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# NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS REPORT

10 479

## OUTDOOR PERFORMANCE OF PLASTICS VIII. FIRST UPDATE OF WEATHERING DATA

Sponsored  
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Manufacturing Chemists' Association



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

## NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

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Analytical Chemistry—Polymers—Metallurgy—Inorganic Materials—Physical Chemistry.

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<sup>1</sup> Headquarters and Laboratories at Gaithersburg, Maryland, unless otherwise noted; mailing address Washington, D.C. 20234.

<sup>2</sup> Located at Boulder, Colorado 80302.

<sup>3</sup> Located at 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22151.

# NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS REPORT

## NBS PROJECT

4216362

September 3, 1971

## NBS REPORT

10 479

### OUTDOOR PERFORMANCE OF PLASTICS VIII. FIRST UPDATE OF WEATHERING DATA

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Manufacturing Chemists Association

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director of the National Institute of  
Standards and Technology (NIST)  
on October 9, 2015

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS



This report updates previous reports of the Manufacturing Chemists' Association's (MCA) project that was initiated in 1966. Since that time, 20 plastic samples (Table I) have been exposed outdoors at three different exposure sites (Table II) which represent varying climatic weather conditions encountered in the United States. The MCA project and its preliminary results have been described in a series of National Bureau of Standards Reports. These reports (1-7), all entitled Outdoor Performance of Plastics have the following subtitles:

- I. Introduction and Color-Change (1).
- II. Tensile and Flexural Properties (2).
- III. Statistical Model for Predicting Weatherability (3).
- IV. Significance of Climate (4).
- V. Surface Roughness (5).
- VI. Electrical Properties (6).
- VII. Haze and Gloss (7).

Changes in the properties listed in the above subtitles were used as the means for measuring the outdoor performance of the 20 plastic samples. Computers were used for data storage and retrieval. Graphs of property vs. outdoor exposure time were generated by the computer and these graphs were reproduced in the various reports as the method of reporting property changes.

From the preliminary results, it was decided that color, tensile, flexure, haze, and gloss would be the significant properties to follow

for the remainder of the project. Samples have now been exposed outdoors for 48 months and these five properties have been measured for each plastic. The physical testing was again performed by MCA member companies (Table III). Although the five properties were originally reported in 3 separate NBS reports, the data through 48 months for the 5 properties is presented in this single report.

Experimental details are not presented here; such details can be found in the original reports. Again, the data is presented as reproductions of the computer-generated graphs (Figures I - 81B). These graphs differ from the earlier ones in the X-axis (time in months) has been expanded to 60 months to accommodate the 48 month data. Thus, the data points are compressed when compared to those of the original graphs.

Some plastics have failed in the field and obviously there are no additional data for these. However, the original graphs have still been reproduced in this report with the expanded time axis.

The color data presented in the first report was erroneous. This data has now been corrected. No comparisons can be made between the graphs for color-change in the first report and this one.

This report is intended only as an update of the previous reports. No discussion of the accumulated data is presented. Another update will be issued after 60 months exposure time.

### References

- (1) "Outdoor Performance of Plastics. I. Introduction and Color-Change", J. E. Clark, N. E. Green, and P. Giesecke, NBS Report #9912, Sept. 1968.
- (2) "Outdoor Performance of Plastics. II. Tensile and Flexural Properties", J. E. Clark, G. E. Fulmer, R. C. Neuman, and J. A. Slater, NBS Report #10014, March 1969.
- (3) "Outdoor Performance of Plastics. III. Statistical Model for Predicting Weatherability", J. E. Clark, and J. A. Slater, NBS Report #10116, Oct. 1969.
- (4) Outdoor Performance of Plastics. IV. Significance of Climate", J. E. Clark, and C. Bal Krishna, NBS Report #10156, Jan. 1970.
- (5) "Outdoor Performance of Plastics. V. Surface Roughness", J. E. Clark, C. Bal Krishna, H. C. Gunst, and J. R. Dagon, NBS Report #10179, March 1970.
- (6) "Outdoor Performance of Plastics. VI. Electrical Properties", J. E. Clark, J. A. Slater, and V. L. Bergeron, NBS Report #10185, March 1970.
- (7) "Outdoor Performance of Plastics. VII. Haze and Gloss", J. E. Clark, C. Bal Krishna, G. C. Claver, and F. H. McTigue, NBS Report #10188, March 1970.

Acknowledgment

The authors acknowledge and appreciate the grateful assistance  
that Max Tryon presented in reproducing the computer graphs.

Table I

List of Twenty Plastics

<u>Base Polymer</u>	<u>Plastic</u>
Polyethylene	Translucent - 1 mil - 60 mil
Poly (methyl methacrylate)	Clear - 60 mil
Poly (vinyl fluoride)	Clear - 1 mil
Poly (ethylene terephthalate)	Clear - 5 mil
Polyester/x-linked	Clear - 60 mil
Poly (vinyl chloride)	Clear - 4 mil - 10 mil - 60 mil Ba-Cd
	Clear - 4 mil - 10 mil - 60 mil Sn
	Clear - 60 mil
	White - 4 mil - 10 mil - 60 mil Ba-Cd
	White - 4 mil - 10 mil - 60 mil Sn
	White - 60 mil



TABLE III

Plastics Evaluation

Property	Company & Location
Color	American Cyanamid Company Stamford, Connecticut
Tensile Flexure	W. R. Grace & Company Clarksville, Maryland
Haze	Monsanto Company Indian Orchard, Massachusetts
Gloss	Hercules Incorporated Wilmington, Delaware



### List of Figures

#### Numbers

1 - 20	Color-change, Delta (E)
21 - 40	Ultimate Elongation (% of Initial Value)
41 - 48	5 Percent Stress (PSI)
49 - 68	Gloss (in percent)
69A - 81A	Haze at 420 nm (in percent)
69B - 81B	Haze at 550 nm (in percent)



## FIGURE 1

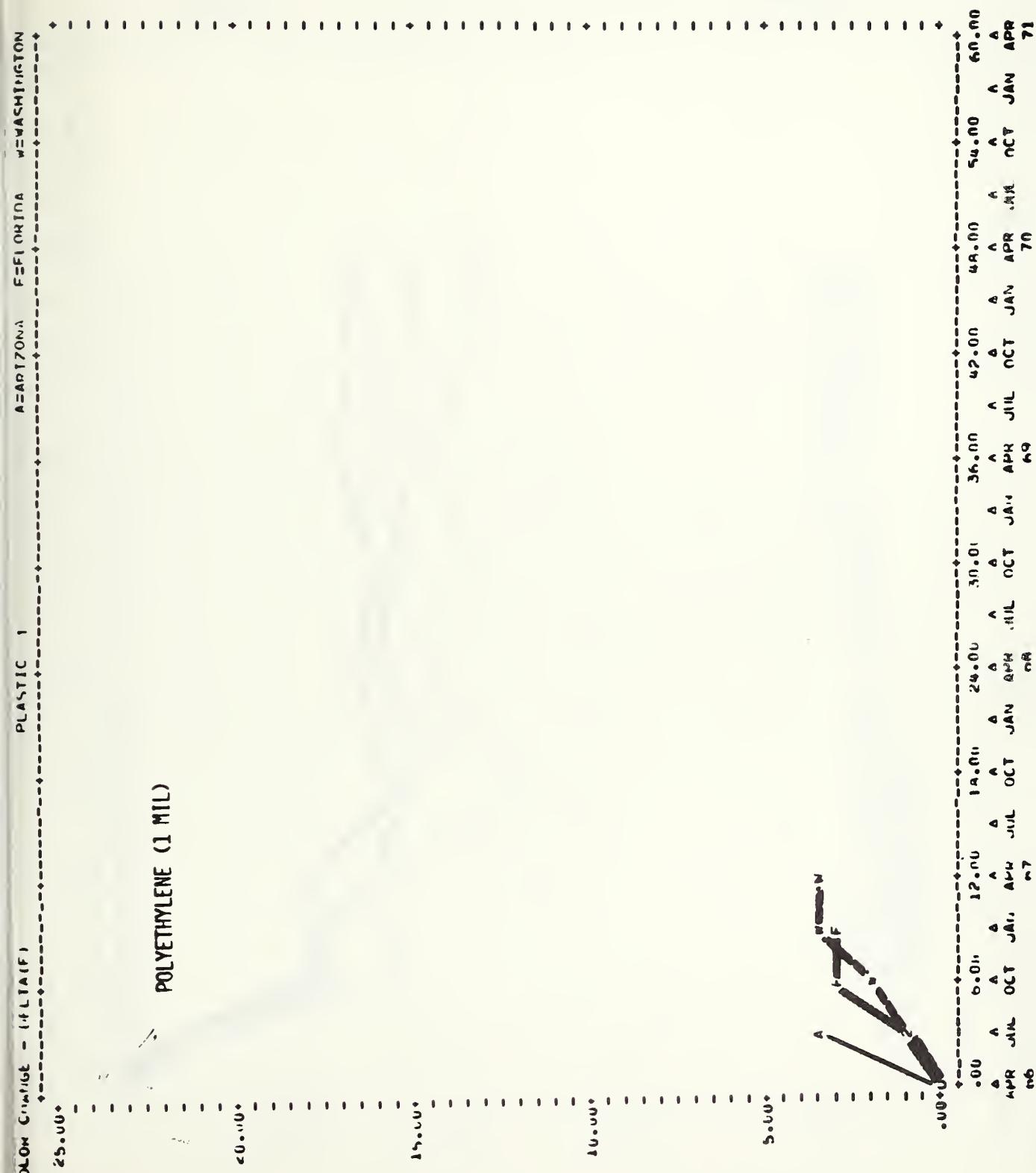


FIGURE 2

POLYETHYLENE (60 MIL)

COLOR CHANGE - DELTA(E)  
25.00+  
20.00+  
15.00+  
10.00+  
5.00+  
0.00+

PLASTIC 2  
A=ARIZONA F=FLORIDA W=WASHINGTON

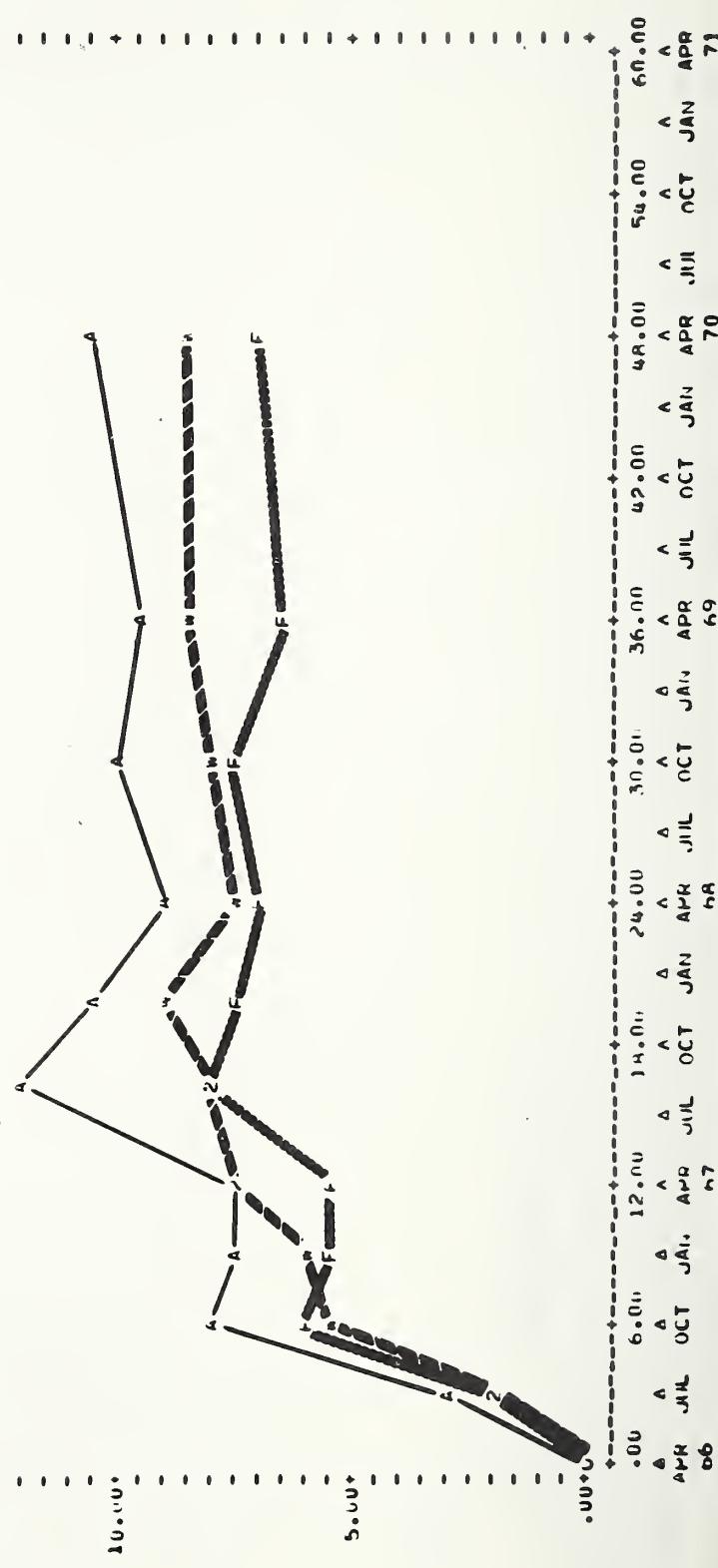


FIGURE 3

POLYMETHYL METHACRYLATE (60 MIL)

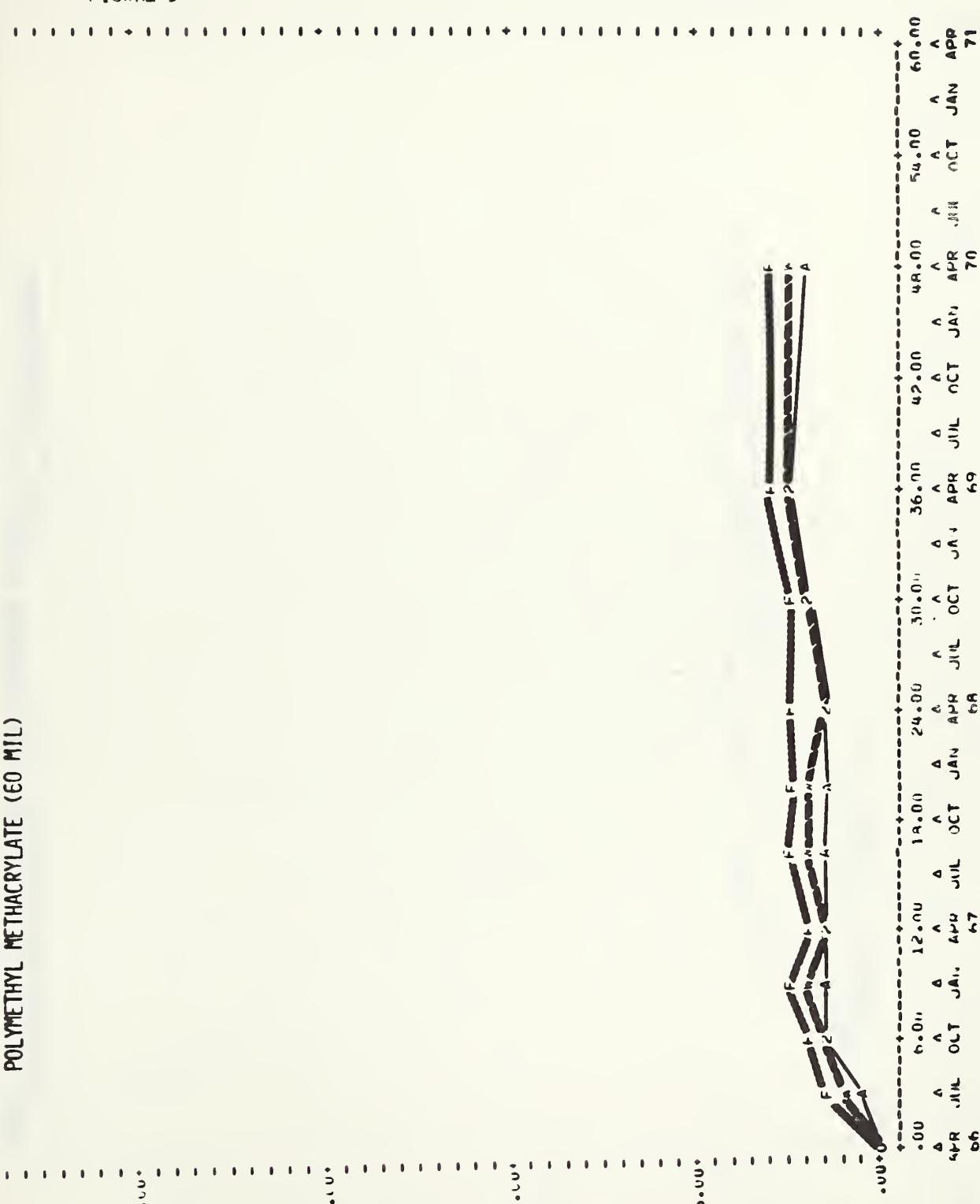


FIGURE 4

POLYVINYL FLUORIDE (1 MIL)

COLOR Change = 14 LIA (F) PLASTIC = EFLQHNA - dEACH PINTON

150.00

150.00

150.00

150.00

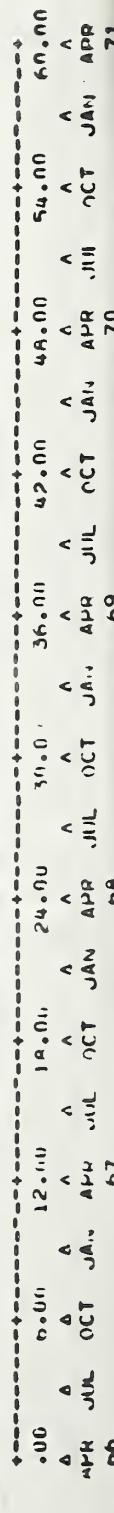


FIGURE 5

### POLY(ETHYLENE TEREPHTHALATE) (PET)

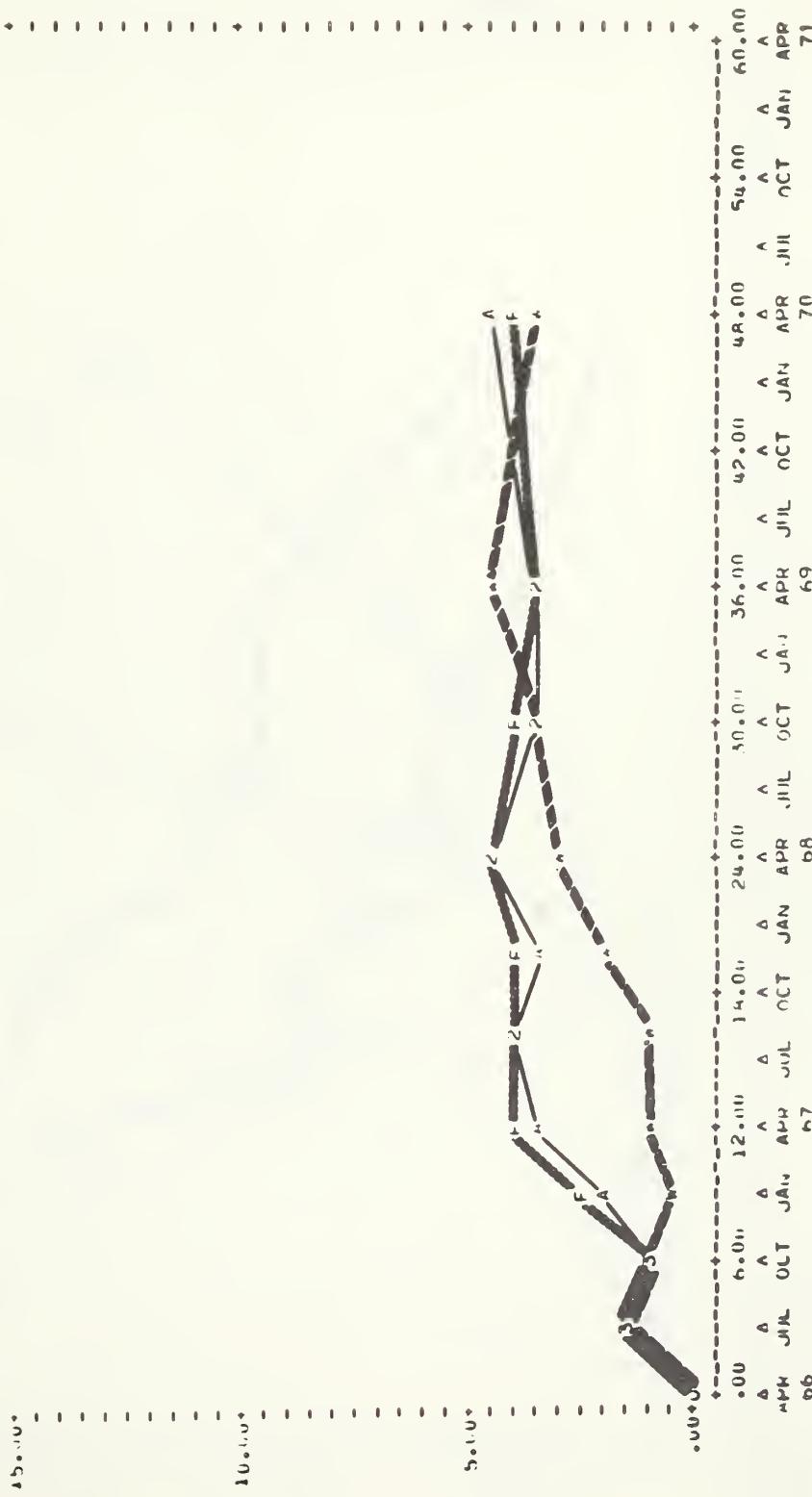


FIGURE 6

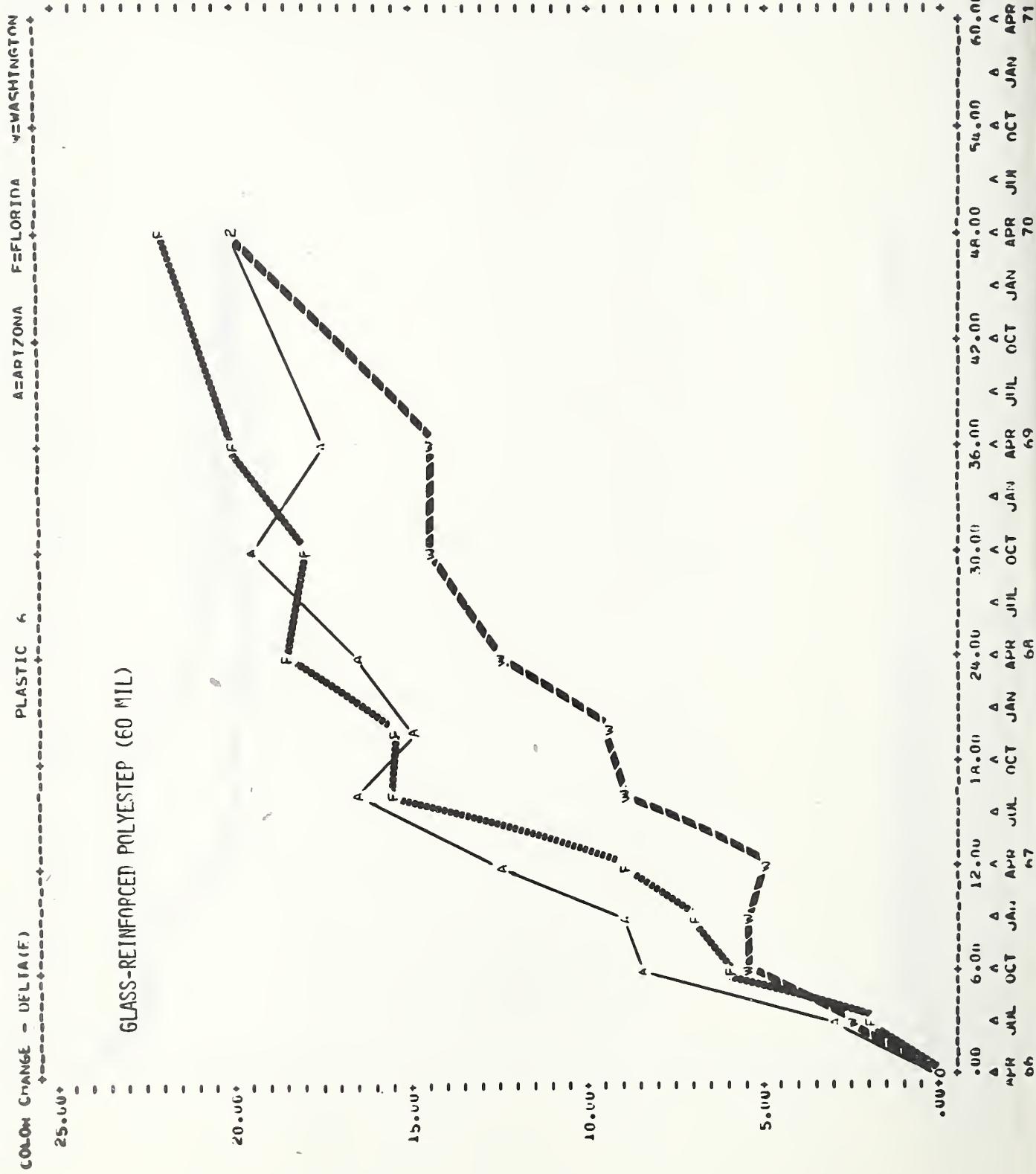


FIGURE 7

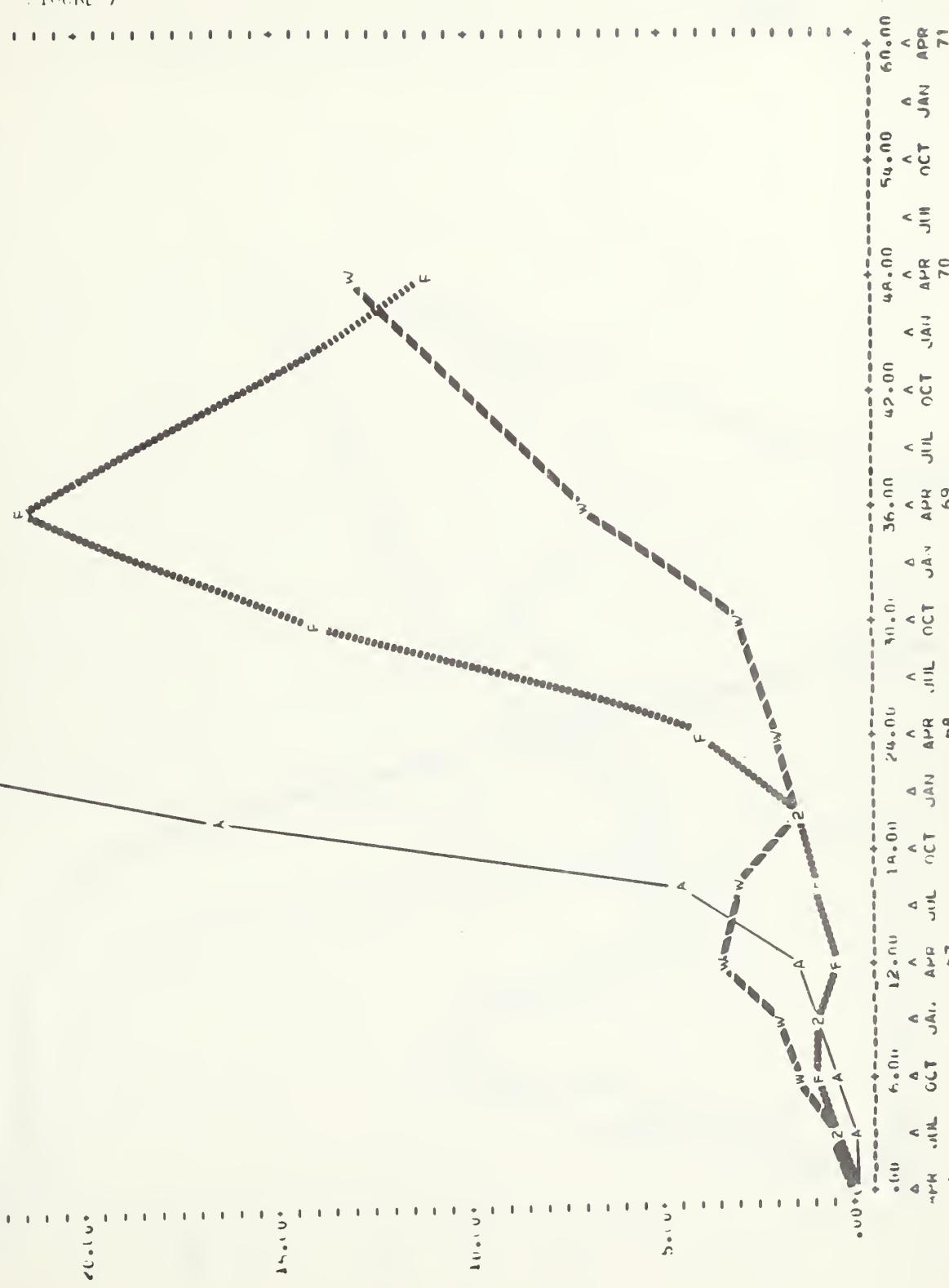


FIGURE 8

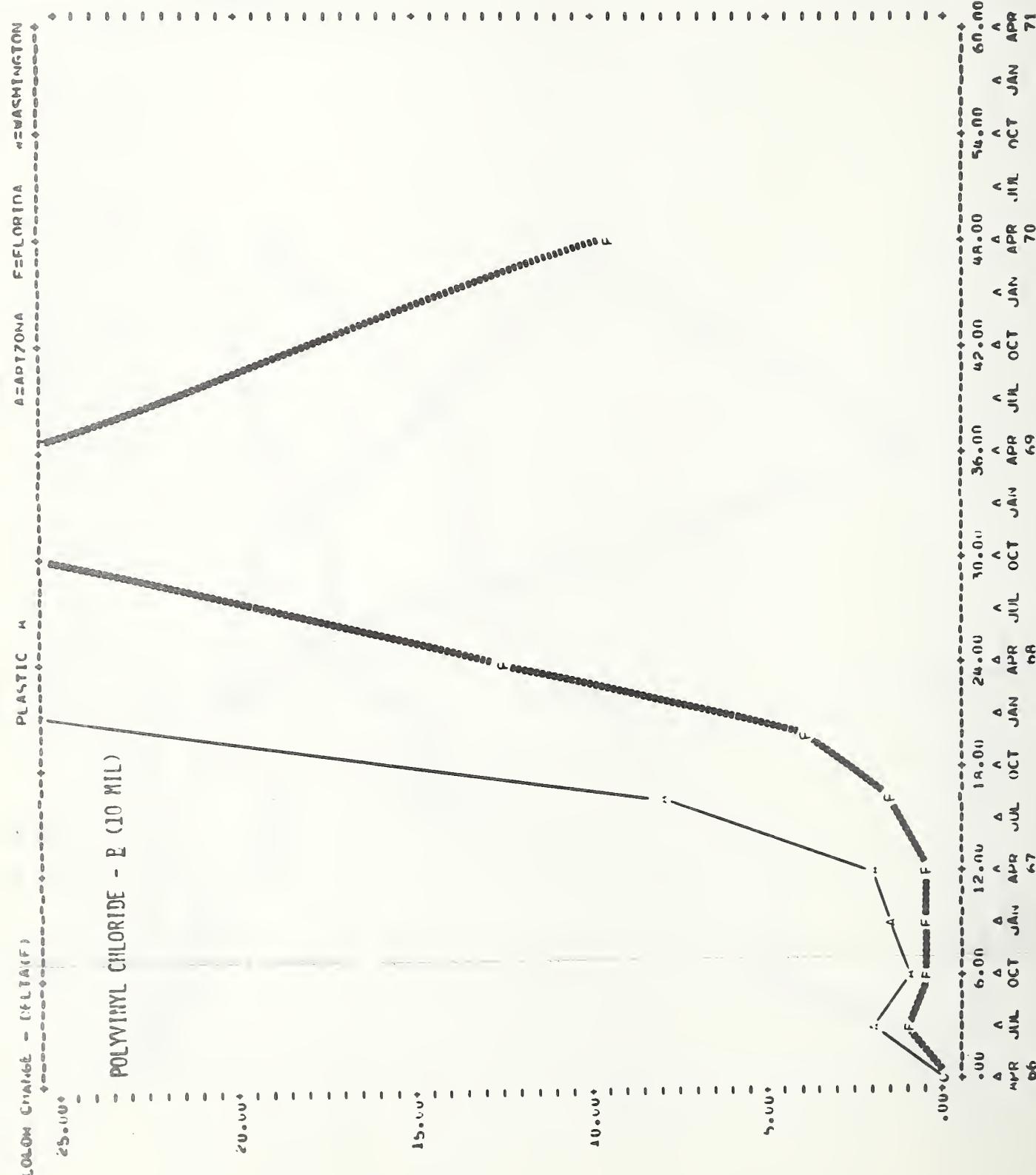
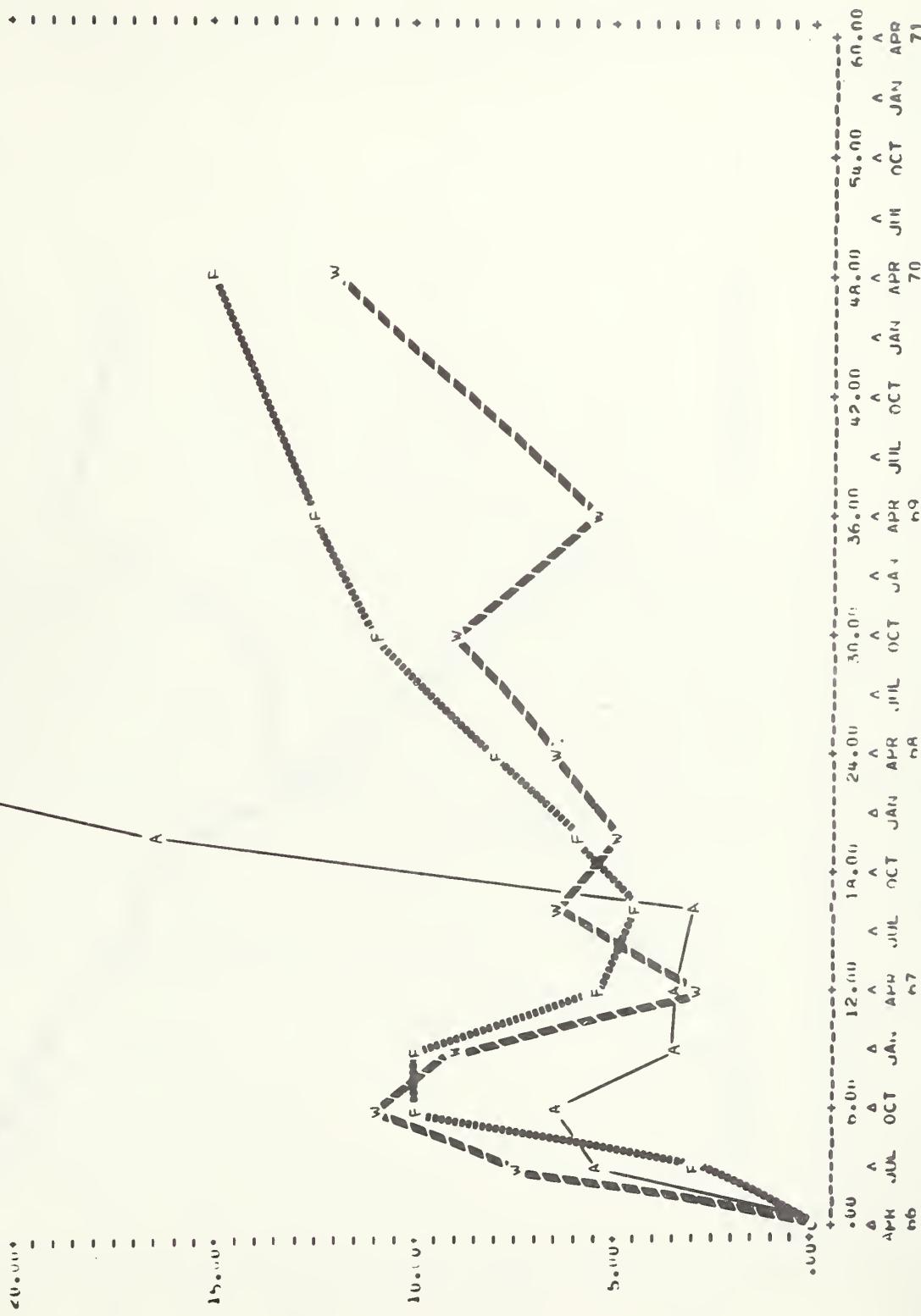


