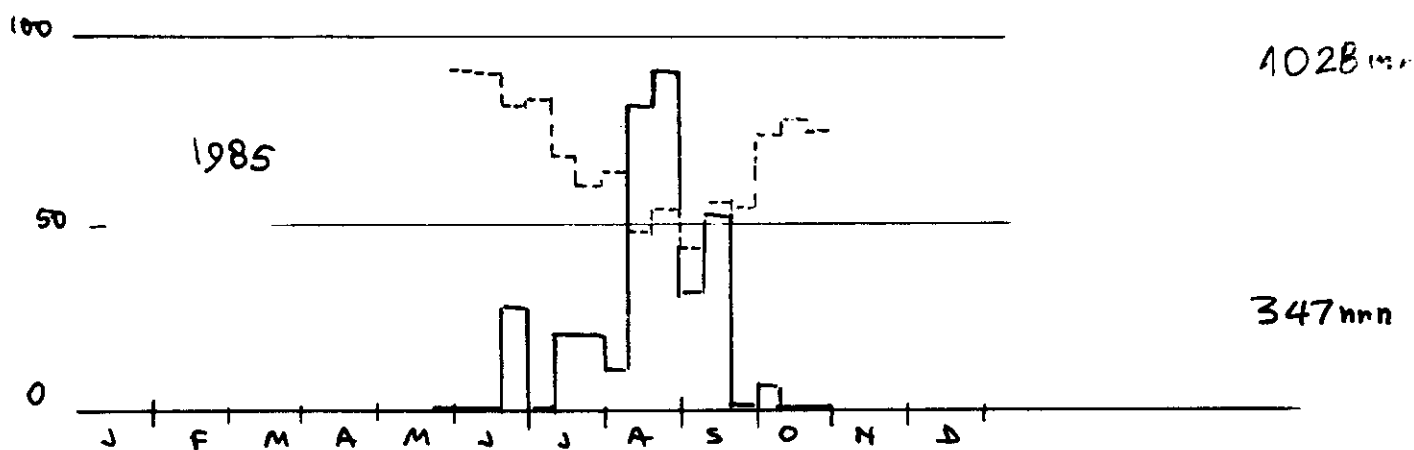
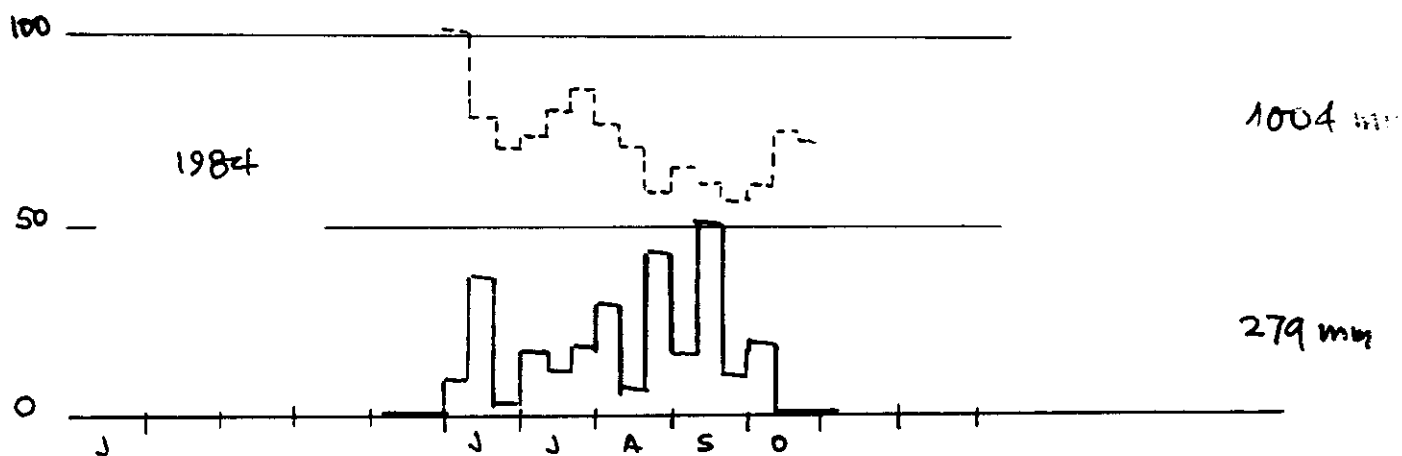
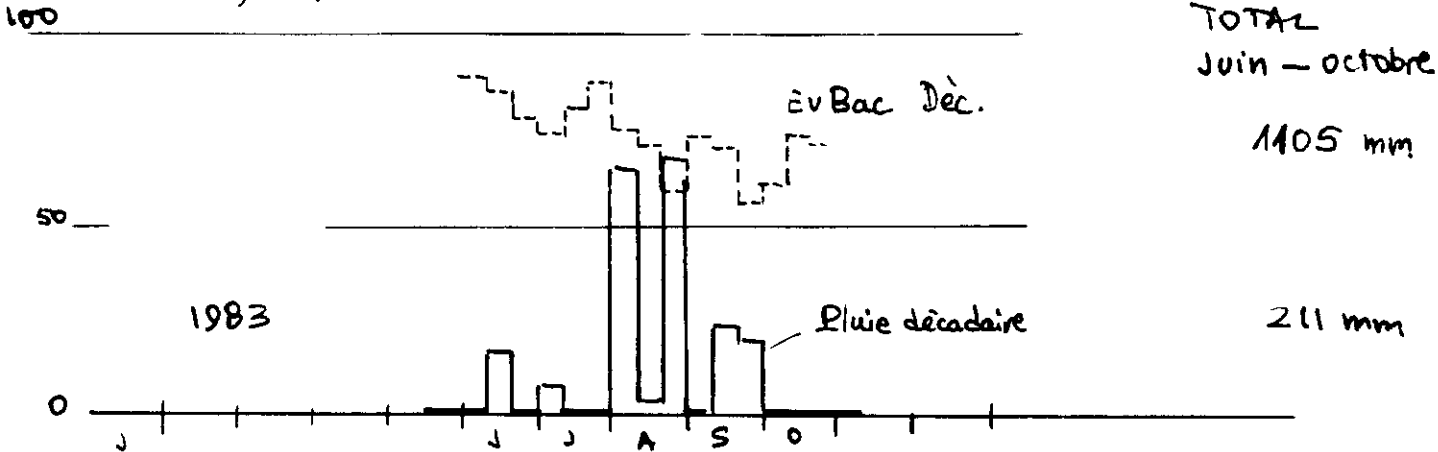


FIGURE 1.b : SCHEMA DU DISPOSITIF EXPERIMENTAL  
(SERIE II) - DISTRIBUTION DES TRAITEMENTS

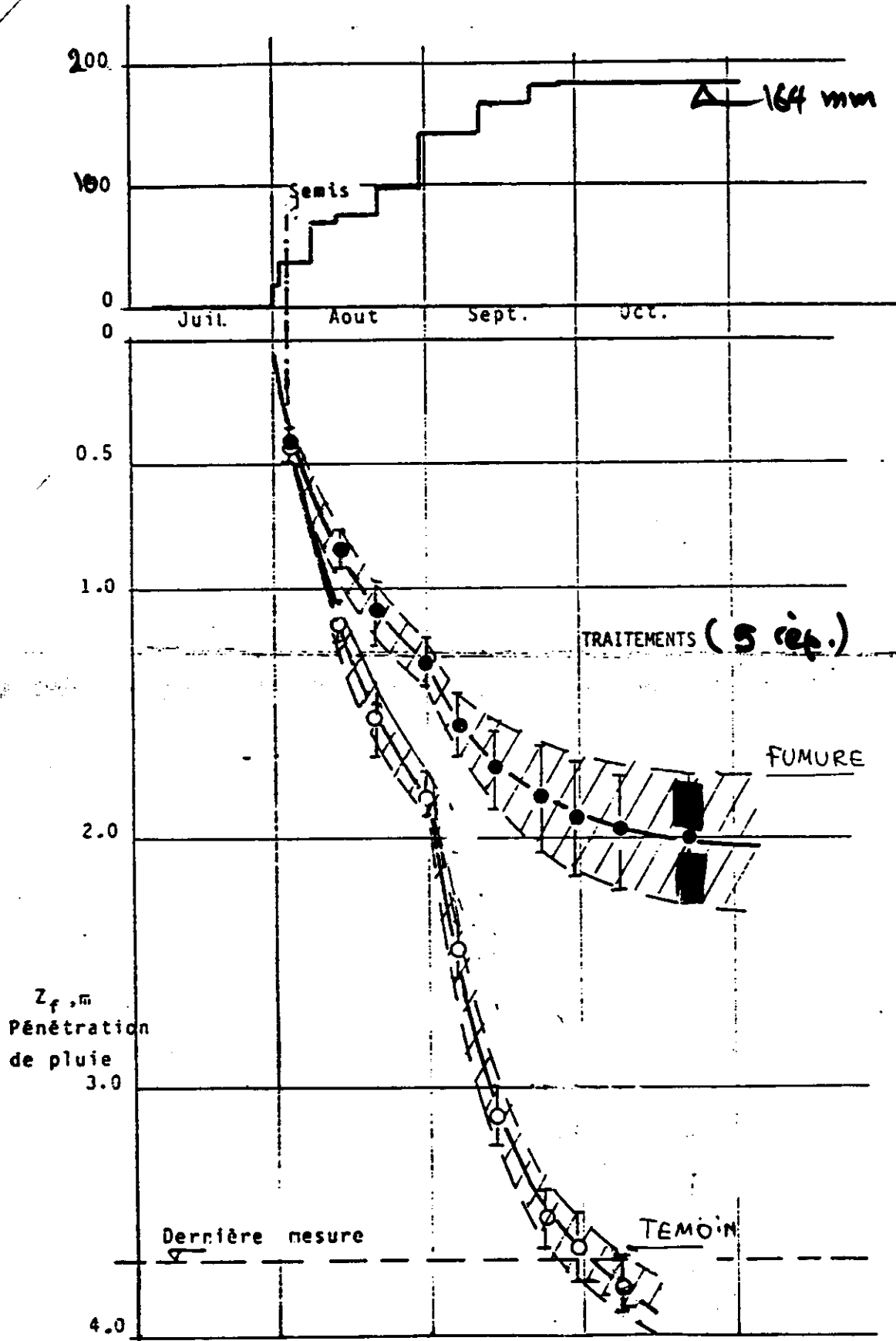
- ▲ T1
- ▲ To
- ◆ Site de caractérisation hydrodynamique
- (1) Disposition du tube d'accès et des tensiomètres
- (2) Disposition des cellules de prélèvement de solution du sol

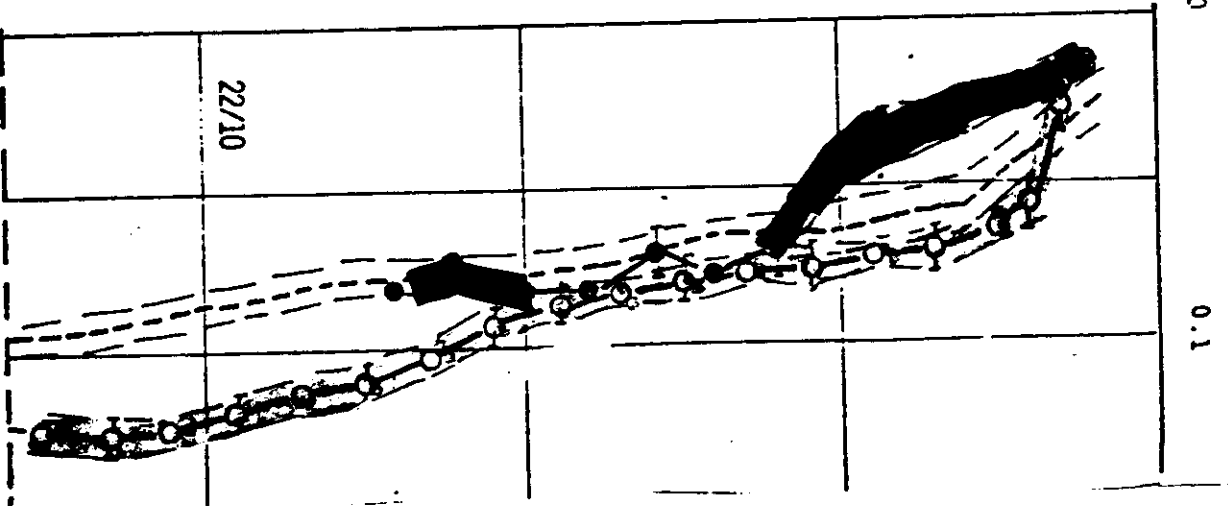
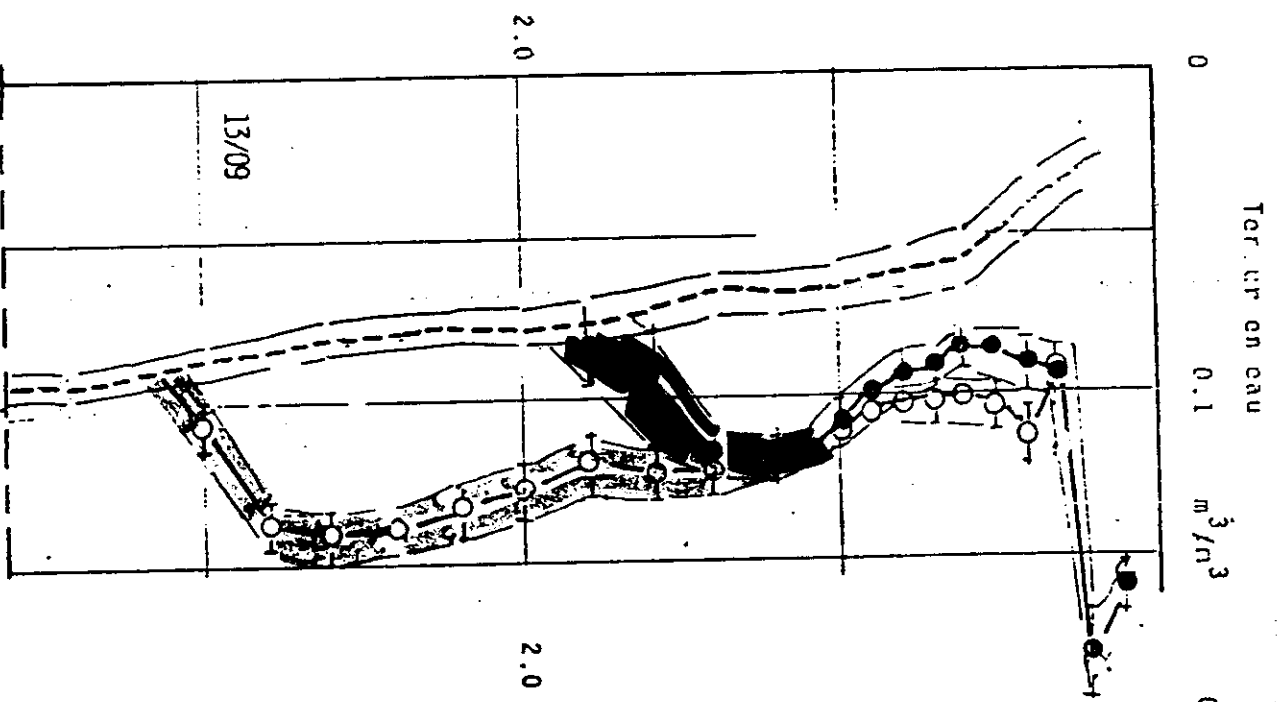
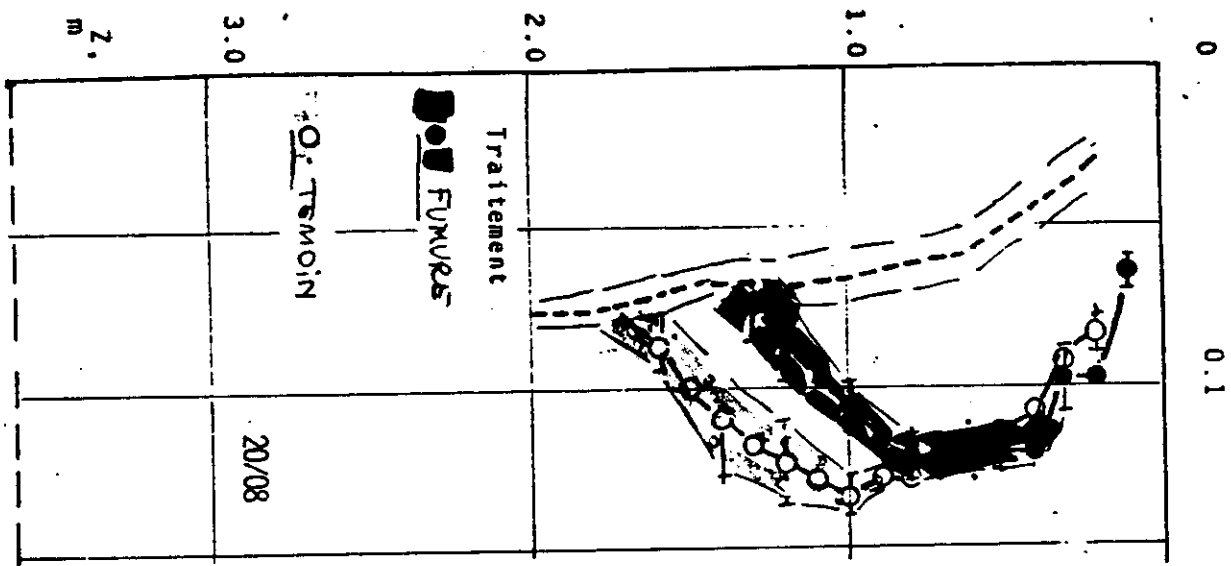


