

Pesticide Residues Lab

Founded in Jerash by partners Eng. Ihab Masoud and Reem Mansour, Pesticide Residues Laboratory provides farmers with crop testing services that are not offered at other labs. Through her work with the Jordan Insecticides & Agro-Treatment Manufacturing Company (ATI), Reem became familiar with the difficulties that companies face while registering and marketing their crops in international markets. In 2010, Reem learned about the Jordan Enterprise Development Corporation (JEDCO) while applying for a grant for ATI. Using her 10 years of industry-specific experience and understanding of her target market's needs, Reem decided to start an agricultural toxicology lab that offers toxicity and impurity testing services to fruit and vegetable farmers.

Pesticide Residues Laboratory would serve farmers and support the local industry by providing studies essential for the registration of agricultural products in regional and international markets. By doing so, the Lab would help increase pesticide exports, which would in turn boost fruit and vegetable exports, as many products were at the time being rejected due to lack of such studies. Accordingly, Ihab and Reem applied for a grant from the European Union (EU) and JEDCO.

With the grant, Pesticide Residues Laboratory was able to purchase cutting-edge equipment and set up a marketing strategy focused on raising awareness among farmers and overcoming challenges faced with regards to pesticide and crop tests. In addition, the grant covered training courses for the Lab's employees, enabling them to maintain advanced services. The Lab also purchased analysis equipment that provide accurate and quick results, and is set to receive the ISO 9001 and 17005 certificates for quality and lab management, which would enable it to work with ministries and governmental entities.

Both Ihab and Reem have high expectations, as Pesticide Residues Laboratory is the only lab in Jordan to provide agricultural companies with the needed services to help them register their products in international markets.

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