



PHOENIX DACTYLIFERA. MENAKHER DATE.

In point of appearance, cleanness of skin and keeping quality, the Menakher date is thought by many to surpass the Deglet Noor, the standard of date quality, while the latter is superior in the crisper texture of the flesh and the smaller development of the stringy core. In flavor the two varieties are somewhat similar. Menakher dates are generally reserved for the tables of the wealthier natives and for gifts for their friends. On the rare occasions when they are sold they are said to bring about one-third more than Deglet Noors. The variety is known only from the Jerid Oases of Tunis and is extremely rare. (Kearney, Date Varieties and Date Culture in Tunis, p. 60-63.) Natural size photograph from fruit purchased from Mr. Martel, Deggache, Tunis. Plant Introduction No. 29391.