FIGURE 9

## POLY(VINYL CHLORIDE - B (60 M!))



## FIGURE 10

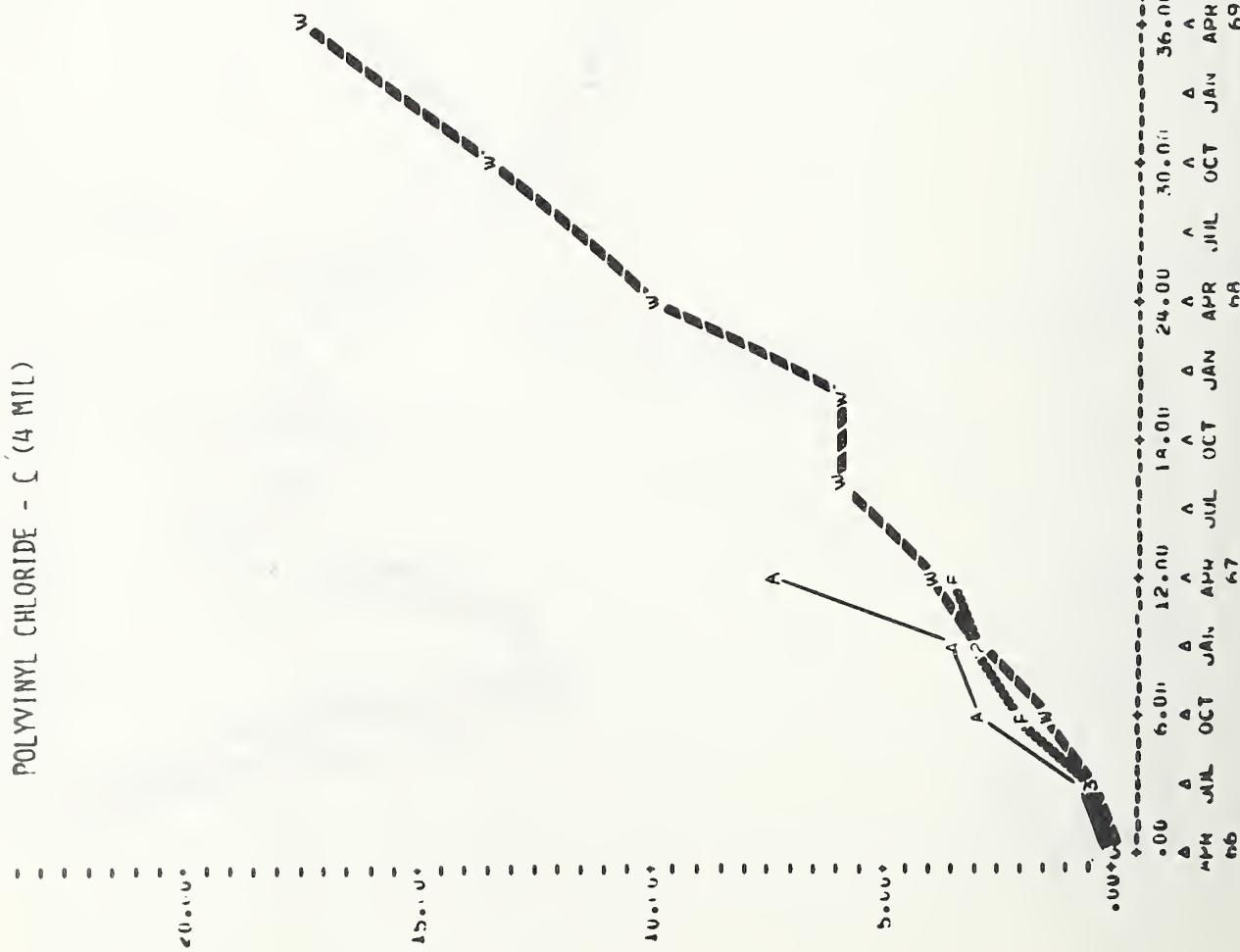


FIGURE 11

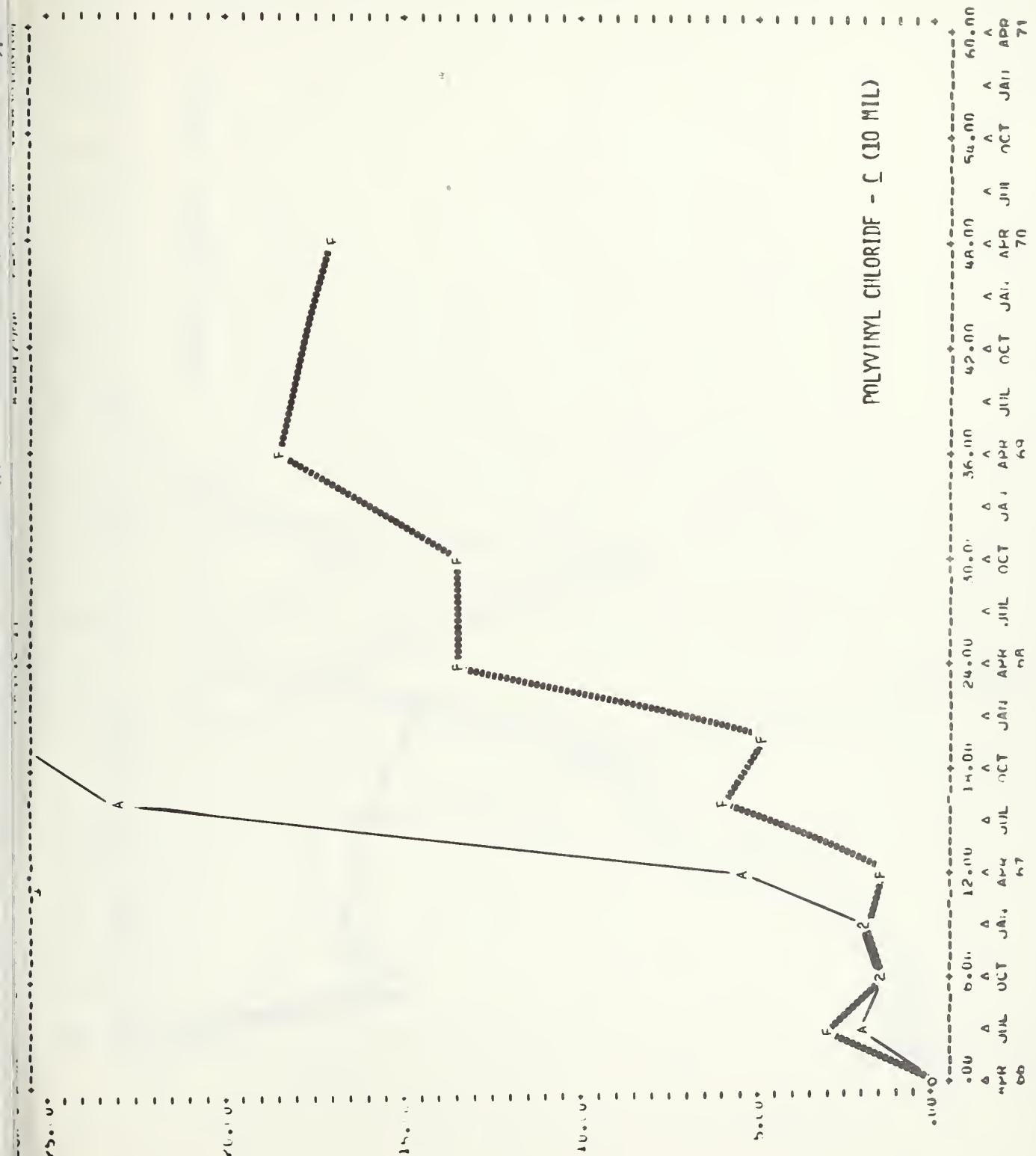


FIGURE 12

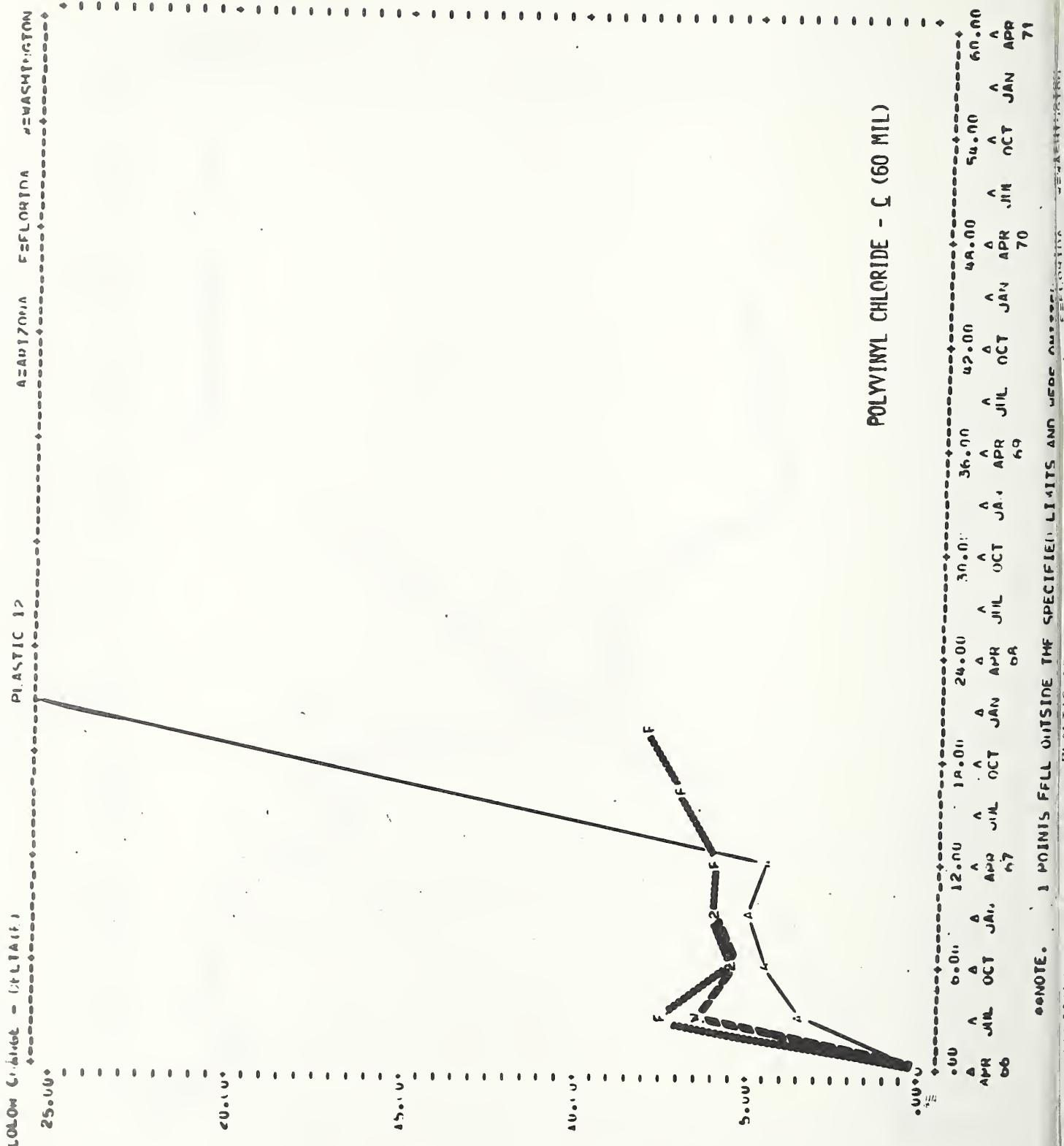


FIGURE 13

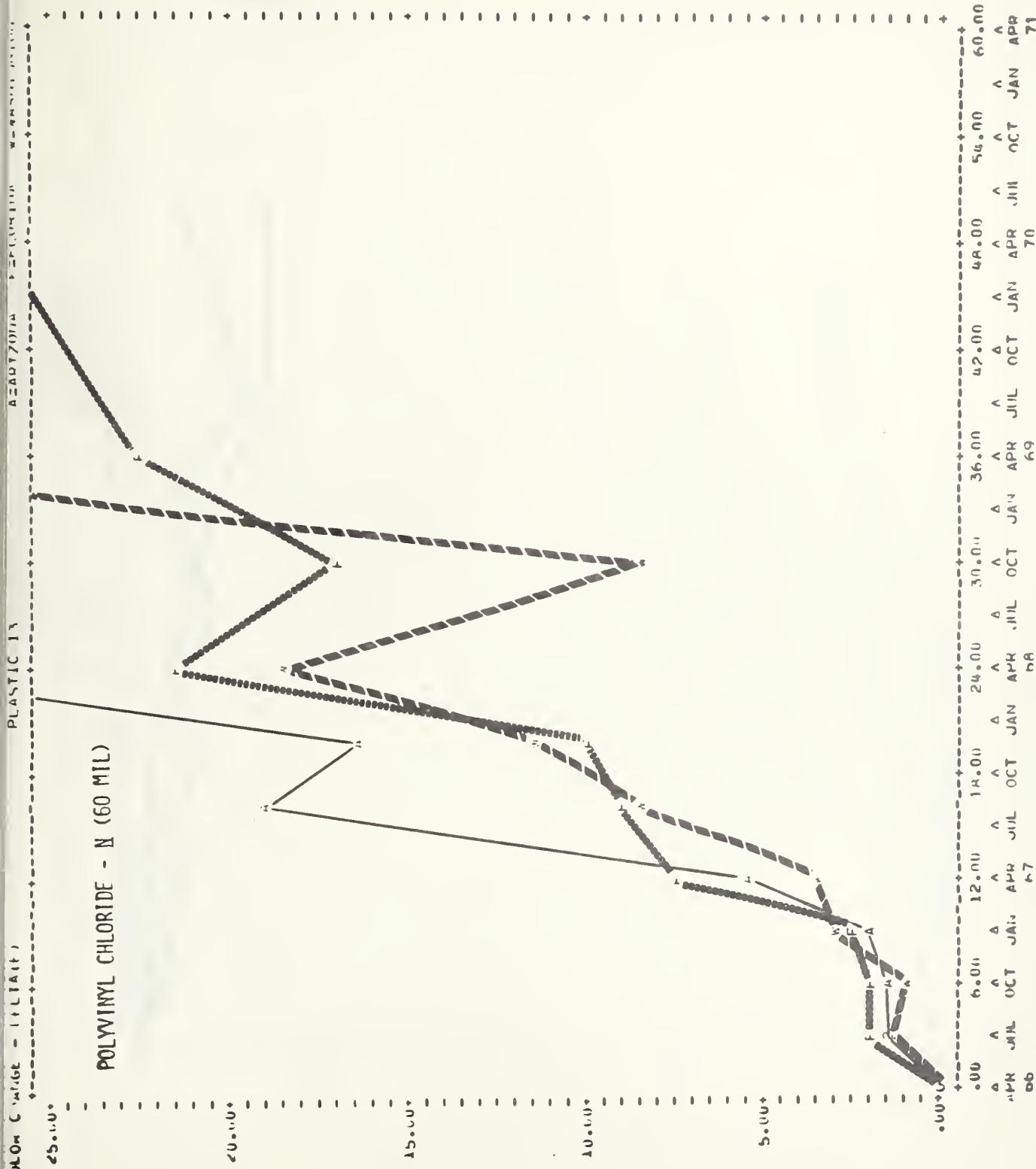


FIGURE 14

PLASTICITY

COLOR CR. ALIST - (T.L.I.A.15)

## POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - A (4 MIL)

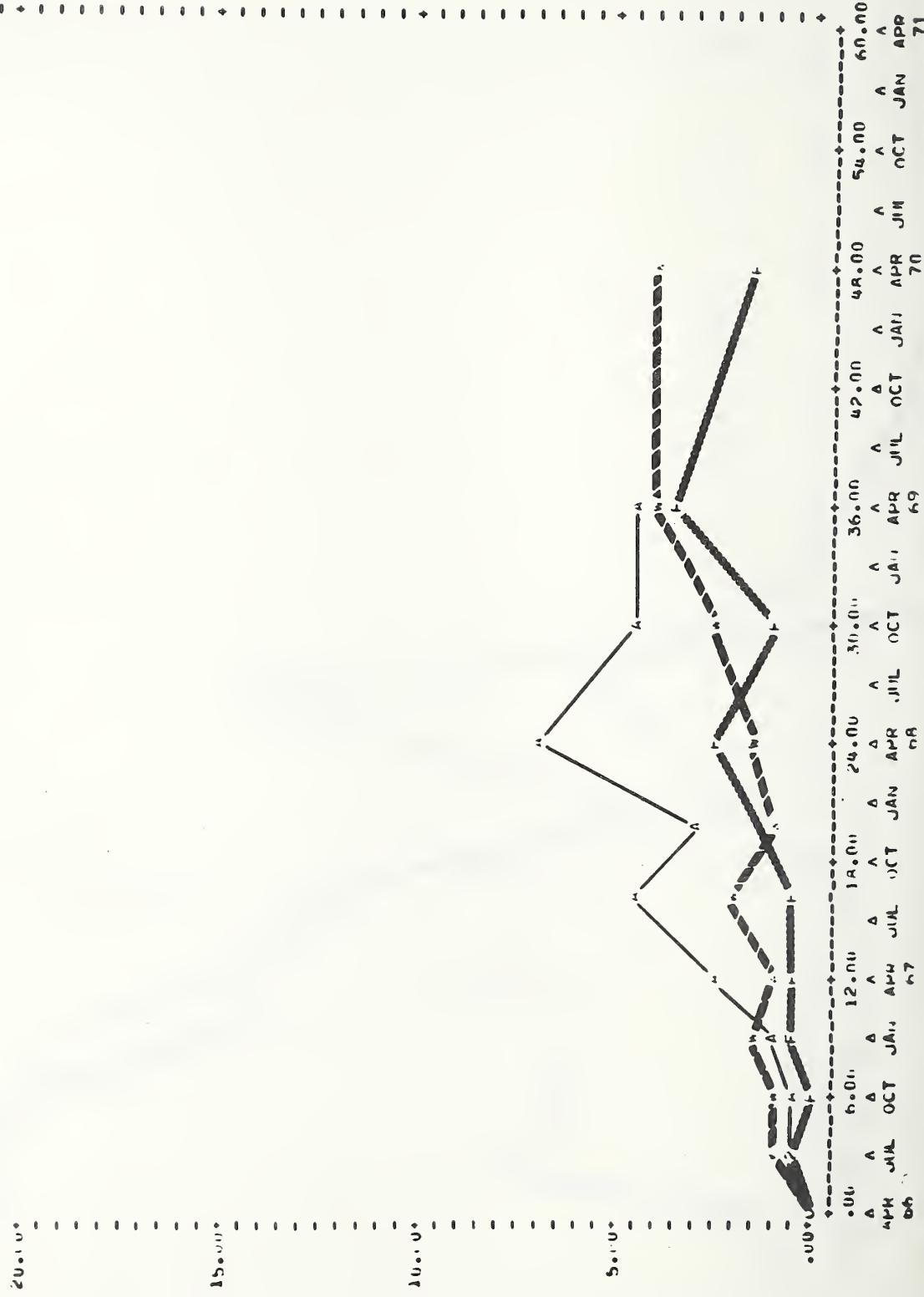
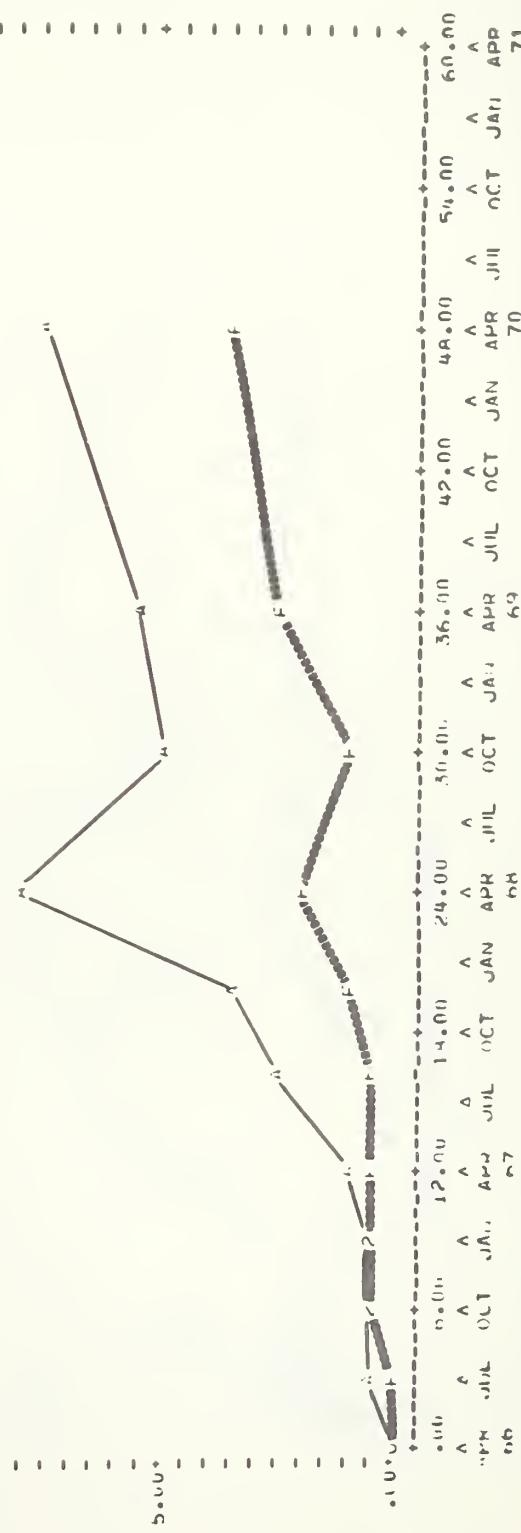


FIGURE 15

### POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - A (10 MIL)



COLOR CHART - UTILIA(+)  
25.00+

PLASTIC 1a

ARIZONA F=FLORIDA W=WASHINGTON

### POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - A (60 MIL)

20.00+

15.00+

10.00+

5.00+

0.00+

FIGURE 16



FIGURE 17

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - D (4 MIL)

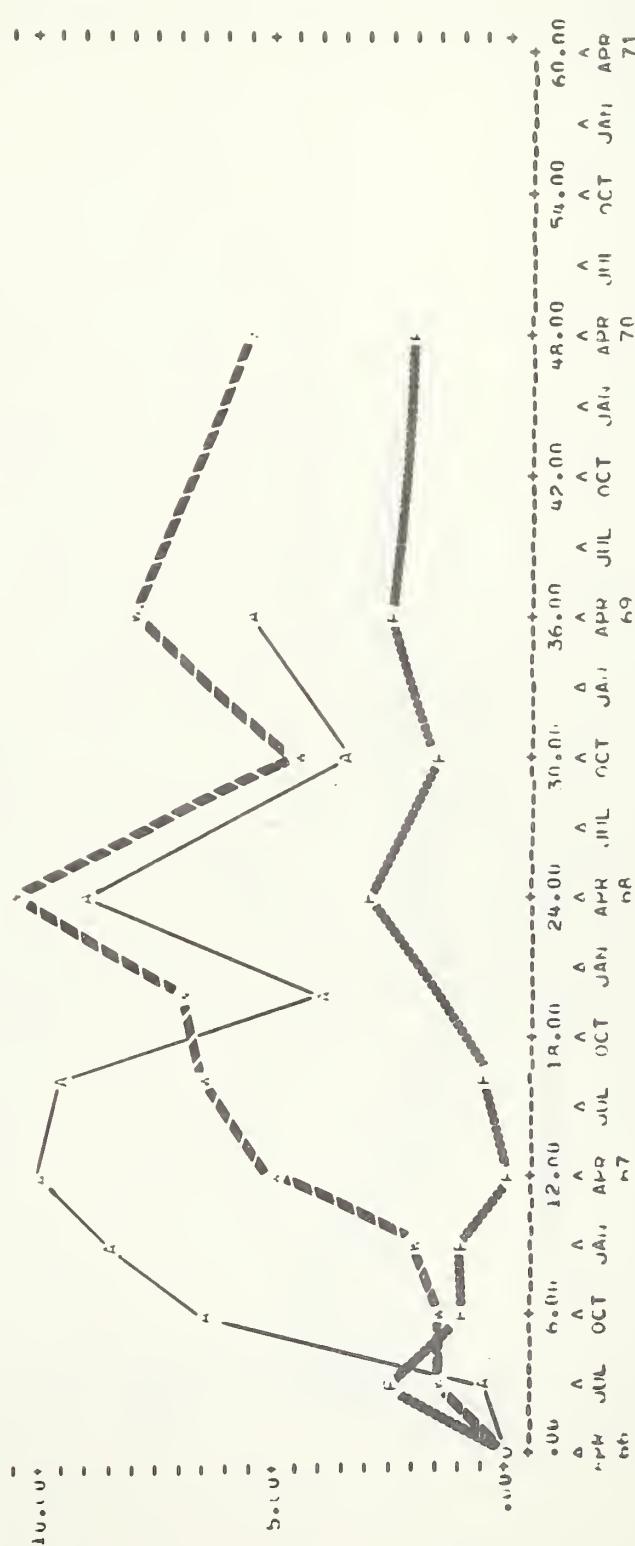


FIGURE 18

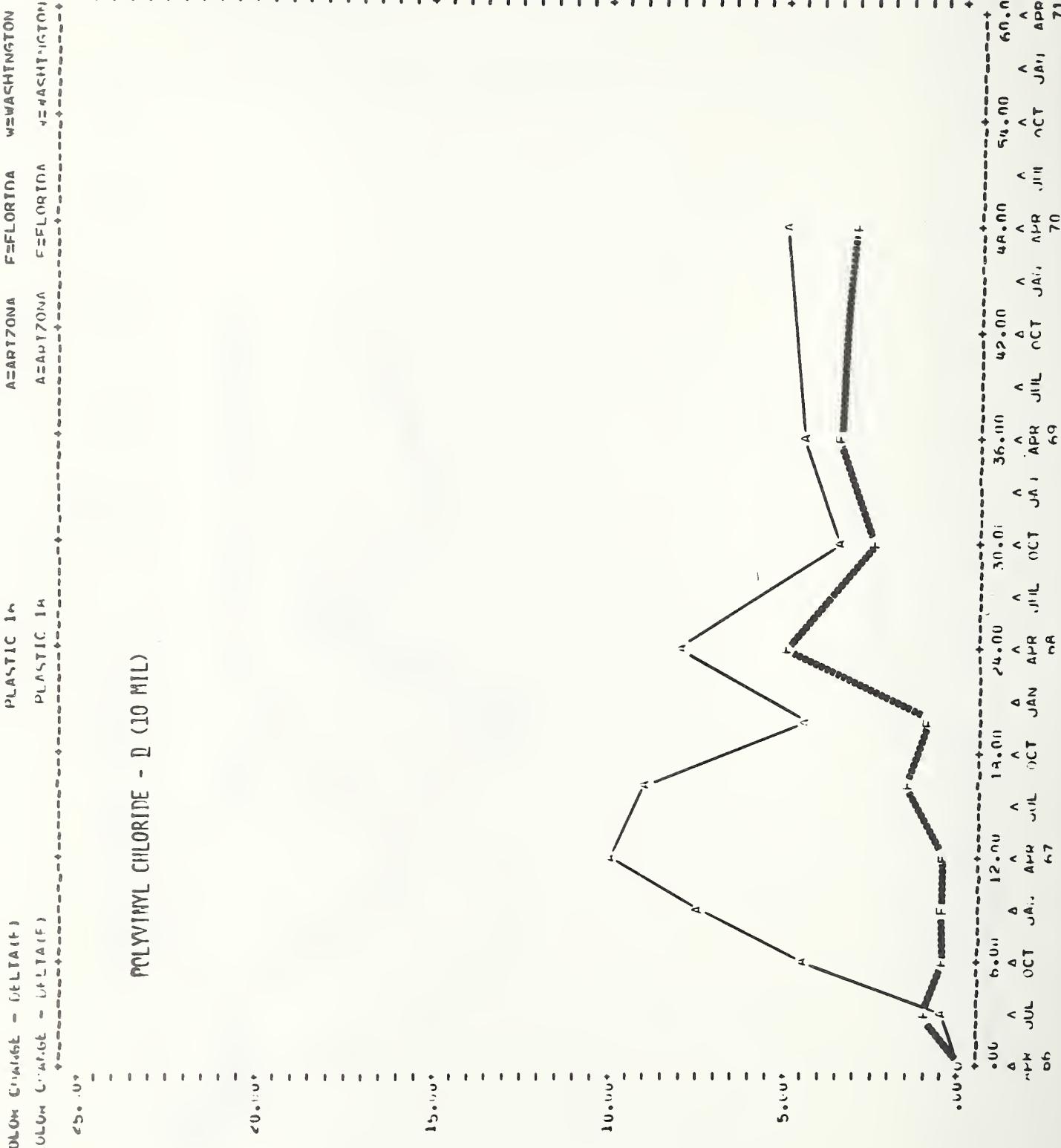


FIGURE 19

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - 2 (60 MIL)

PLASTIC 19  
REFLOWED  
REACTIVATION

PLASTIC 19

LUDOW C-1000 - C-1000

250.00

100.00

100.00

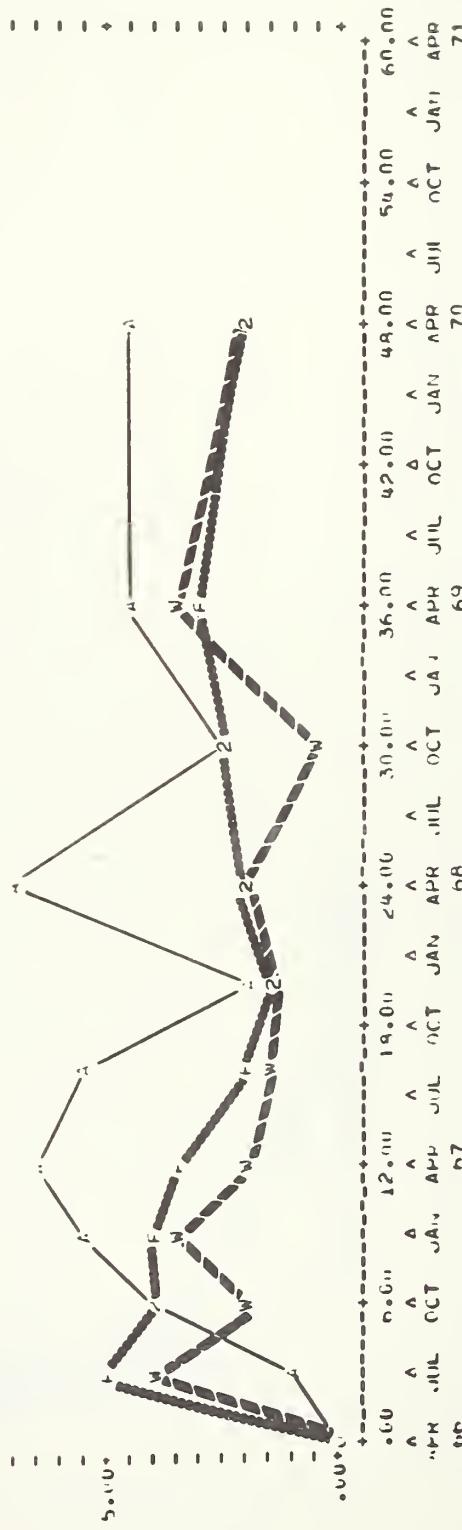


FIGURE 20

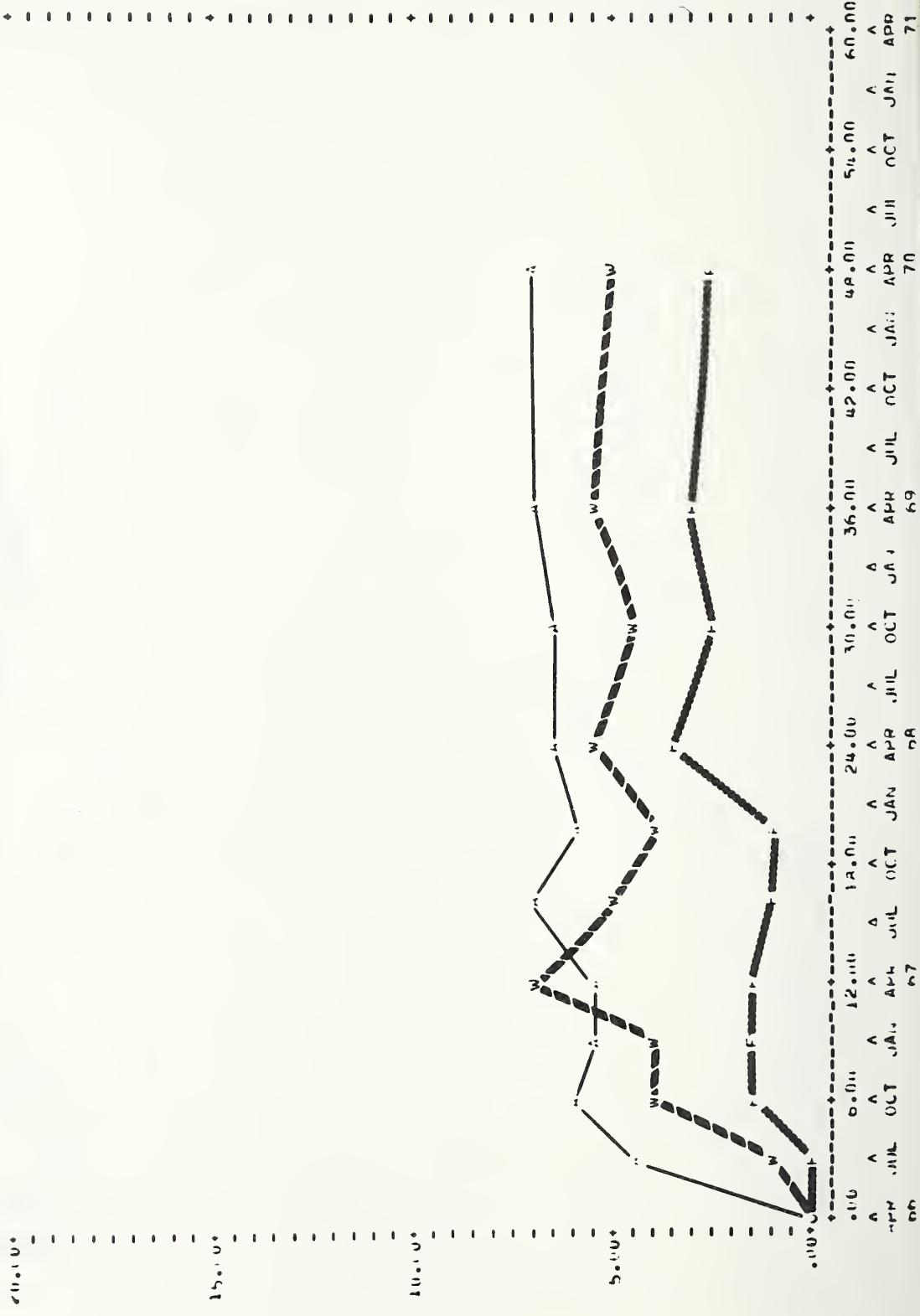
POLYACETIC ACID

A = AND(A1,A2) R = F1,0410A S = ACH110101

ESTATE PLANNING

CULTURE & CIVILISATION

### POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - M (60 MIL)

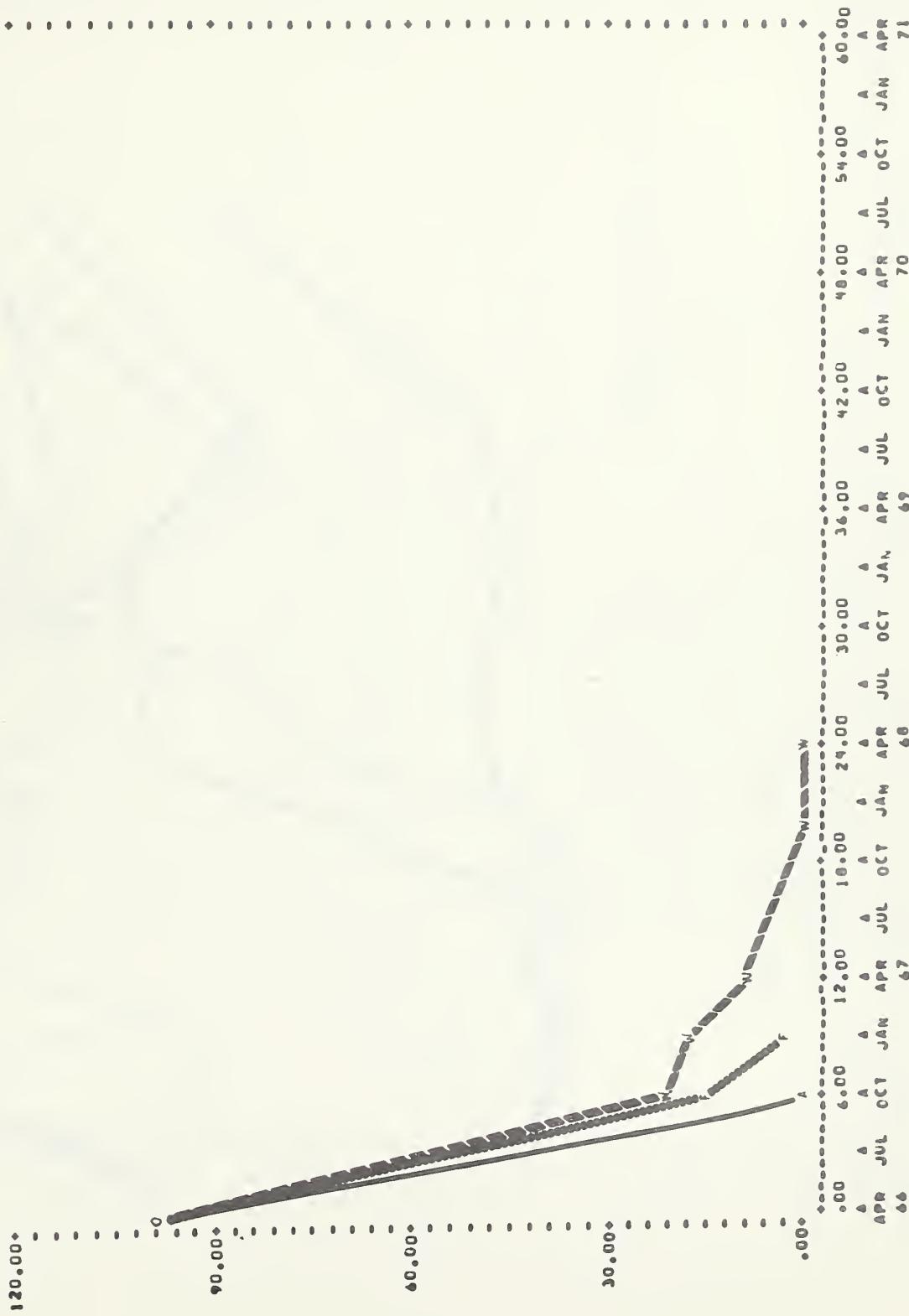


ULTIMATE ELONGATION (PERCENT OF INITIAL VALUE) PLASTIC 1  
AMAZONIA FLORIDA WASHINGTON

POLYETHYLENE (1 MIL)