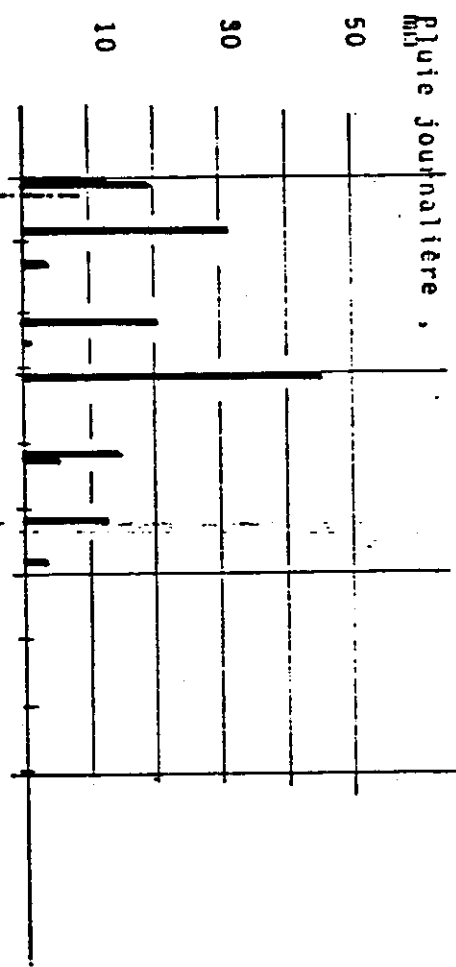
CARACTERISTIQUES CLIMATIQUES  
- THILMAKHA -

FIGURE 1

Pluie cumulée, mm



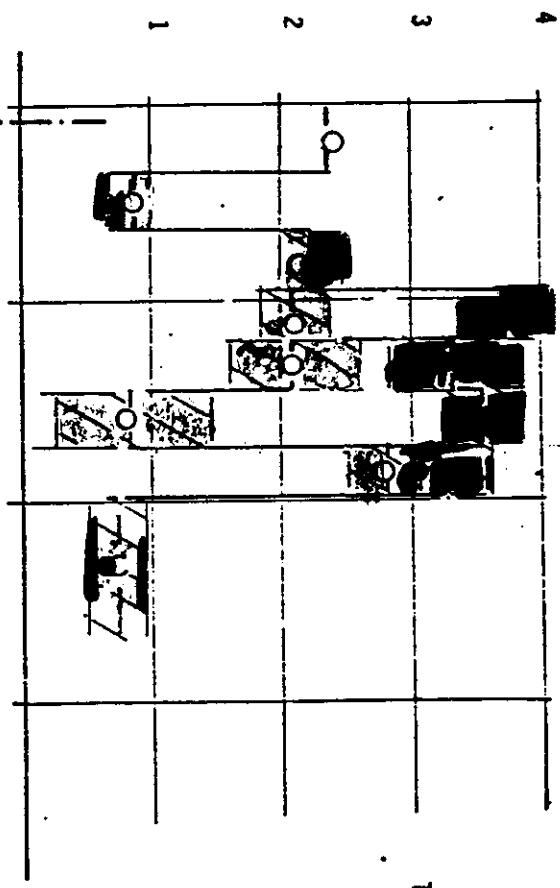




ARACHIDE

Strie totale 164 mm

Taux de  
consommation  
mm/j



Traitement

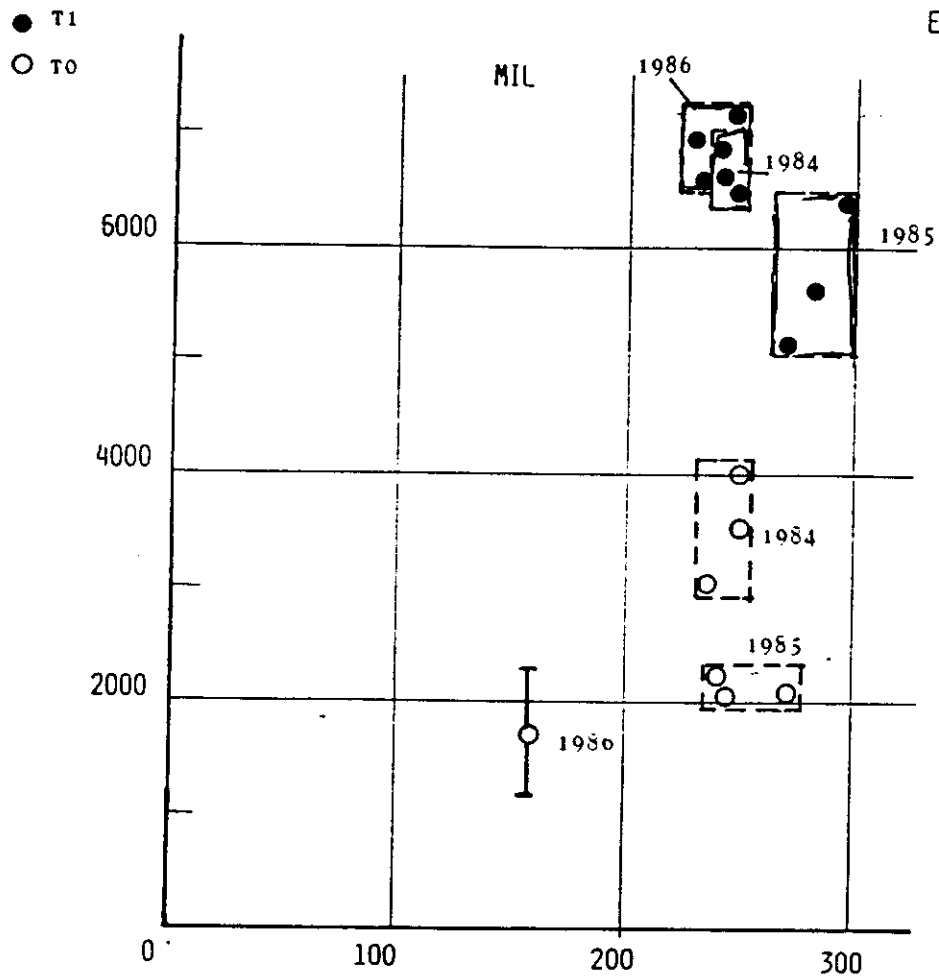
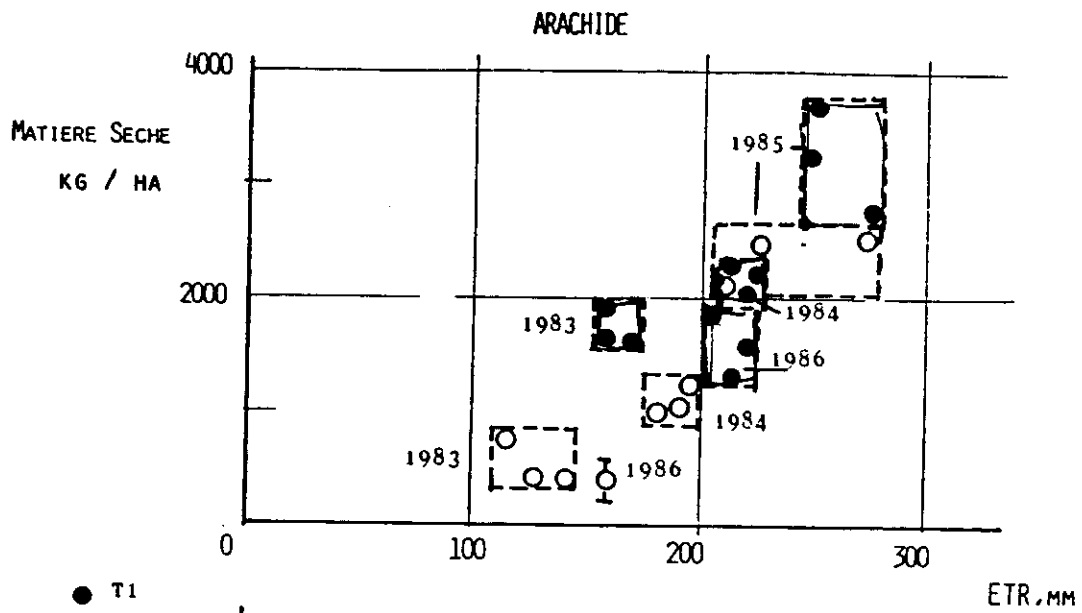
■ FUMURE

□ TEMOIN

Revendements  
kg/ha  
ARACHIDES

2700 640

500 140



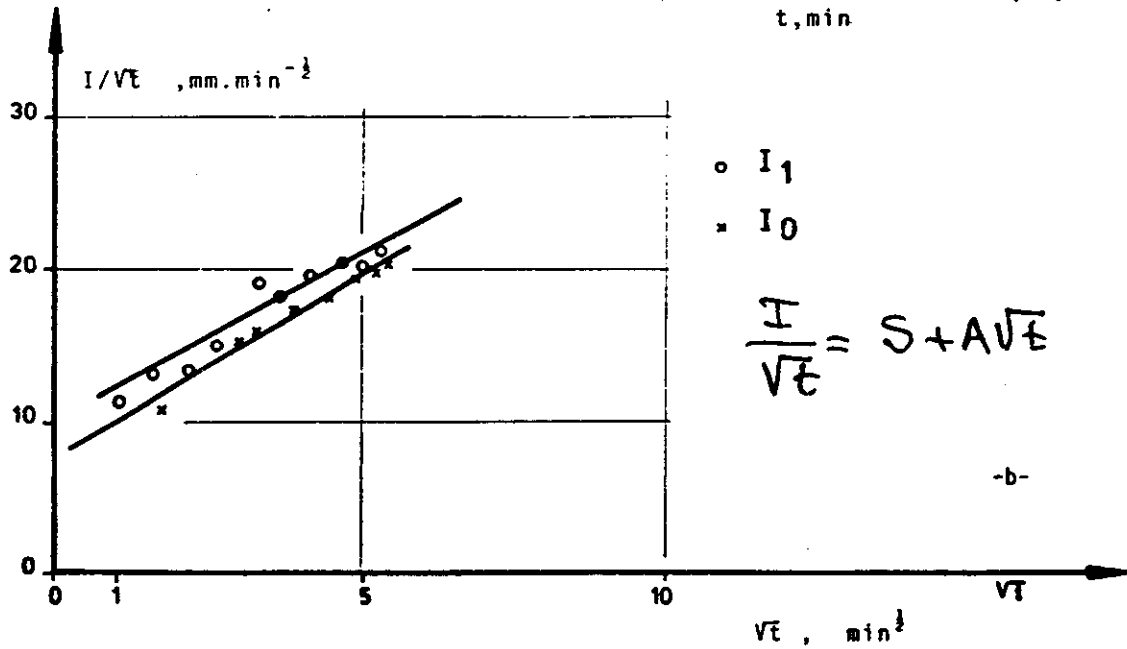
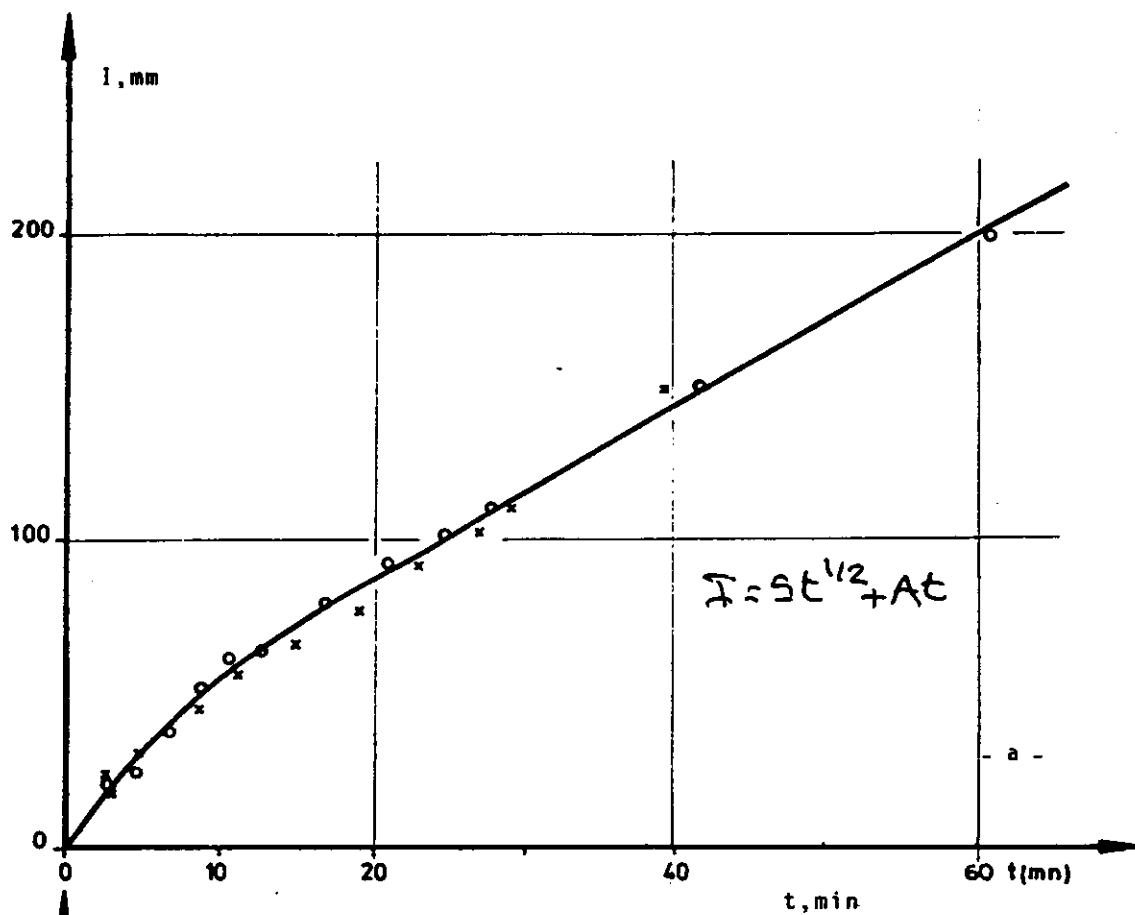
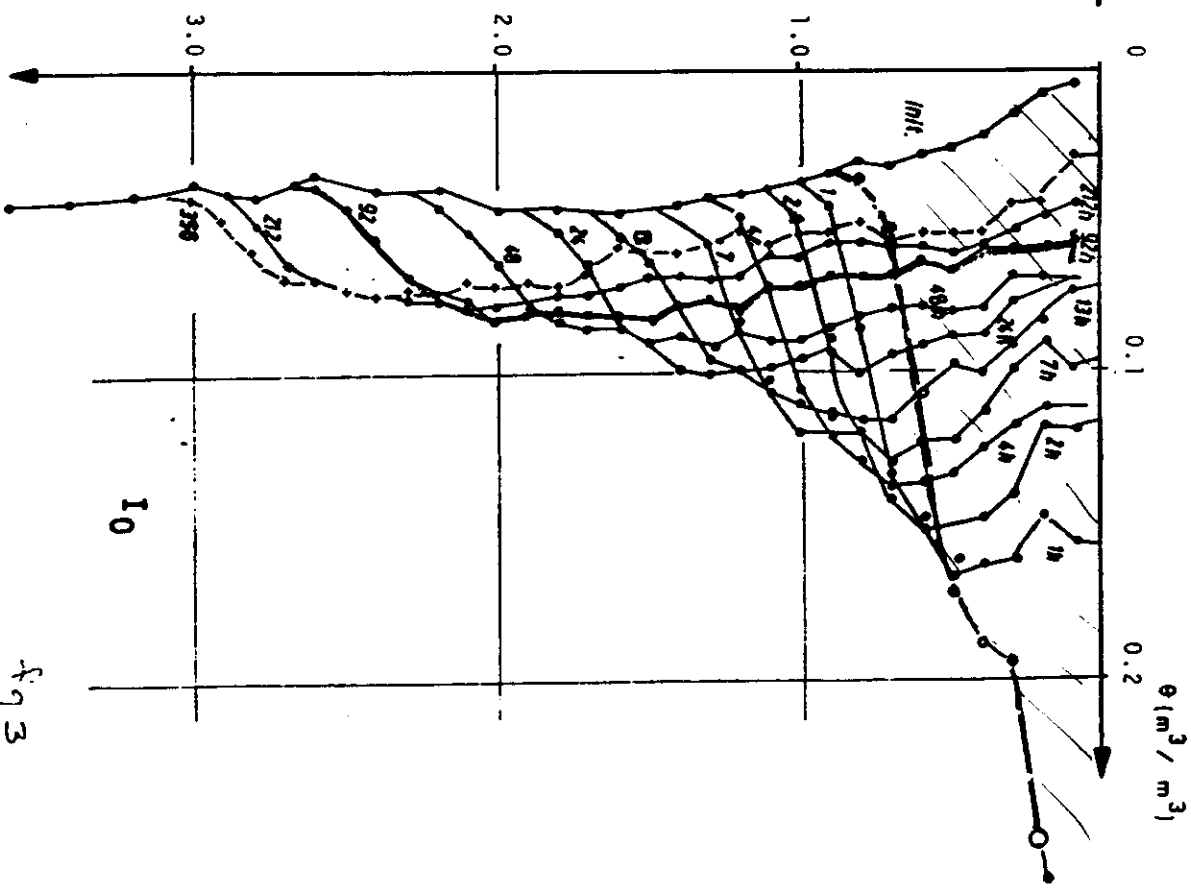
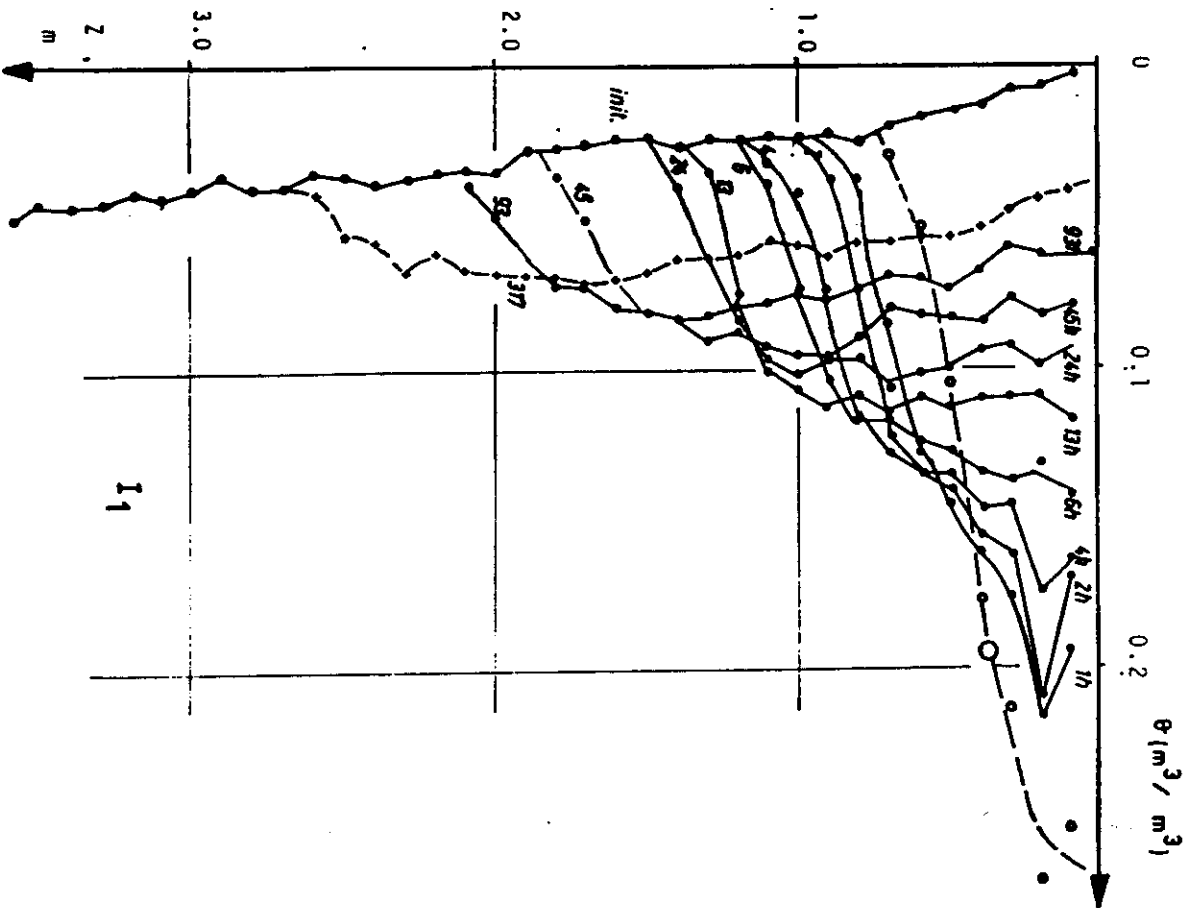
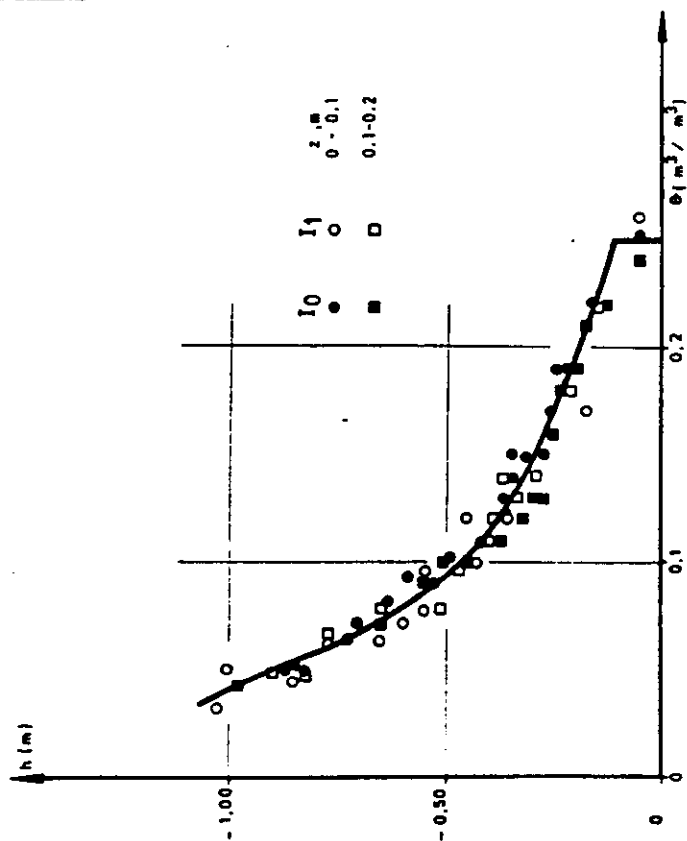
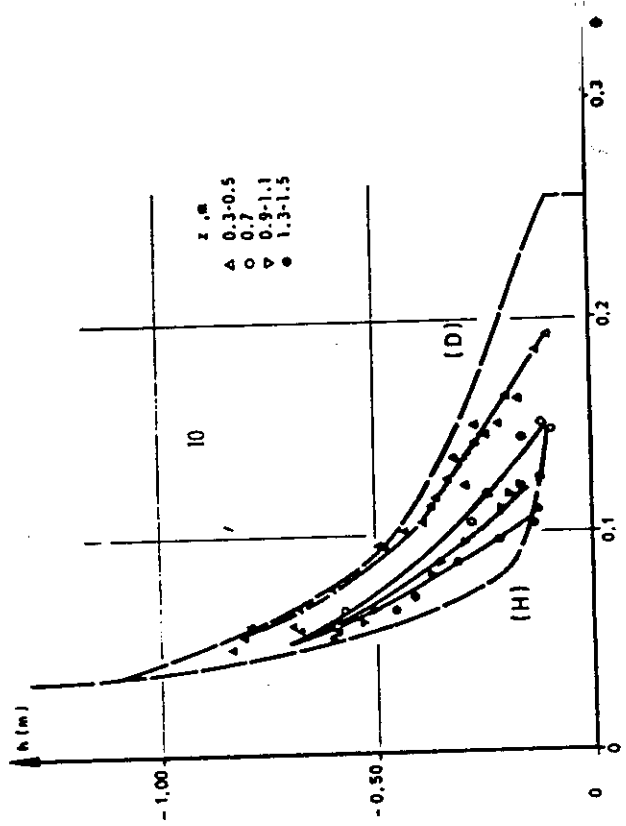
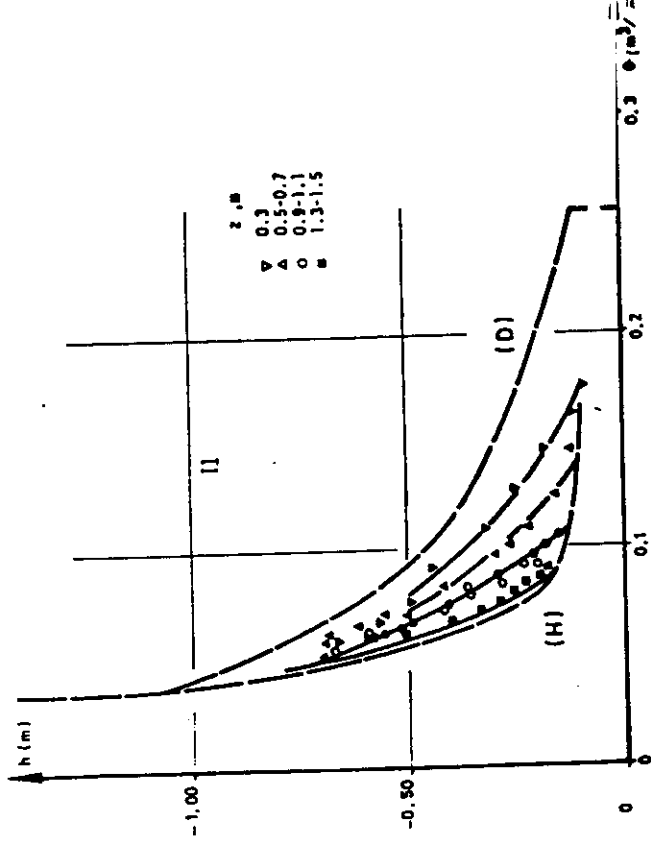


Fig 4





7a

$$\tilde{\kappa}_S = 144 \text{ mm/h}$$

$$\tilde{\theta}_S = 0,26$$

Fumier

Témoin

P3

P8

Z = 50 cm

●

●

Z = 100 cm

■

■

Z = 150 cm

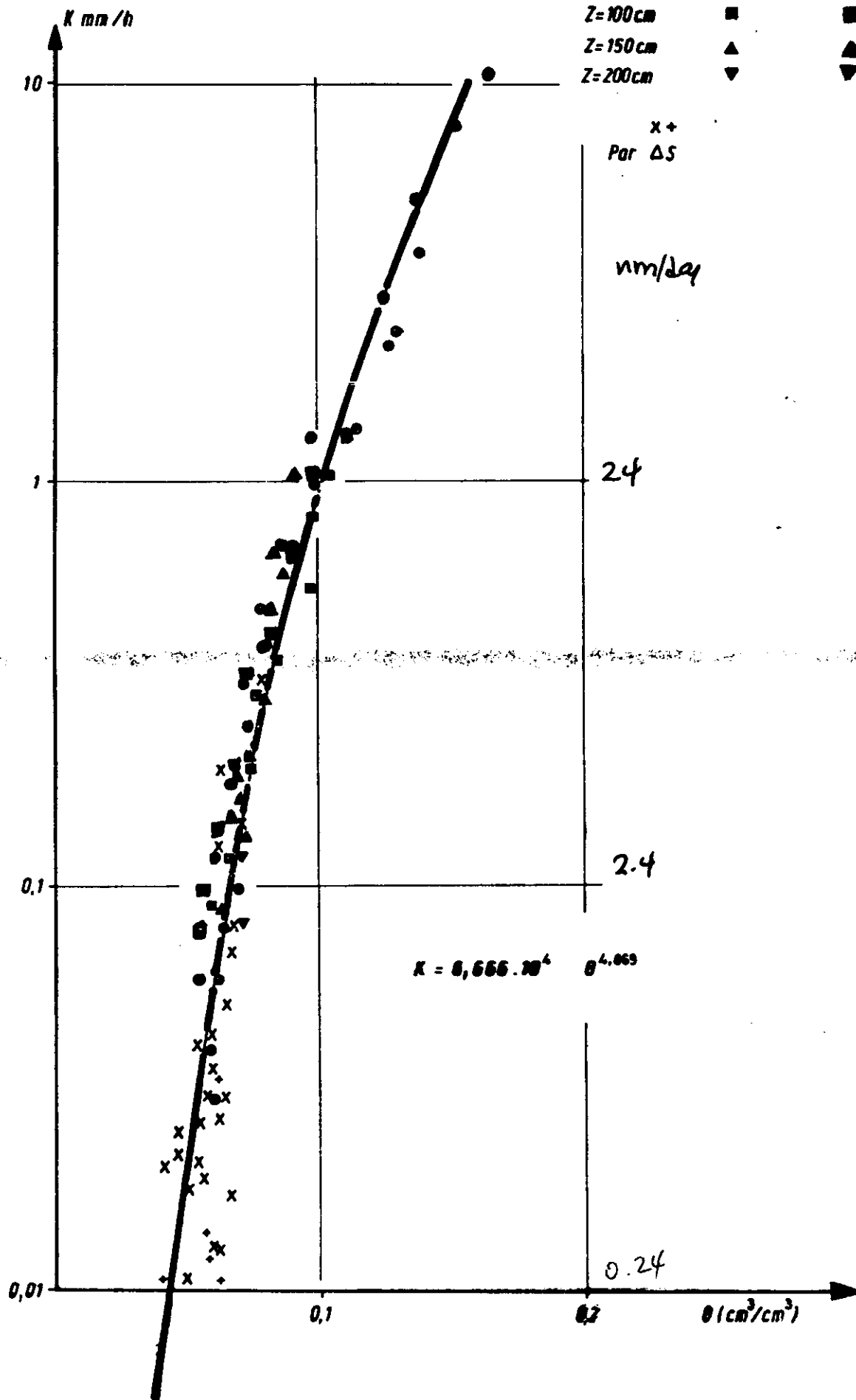
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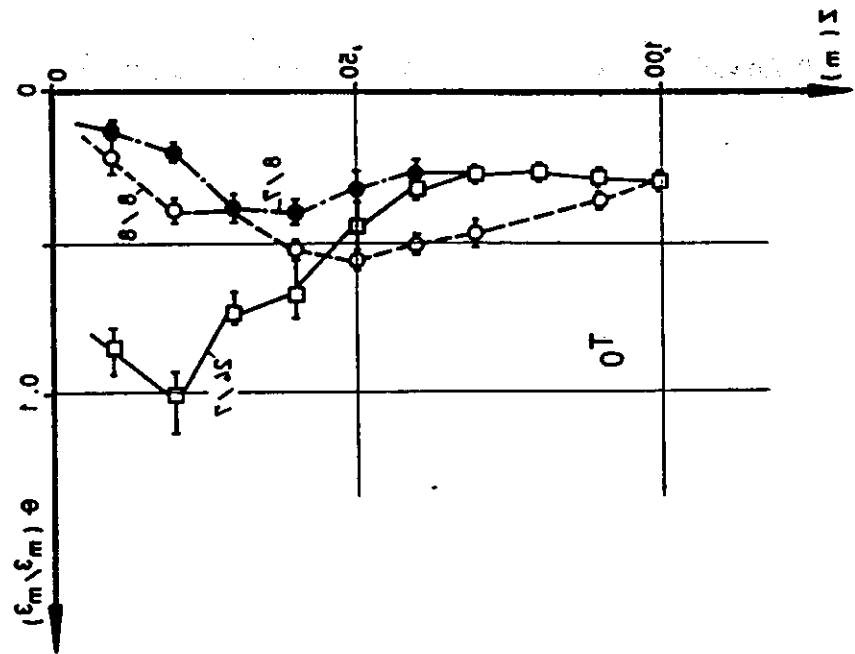
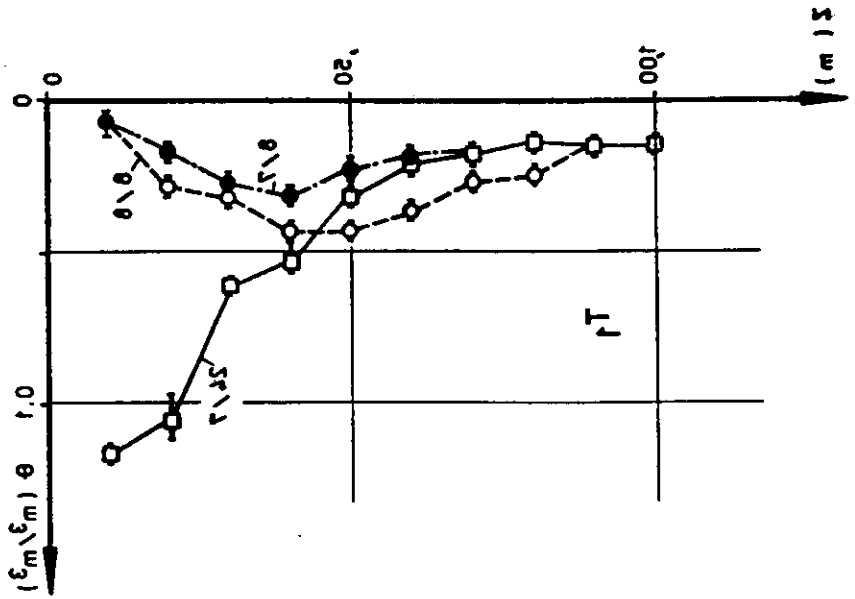
▲