INITIAL VALUE = 50.0%

FIGURE 21



150.00

100.00

INITIAL VALUE = 114.00

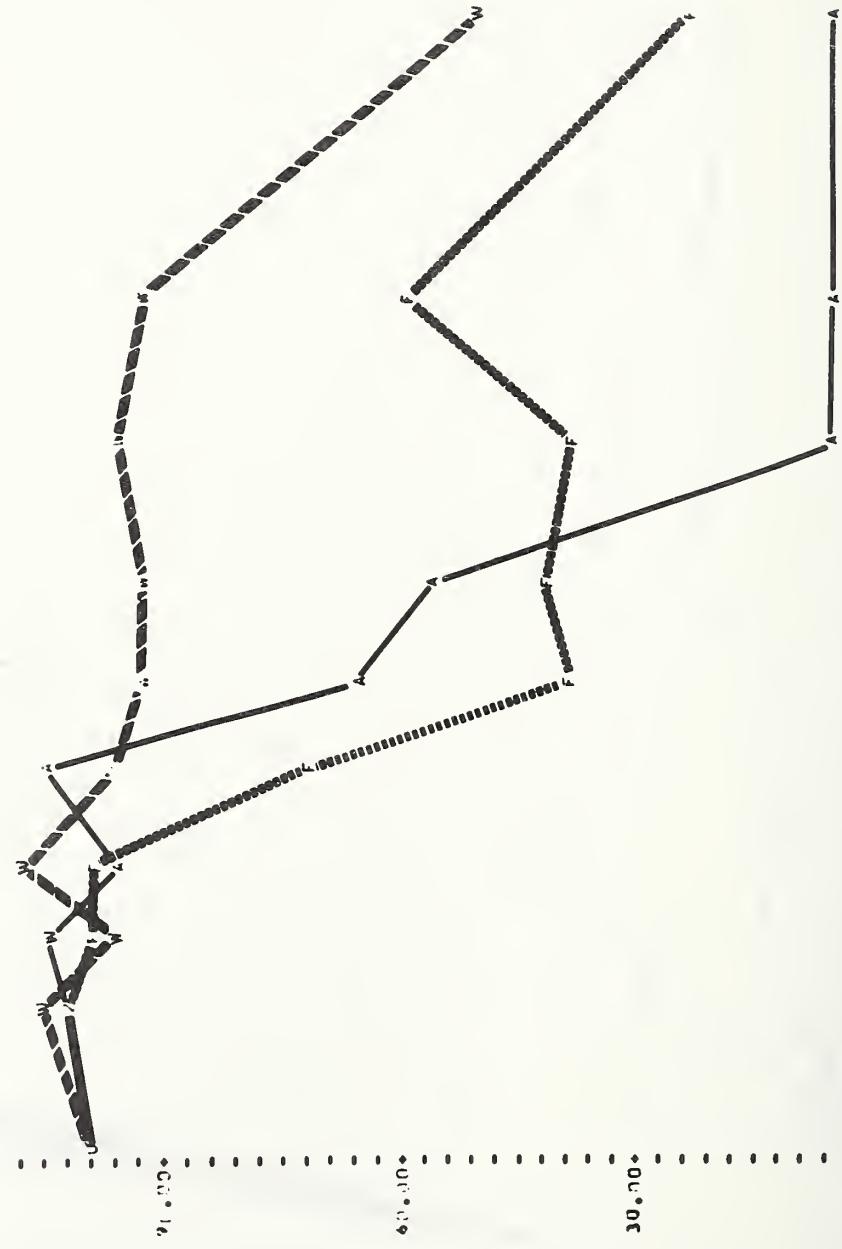
POLYETHYLENE (60 MIL)

INITIAL VALUE = 114.00

100.00

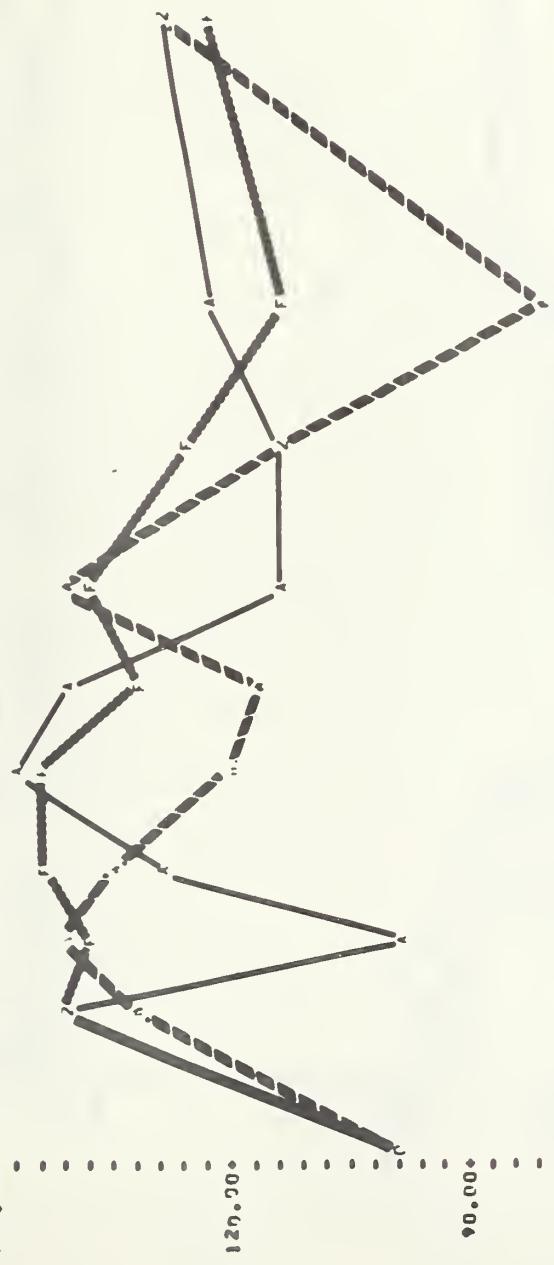
100.00

FIGURE 22



ULTIMATE ELONGATION (PERCENT OF INITIAL VALUE)  
PLASTIC J  
ARIZONA FLORIDA WASHINGTON

FIGURE 23



POLYMETHYL METHACRYLATE (60 MIL)

INITIAL VALUE = 1.5"

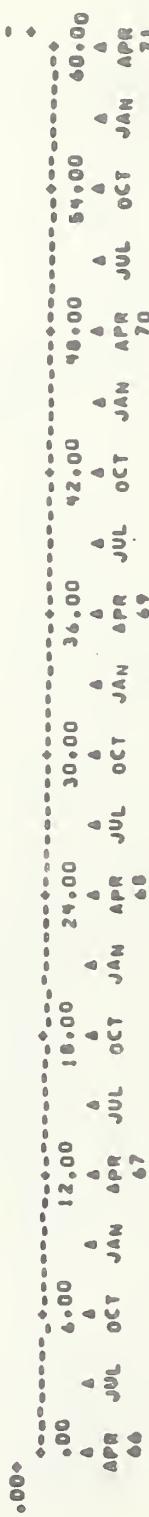


FIGURE 24

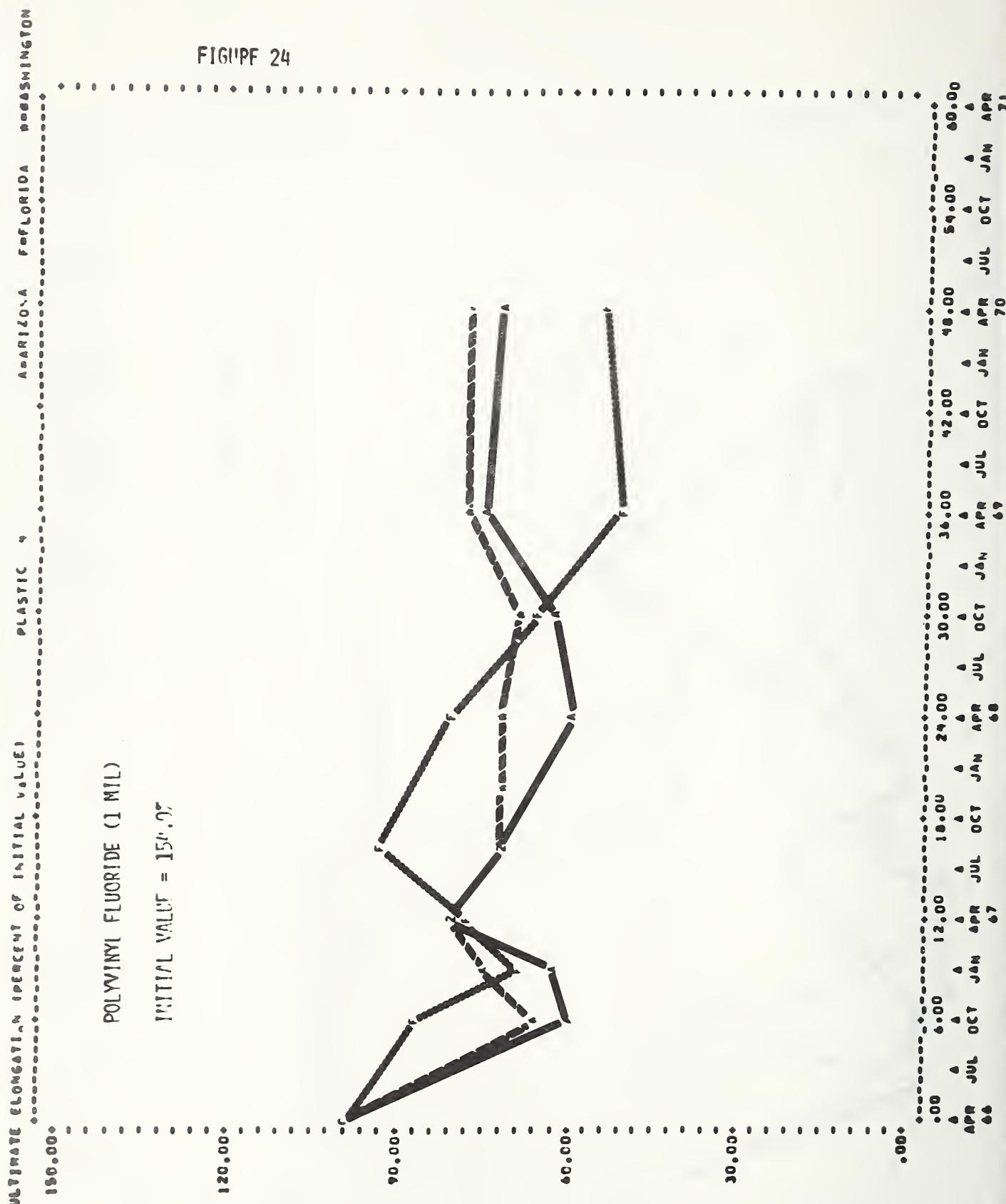


FIGURE 25

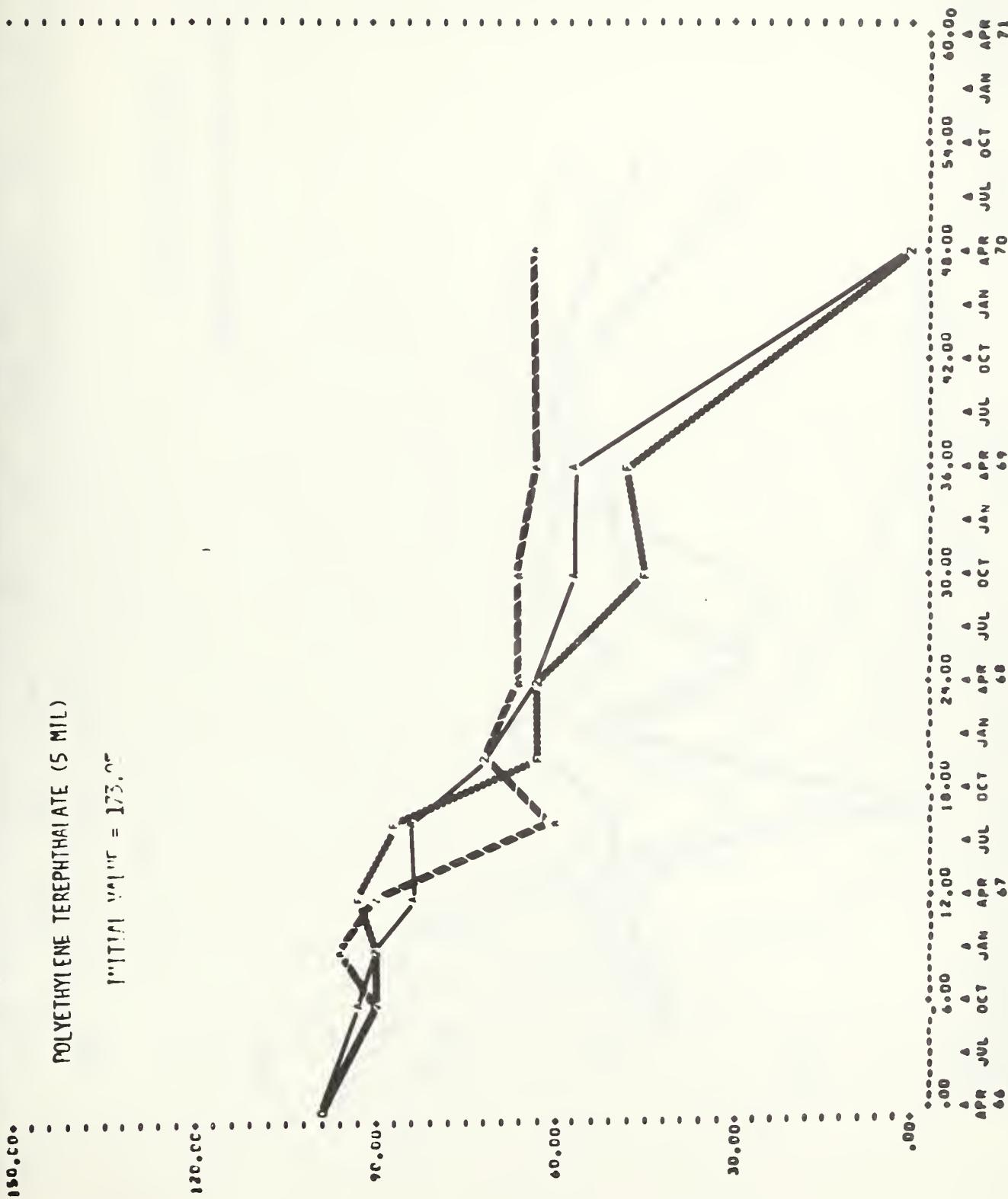


FIGURE 26

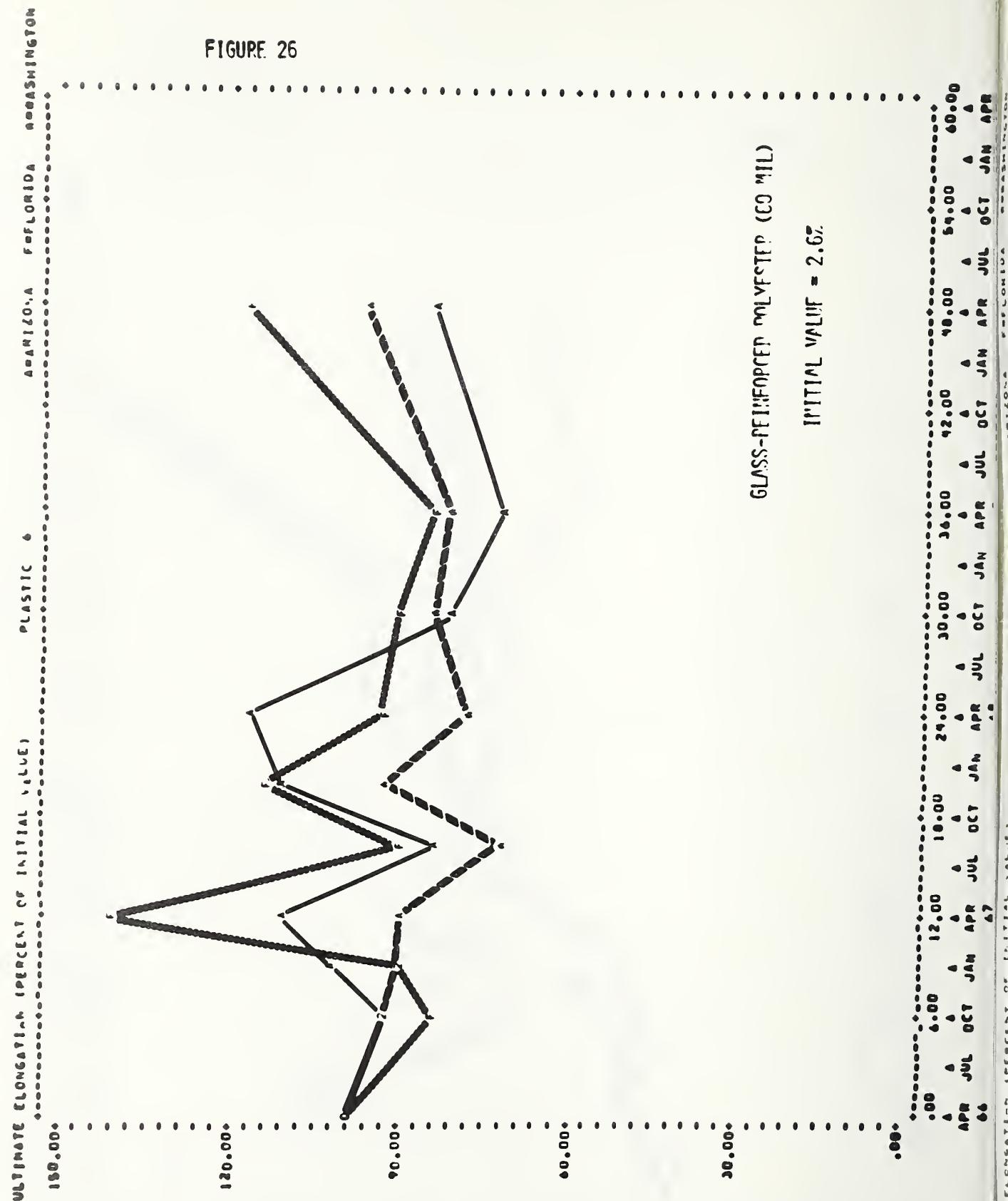
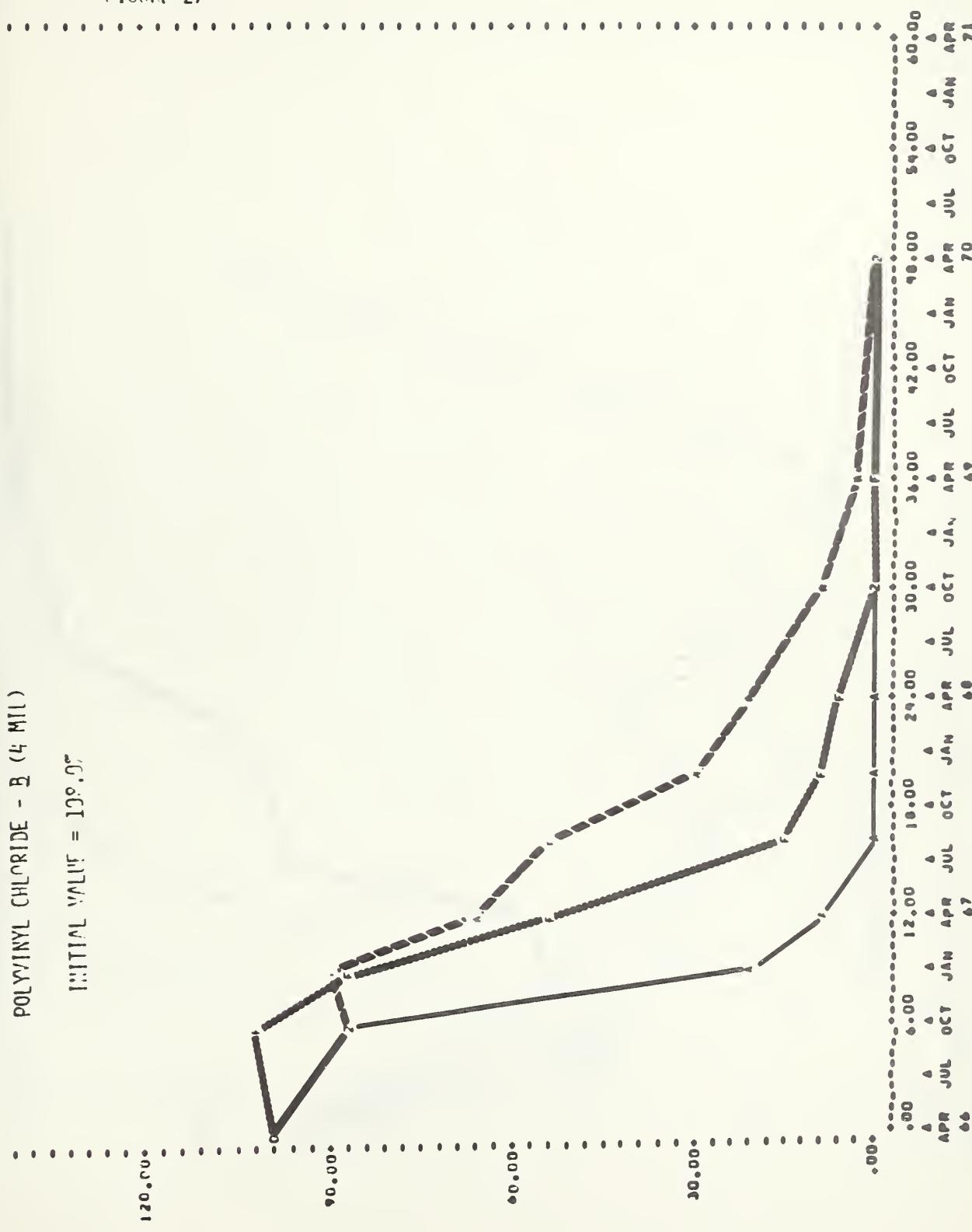


FIGURE 27



ULTIMATE ELONGATION (PERCENT OF INITIAL VALUE)  
150.00  
100.00  
50.00  
0.00

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - B (10 MIL)

INITIAL VPLT = 293.75

150.00

FIGURE 28

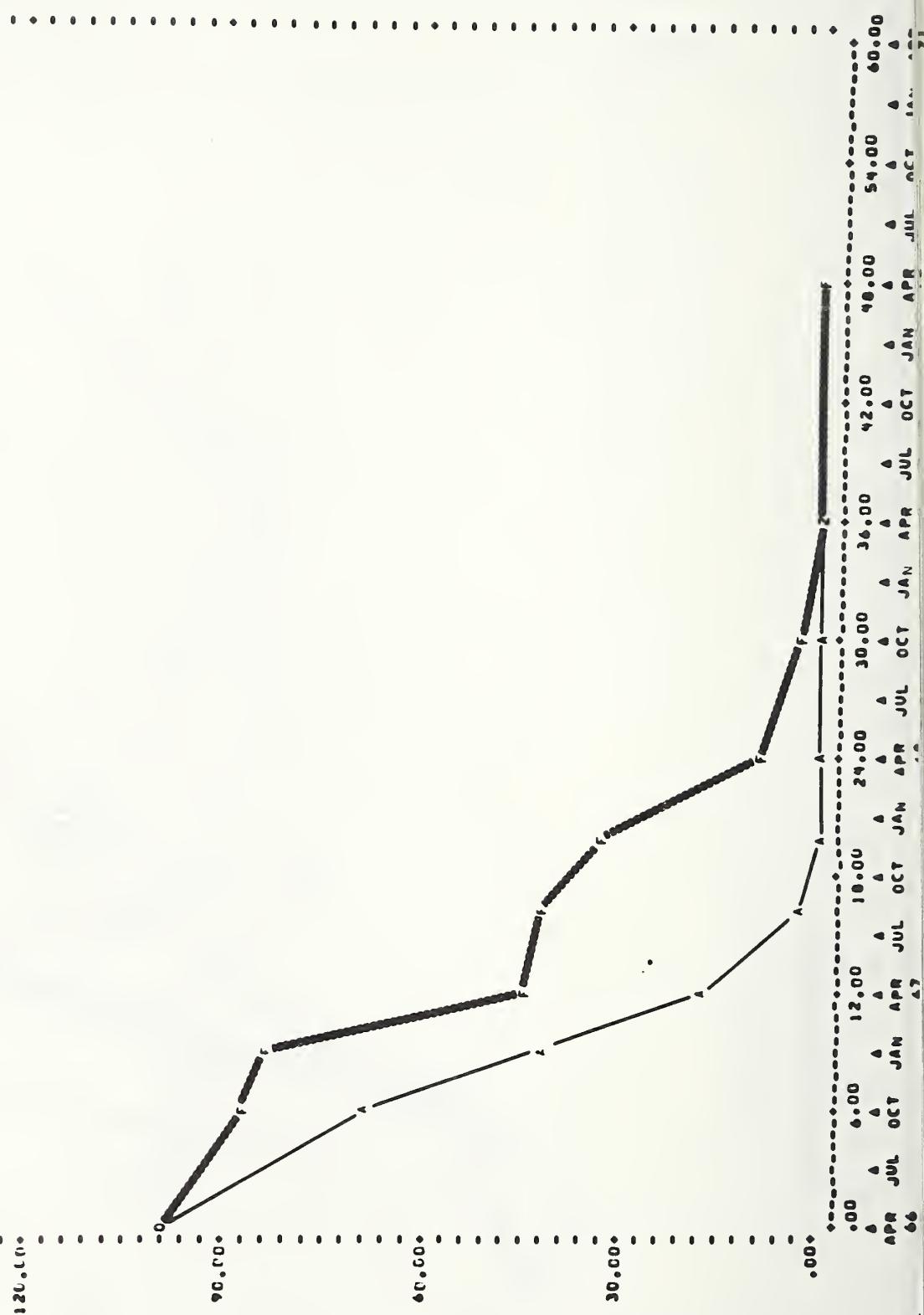


FIGURE 29

ULTIMATE ELONGATION (PERCENT OF INITIAL VALUE) PLASTIC 9  
INITIAL VALUE = 155.0%

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - B (60 MIL.)

INITIAL VALUE = 155.0%

150.000

90.000

30.000

0.000

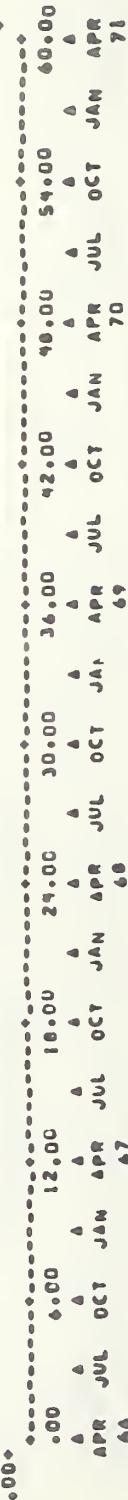
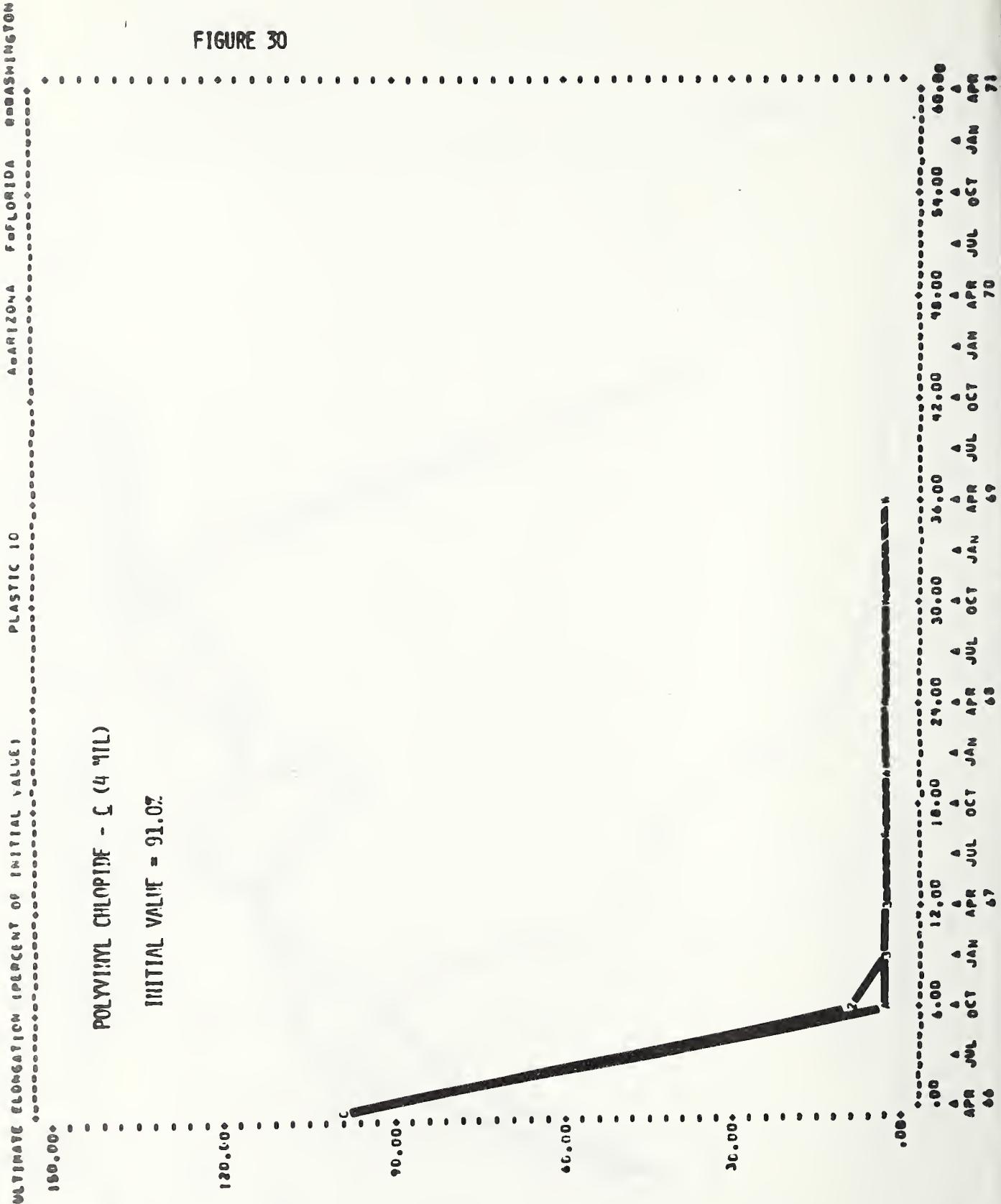


FIGURE 30



卷之三

PLASTIC 11

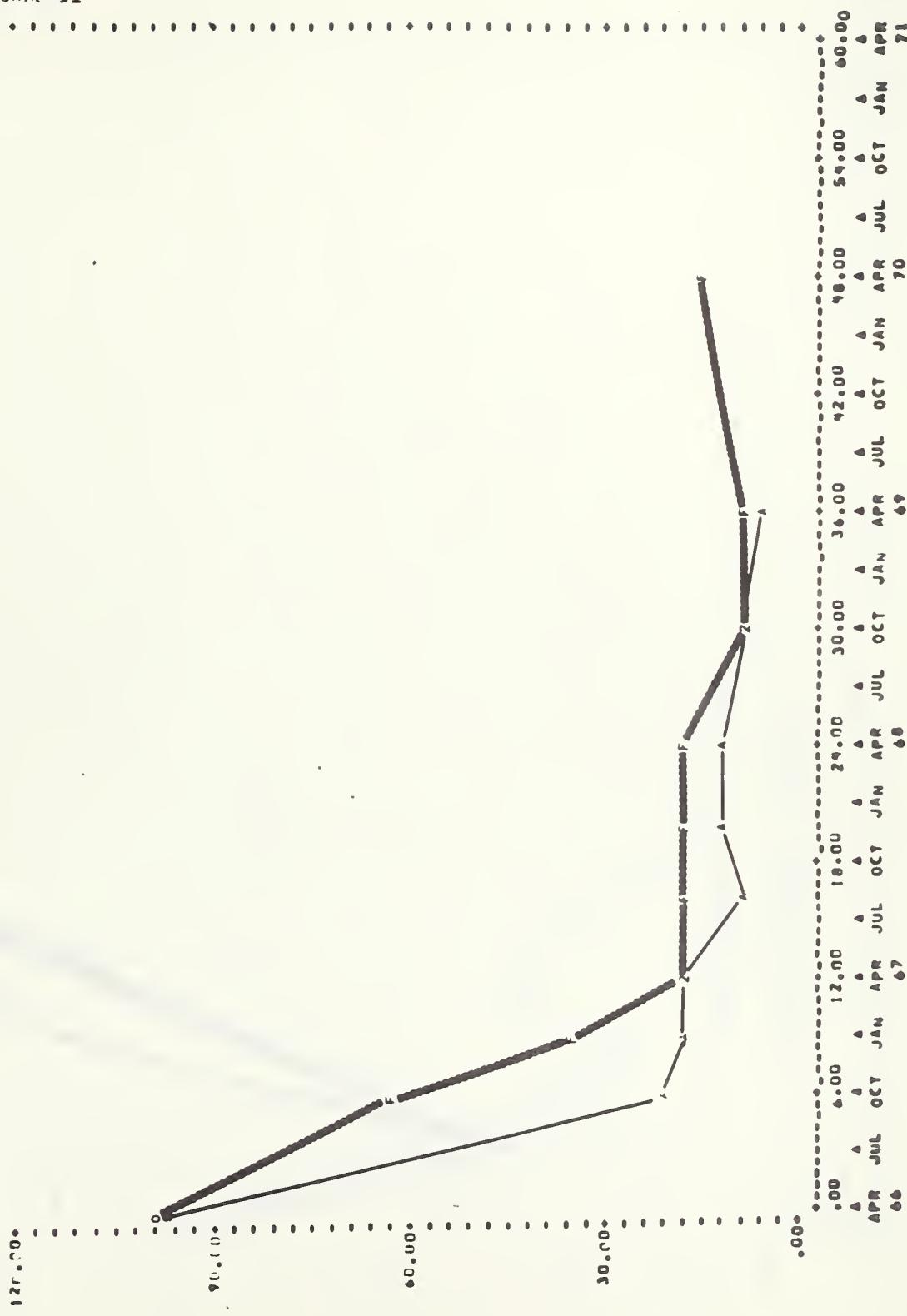
WILSONIAN ECONOMICS 13

• 00 • 030

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - C (10 MIL)

$$\text{Initial } \pi_{\text{eff}} = 21.75$$

FIGURE 31



ULTIMATE elongation (percent of initial value)  
ARIZONA FAIRFIELD WASHINGTON

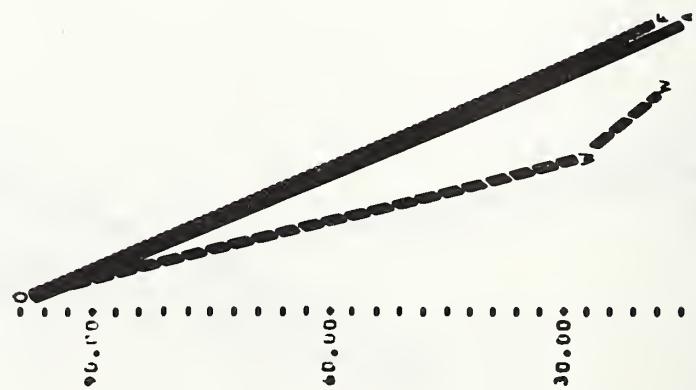
PLASTIC 12 ARIZONA FAIRFIELD WASHINGTON

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - C (60 MIL)