Z = 200 cm

▼

▼





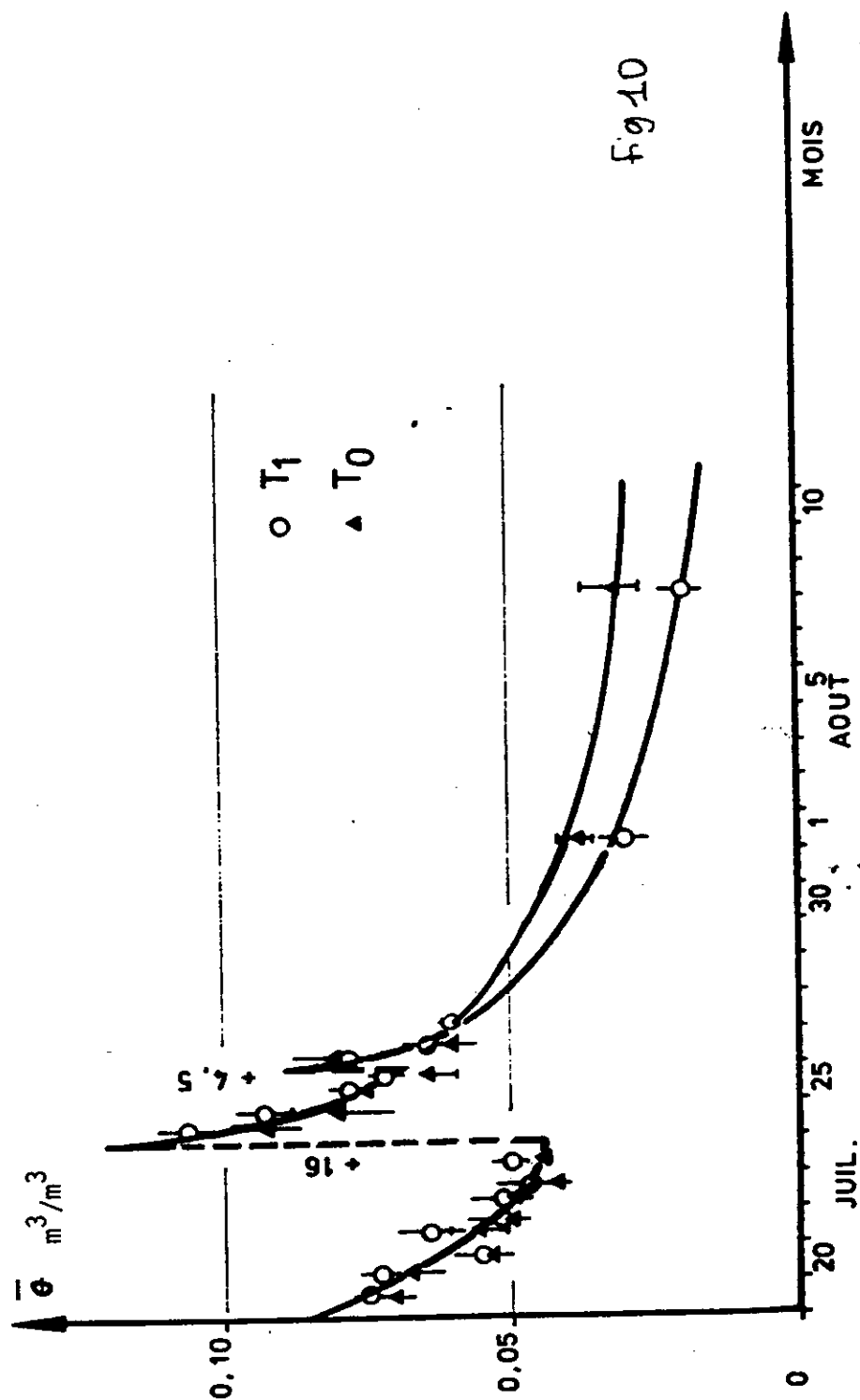


fig 10

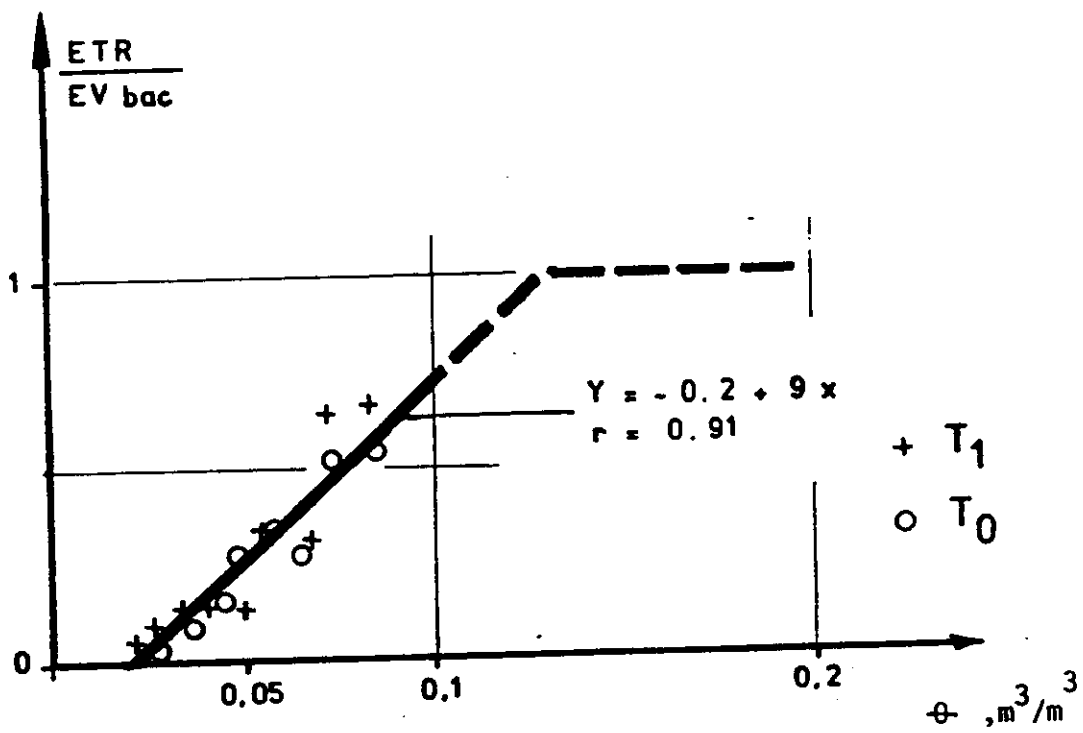


fig 12

## EXAMPLE 2 -

EFFECT OF SHORT DISTANCE  
SOIL VARIABILITY (ACCUMULATION OF  
CLAY CONTENT IN THE SOIL PROFILE)  
ON

- WATER INFILTRATION
- DRAINAGE AND NUTRIENT  
LOSSES

SAME COLLABORATION AS IN  
EXAMPLE 1, BUT EXPERIMENTATION  
DONE IN BAMBEY, CENTRAL SENEGAL.

# UNDER CROP ( IAEA - ISRA - IMG )

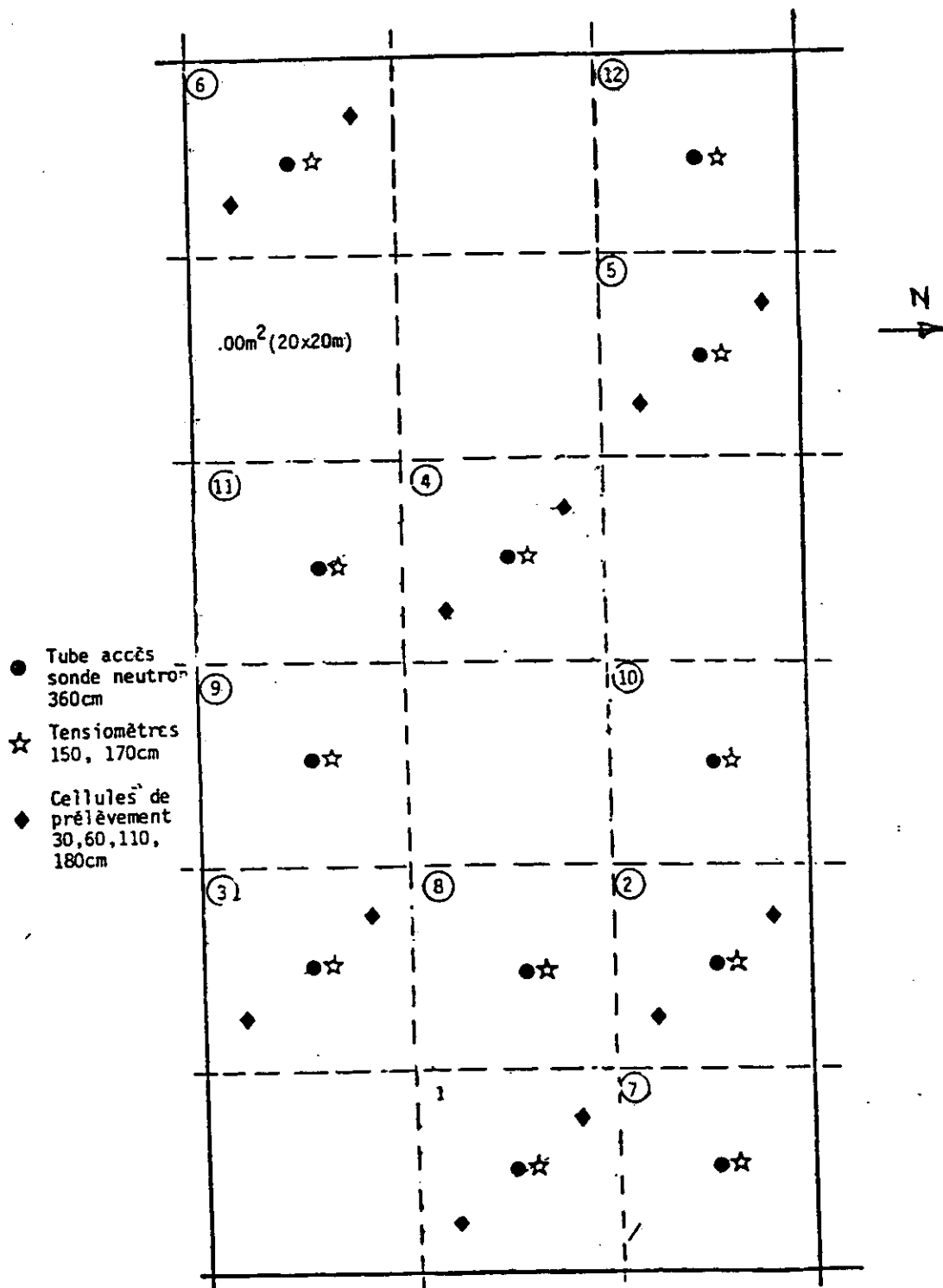
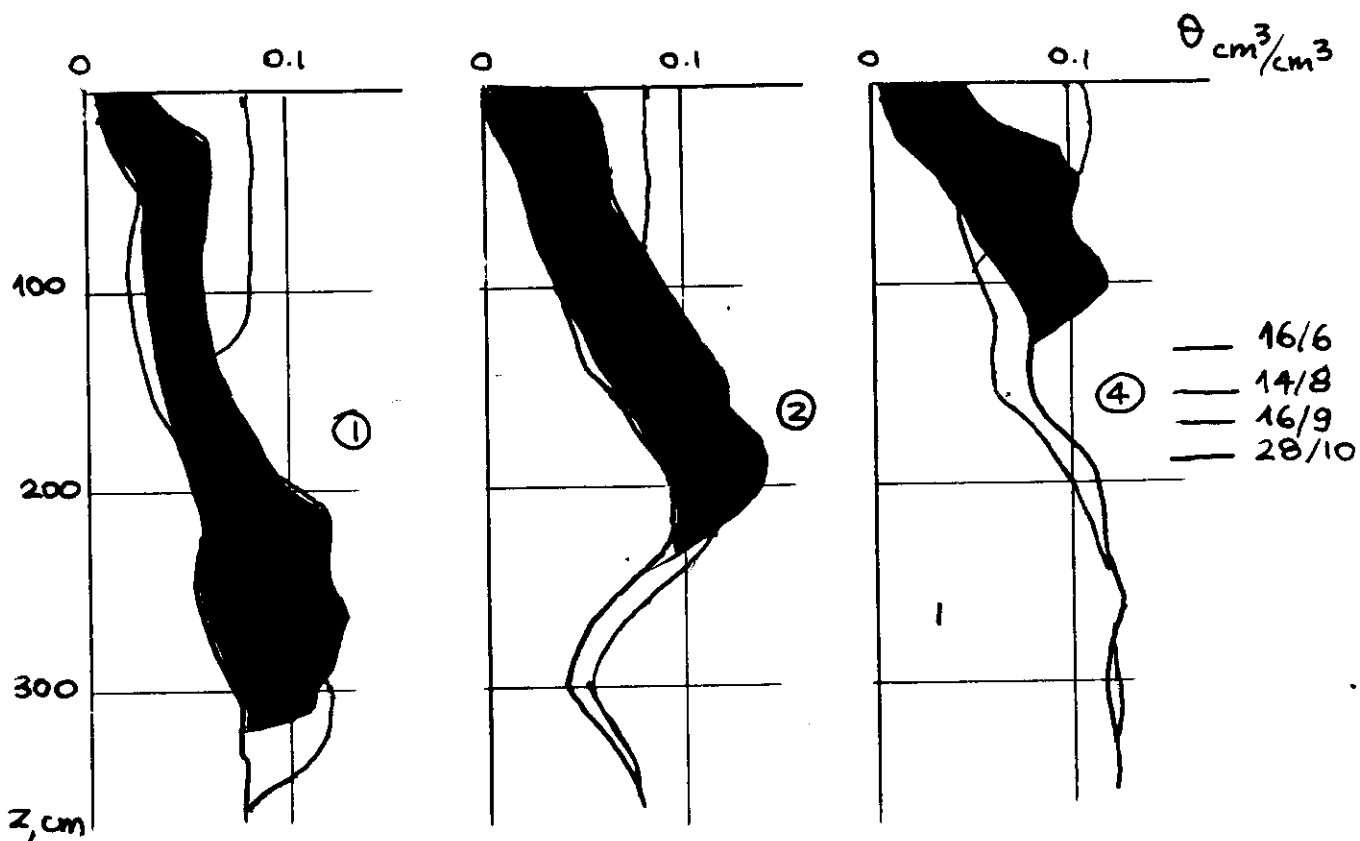
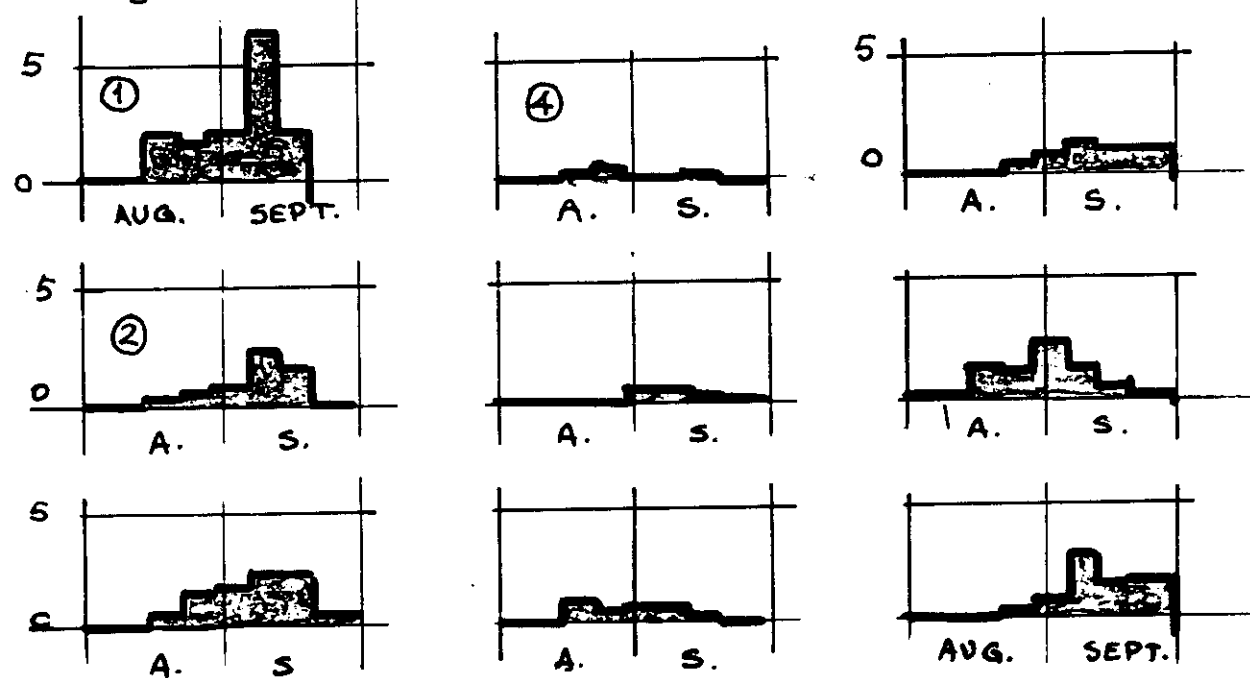