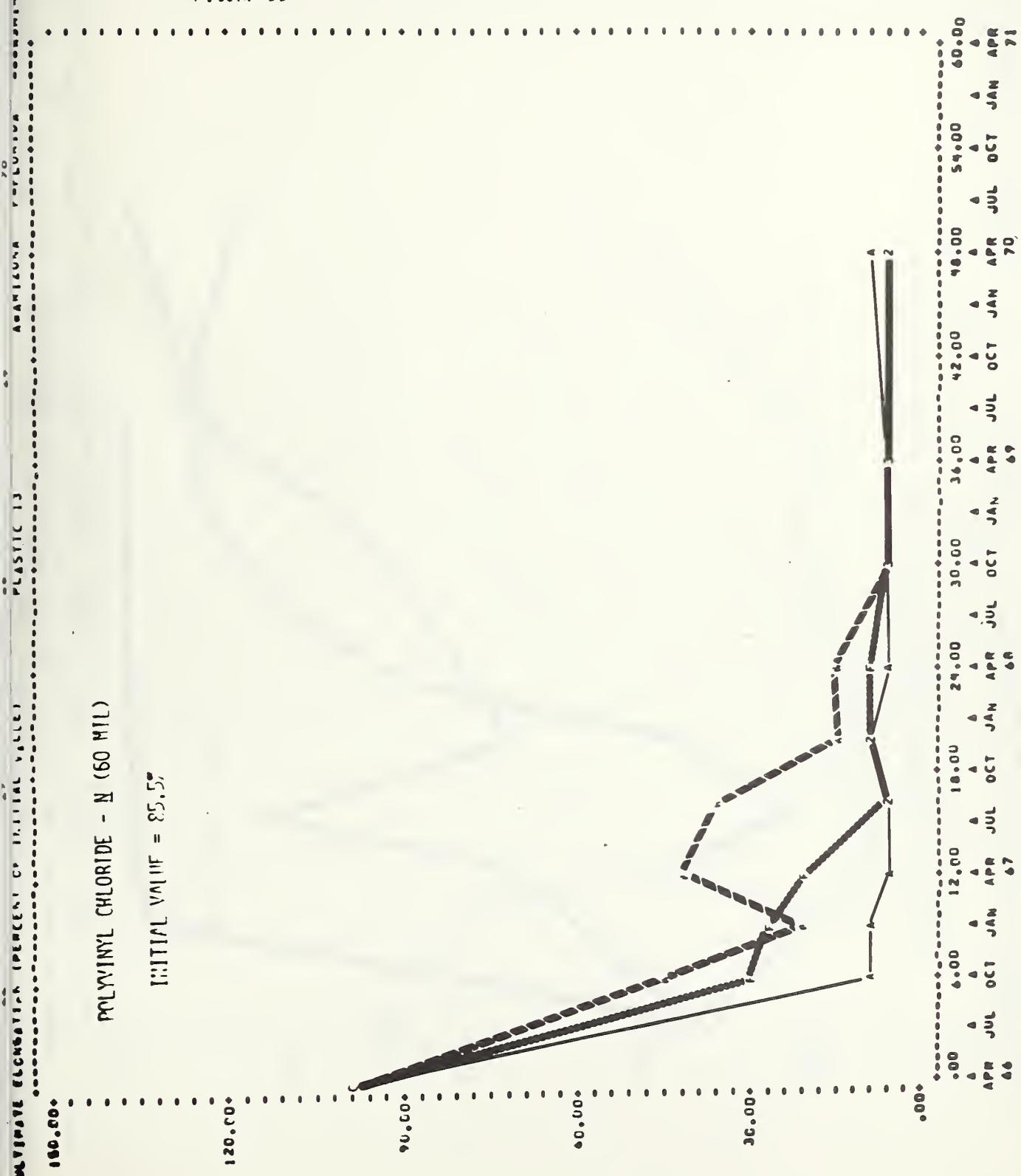
INITIAL VALUE = 22.1<sup>o</sup>

100.00

FIGURE 32



FIGURF 33



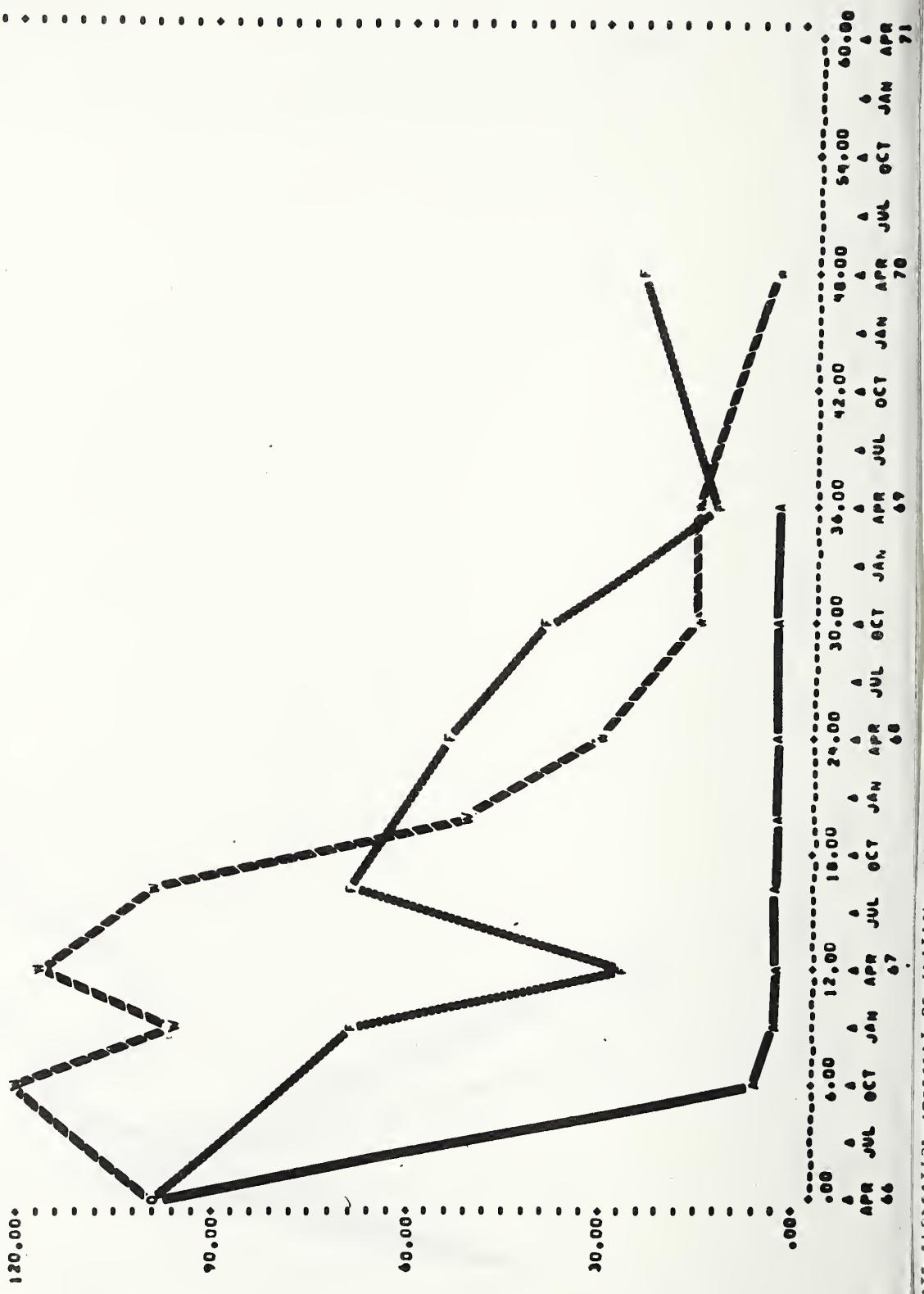
PLASTIC 14 ANDIZONA & FLORIDA 200 ASWINGTO

INITIAL INFECTION AND THE DISEASE PROCESS

### POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - A (4 MIL)

INITIAL VALUE = 113.0<sup>o</sup>

FIGURE 34



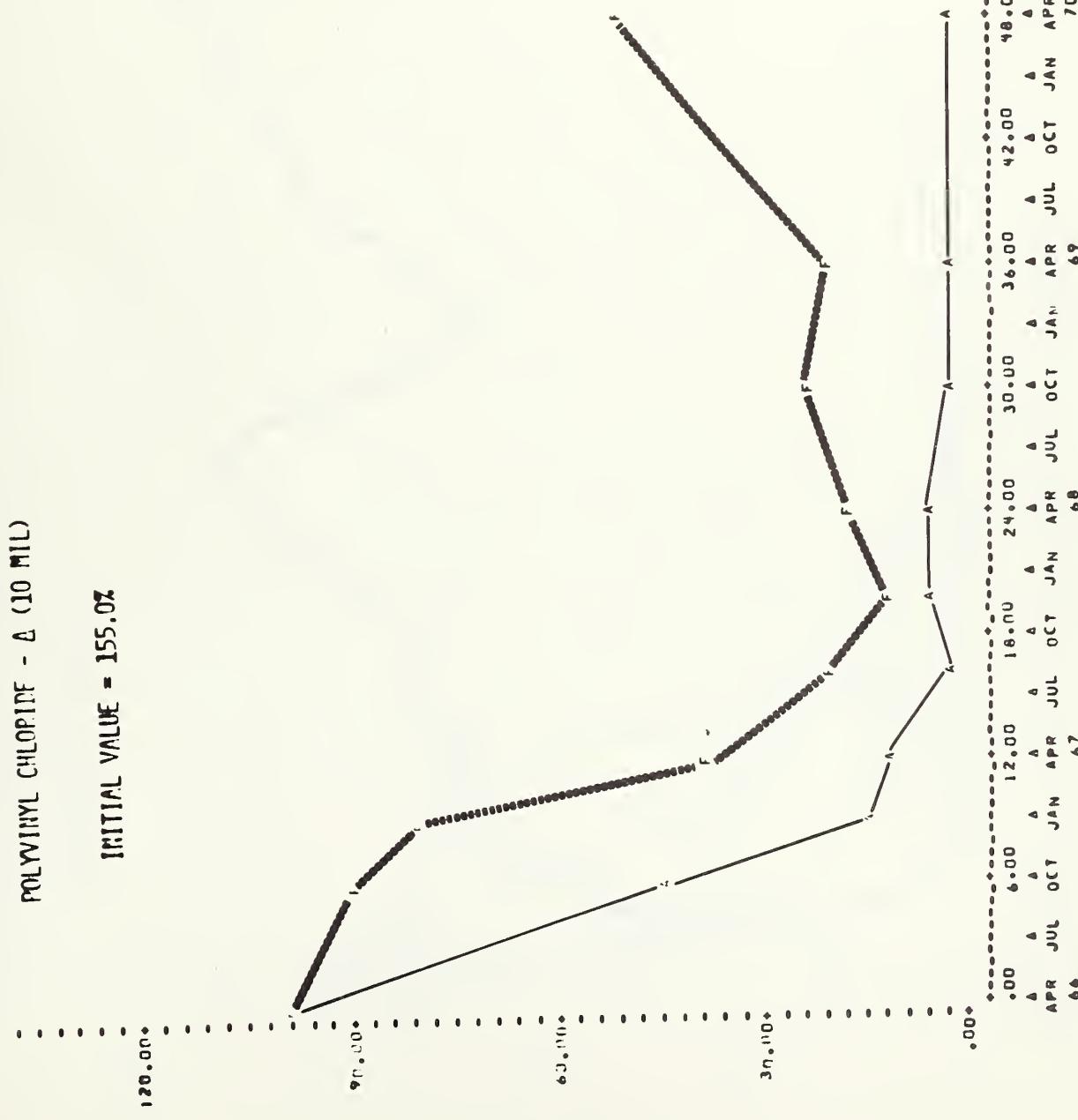
ASIANIZADA PROFESSORIA ESTADUNIDENSE

四一七

2

卷之三

FIGURE 35



Arizona Polyonia Washington

PLASTIC 1a

ULTIMATE ELONGATION (PERCENT OF INITIAL VALUE)

100.00

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - A (60 MIL.)

INITIAL VALUE = 47.8%

100.00

FIGURE 3E

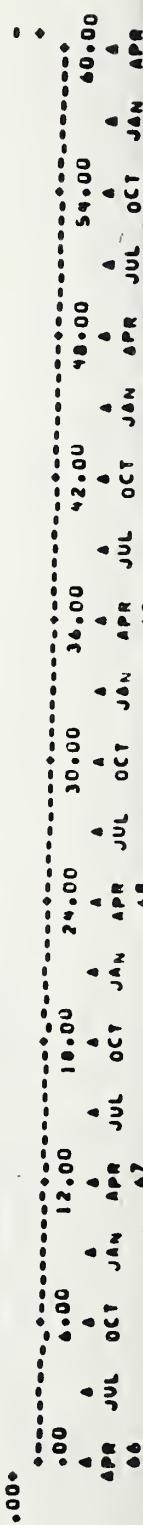
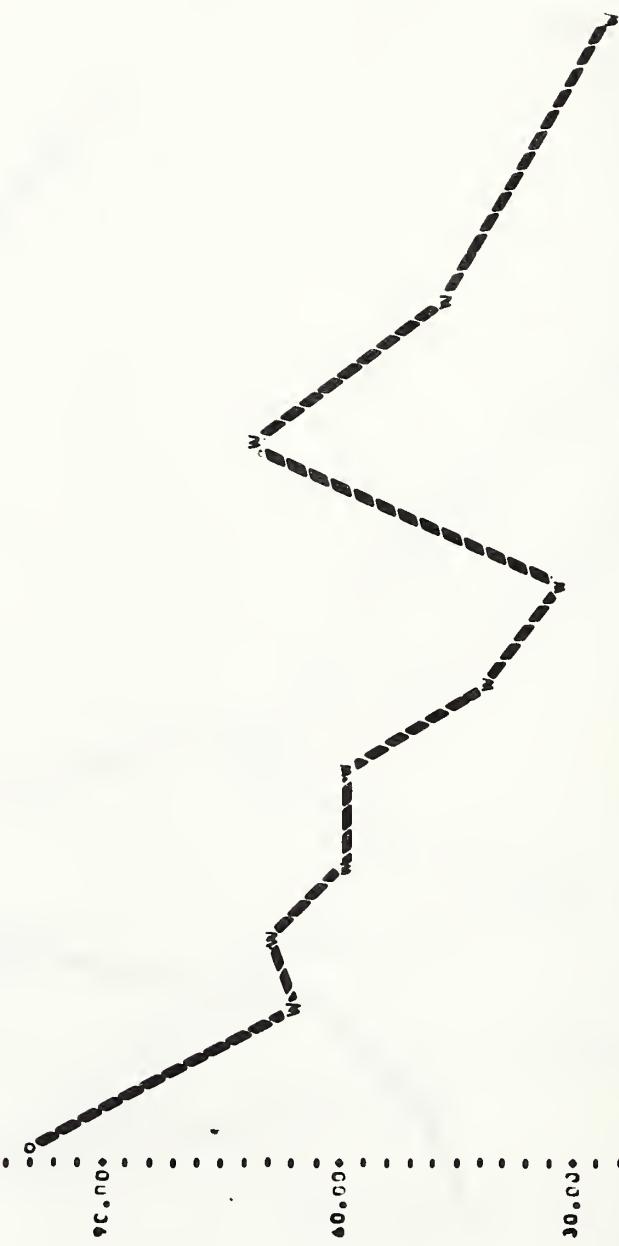
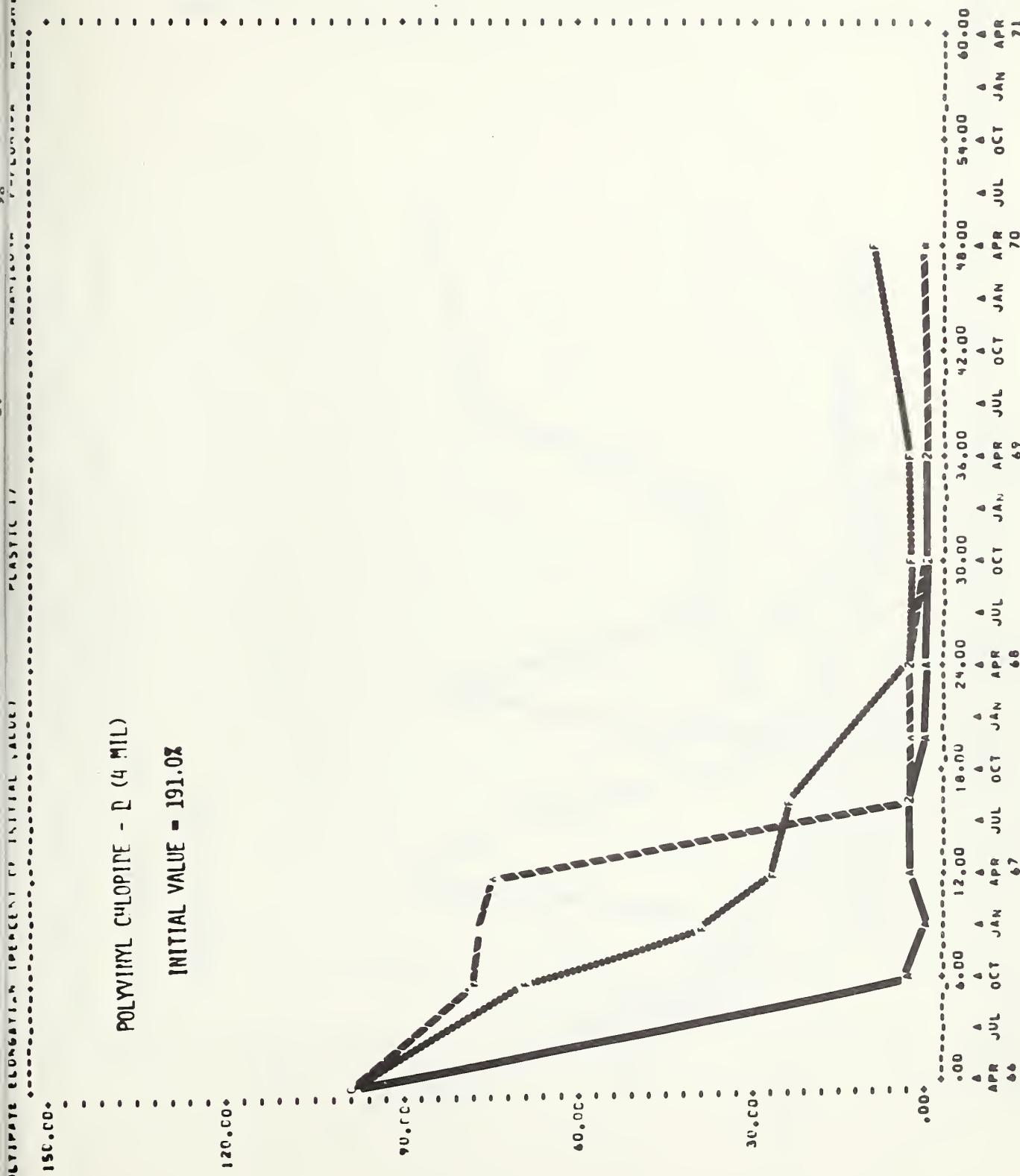


FIGURE 37



ULTRAVIOLET ELONGATION INFLUENCE ON INITIAL VALUE  
ARIZONA FLORIDA WASHINGTON

FIGURE 38

PLASTIC 18  
ARIZONA FLORIDA WASHINGTON

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - D (10 MIL)

INITIAL VALUE = 142.0%

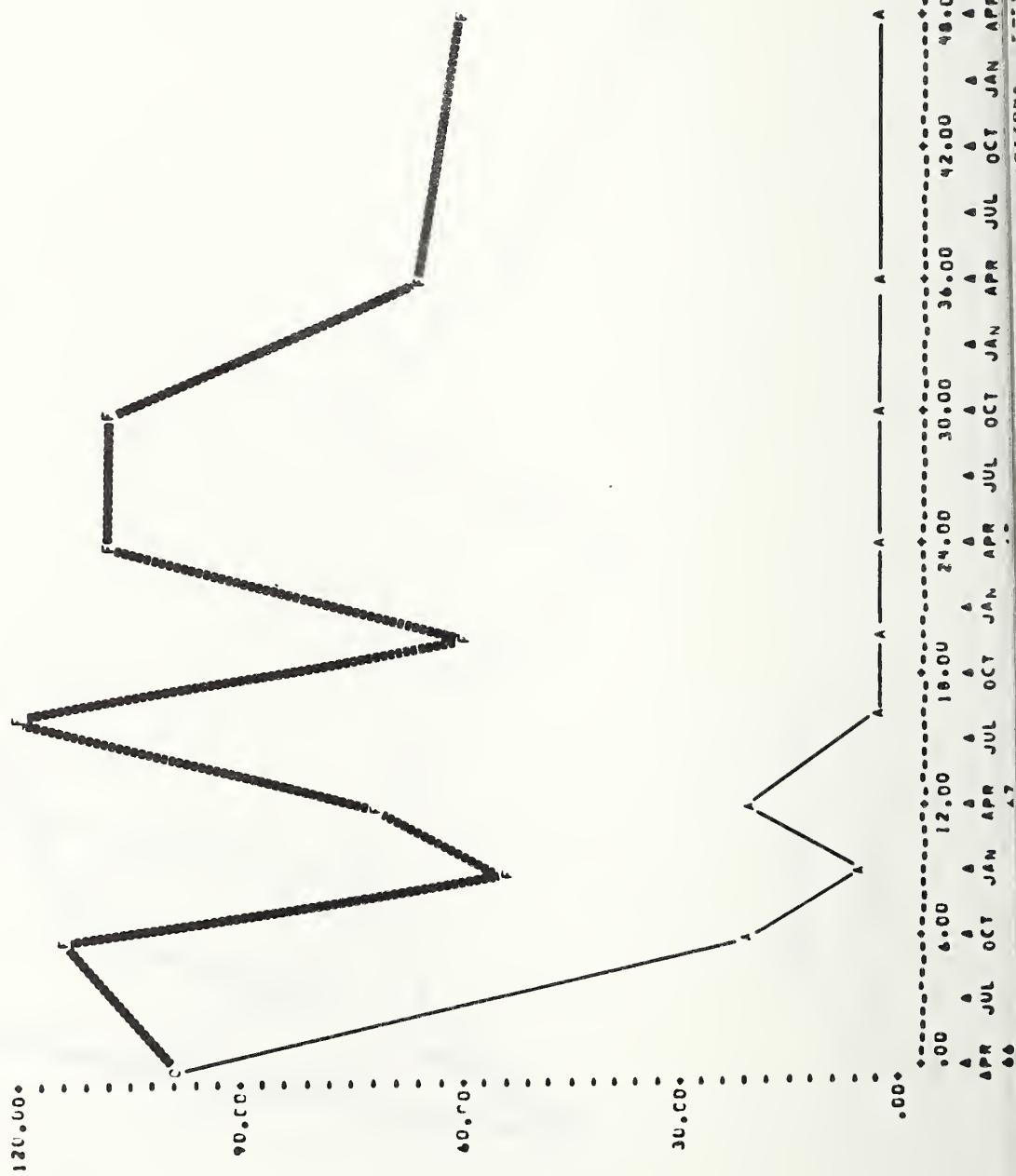
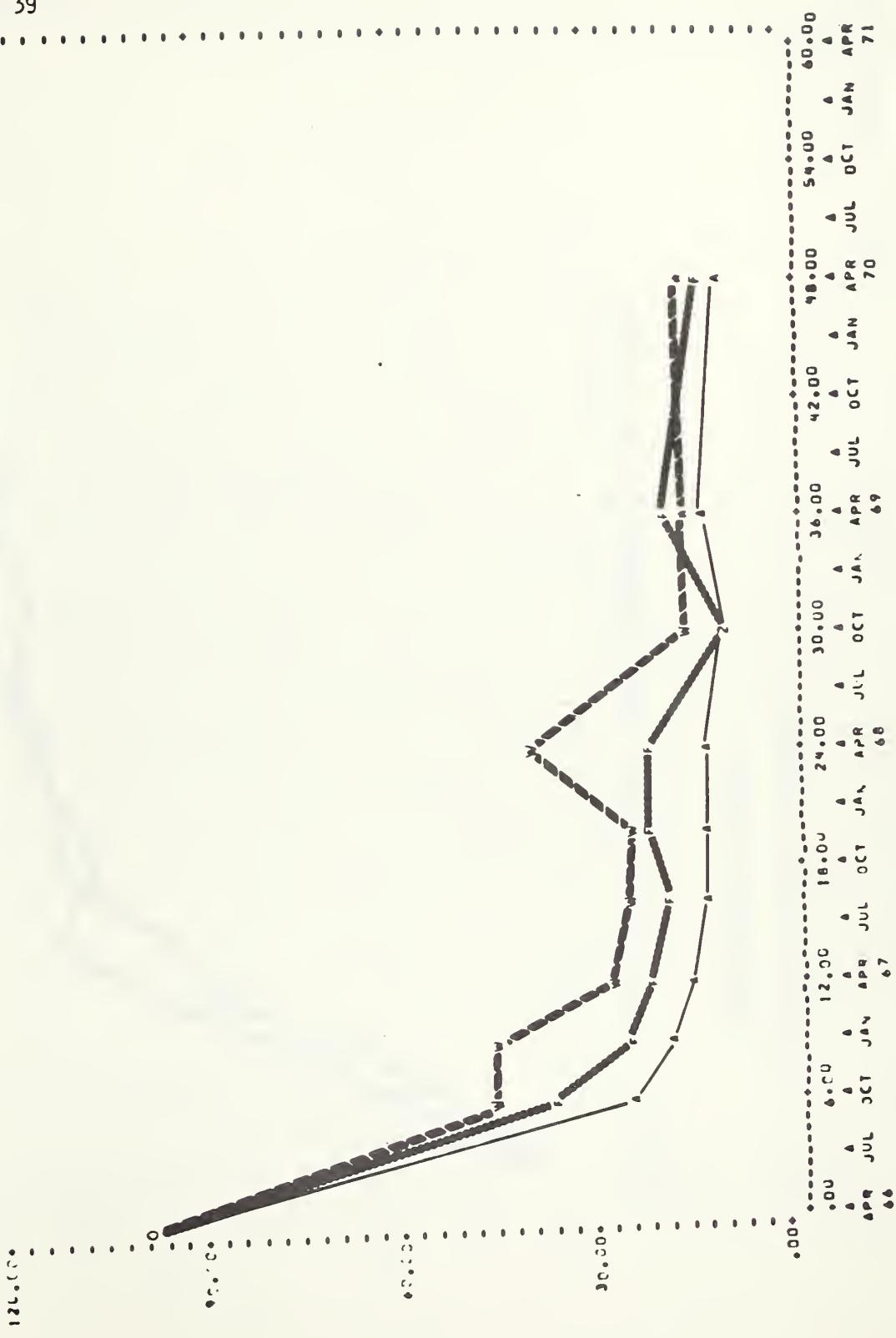


FIGURE 39

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - D (60 MIL)

INITIAL VALUE = 50.77



ULTIMATE ELONGATION (PERCENT OF INITIAL VALUE)  
ARIZONA FLORIDA WASHINGTON

PLASTIC 20

ULTIMATE ELONGATION (PERCENT OF INITIAL VALUE)  
ARIZONA FLORIDA WASHINGTON

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - E (60 MIL)

INITIAL VALUE = 178.0%

120.00

90.00  
60.00

30.00

0.00

FIGURE 40

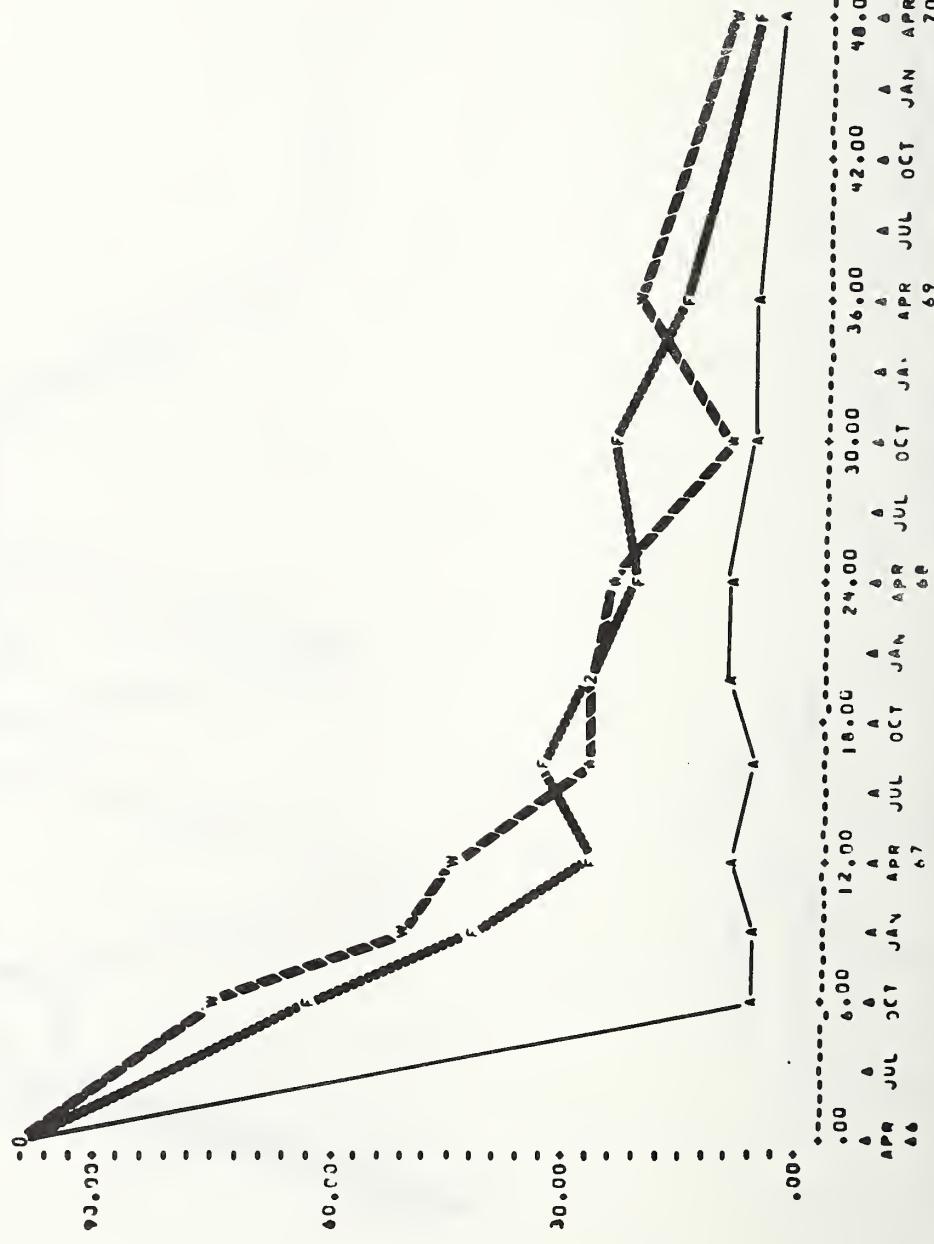


FIGURE 41

AZARIZONA F=FLORIDA A=WASHINGTON

PLASTIC ?

S PERCENT STRESS (PSI)

25.00+

POLYETHYLENE (60 MIL)

20.00+

15.00+

10.00+

5.00+

0.00+

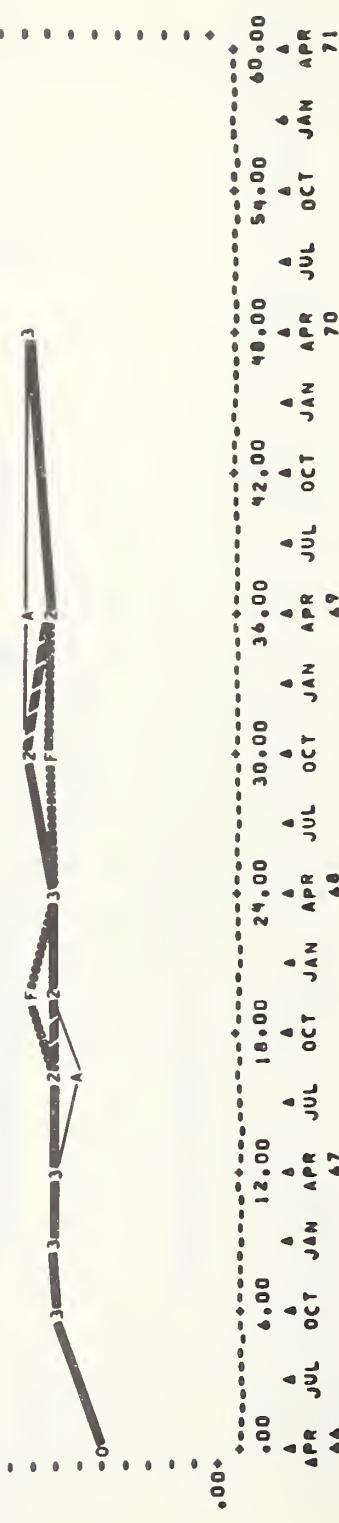


FIGURE 42

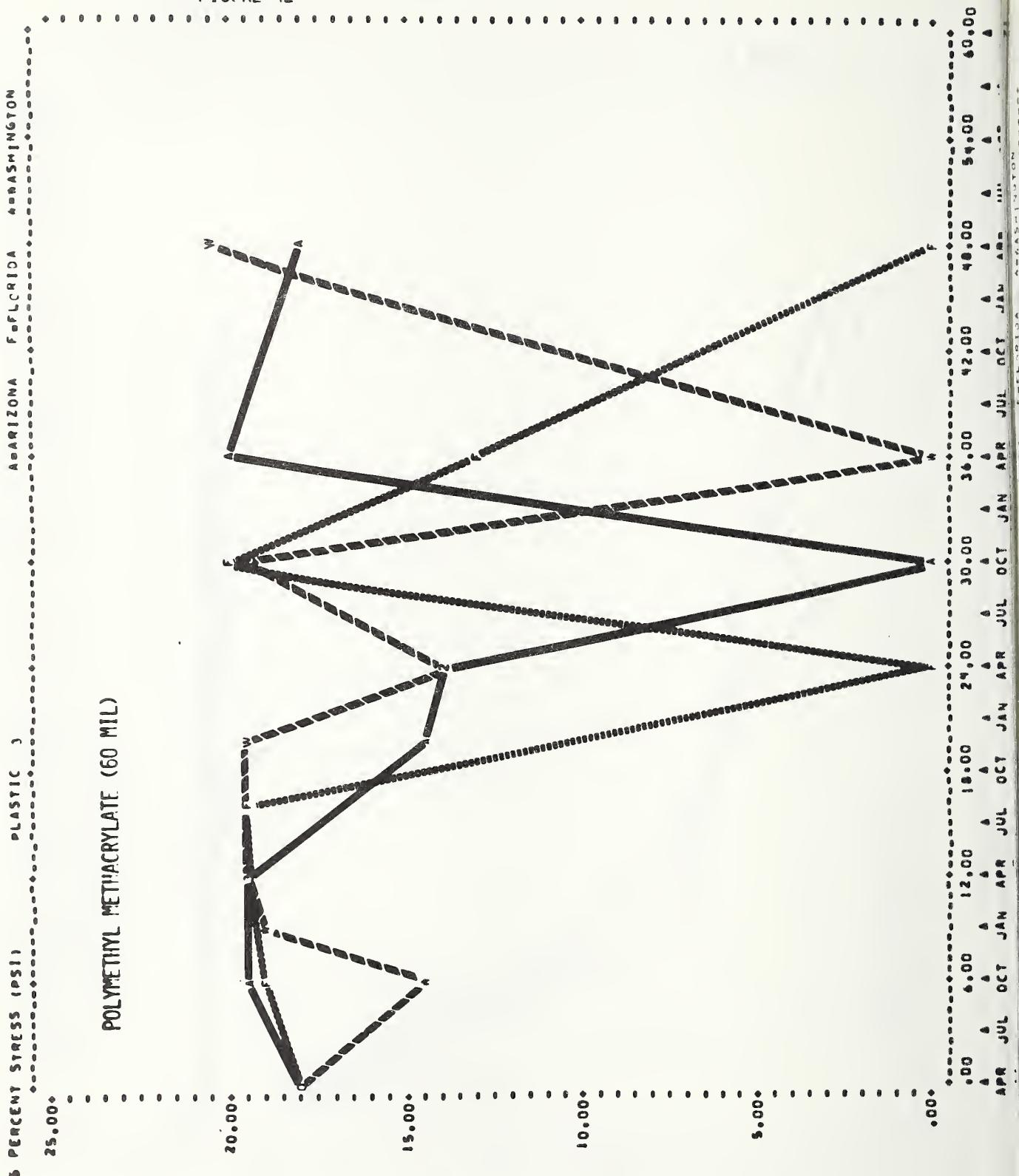


FIGURE 43

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - B (60 MIL)