Figure 1 - BAMBEY - Suivi sous mil - 1980



mm/day (below 150 cm)



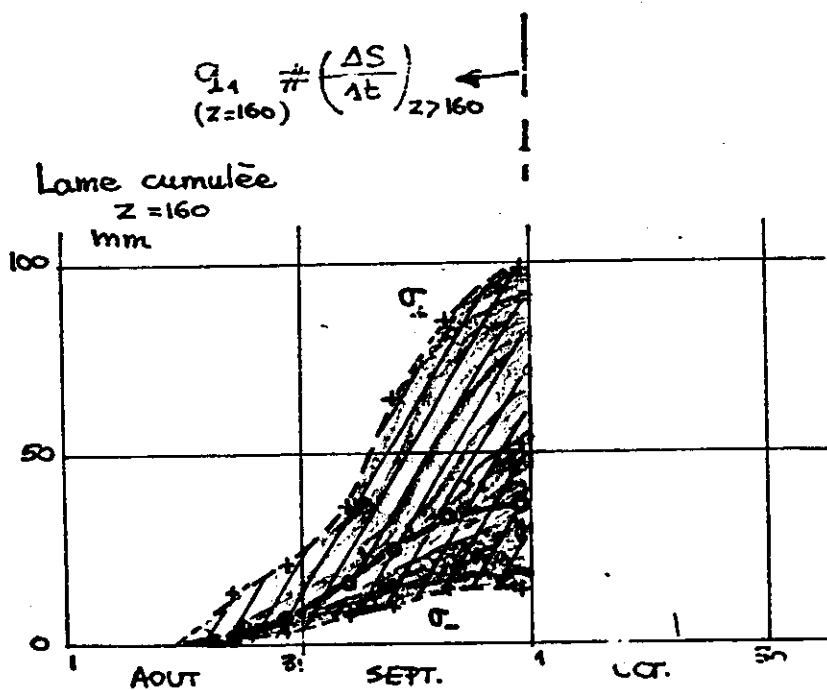
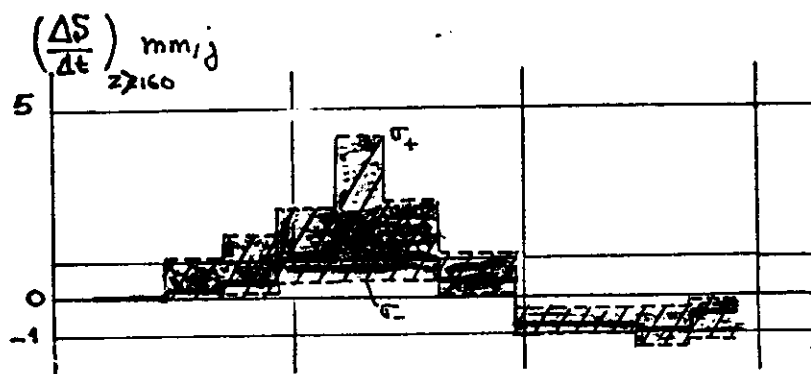
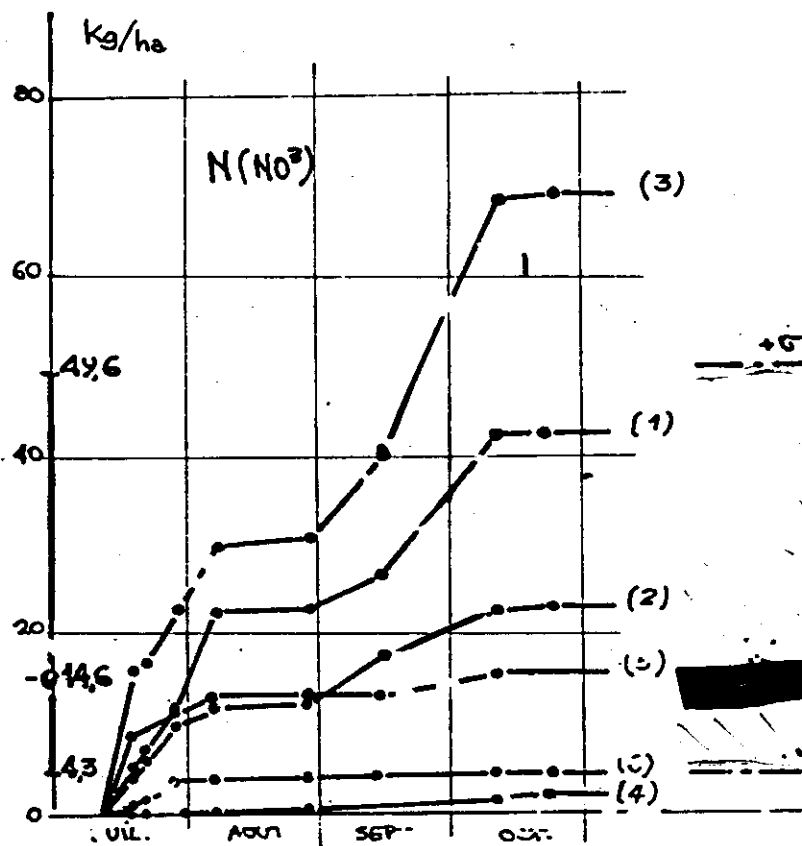


Figure 9 - Valeurs moyennes taux de variation de stock et lame percolée à 160 cm sous mil.



**Fig. 8** - Estimation of cumulative nitrogen losses under peanut from 6 independent sites of measurements (neutron moisture meter, tensiometers, solute concentration cells) at a depth of 110 cm under a one hectare field of sandy soil at BAMBEY, Senegal  
(from VACHAUD et al, 1982)

## METHOD 2, CONTROL OF FLUX AT $z_i$

- \* ACCESS TUBES ARE NOT LONG ENOUGH
- OR
- \* MARKED DRAINAGE (OR CAPILLARY RISE) AT  $z_f$
- REQUIRES NEUTRON PROBE + TENSIMETERS
- 2 DIFFERENT "FLUX CONTROLLED" POSSIBILITIES

### 2.i: ZERO FLUX METHOD

- x BARE SOIL OR SHALLOW ROOT SYSTEM
- x NO RAINFALL DURING PERIOD MEASUREMENT
- x NO NEED FOR  $K(\theta)$

### 2.ii - DARCY'S ESTIMATION OF $q$

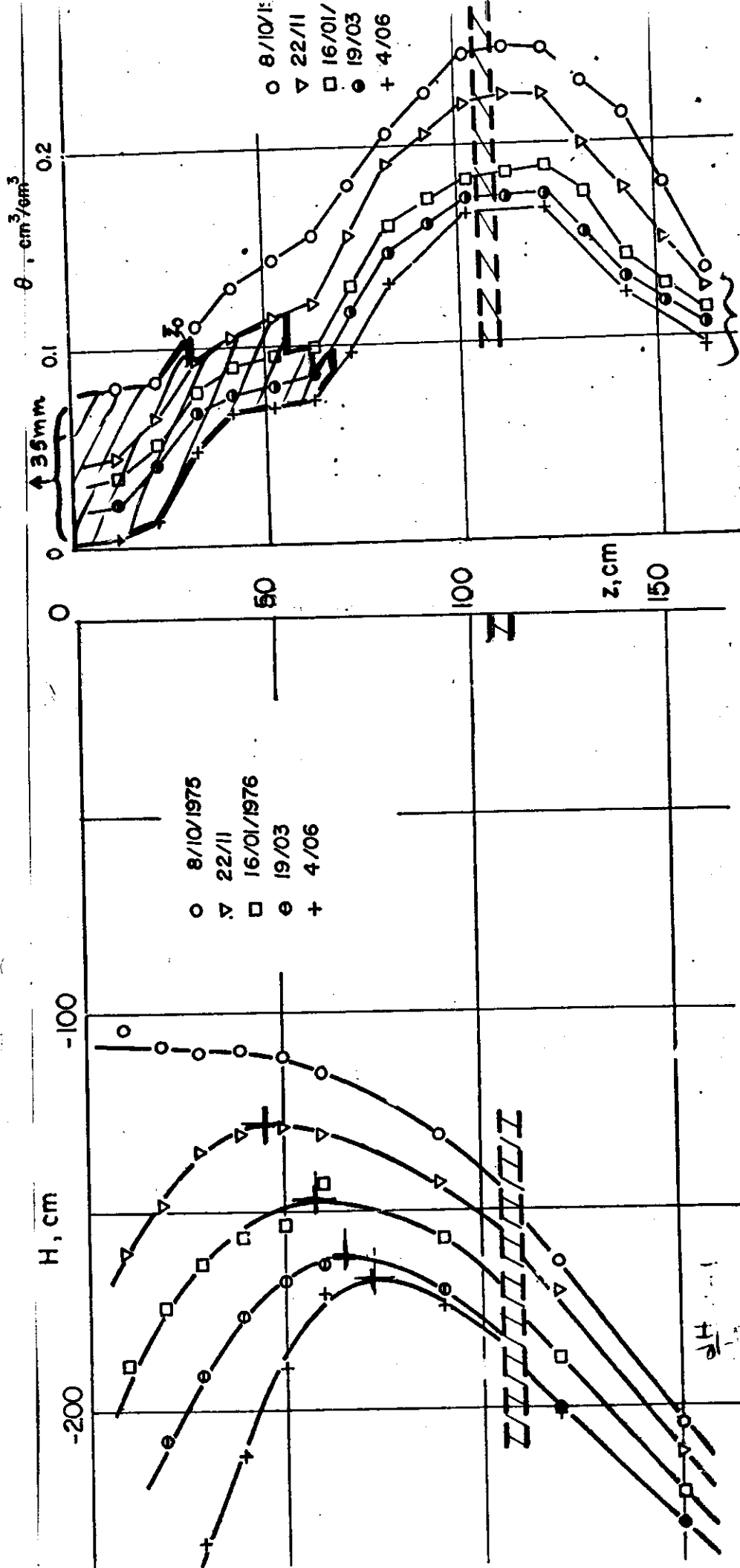
- x NO LIMIT OF APPLICABILITY BUT REQUIRES  $K(\theta)$  ON SITE OF MEASUREMENT
- x VERY SENSITIVE TO ERRORS ON  $\theta$  FOR VERY WET SOILS.
- x OFTEN INAPPLICABLE

### EXAMPLE 3

ESTIMATION OF SOIL WATER  
BALANCE OVER ONE YEAR (DRY  
SEASON) BY ZERO FLUX METHOD -  
BARE SOIL

BAMBEY, CENTRAL SENEGAL  
SAME COLLABORATION AS EX 1. & 2.

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SANDY SOIL - SENEGAL

$$\frac{ETR}{Ev.BAC} = 0.014$$

ETR = 35 mm  
 D = 79 mm  
 Rosa A bon = 2450 mm

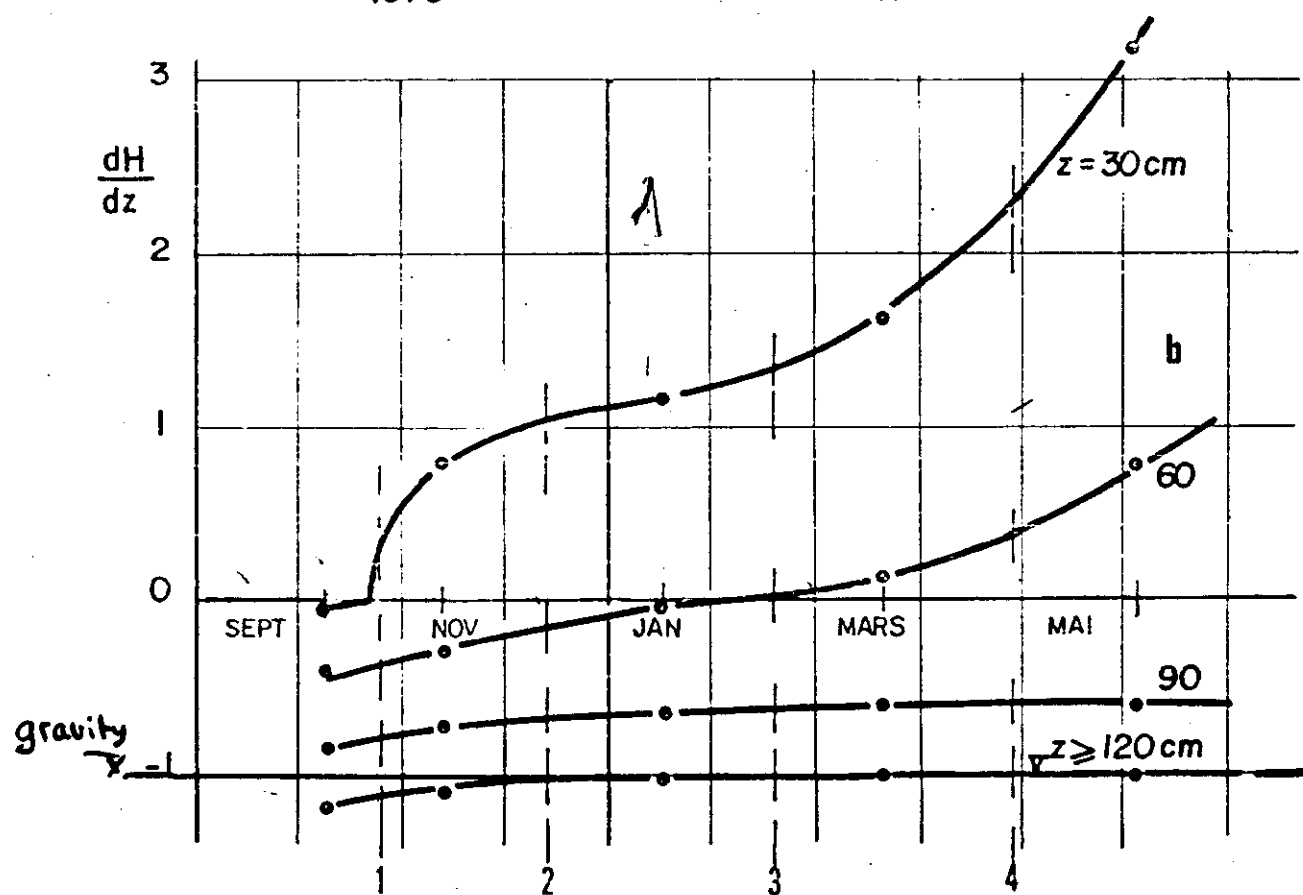
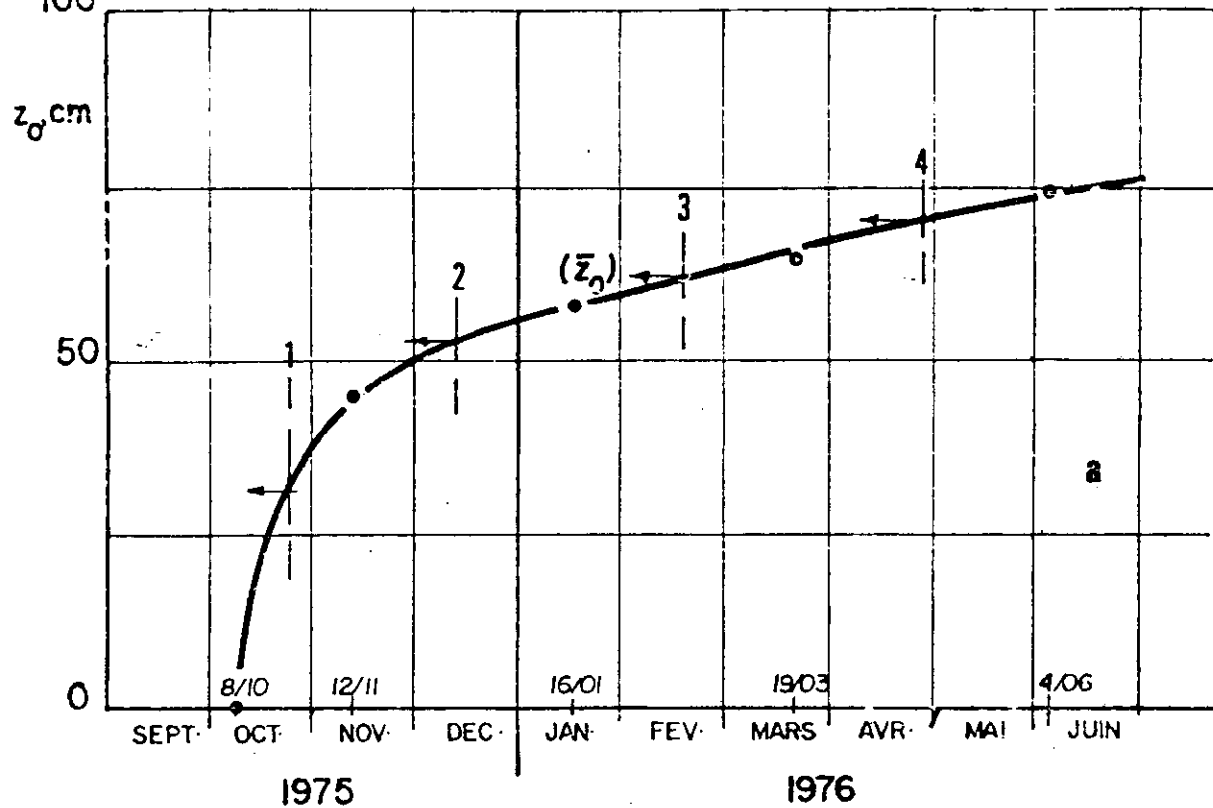


FIGURE 18 - Evolution durant la saison sèche 1975-76 de la profondeur du plan de flux nul (18.a) et du gradient de charge à différents niveaux (18.b) mesurés sur le site B2. Les temps médians entre deux mesures sont notés (1), (2), (3), et (4) et servent à définir les valeurs moyennes des variables entre deux mesures.

**ESTIMATION OF EVAPORATION OF A DRIP IRRIGATED  
OLIVE TREE ORCHARD BY SOIL WATER FLOW  
MEASUREMENTS**

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**F. MORENO-LUCAS, J. MARTIN ARANDA**

**INSTITUTO DE RECURCOS NATURALES Y AGROBIOLOGIA  
CSIC - SEVILLA**

**G. VACHAUD, M. VAUCLIN**

**INSTITUT DE MECANIQUE - CNRS - GRENOBLE**

## AIMS

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**ESTIMATION OF EVAPOTRANSPIRATION AND DRAINAGE AT THE  
SCALE OF 1 HA FOR AN OLIVE TREE ORCHARD WITH SPACING 7 x 7 M.**

**\* FROM LOCAL MEASUREMENTS OF SOIL WATER ON SELECTED  
TREES.**

**\* ACCOUNTING FOR EXISTENCE IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD  
EACH TREE OF BOTH A ZONE OF HIGH LEVEL OF  
EVAPOTRANSPIRATION (IRRIGATION BULB) AND A ZONE  
OF VERY LOW EVAPORATION.**

8 trees instrumented  
1 selected a priori  
with a posteriori validation

# WEIGHTING PROCEDURE

## 1 - IRRIGATED ZONE

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{ACCESS TUBE 1} \rightarrow 3 \text{ M}^2 \\ \text{ACCESS TUBE 2} \rightarrow 9 \text{ M}^2 \end{array} \right\} \Delta S_1^* = \frac{\Delta S_1 + 3 \Delta S_2}{4}$$

$$D_1^* = \dots\dots\dots$$

## 2 - DRY ZONE

$$\Delta S_{ni}^* = \frac{\Delta S_3 + \Delta S_4}{2}$$

$$D_{ni}^* = \dots\dots\dots$$

## 3 - TOTAL SURFACE (1/4 IRRIGATED, 3/4 DRY)

$$ETR = P + \frac{1}{4} [1 - (\Delta S_1^* + D_1^*)] \frac{3}{4} (\Delta S_{ni}^* + D_{ni}^*) - R$$

↑

Total rainfall

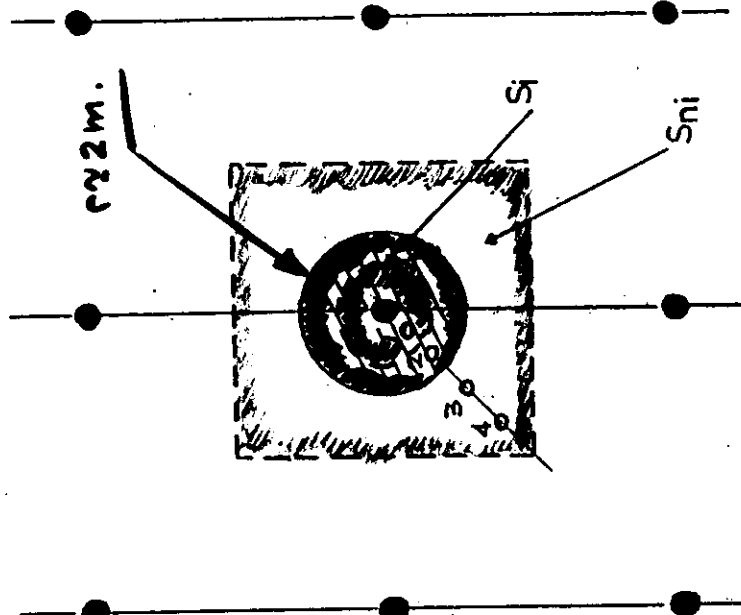
↑

Total Irrigation (mm)

↑

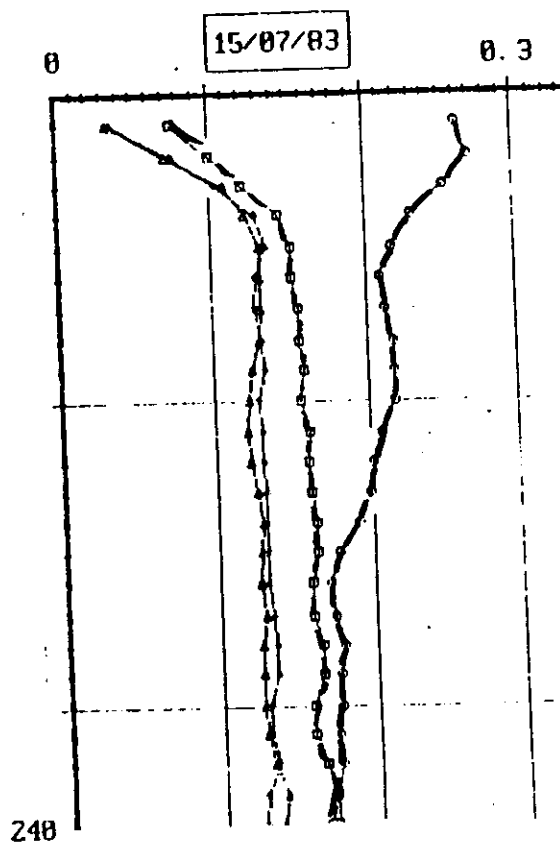
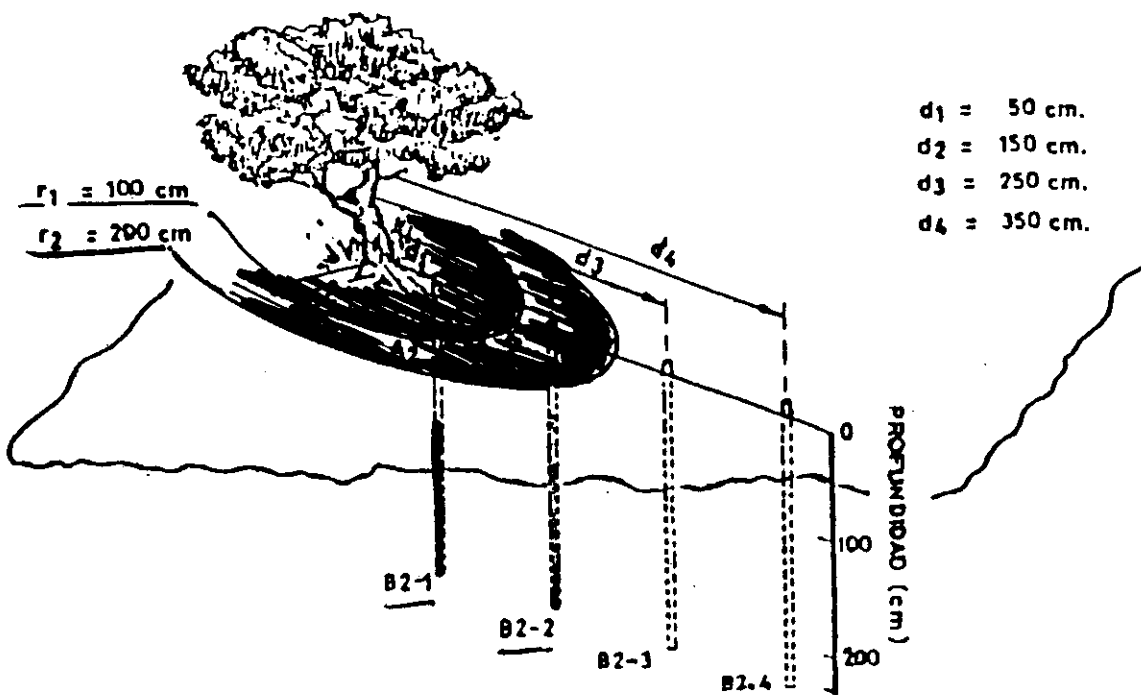
Total Runoff

7 x 7 m



$$\frac{S_1}{S_{ni}} \approx \frac{1}{4}$$

(3m<sup>2</sup>)  
(9m<sup>2</sup>)



|   |      |
|---|------|
| ○ | B2-1 |
| □ | B2-2 |
| △ | B2-3 |
| ▲ | B2-4 |

## **ESTIMATION OF TERMS OF WATER BALANCE**

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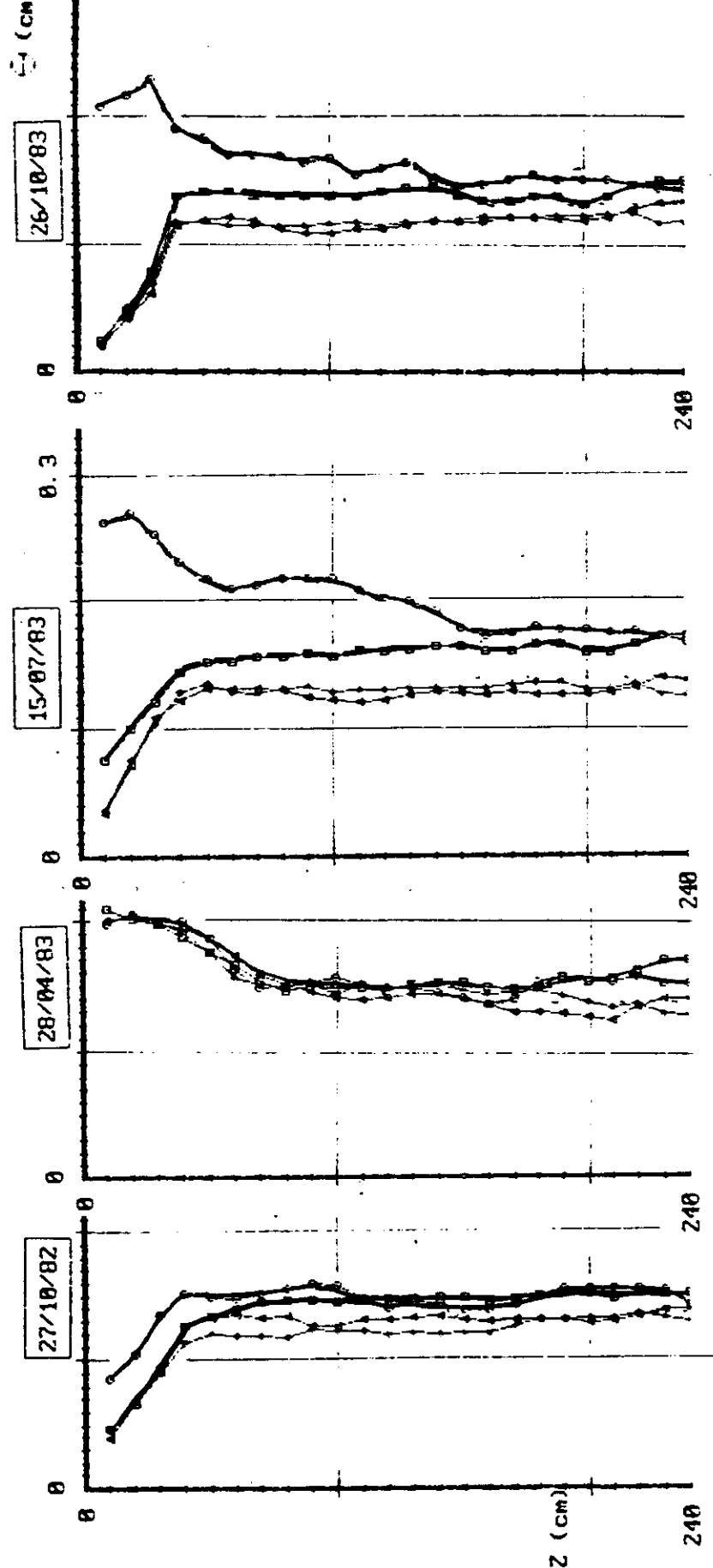
### **TIME INTERVAL # 2 WEEKS**

**I = IRRIGATION DOSE PER TREE  
KNOWN FROM DAILY APPLICATION**

**$\Delta S^*$  = WEIGHTED CHANGE OF TOTAL STORAGE (0-2.4 m)**

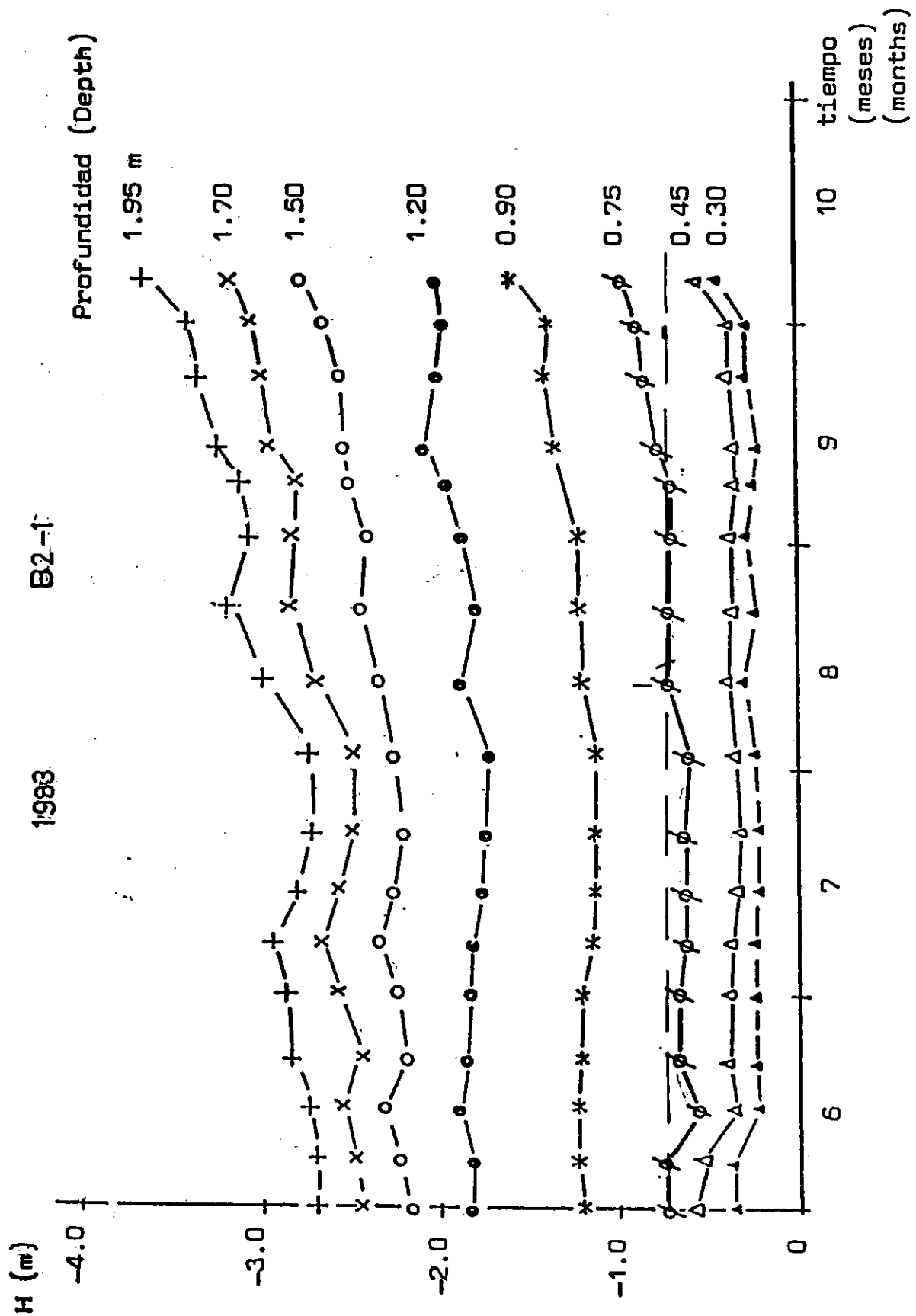
**$D^*$  = WEIGHTED DRAINAGE AT 2.4 m, APPLYING DARCY'S  
WITH  $K(\theta)$  DETERMINED ON THE SAME SITE.**