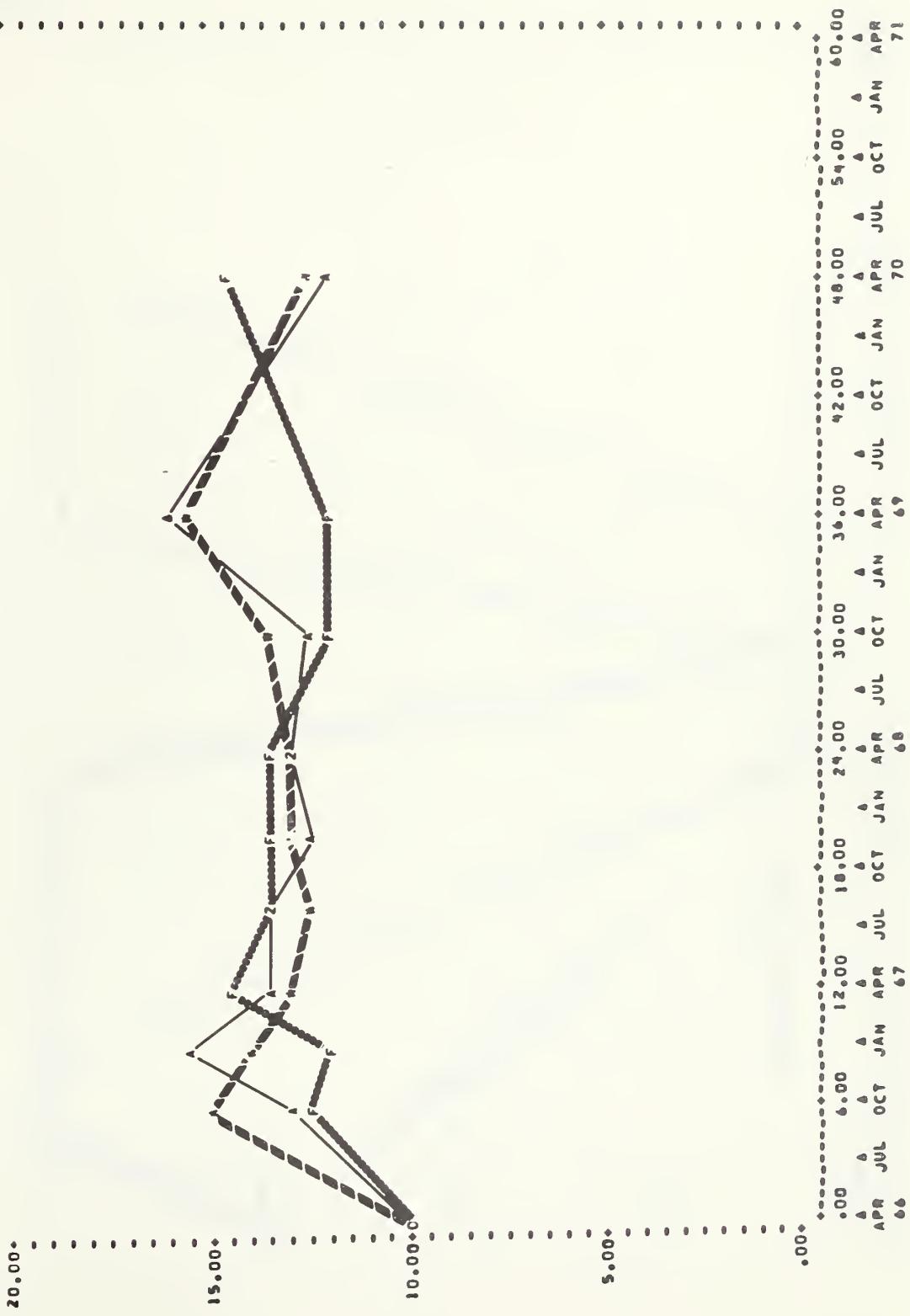


FIGURE 44

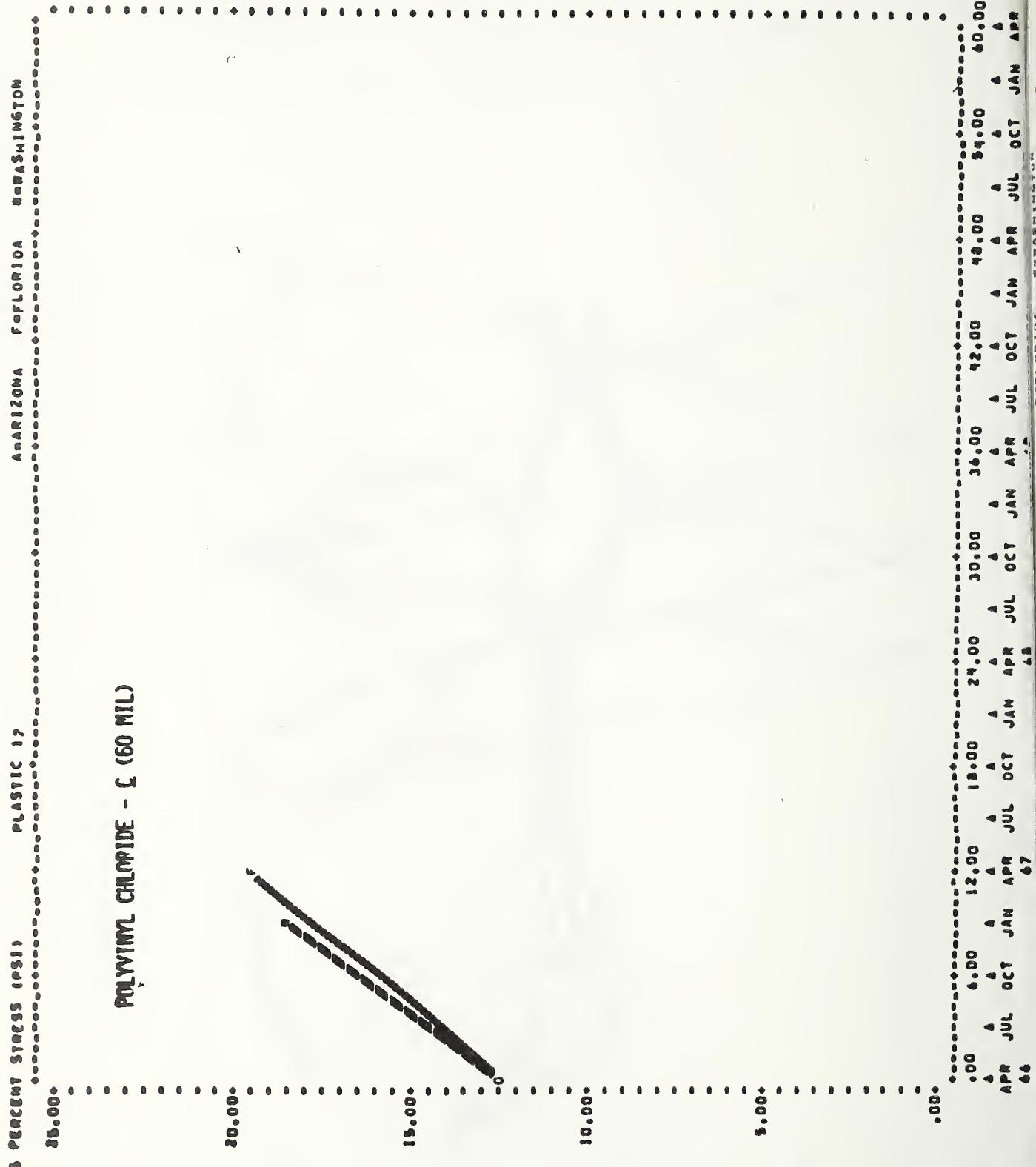
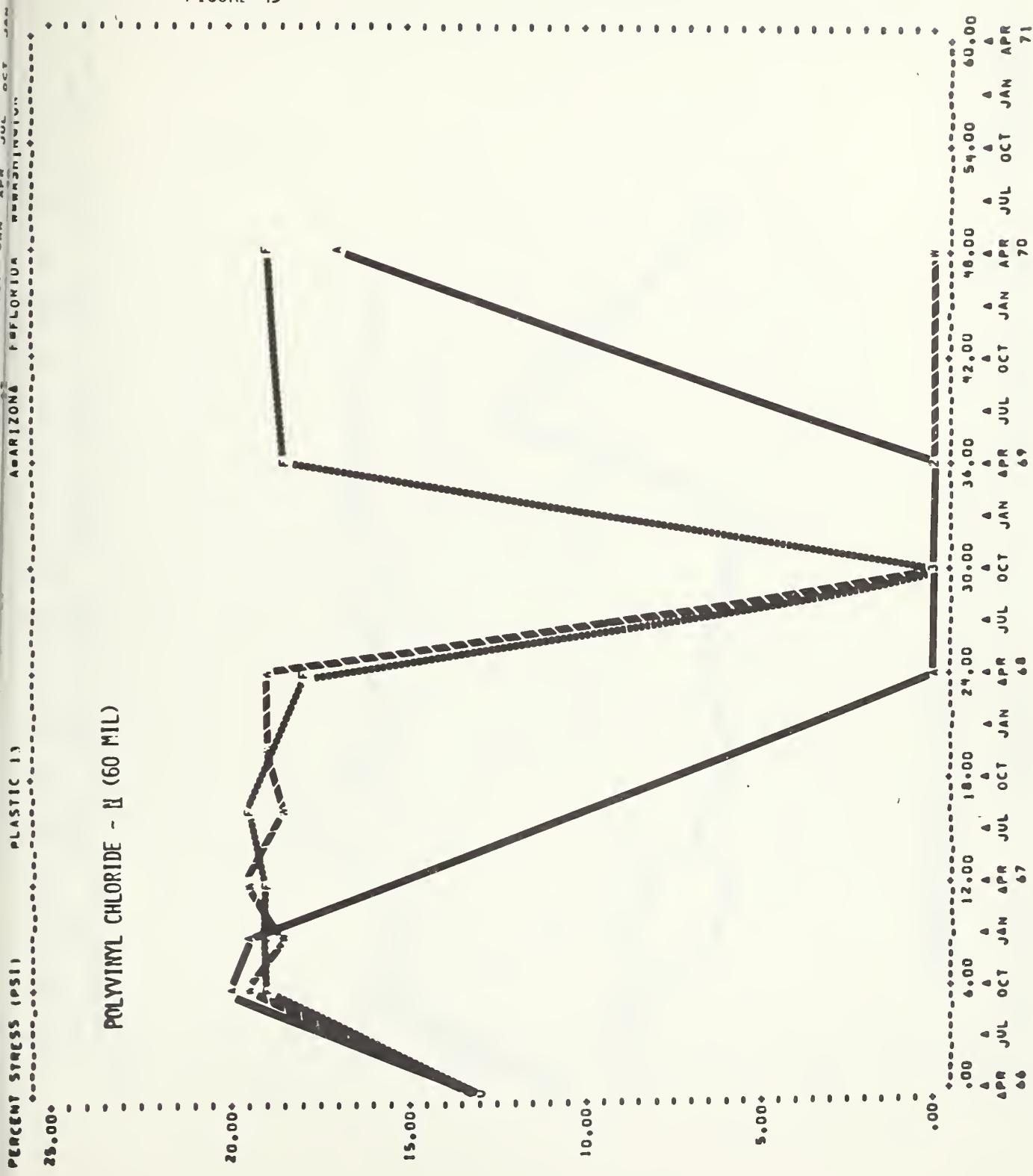


FIGURE 45



**FIGURE 46**

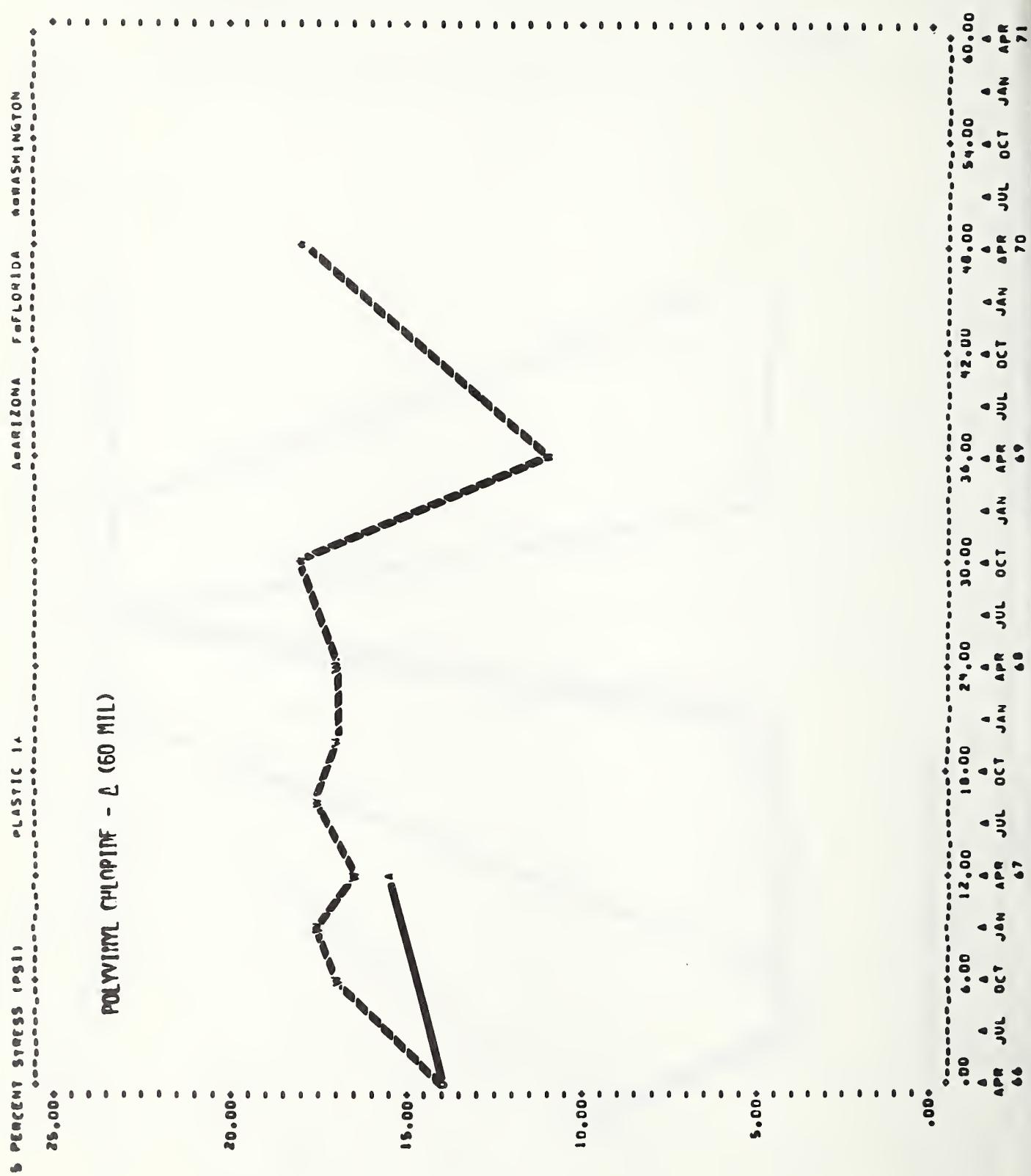


FIGURE 47

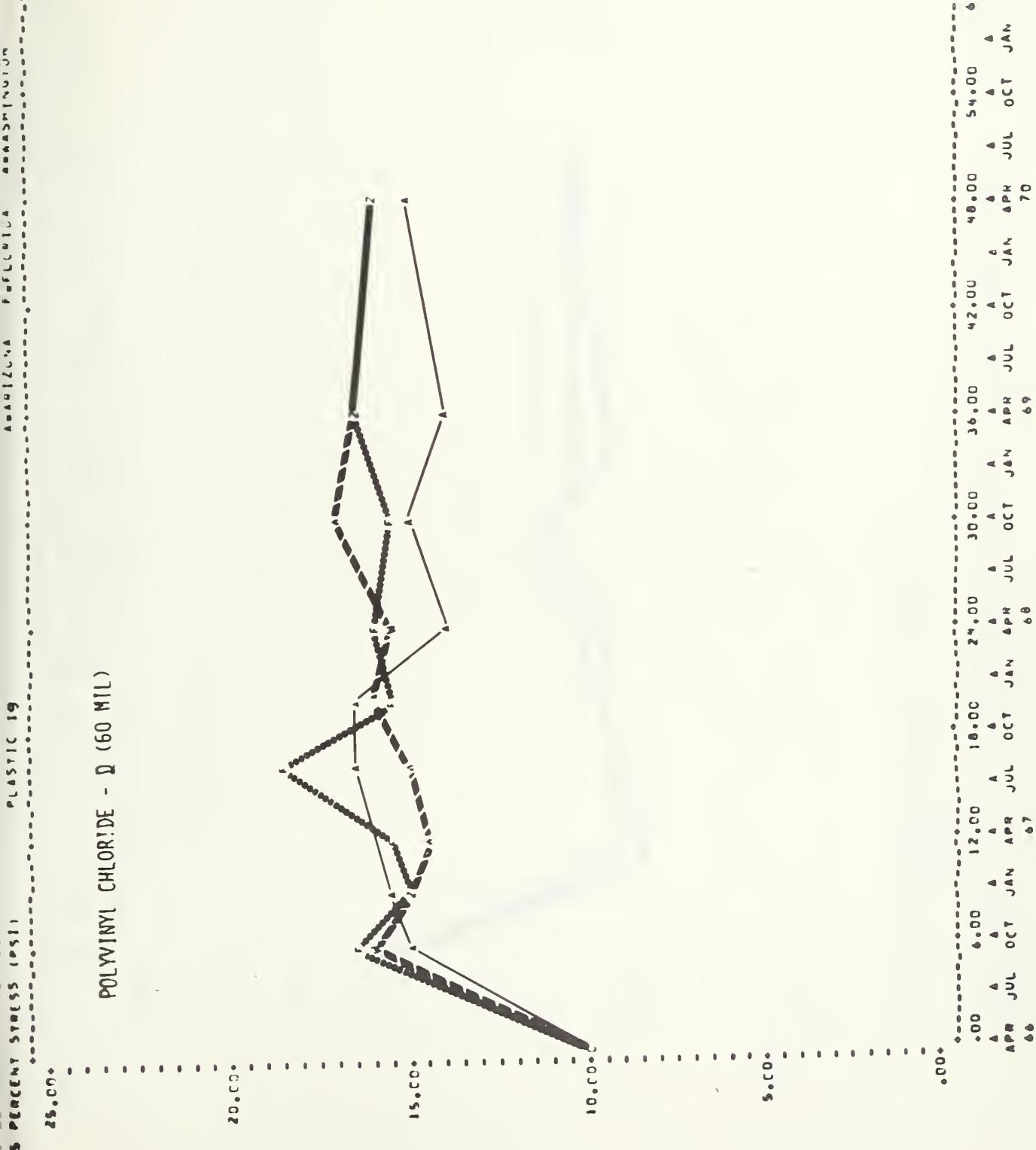


FIGURE 48

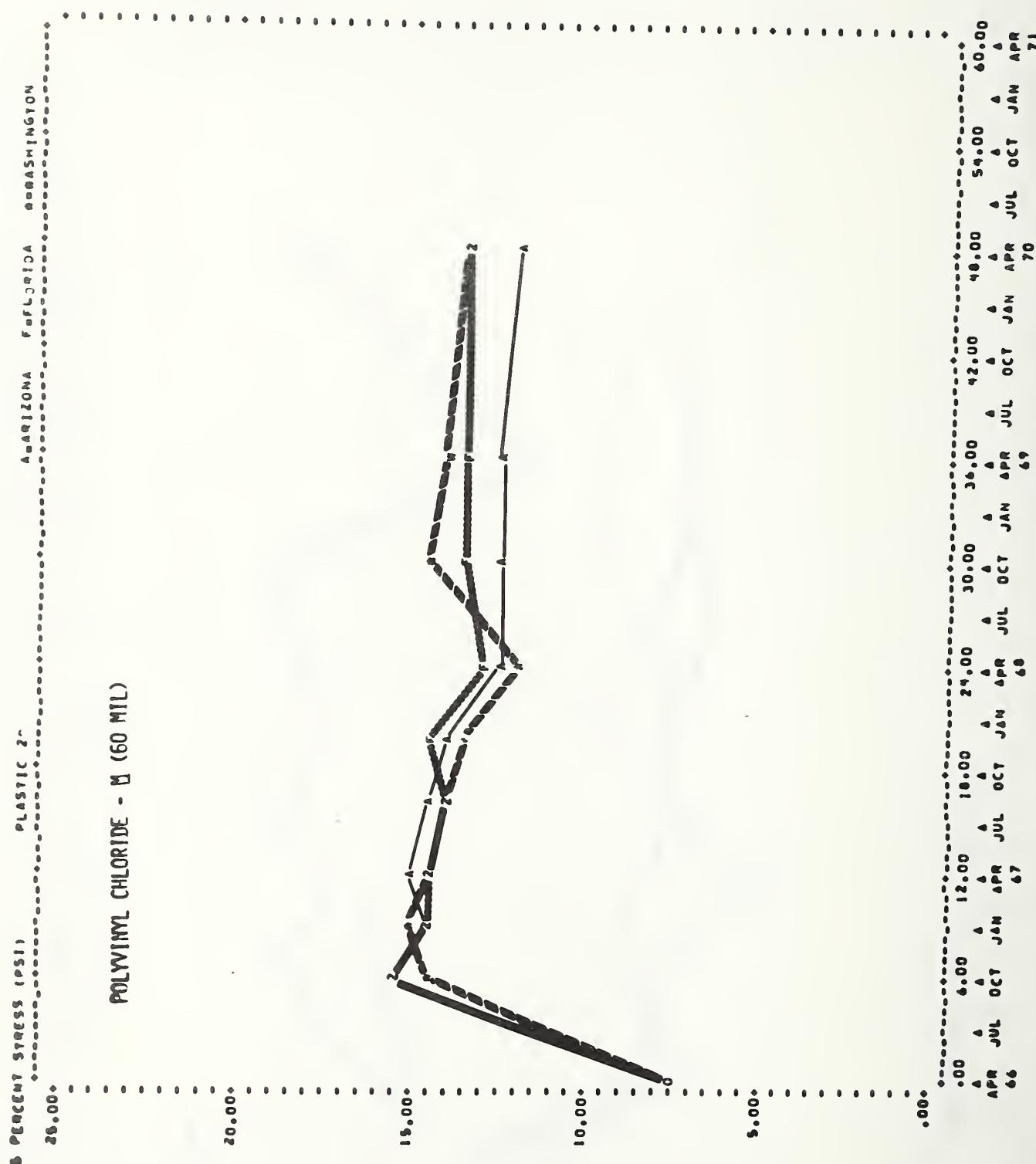


FIGURE 49

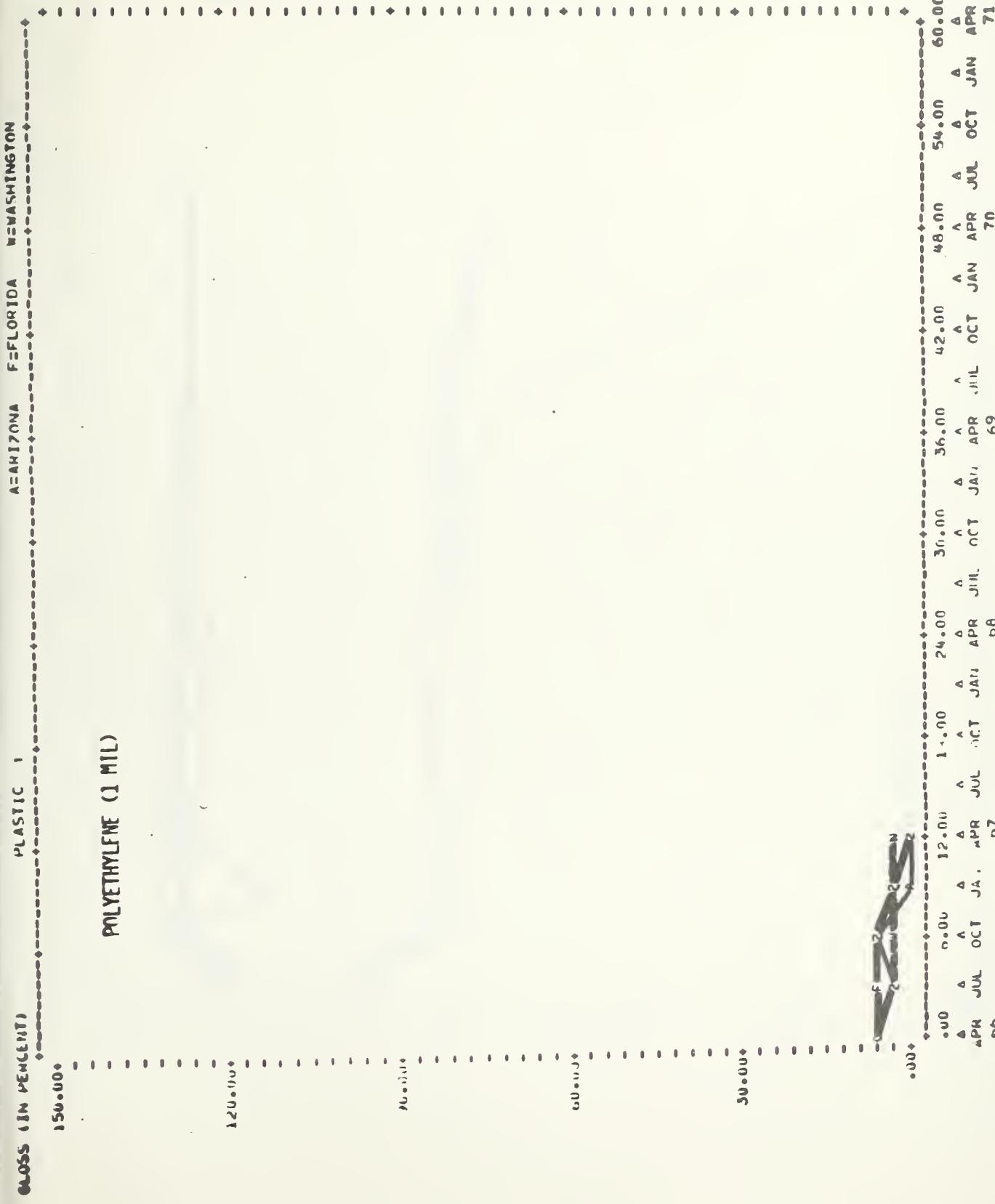


FIGURE 50

GLOSS (IN PERCENT) AZ=ARIZONA F=FLORIDA W=WASHINGTON

PLASTIC 2  
POLYETHYLENE (60 MIL)

150.00+

120.00+

90.00+

60.00+

30.00+

0.00+

0.00+

0.00+

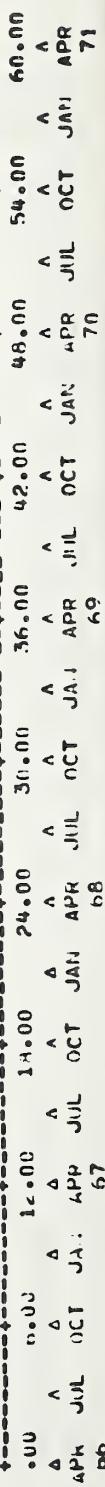
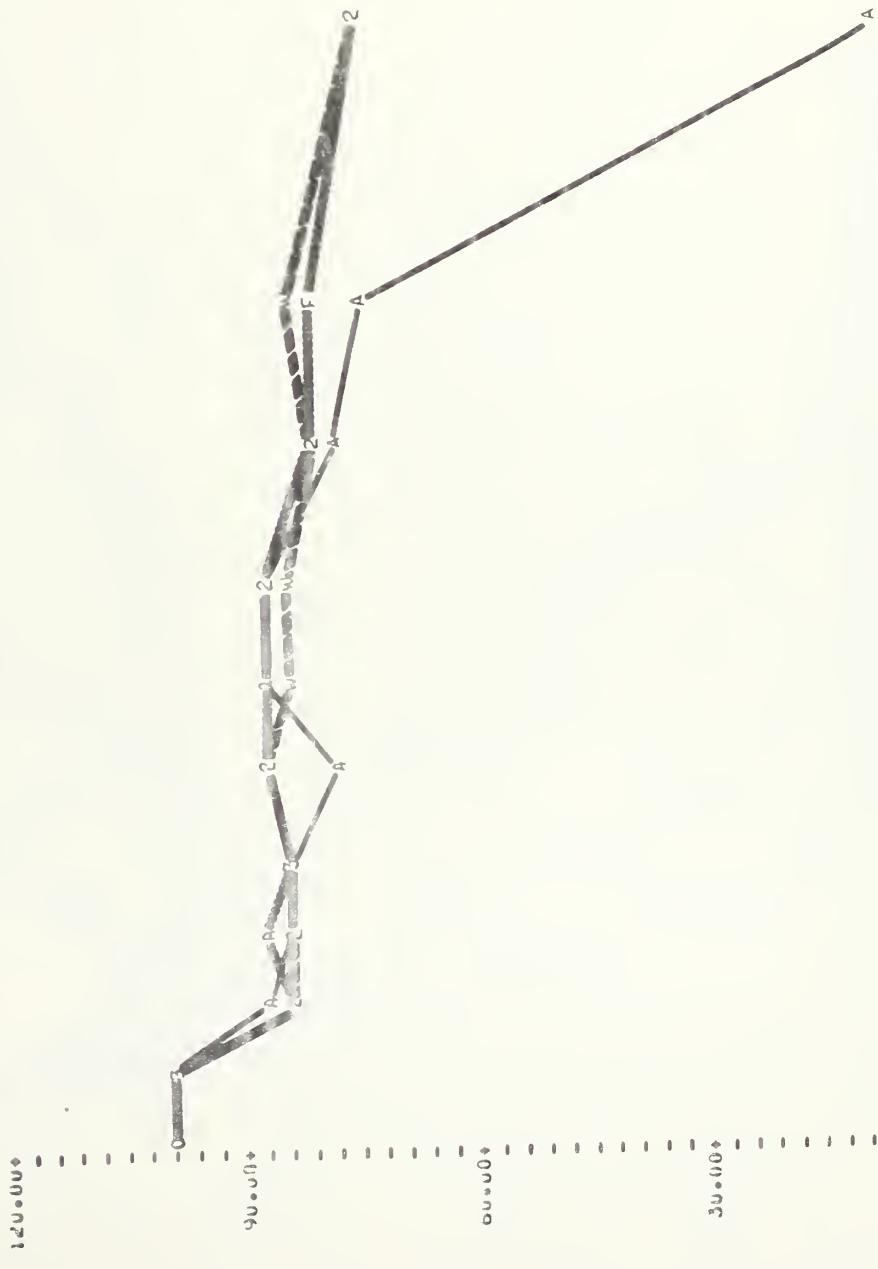


FIGURE 51

A=AHITONA F=FLGIMA M=MAGNIFICATION

POLYETHYL METHACRYLATE (60 MIL)



AZARITONA FLORIDA WASHINGTON

PLASTIC A

CODS (in PINTS)

150.00  
120.00  
90.00  
60.00  
30.00  
0.00

### POLYVINYLFUORIDE (1 MIL)

120.00  
90.00  
60.00  
30.00  
0.00

FIGURE 52

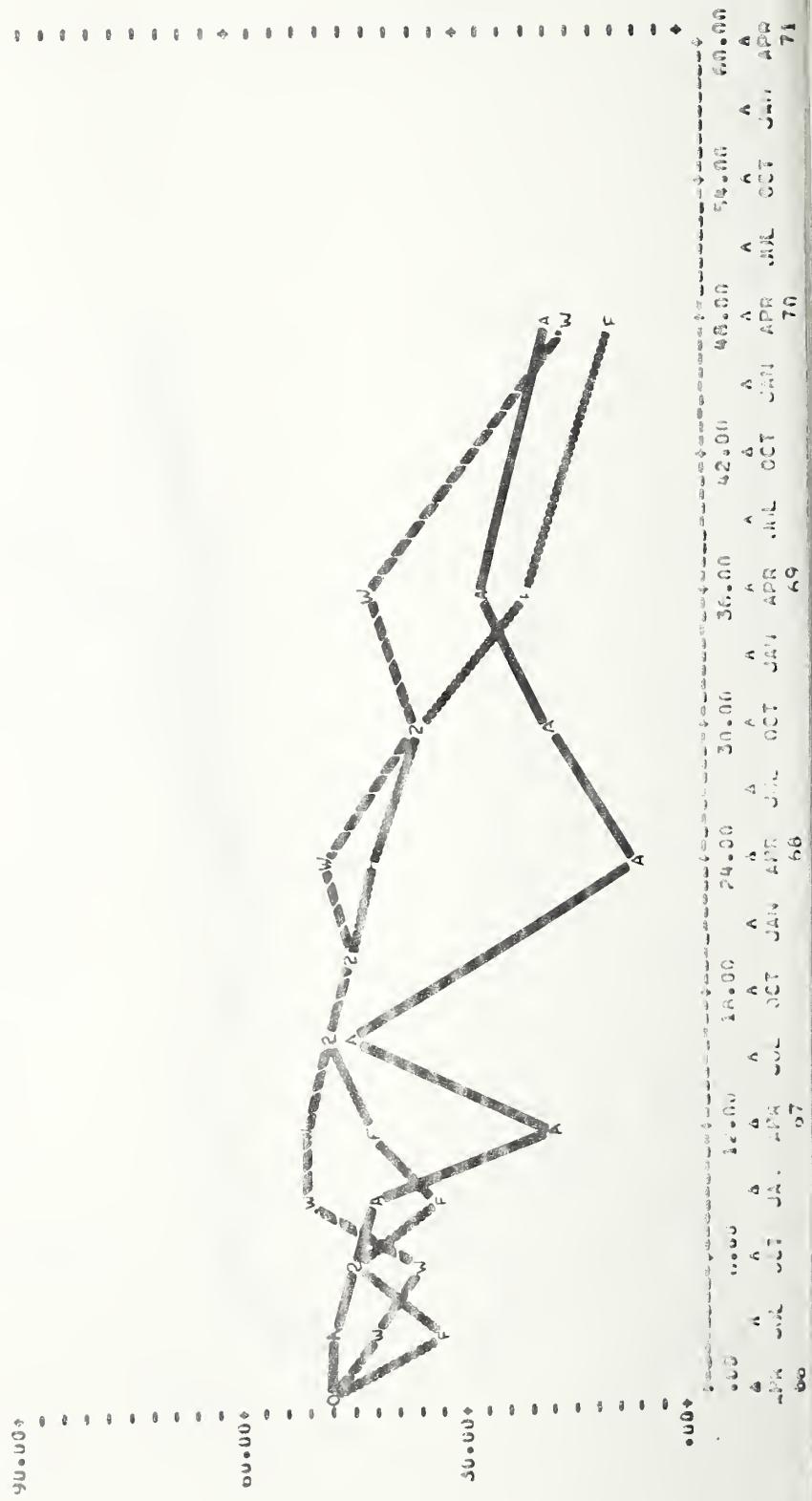


FIGURE 53

A = AMITONA F = FLORIDA R = DAWHILL

POLYETHYLENE TEREPHTHALATE (5 MIL)

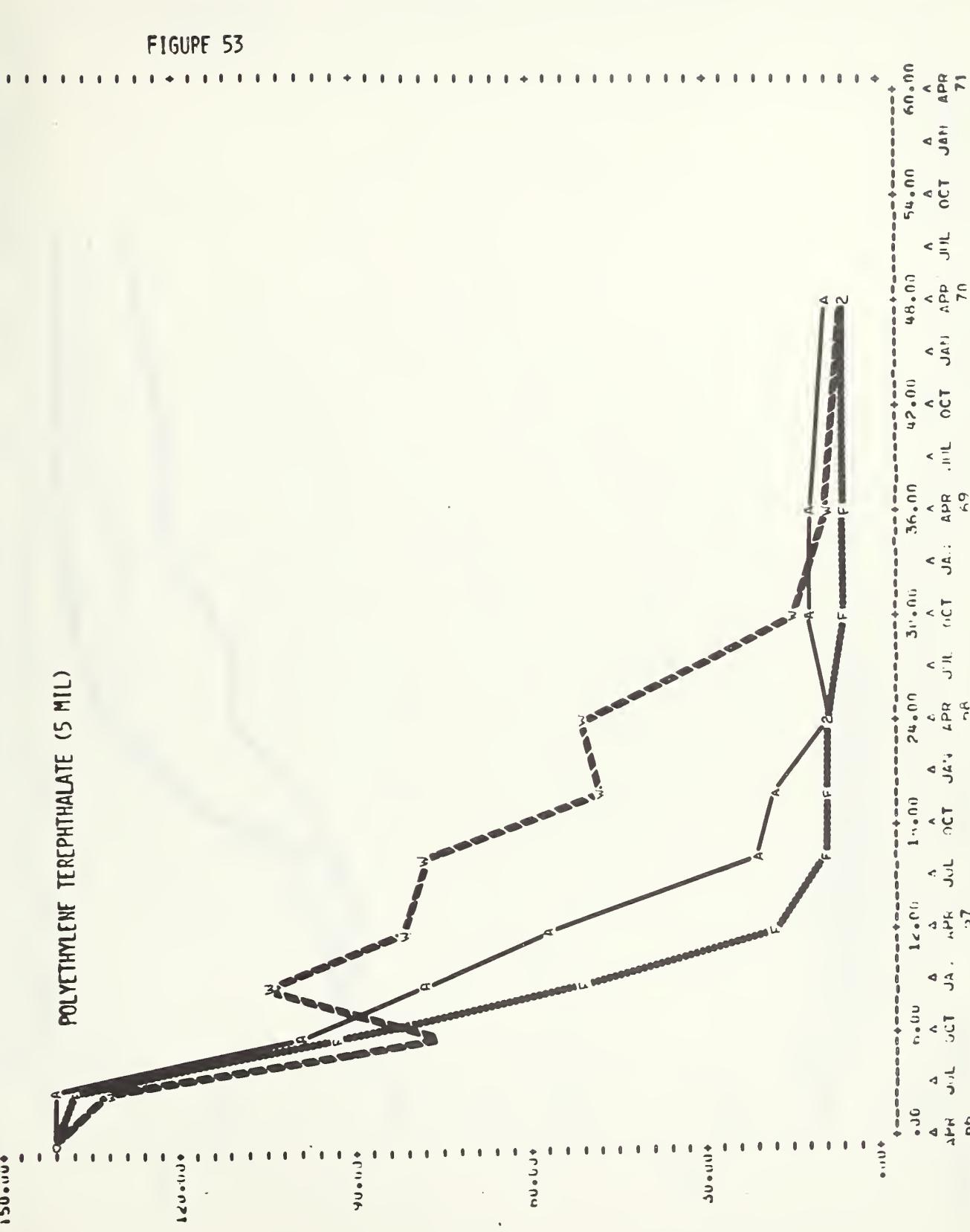


FIGURE 54

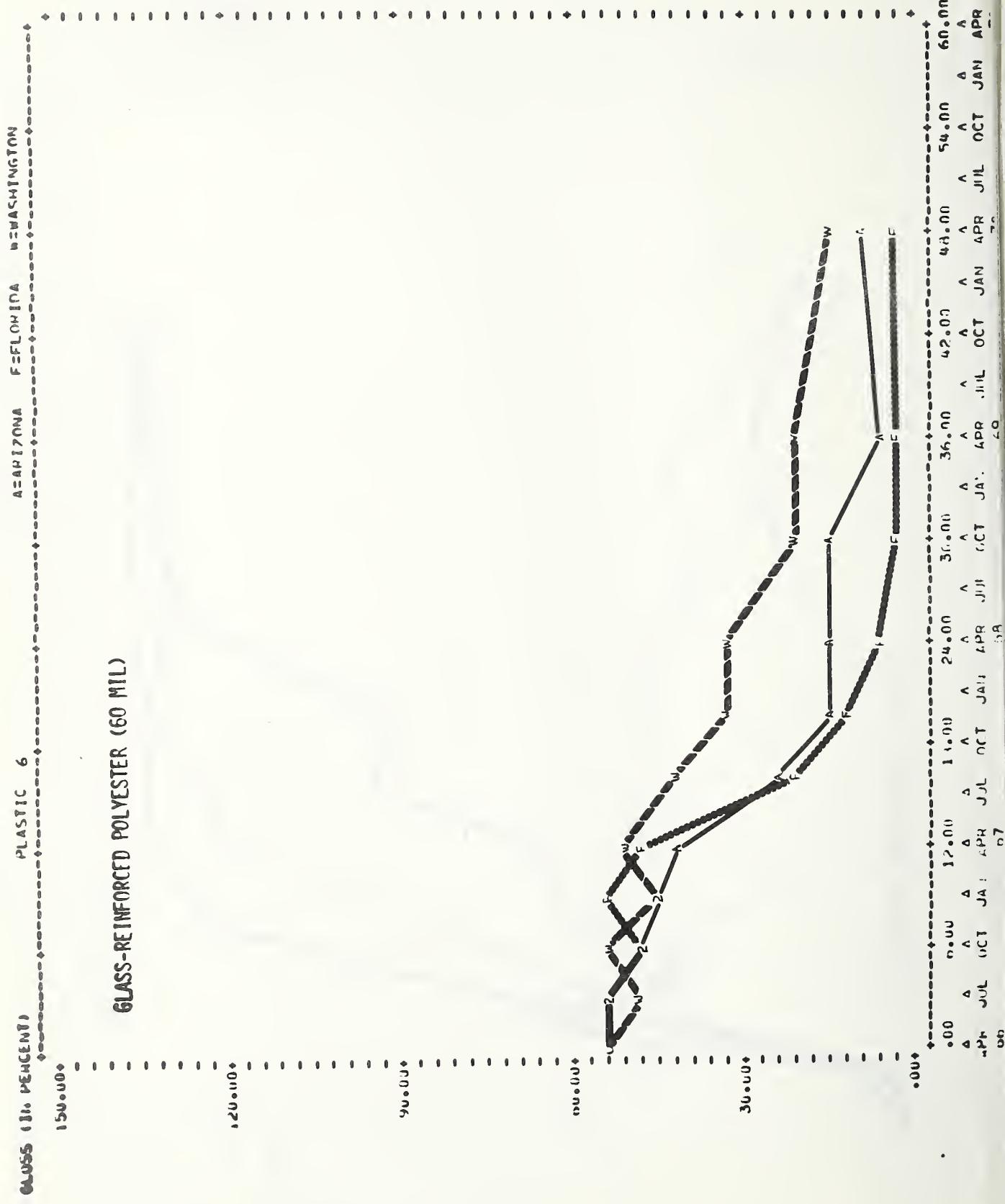


FIGURE 55

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - R (4 MIL)

120.00+

90.00+

60.00+

30.00+

0.00+

A=ARIZONA F=FLORIDA NEWASHINGTON

PLASTIC

150.00+

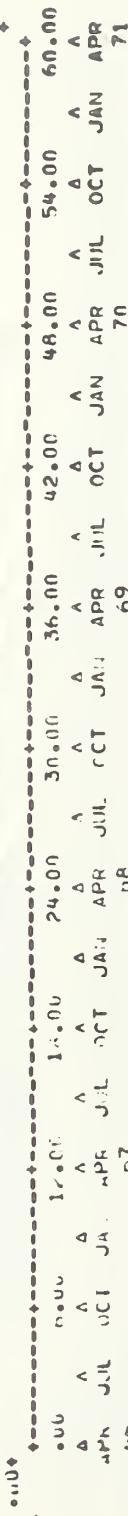


FIGURE 56

A=ARIZONA F=FLORIDA W=WASHINGTON  
PLASTIC 8

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - B (10 MIL)

150.00+

100.00+

50.00+

0.00+

• 60+

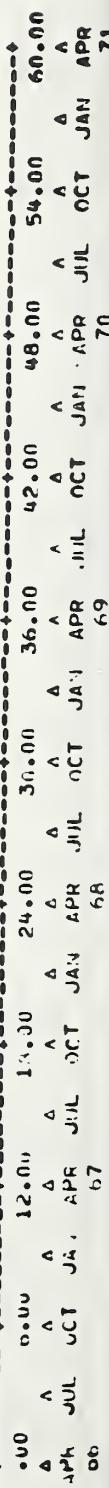


FIGURE 57

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - B (60 MIL)

A = AMITONA F = FLOWIDA

W = WASHINGTON

LOSS (IN. THICKNESS)

150.00

PLASTIC 9

150.00

AMITONA FLOWIDA

WASHINGTON

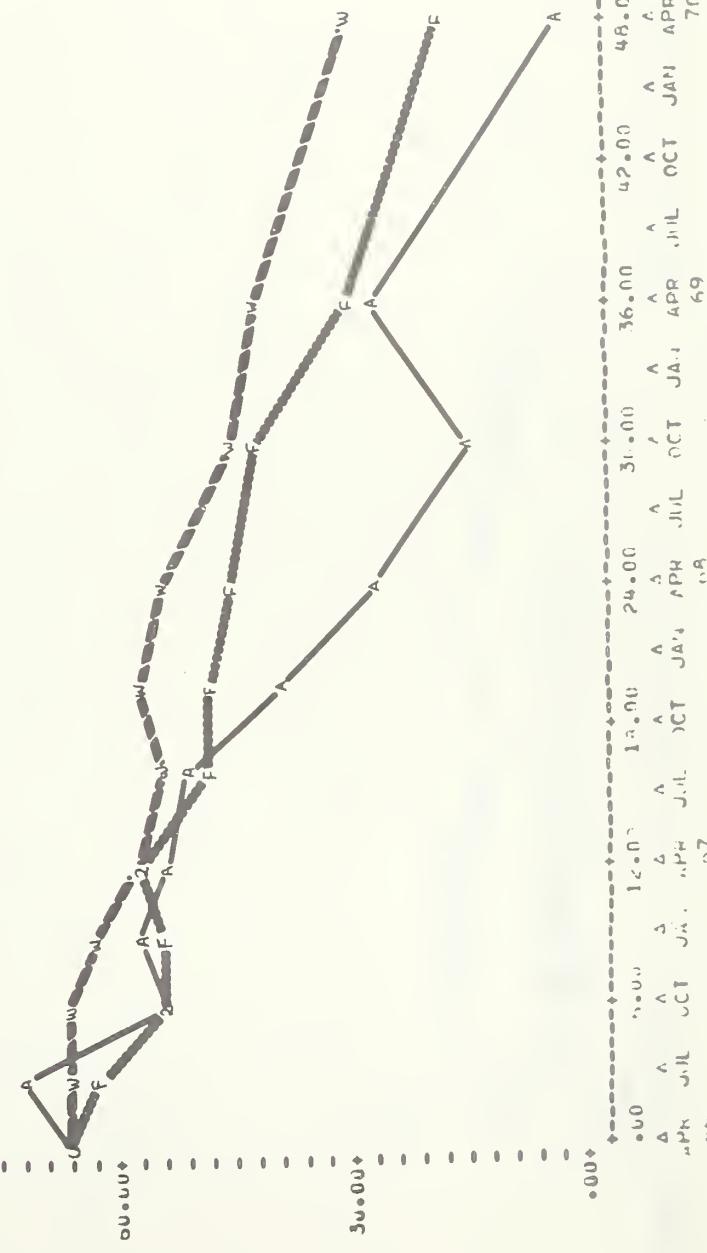


FIGURE 58

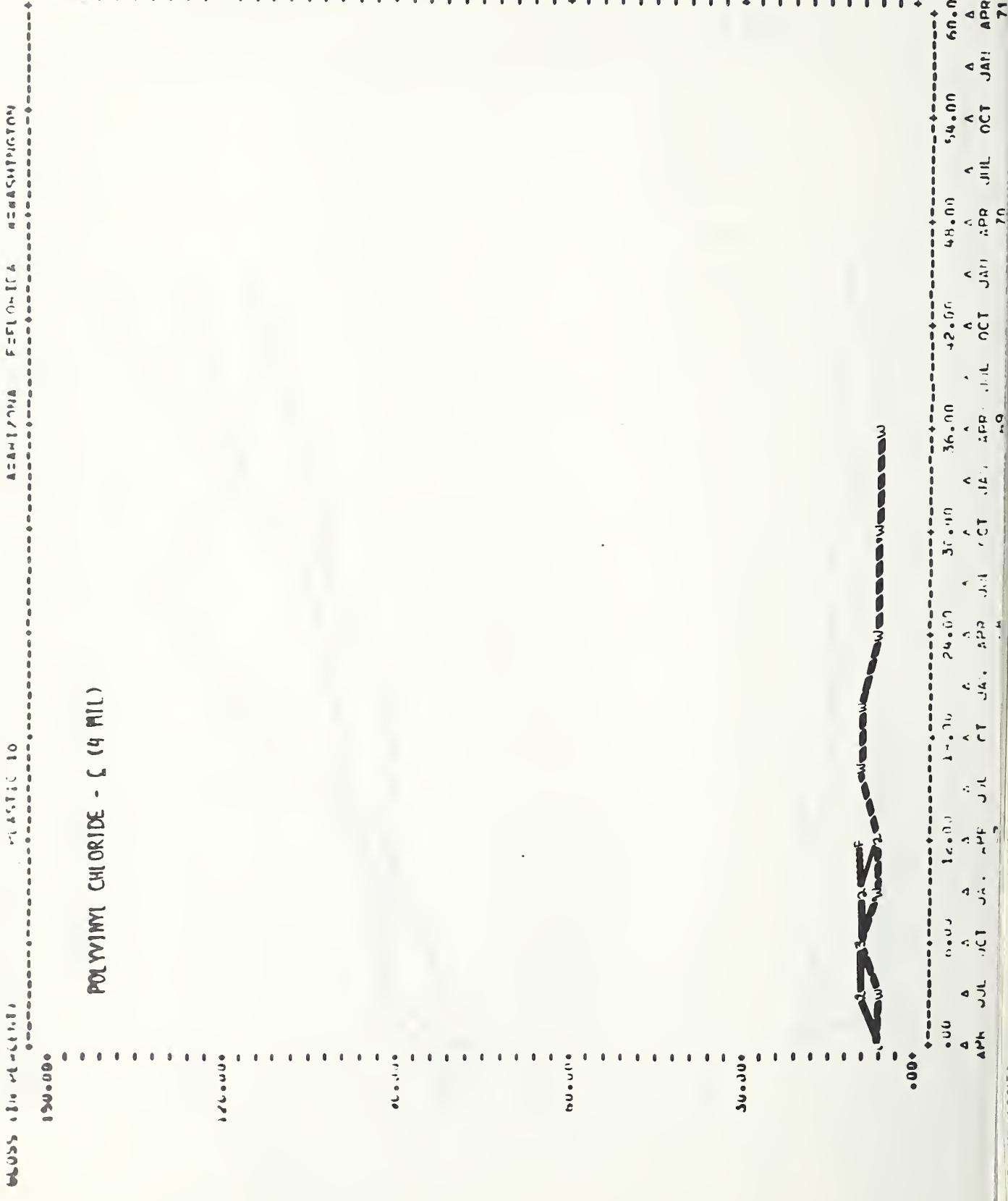


FIGURE 59

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - C (10 MIL)

150.00

PLASTIC 11

ALUMINUM

100.00

10.00

0.00

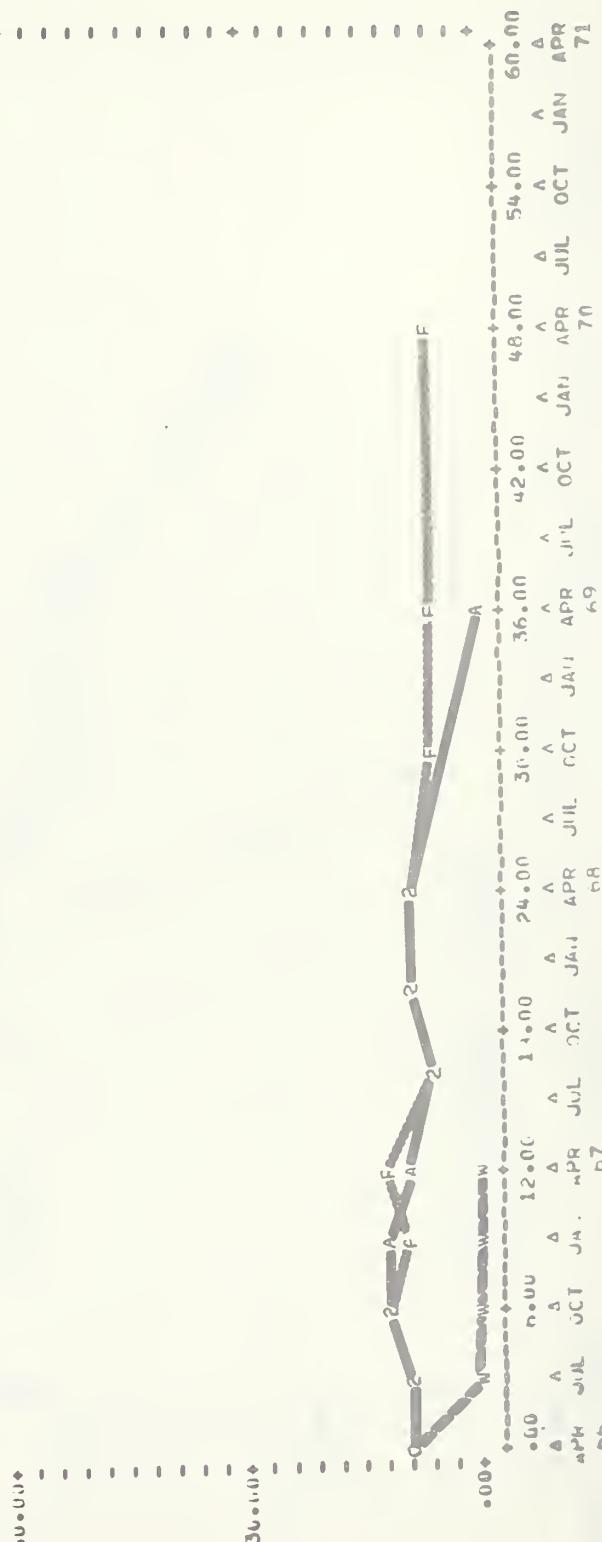


FIGURE 60

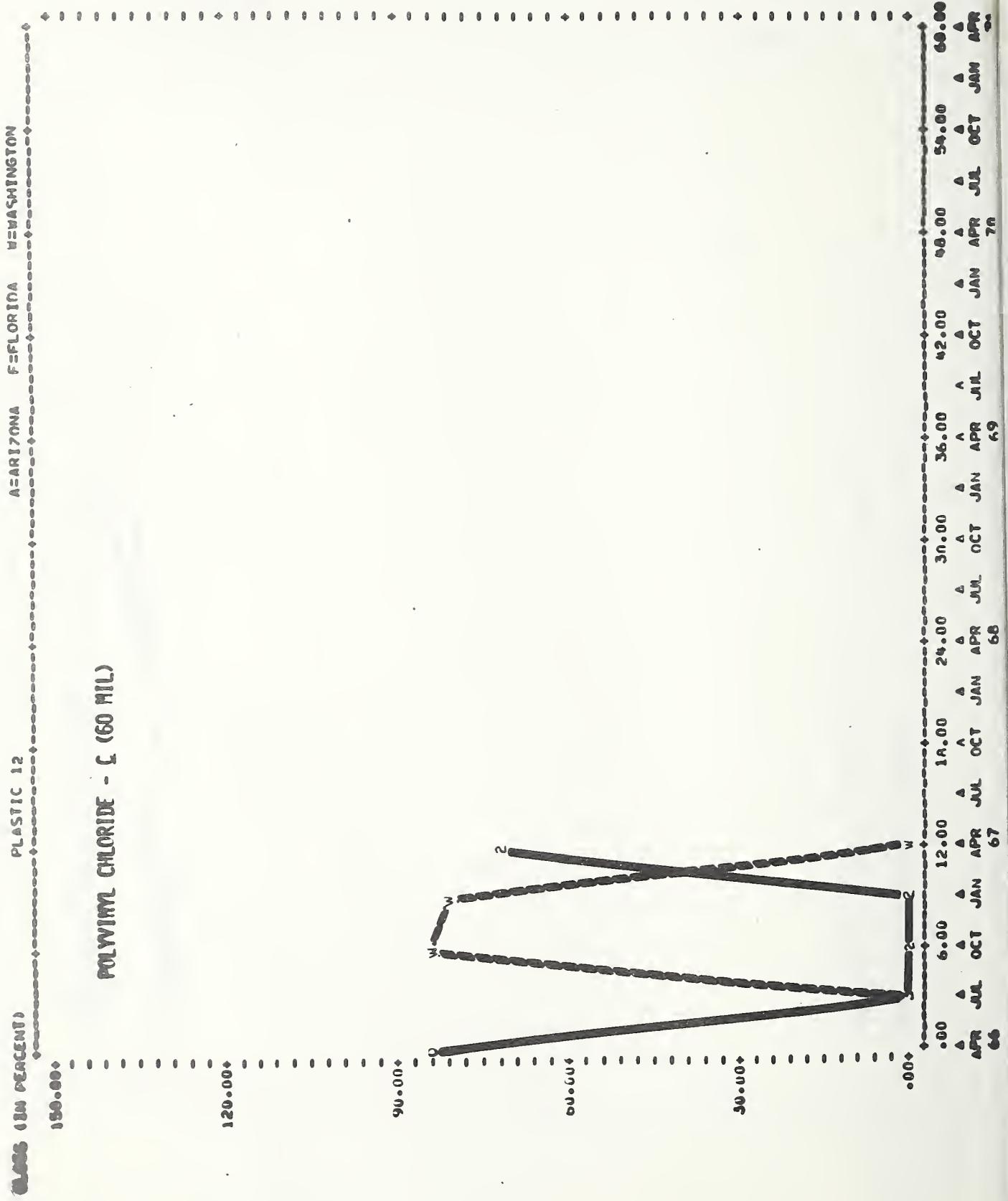


FIGURE 61

A = ARIZONA F = FLORIDA W = WASHINGTON

ARIZONA

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## POLY(VINYL CHLORIDE) - N (60 MIL)

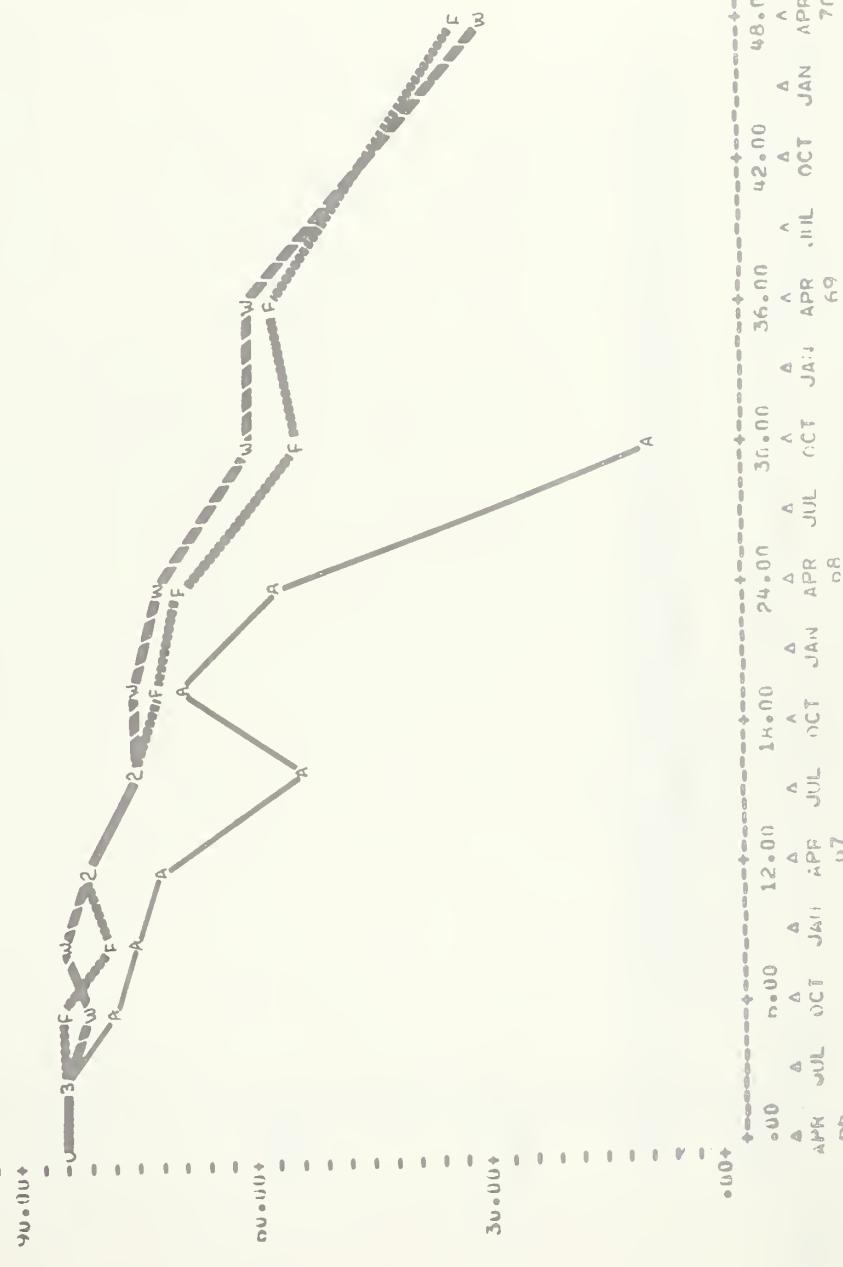


FIGURE E2

GLOSS (IN PERCENT)      PLASTIC 14      AZARIZONA      FLORIDA      WASHINGTON

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - A (4 MIL)

120.00

90.00

60.00

30.00

0.00

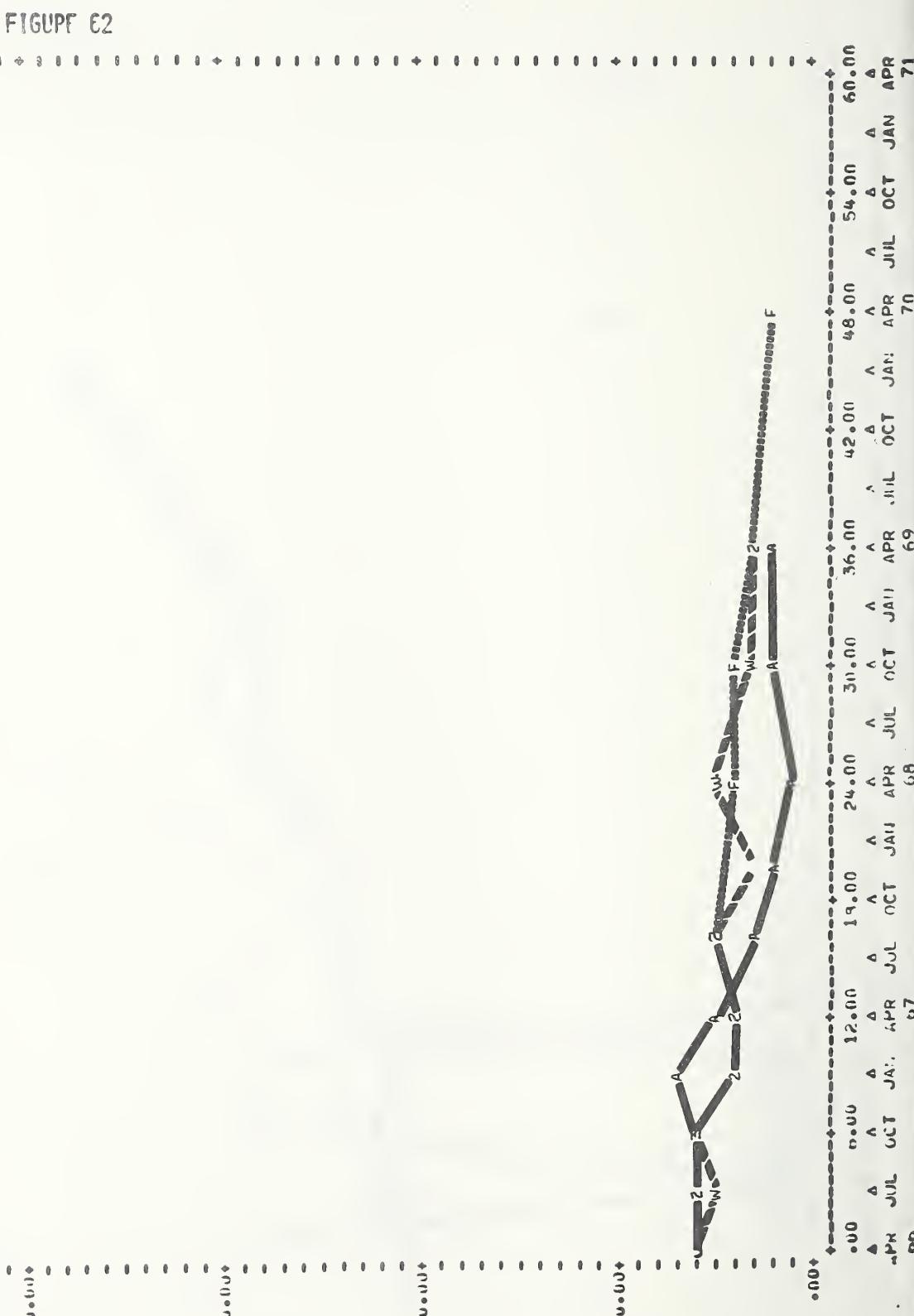


FIGURE 63

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - A (10 MIL)

A=ARIZONA F=FLORIDA R=WASHINGTON

PLASTIC 1c

Gloss (10. DECENI)

150.00

120.00

90.00

60.00

30.00

0.00



GLOSS (100 REFLIN)

PLASTIC 16

ARIZONA FLORIDA WASHINGTON

200.00+  
190.00+  
180.00+  
170.00+  
160.00+  
150.00+  
140.00+  
130.00+  
120.00+  
110.00+  
100.00+  
90.00+  
80.00+  
70.00+  
60.00+  
50.00+  
40.00+  
30.00+  
20.00+  
10.00+

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - A (60 MIL)

100

200

300

400

500

600

700

800

900

1000

100

200

300

400

500

600

700

800

900

1000

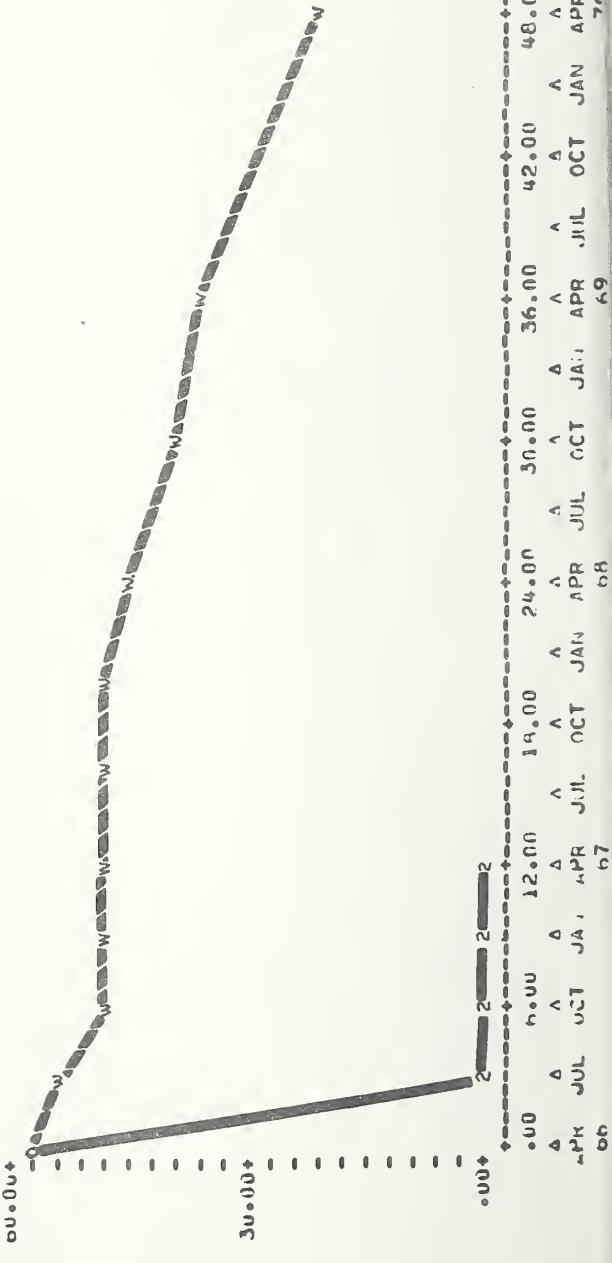


FIGURE 64

FIGURE 65

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - D (4 MIL)

LOSS (1% PERCENT) PLASTIC 17  
FLORIDA WASHINGTON

90.00%

90.00%

90.00%

90.00%



FIGURE 66



FIGURE 67

A=ARIZONA F=FLORIDA W=WASHINGTON

LOSS (IN PLASTIC)

PLASTIC 19

200.00

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - I (60 MIL)

PLASTIC 19

200.00

FIGURE 67

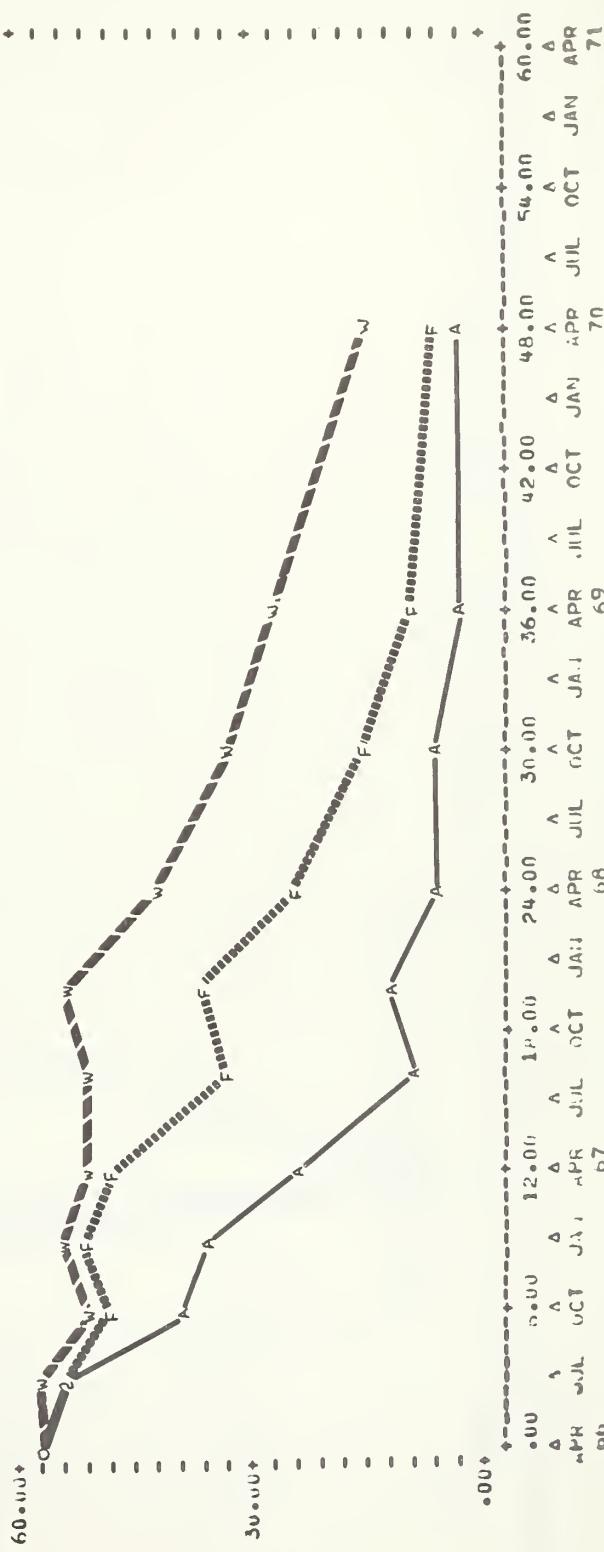


FIGURE 68

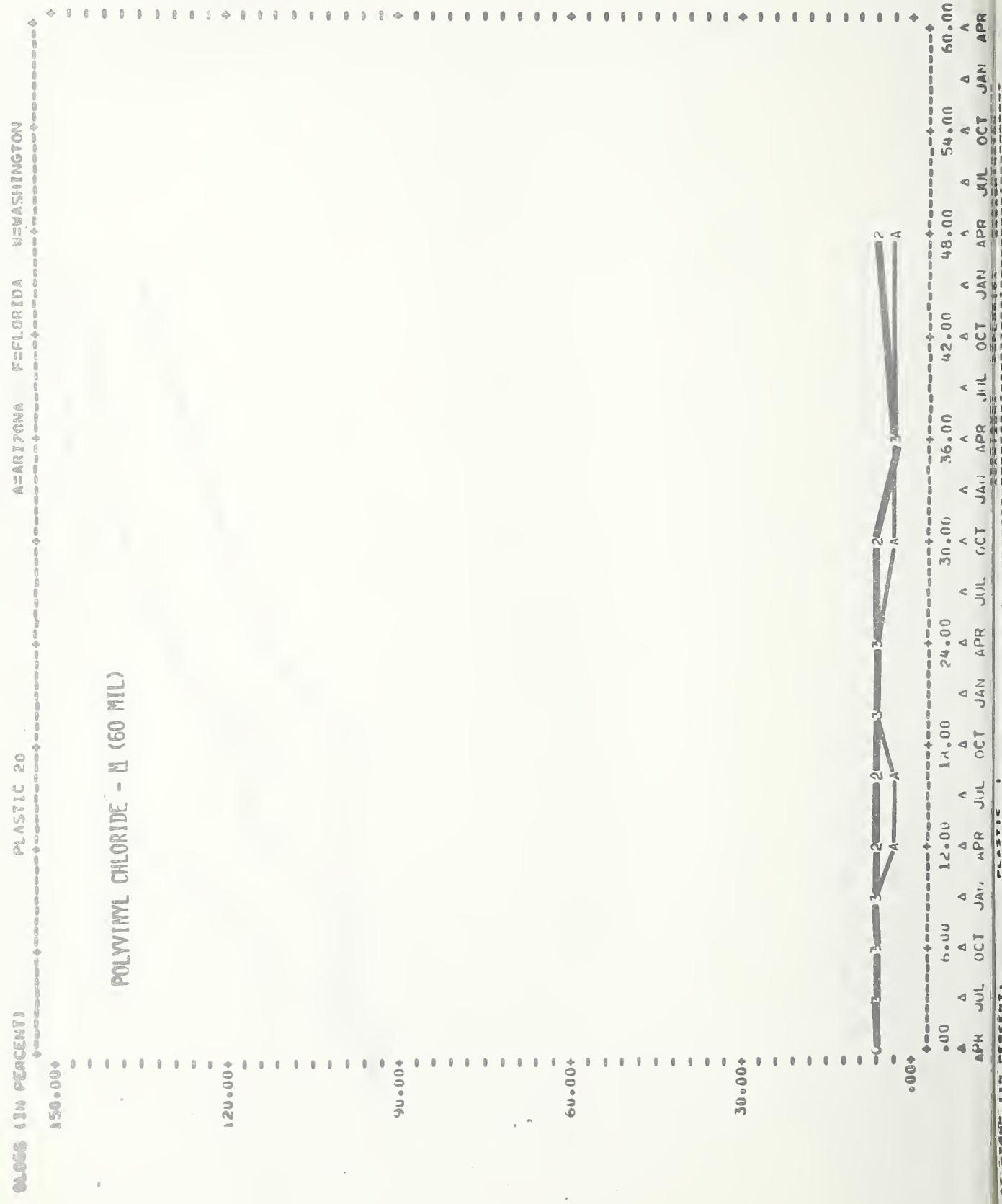


FIGURE 69 A

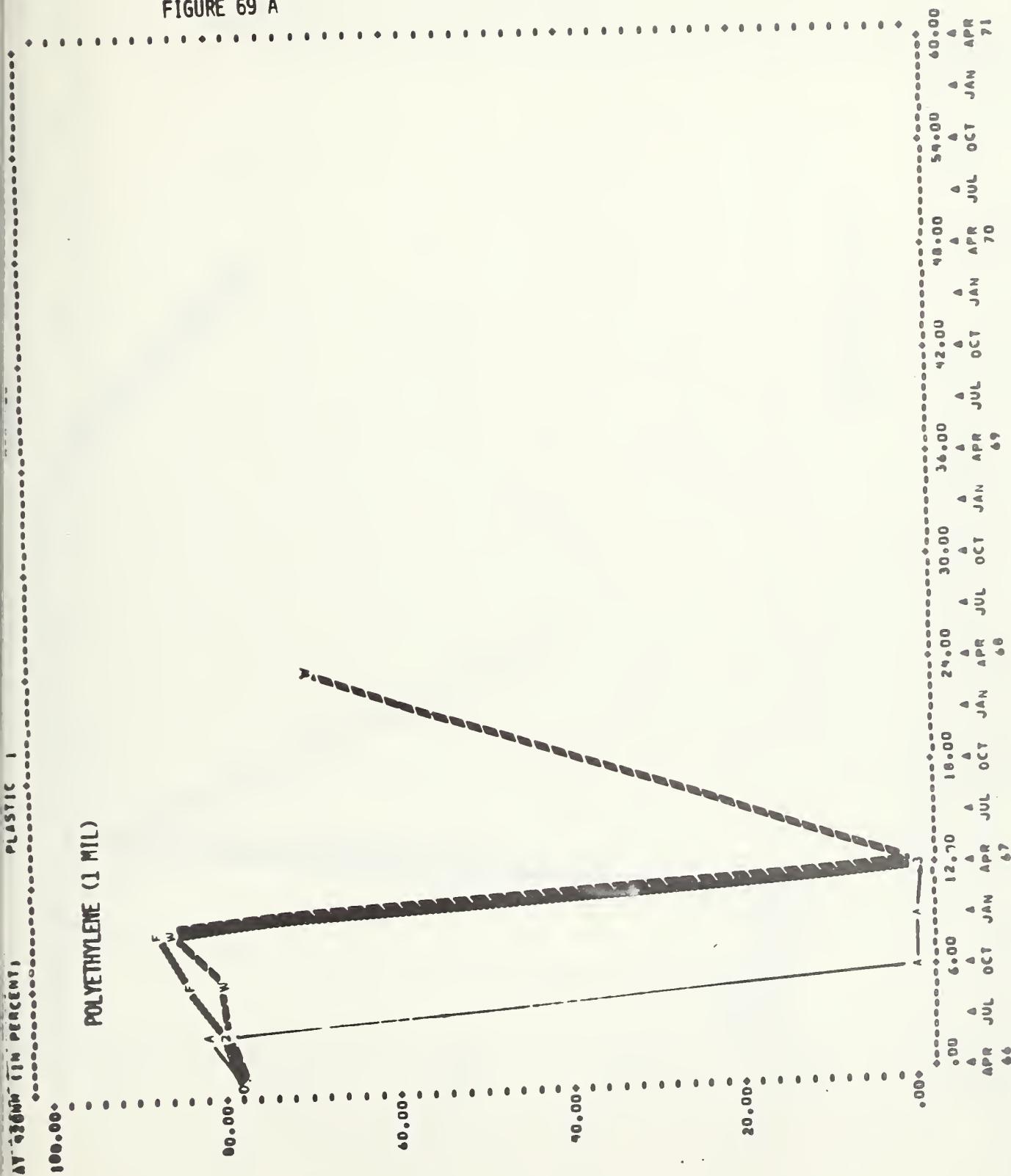


FIGURE 69 B

AMARIZONA FLORIDA WASHINGTON

PLASTIC I  
WATER OF SOLVENT (IN PERCENT)