**R = RUNOFF (ONLY DURING WINTER RAIN) ESTIMATED WITH  
ASSUMPTION, ETR # ETP (WINTER).**



|   |      |
|---|------|
| ○ | B2-1 |
| □ | B2-2 |
| ◆ | B2-3 |
| ▲ | B2-4 |

fig 7



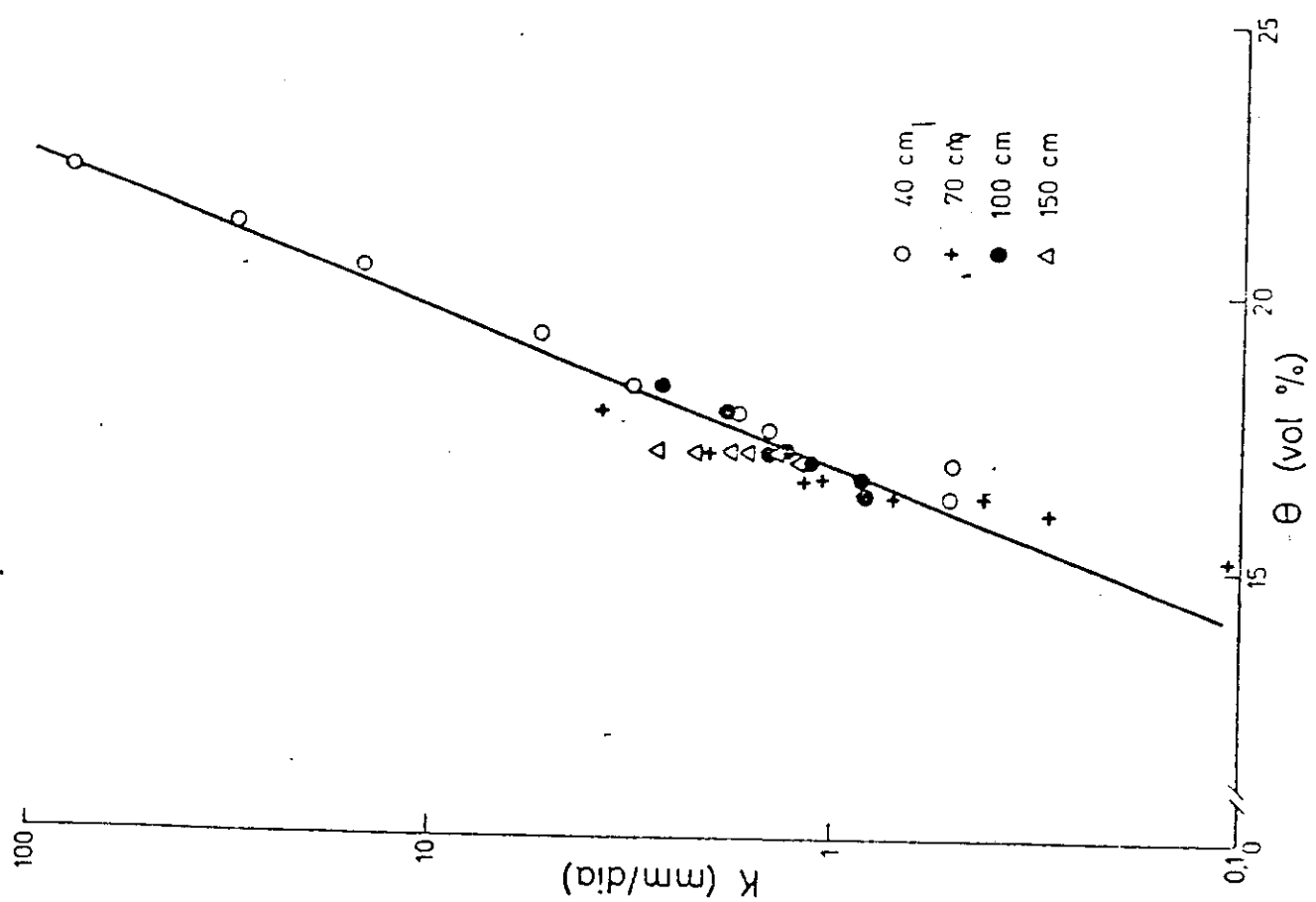
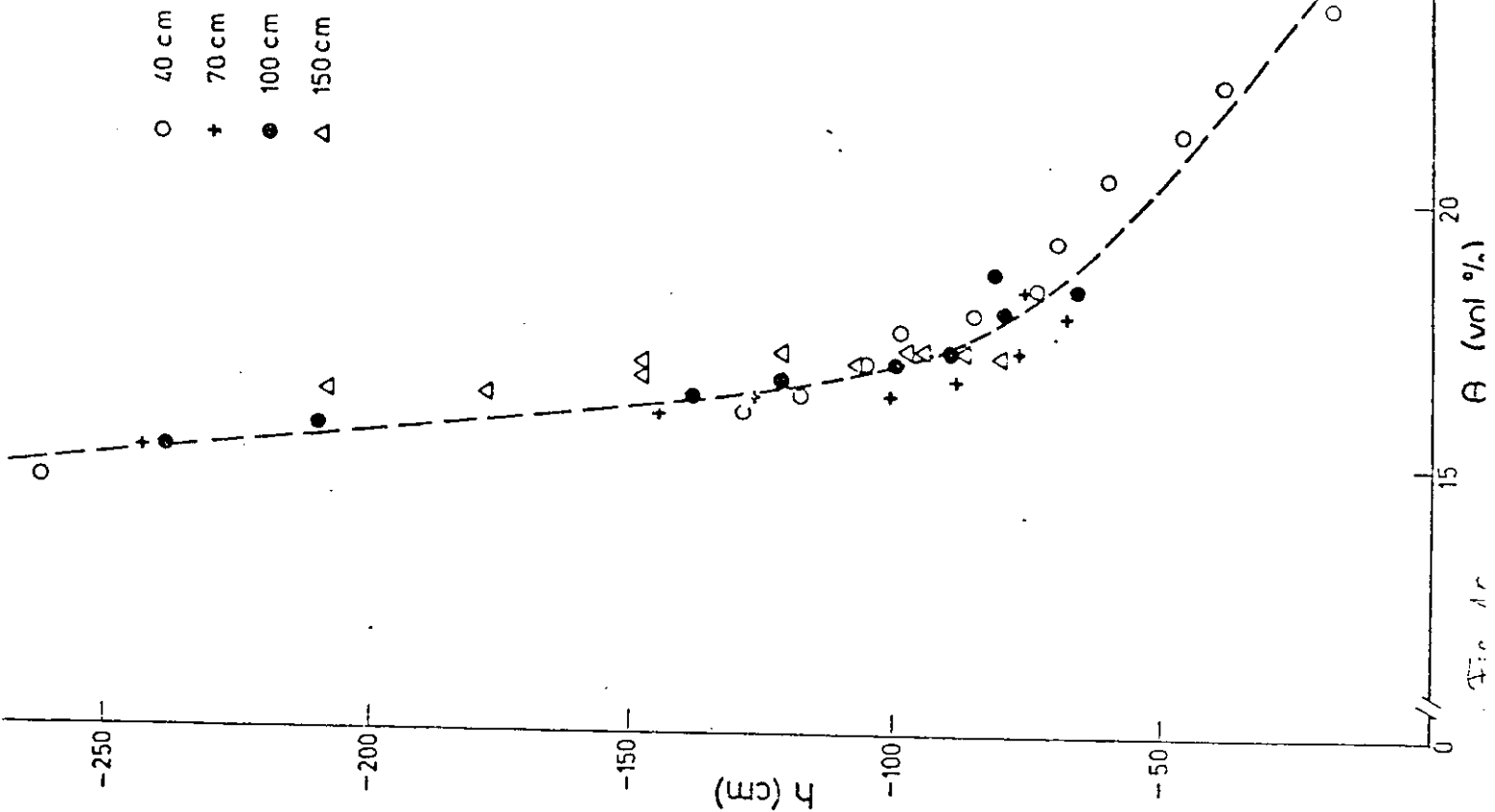
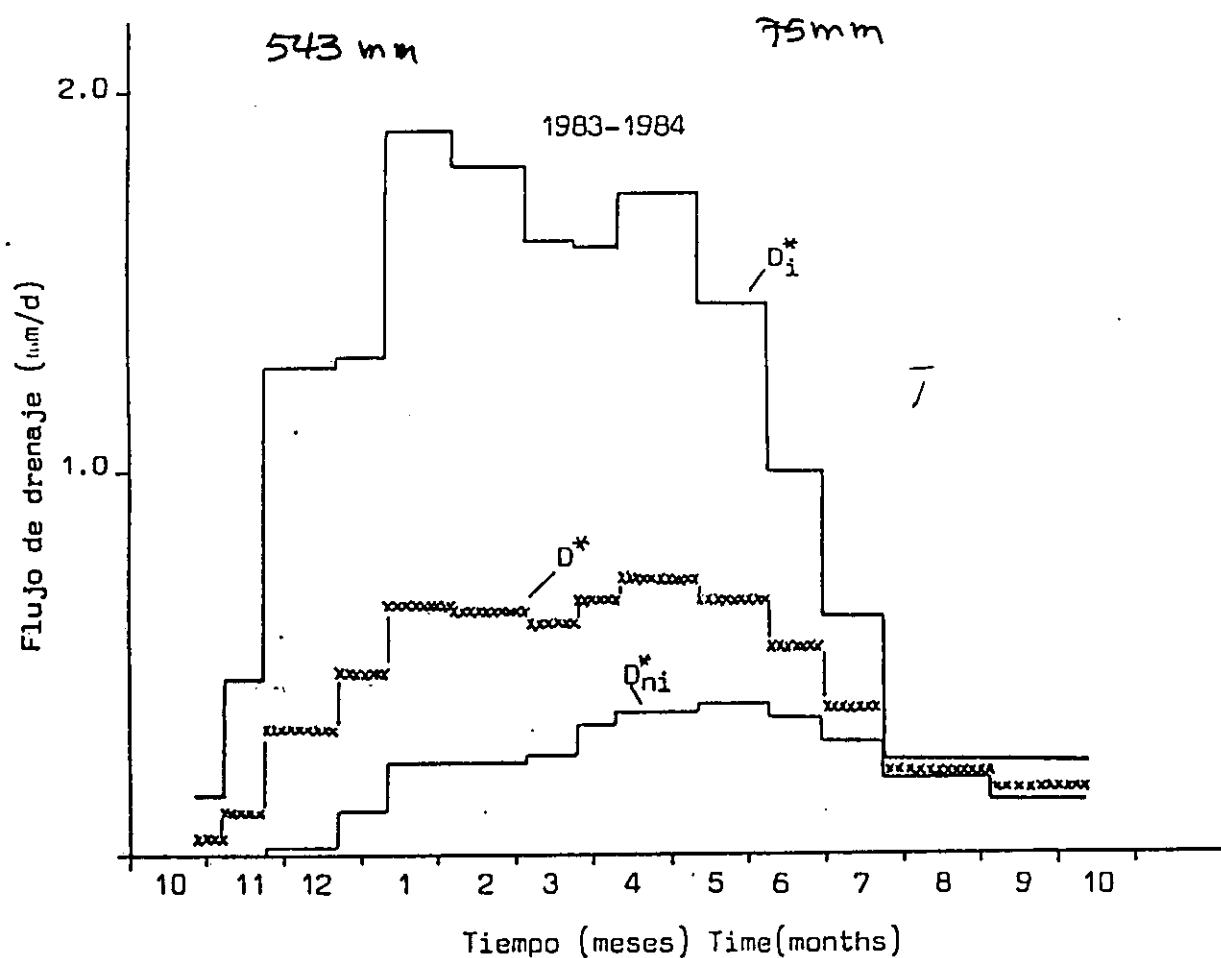
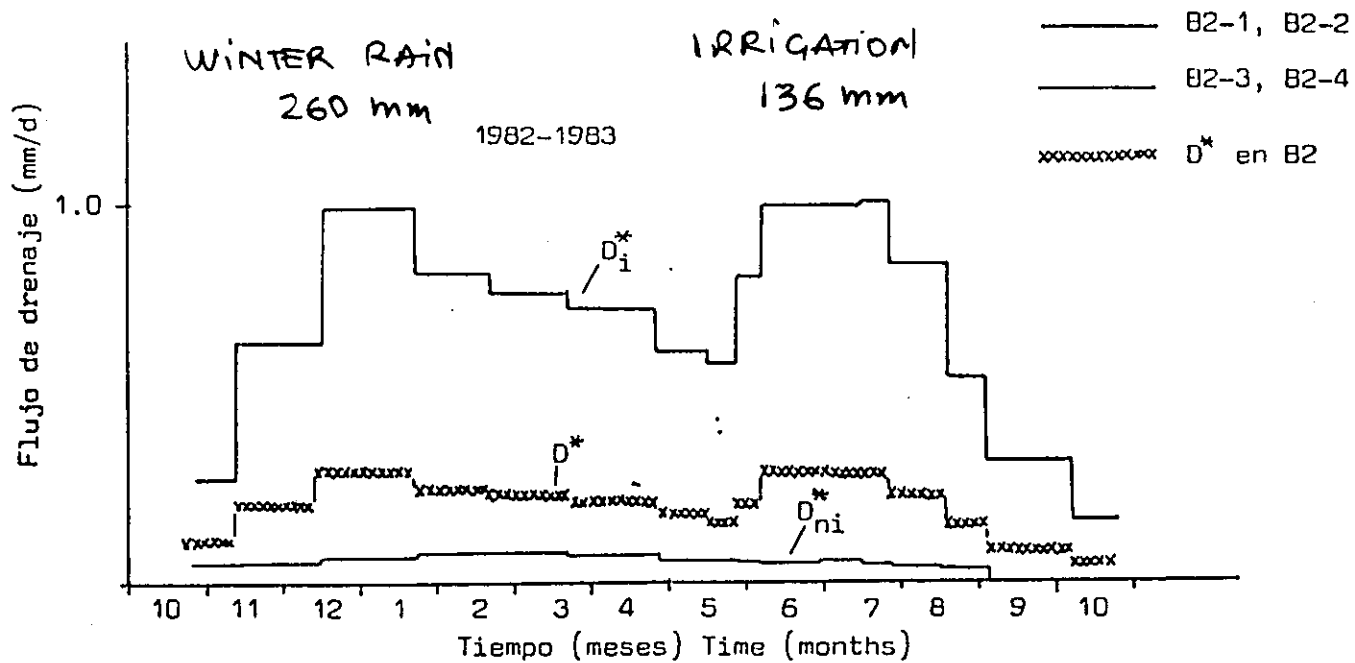