POLYETHYLENE (1 MIL)

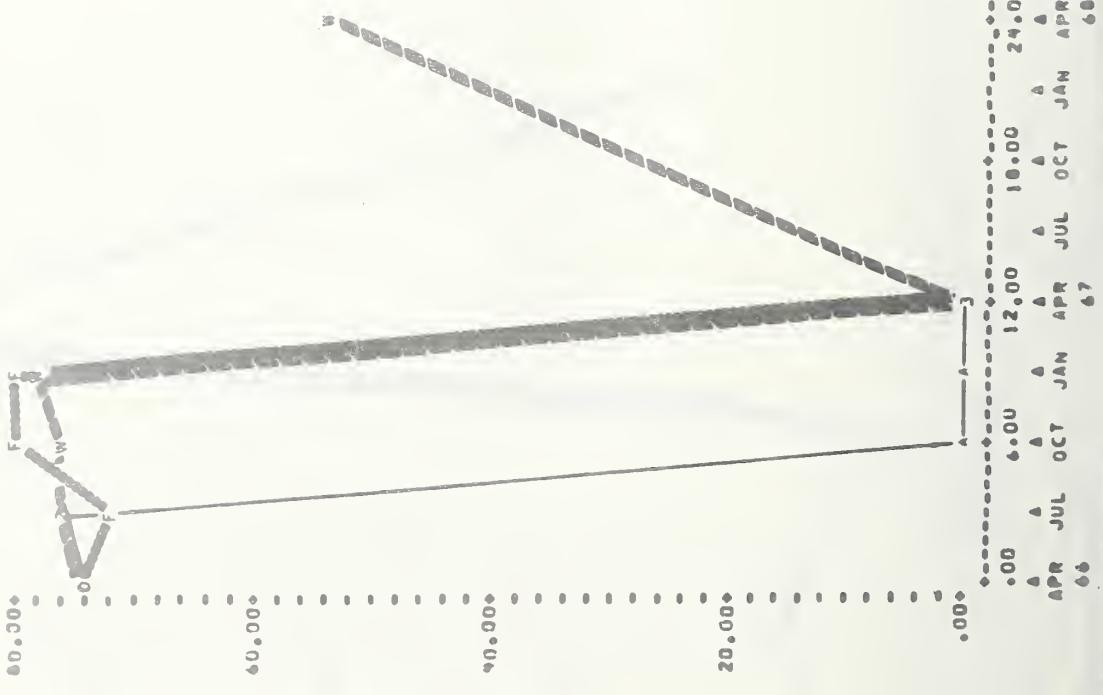


FIGURE 70 A

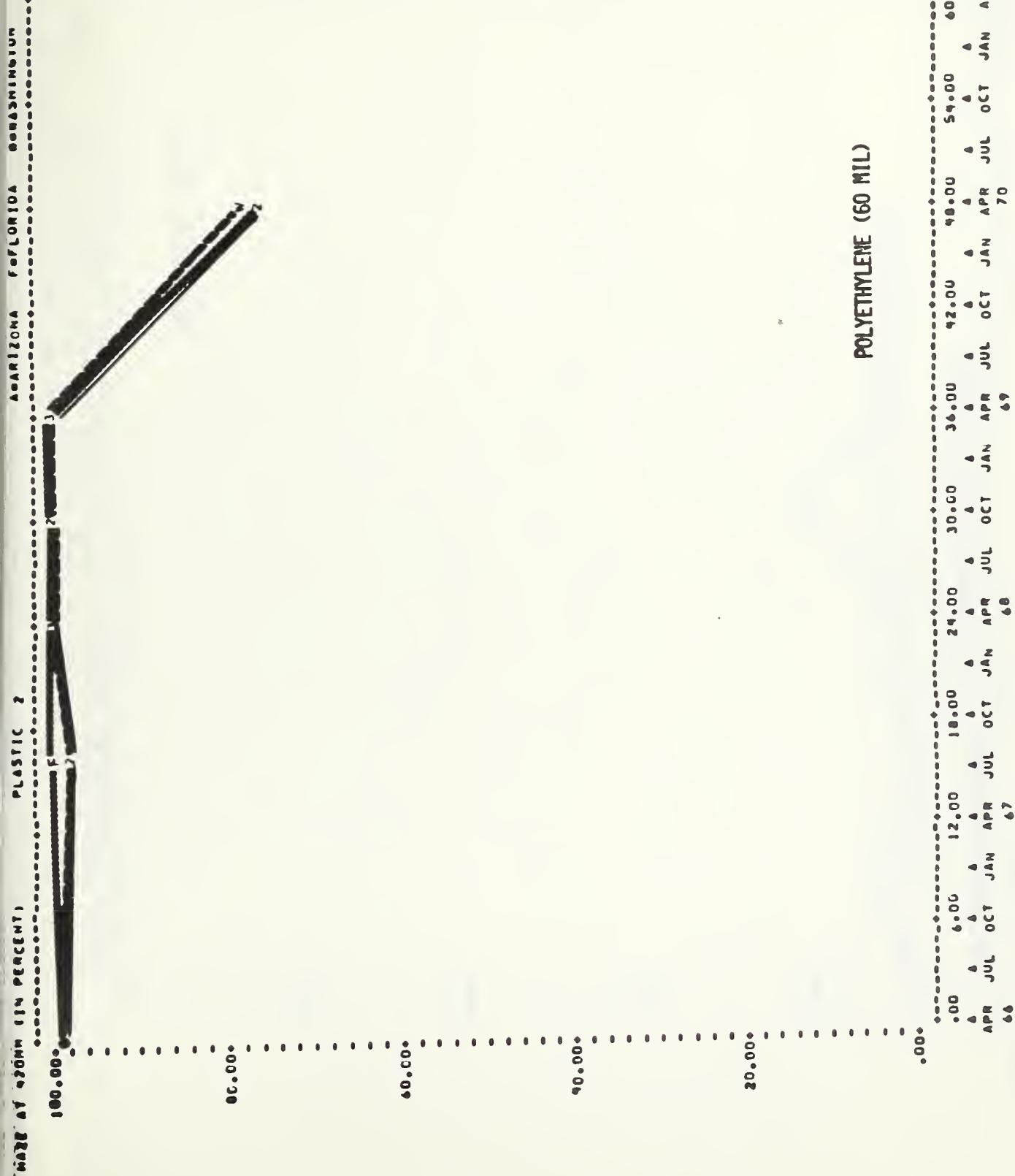


FIGURE 70 B

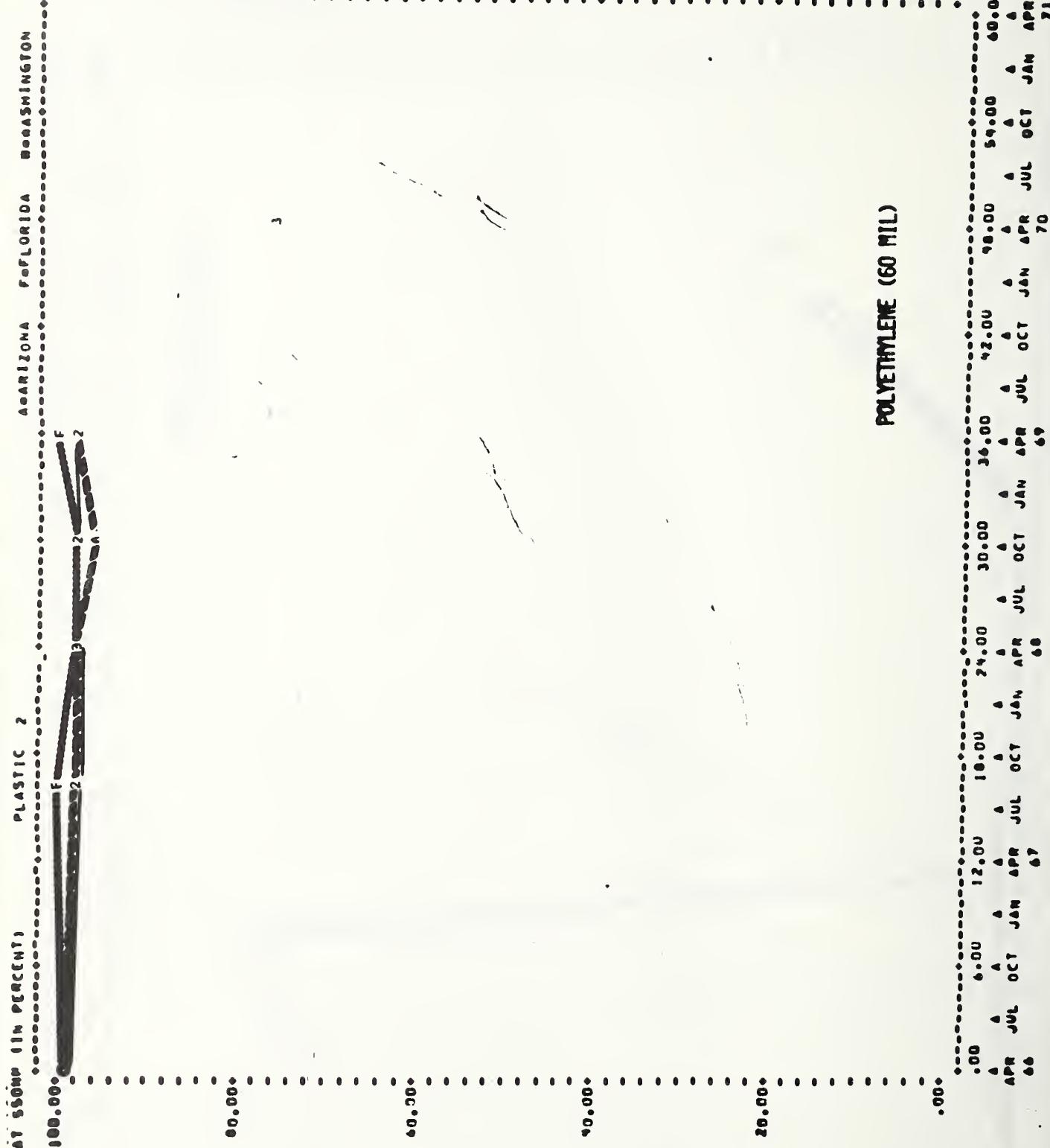


FIGURE 71 A

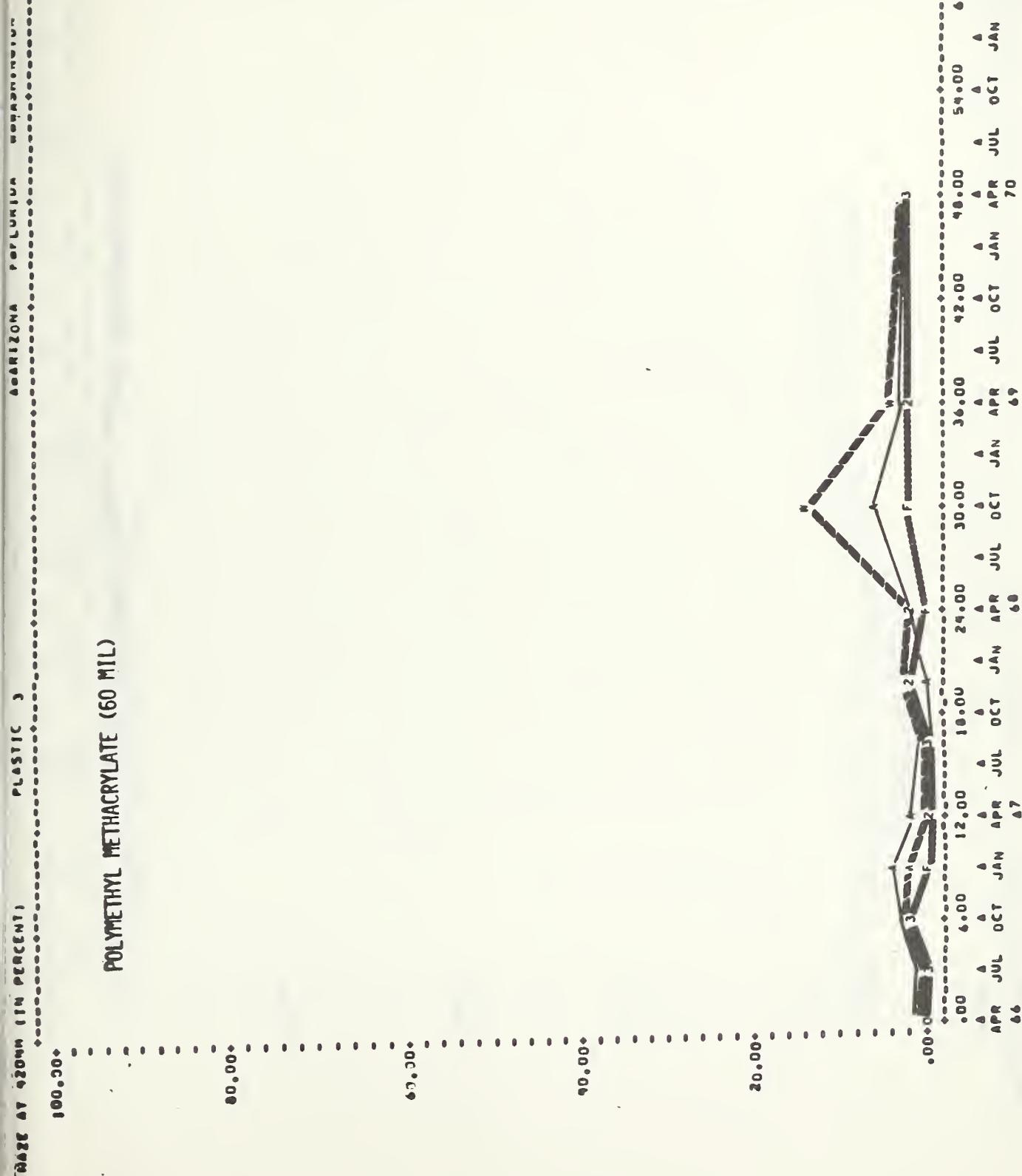


FIGURE 71 B

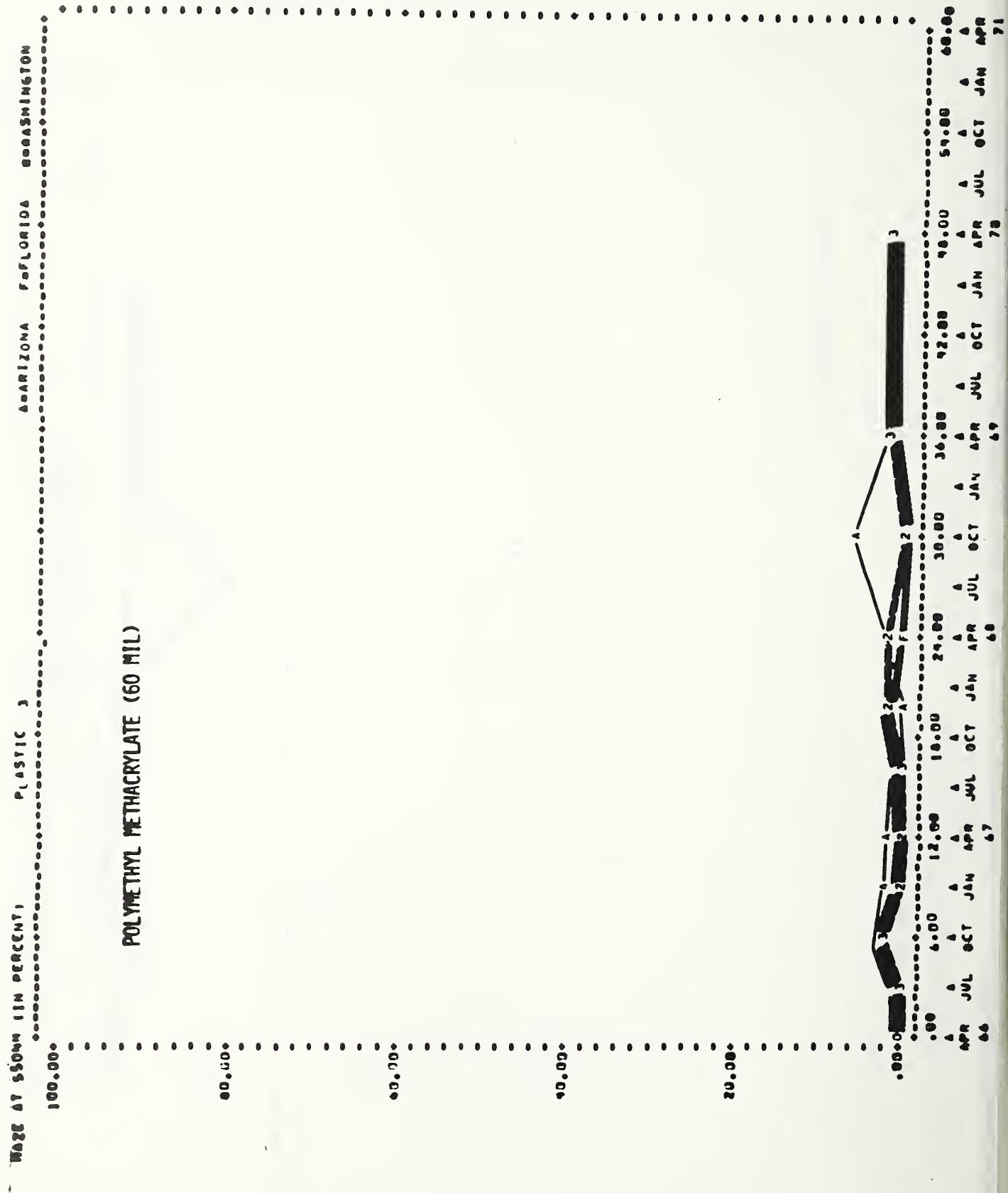


FIGURE 72 A

ARIZONA FLORIDA WASHINGTON

PLASTIC

WEASE AT 420NM (IN PERCENT)

100.00\*

POLYVINYL FLUORIDE (1 MIL)

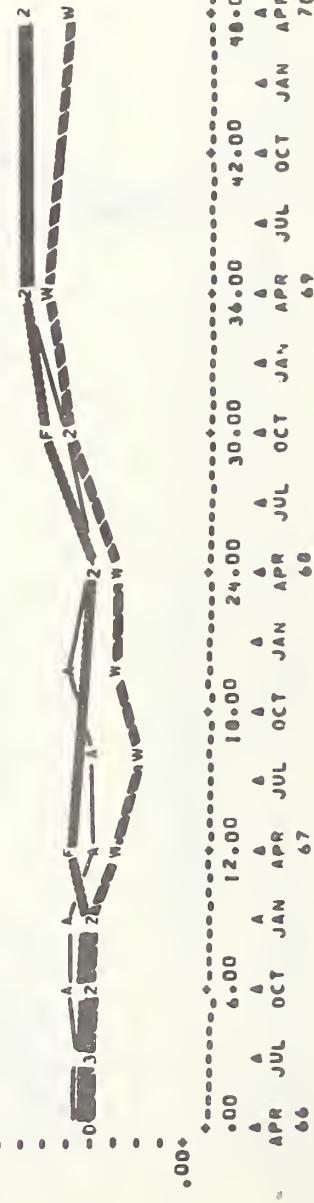
80.00\*

60.00\*

40.00\*

20.00\*

0.00\*



APR JUN OCT JAN APR JUL OCT JAN APR JUN OCT JAN APR JUN OCT JAN APR JUN OCT JAN APR  
66 67 68 69 70 71

## FIGURE 72 B

ARIZONA FLORIDA WASHINGTON

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MARCH 1 IN PRACTICE

## POLYVINYLFUORIDE (1 MIL)

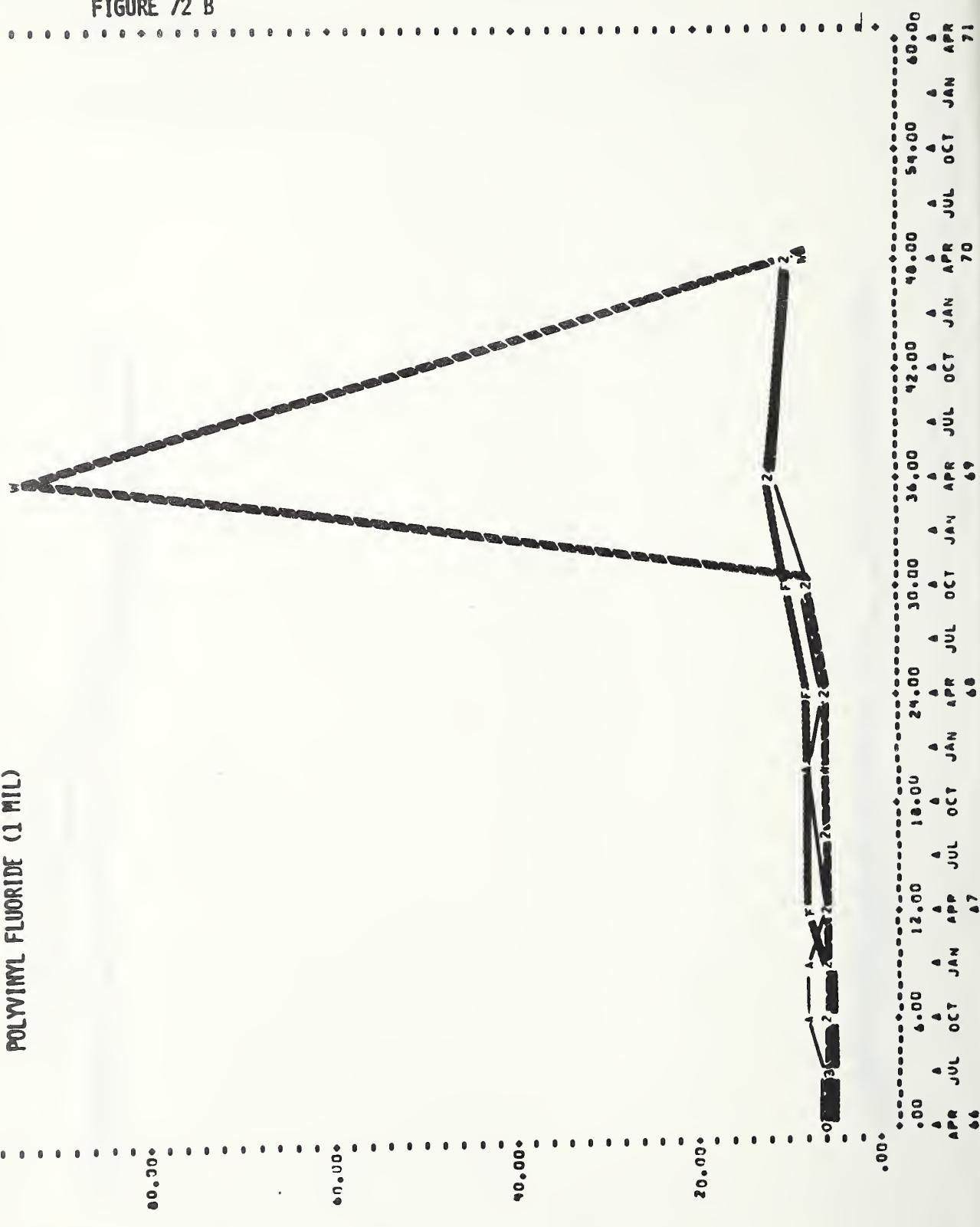


FIGURE 73 A

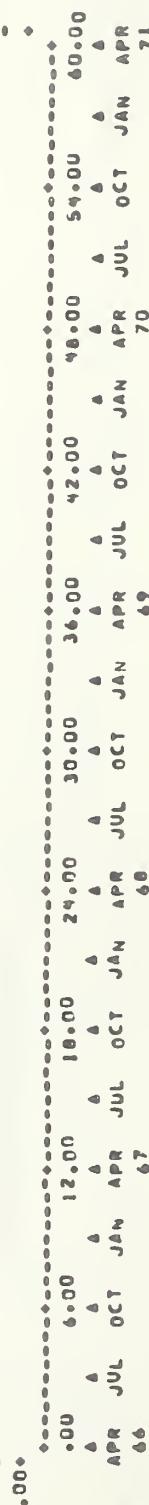
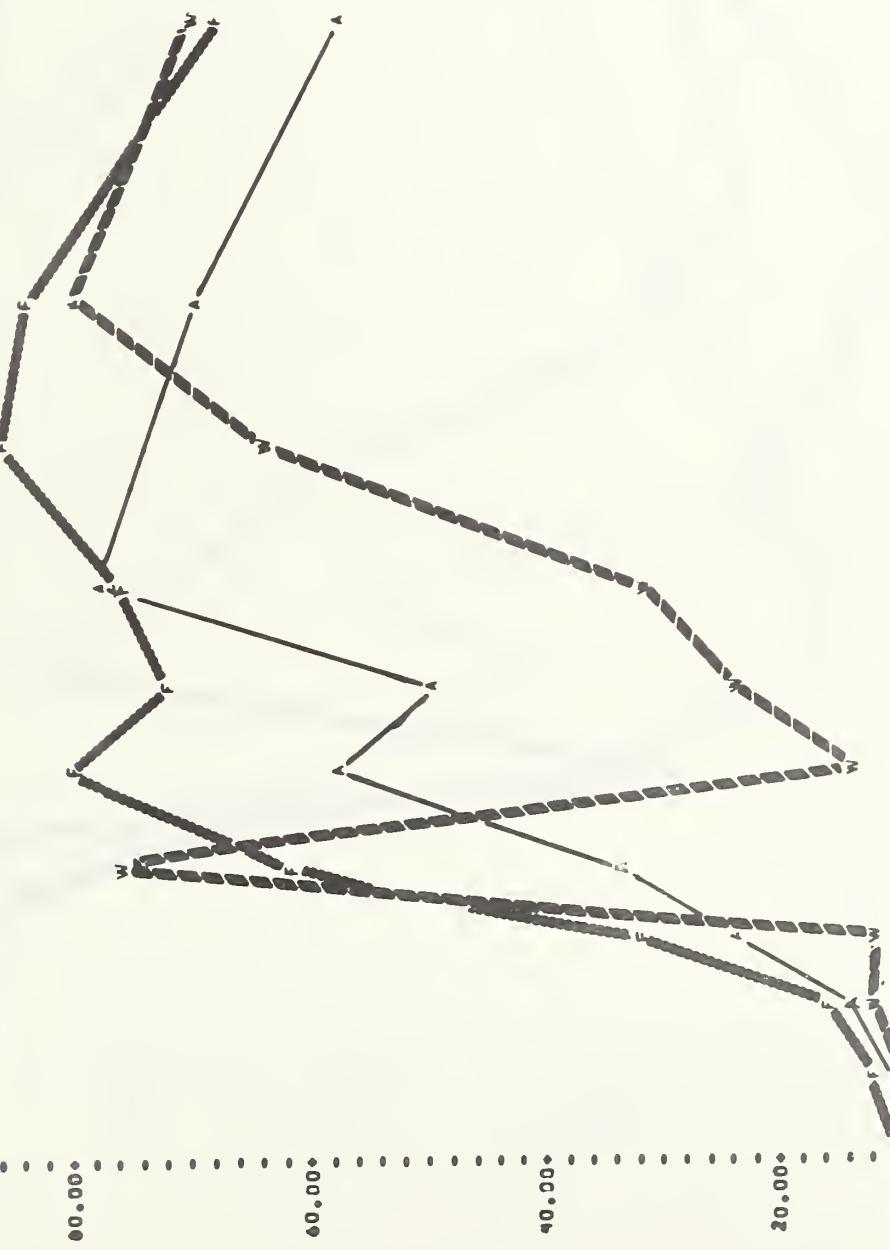
ARIZONA FLORIDA WASHINGTON

PLASTIC S

WEIGHT AT 420M (IN PERCENT)

100.00

POLYETHYLENE TEREPHTHALATE (5 MIL)



### FIGURE 73 B

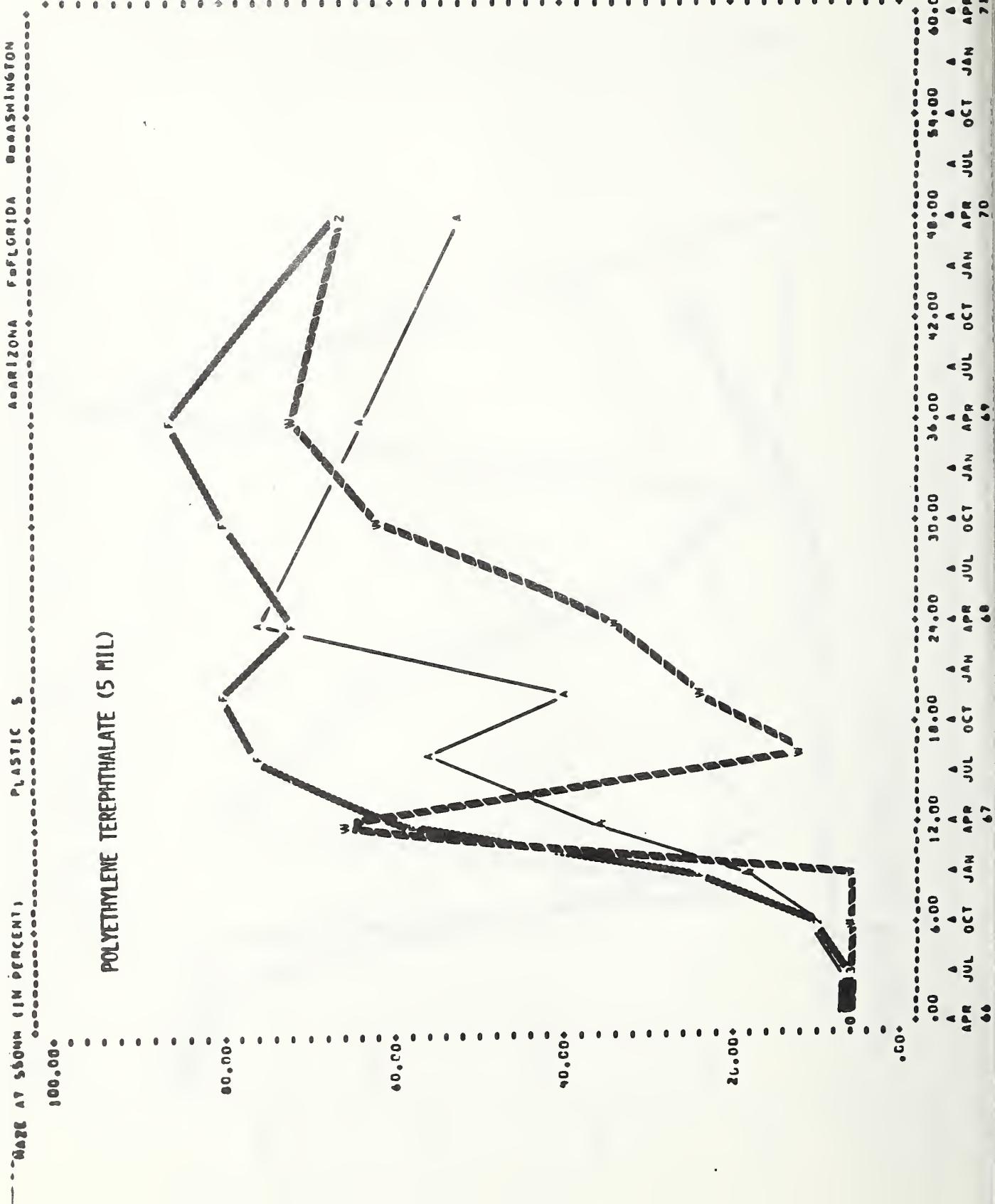
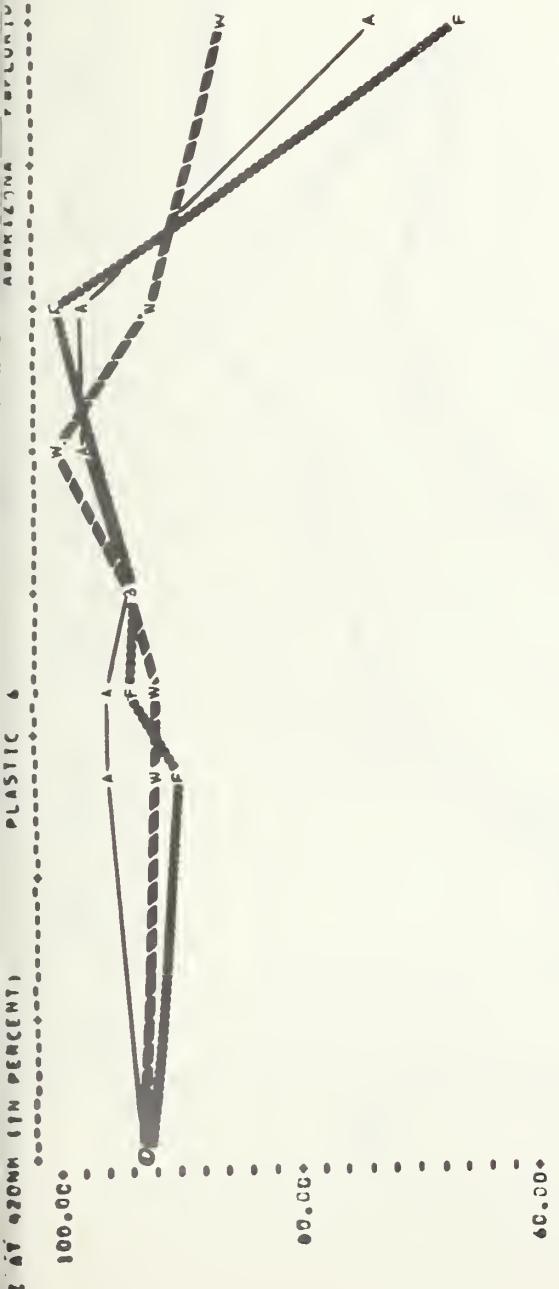