Fig. 9



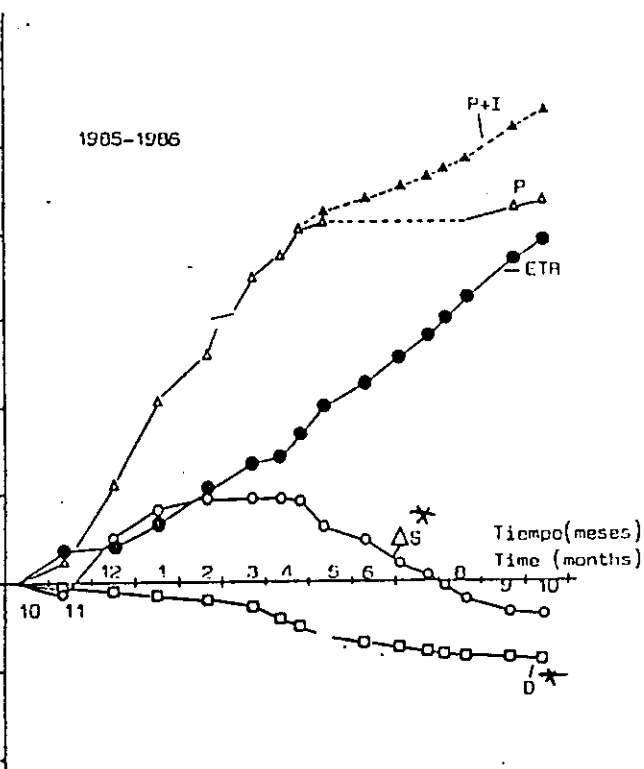
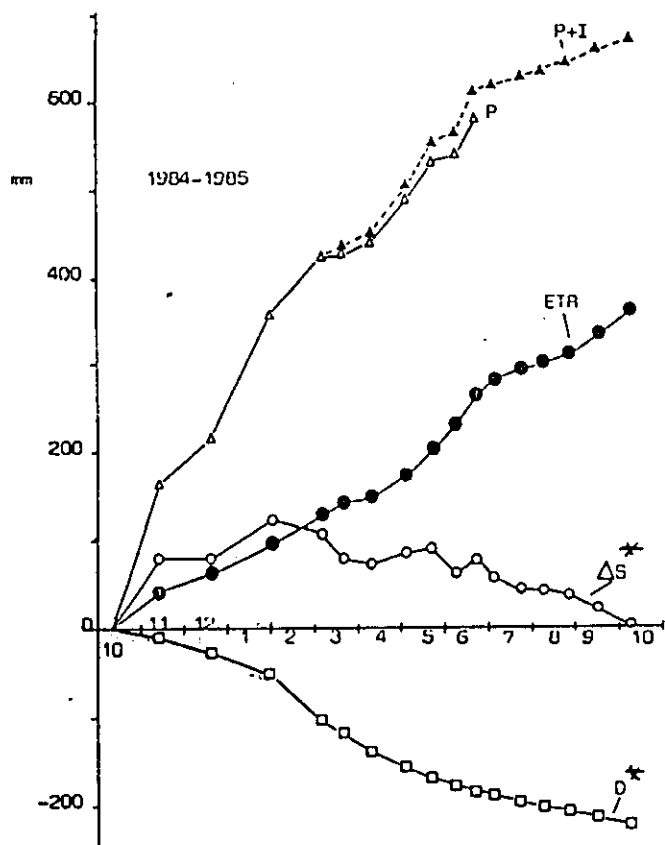
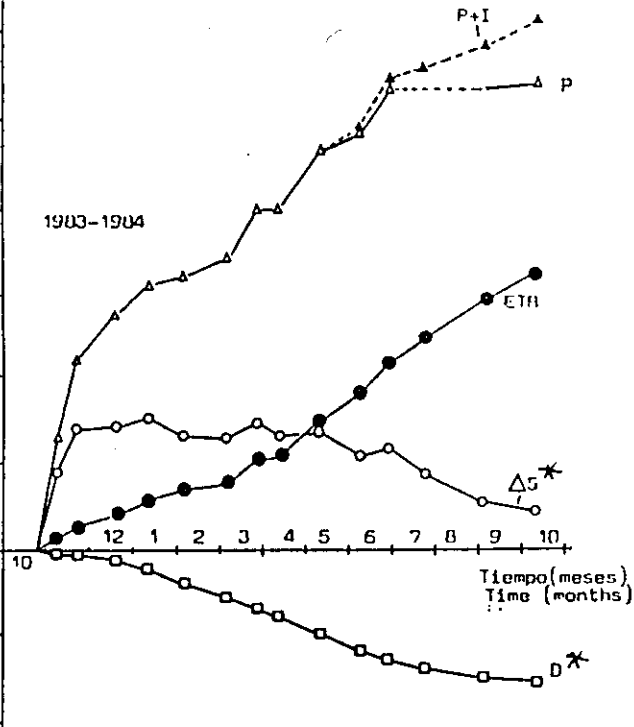
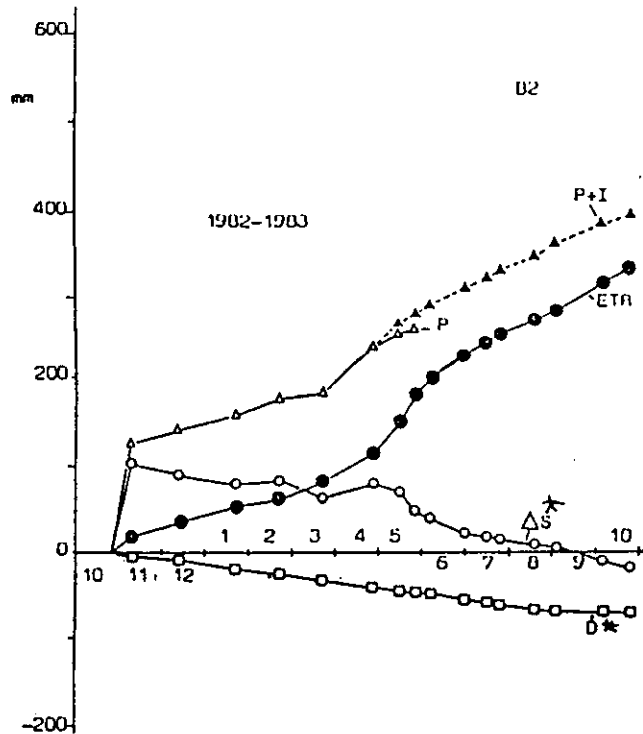
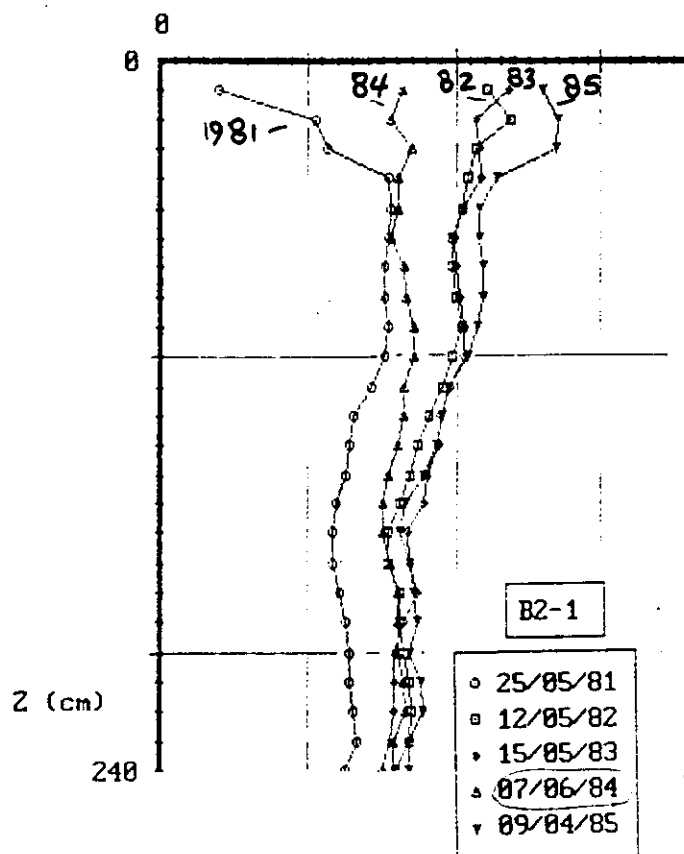
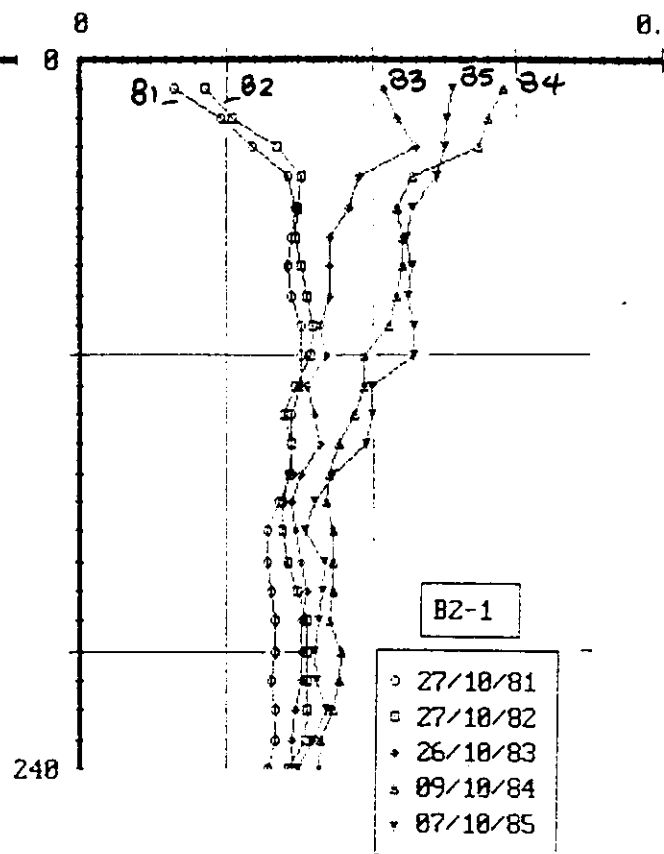


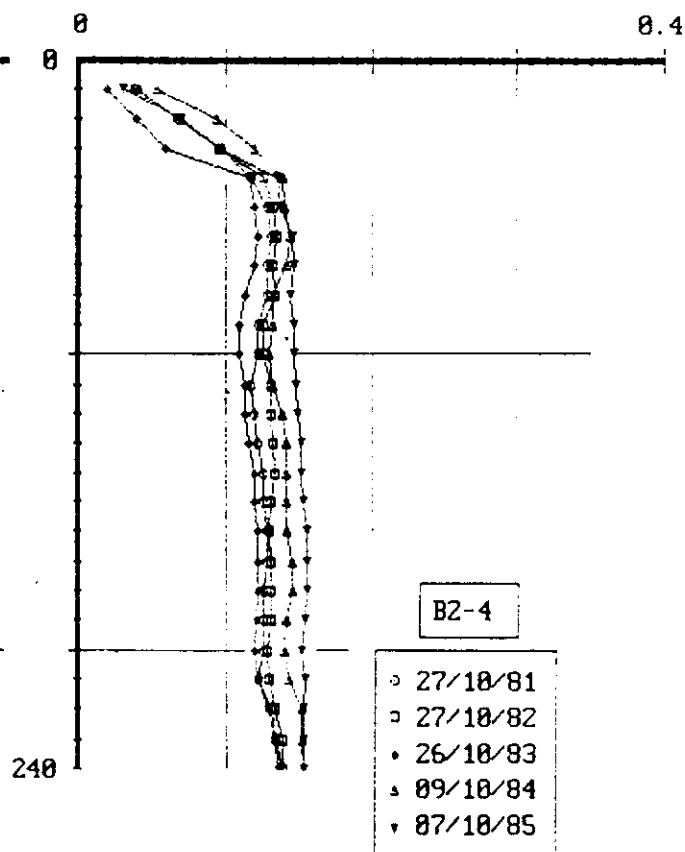
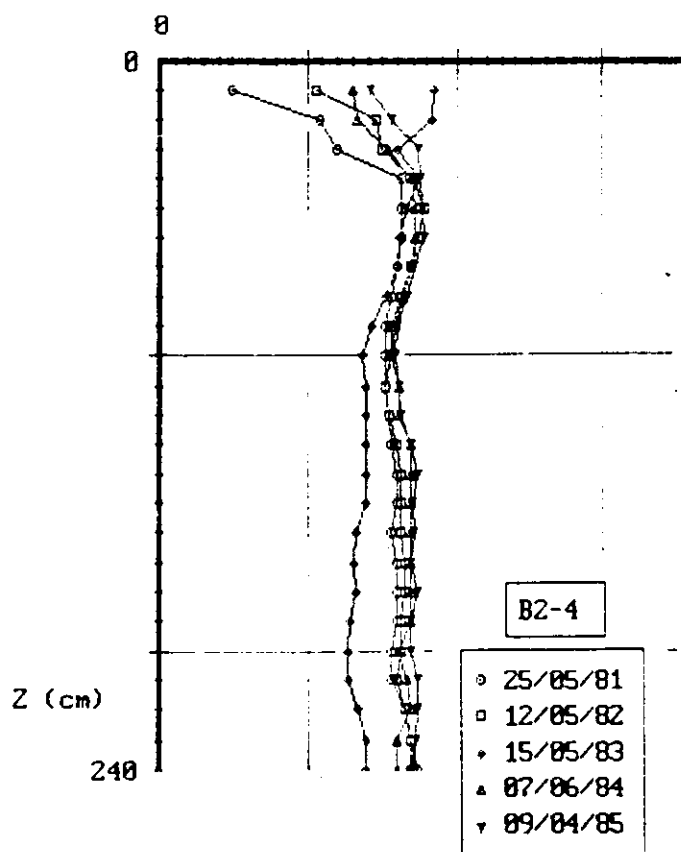
Fig. 3 (2)



Début irrigation

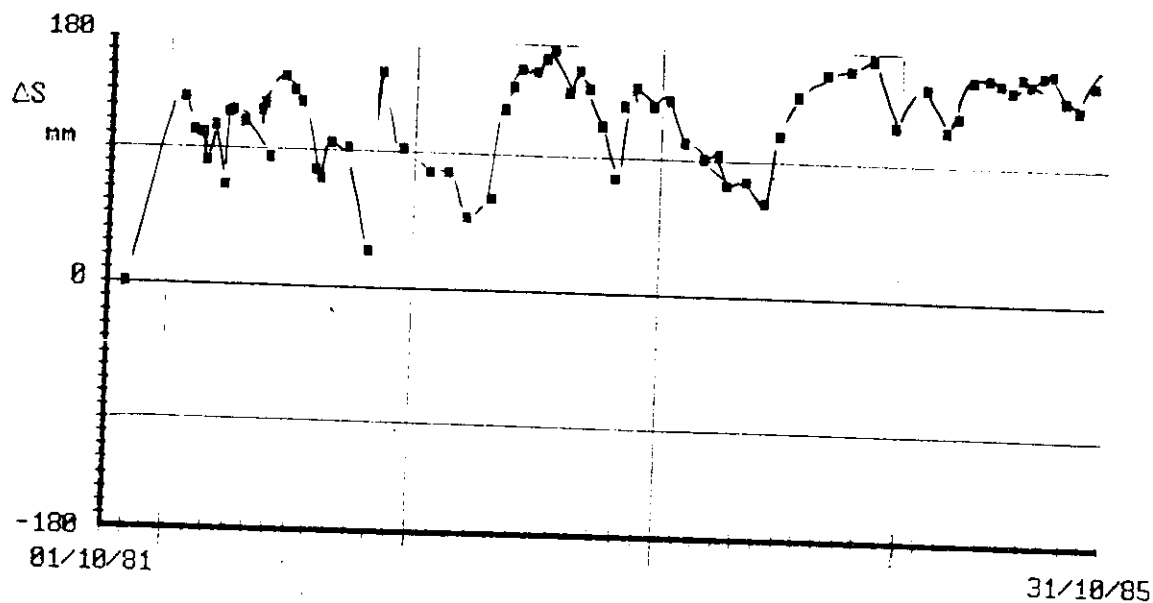


fin d'irrigation



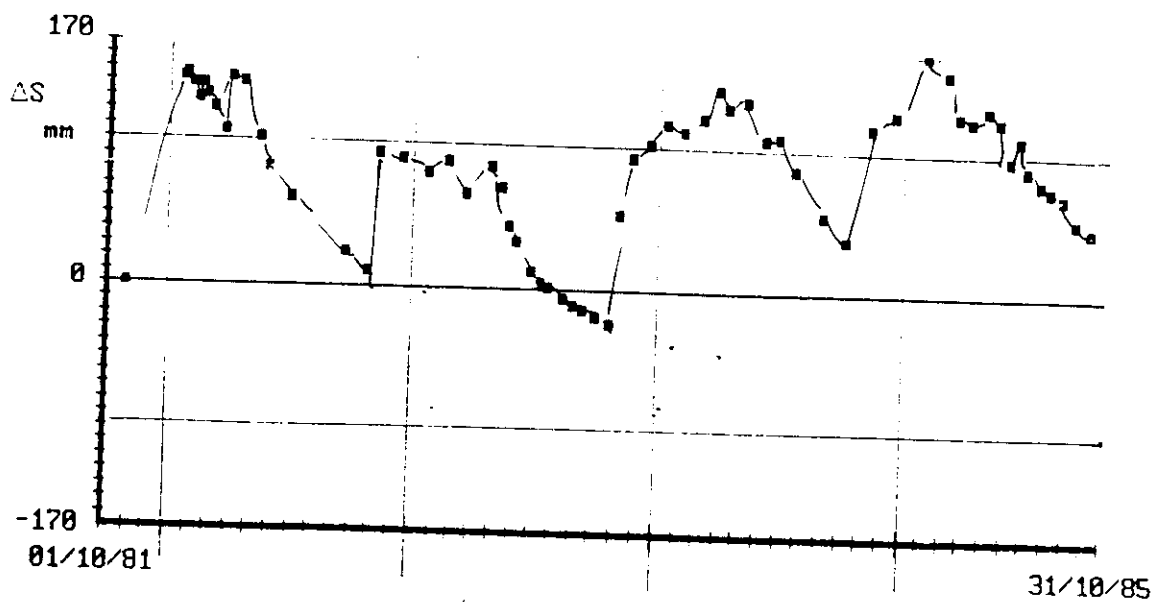
B2-1

■ 0 - 240 cm



B2-4

■ 0 - 240 cm



Tree spacing 7x7 m. Weighted irrigation : 0.1 EV

| Hydrological year | Period   | P<br>(mm) | I<br>(mm) | D<br>(mm) | R<br>(mm) | ETR<br>(mm) | ETP<br>(mm) |
|-------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| 1982-1983         | 27/10/82 |           |           |           |           |             |             |
|                   | 28/04/83 | 236,9     |           | 40,9      |           | 114,3       | 220,3       |
|                   | 28/04/83 |           |           |           |           |             |             |
|                   | 26/10/83 | 21,4      | 135,8     | 31,8      |           | 223,1       | 745,7       |
| 1983-1984         | 26/10/83 |           |           |           |           | 537,4       | 946         |
|                   | 11/05/84 | 467,7     |           | 101,7     | 81,7      | 148,0       | 229,8       |
|                   | 11/05/84 |           |           |           |           |             |             |
|                   | 09/10/84 | 74,7      | 65,1      | 55,6      |           | 174,4       | 607,1       |
| 1984-1985         | 09/10/84 |           |           |           |           | 322,4       | 836,9       |
|                   | 20/03/85 | 429,7     |           | 139,5     | 69,1      | 142,2       | 159,3       |
|                   | 20/03/85 |           |           |           |           |             |             |
|                   | 07/10/85 | 154,1     | 86,7      | 99,0      |           | 218,2       | 791,3       |
| 1985-1986         | 07/10/85 |           |           |           |           | 340,4       | 940,6       |
|                   | 26/4/86  | 407,4     |           | 51,4      | 95,6      | 167,7       | 252,0       |
|                   | 26/4/86  |           |           |           |           |             |             |
|                   | 14/10/86 | 30,9      | 100,5     | 36,0      |           | 225,7       | 729,7       |
|                   |          |           |           |           |           | 392,4       | 981,7       |

Total values of precipitation (P), irrigation (I), weighted drainage (D), actual evapotranspiration (ETR), and potential evapotranspiration (ETP), during precipitation and irrigation periods.