FIGURE 74 A



GLASS-REINFORCED POLYESTER (60 MIL)

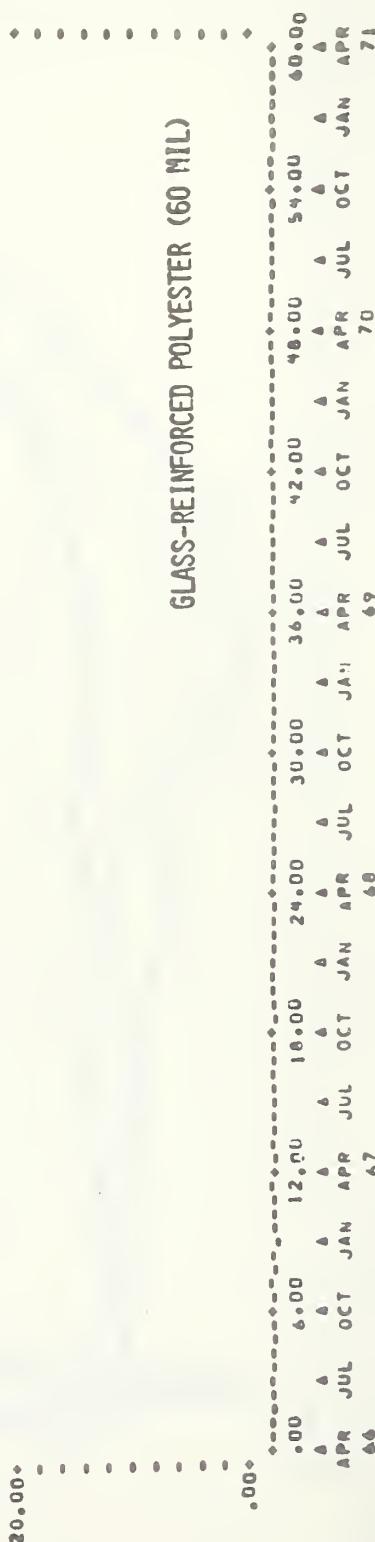


FIGURE 74 B

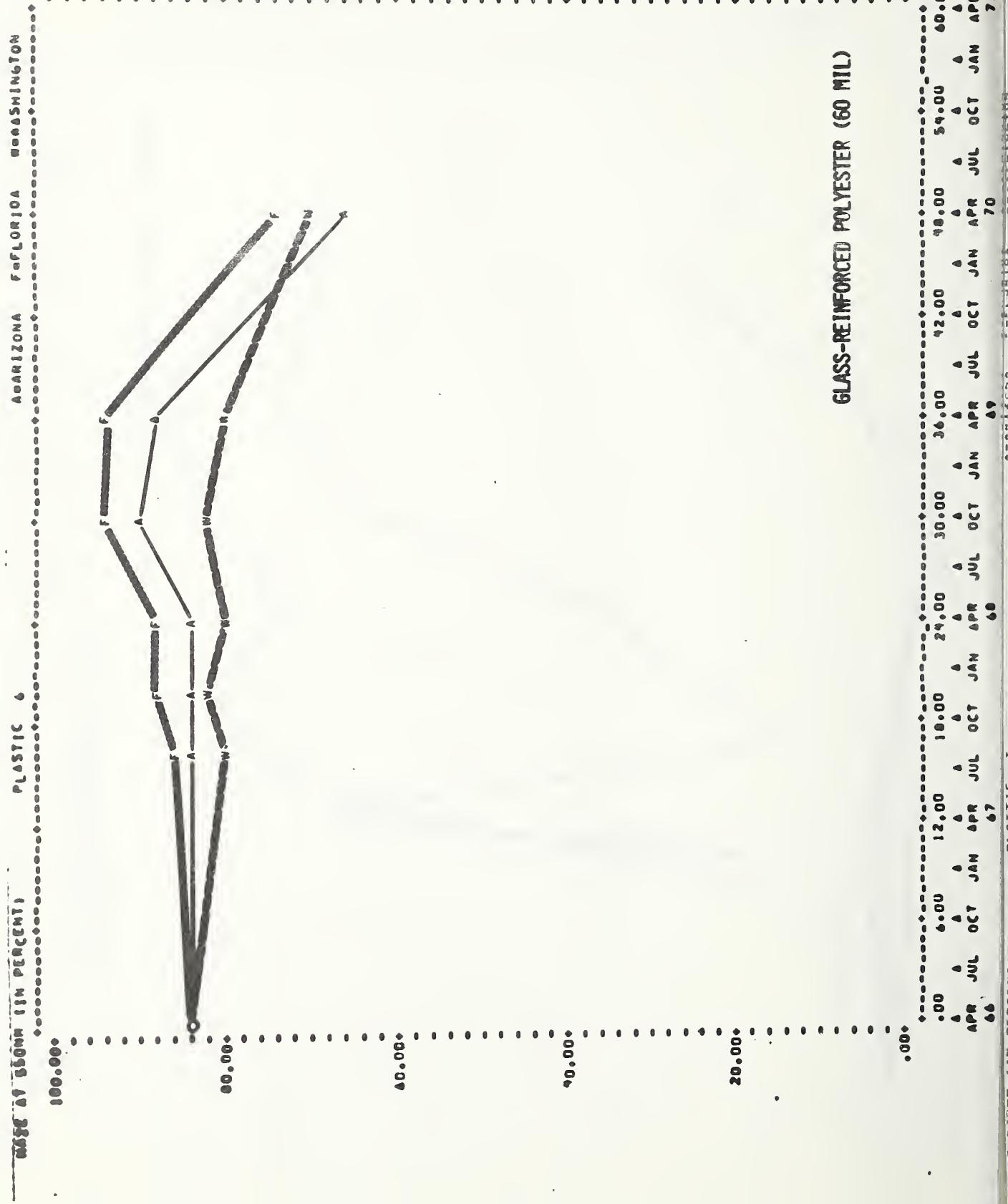


FIGURE 75 A

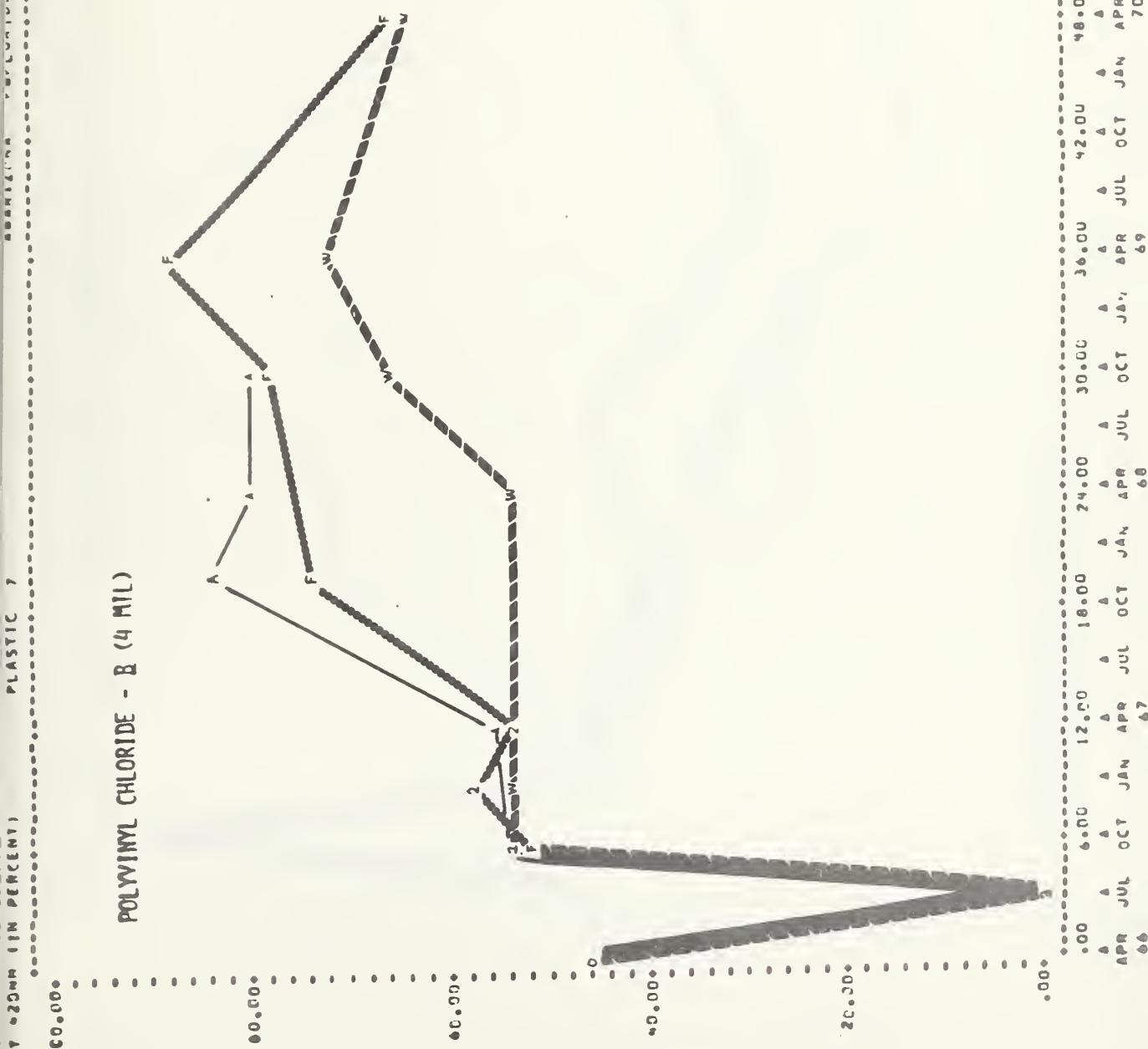


FIGURE 75 B

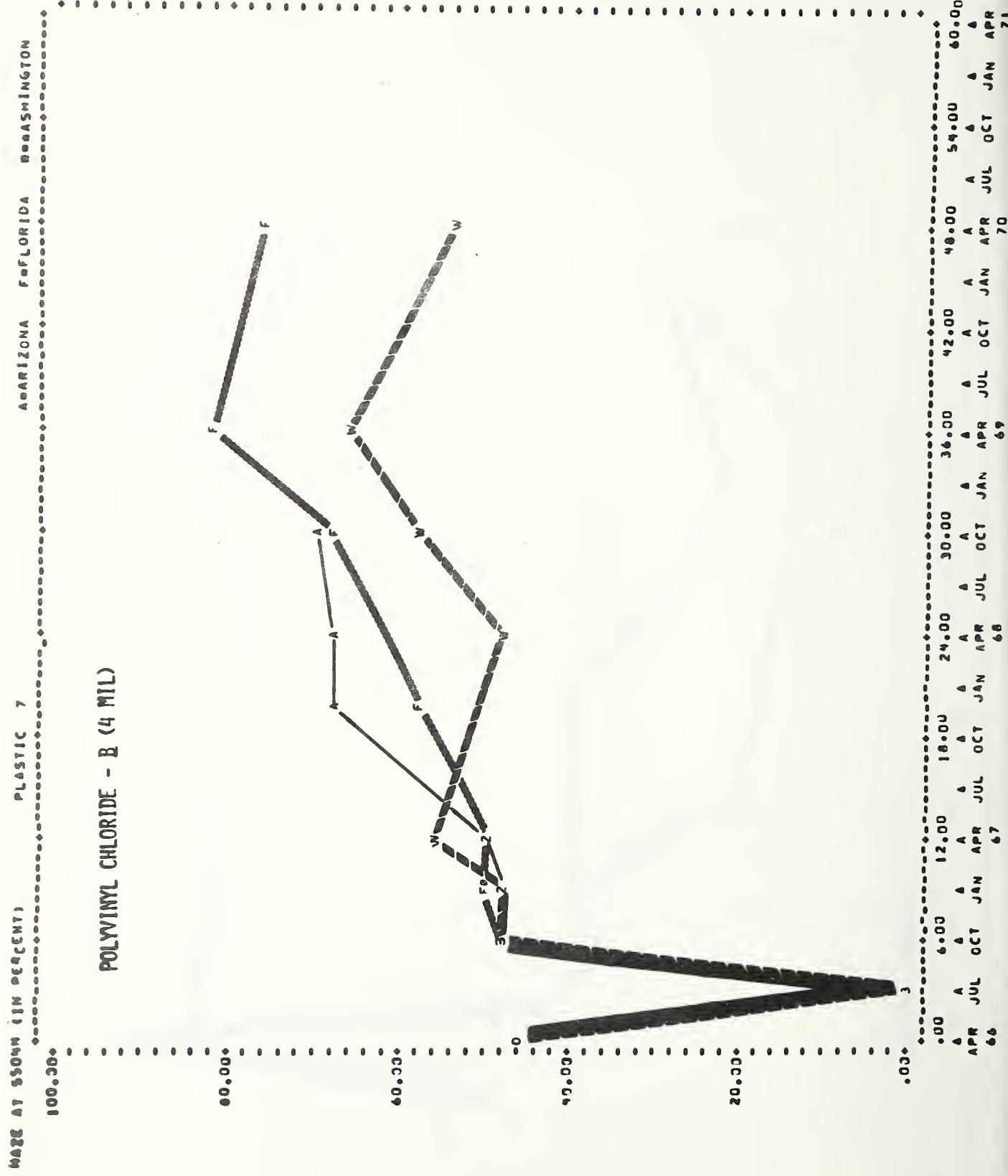
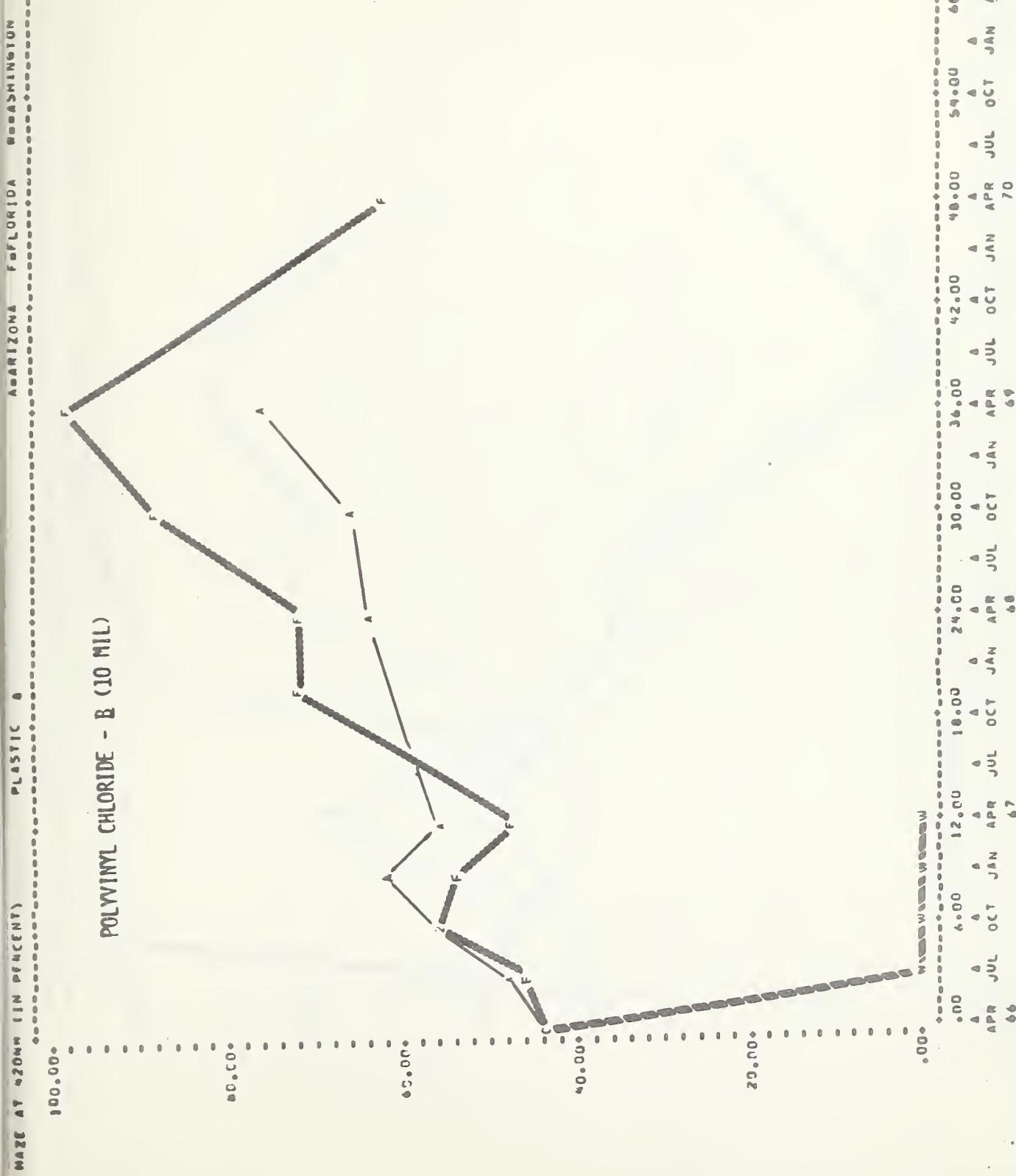


FIGURE 76 A



MAZE AT 55°ON 11% PRECIPITATE PLASTIC A

100.00

PLASTIC B

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - B (10 MIL)

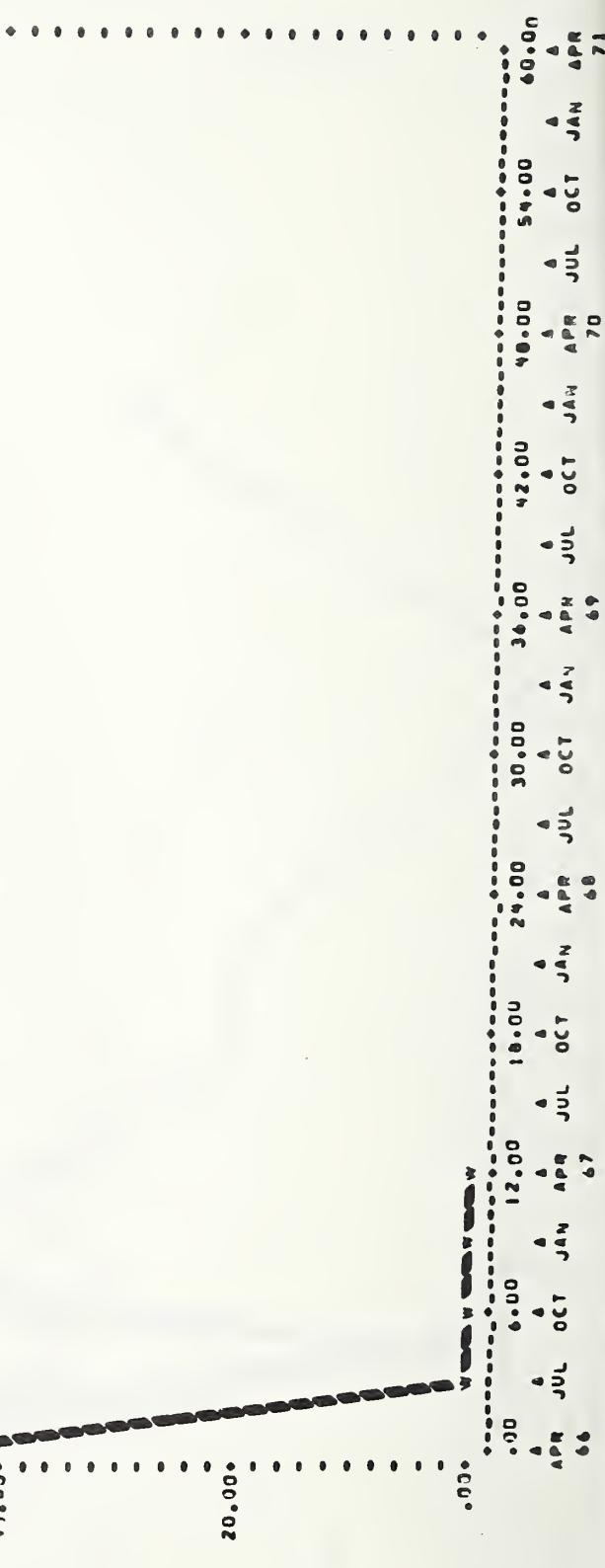
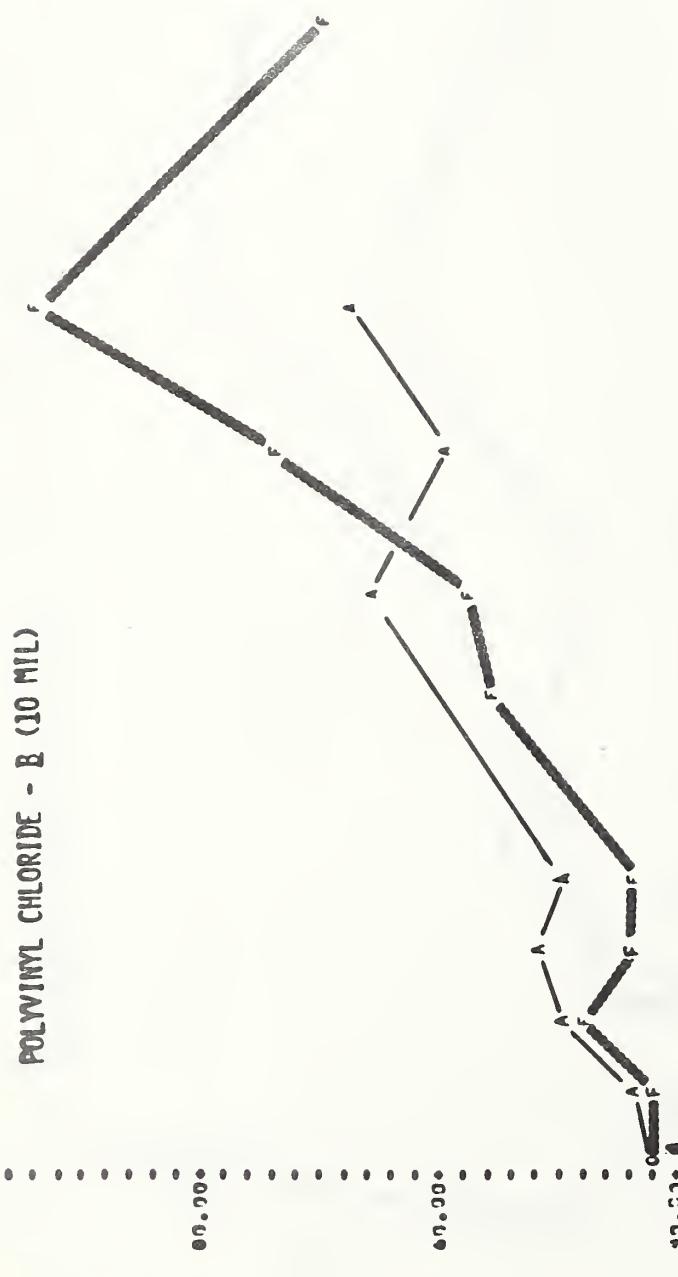


FIGURE 76 B

FIGURE 77 A

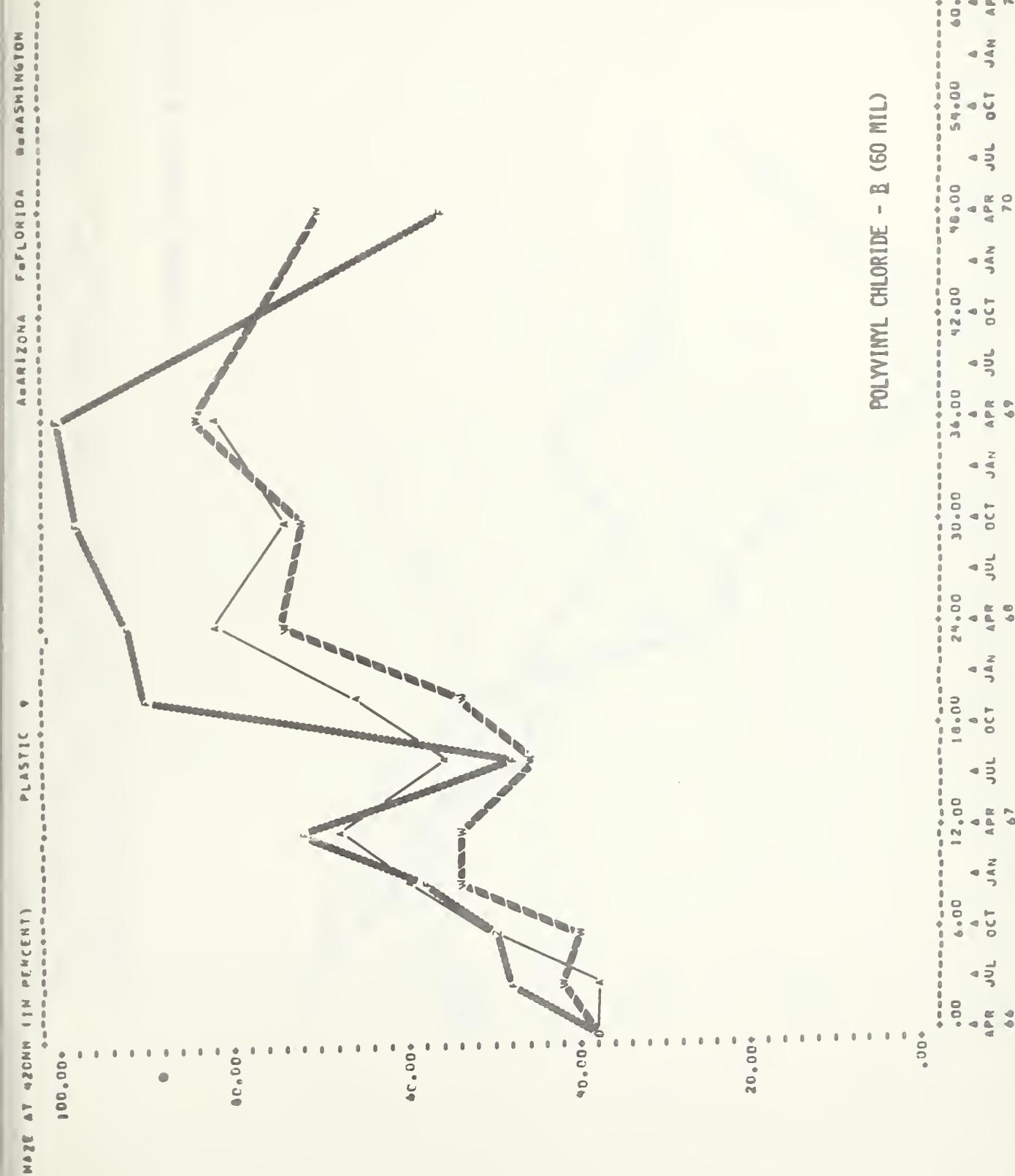
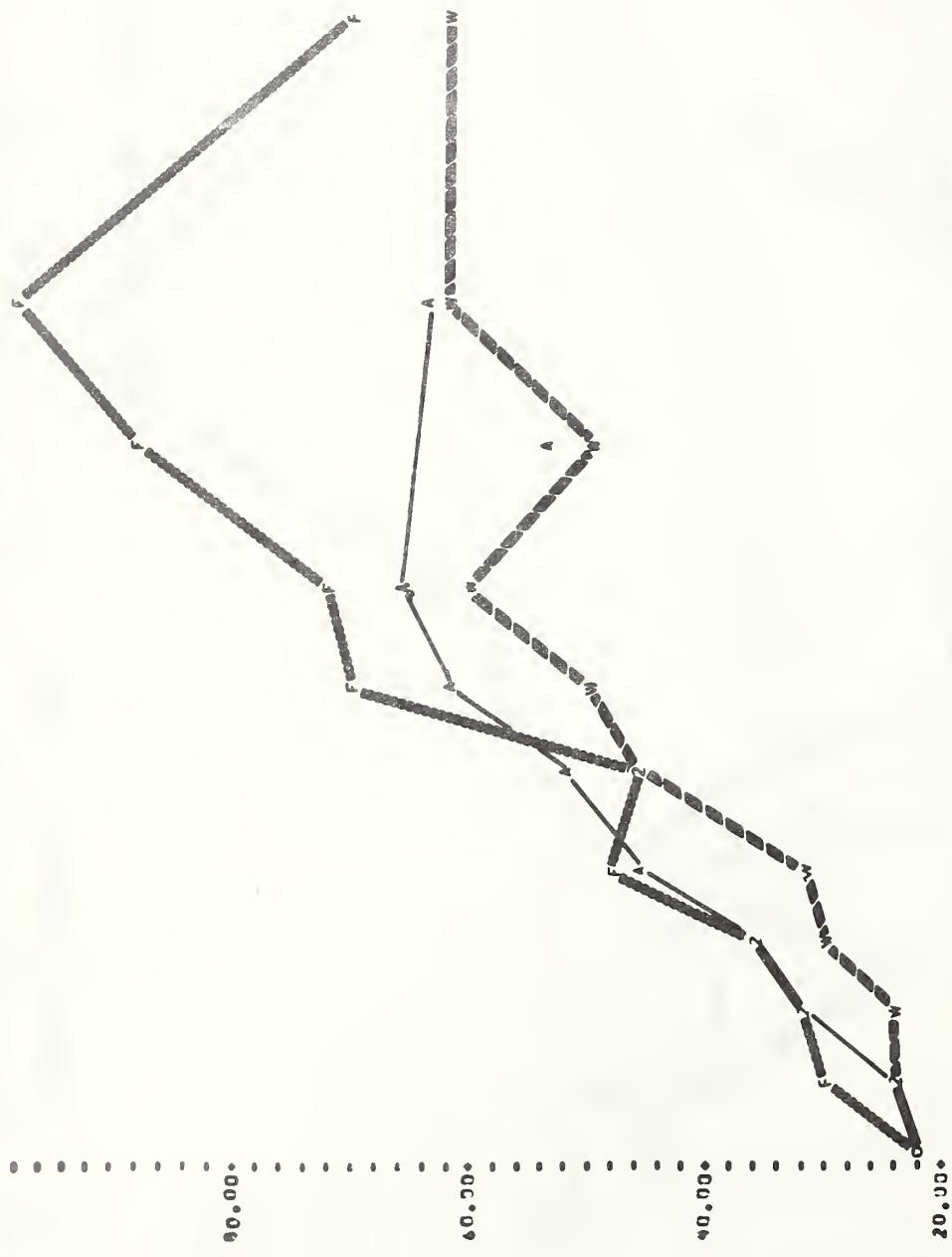


FIGURE 77 B

ARIZONA FLORIDA WASHINGTON

MADE AT \$50.00 (10 PERCENT) PLASTIC



POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - R (60 MIL)

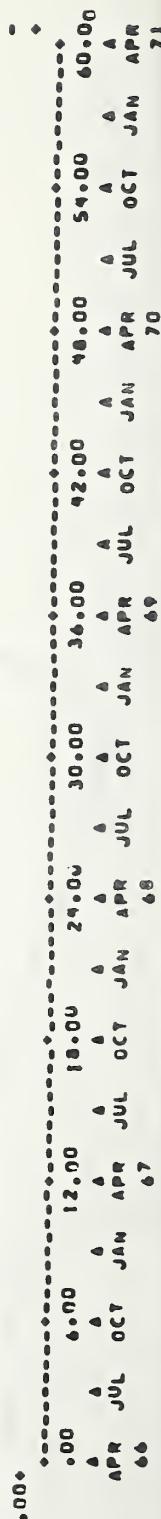


FIGURE 78 A

MAZE AT 400 MHZ (IN PERCENT)  
PLASTIC 10  
AMARICHA FLORIDA WASHINGTON

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - C (4 MIL)



WATER AT 55.000 (IN PERCENT)

PLASTIC 1.0

Arizona Florida Washington

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - C (4 MIL)

00.00+

- 100.00+

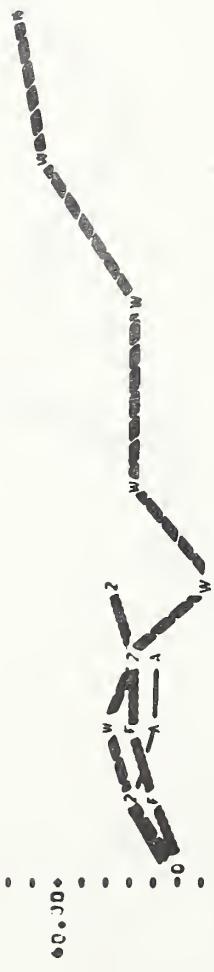


FIGURE 78 B

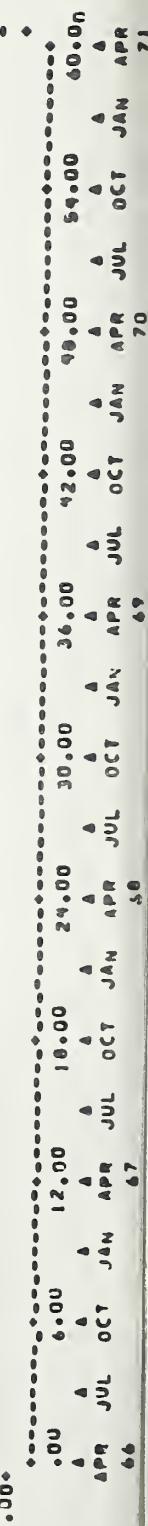


FIGURE 79 A

ARIZONA F FLORIDA WASHINGTON

PLASTIC II

WEIGHT AT 200°F (IN PERCENT)

100.00

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - C (10 MIL)

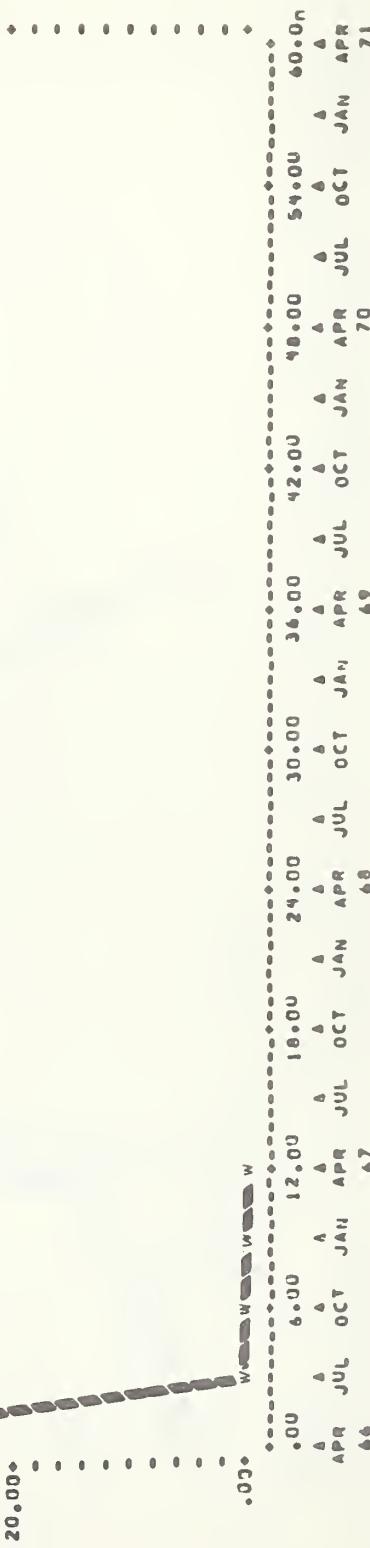
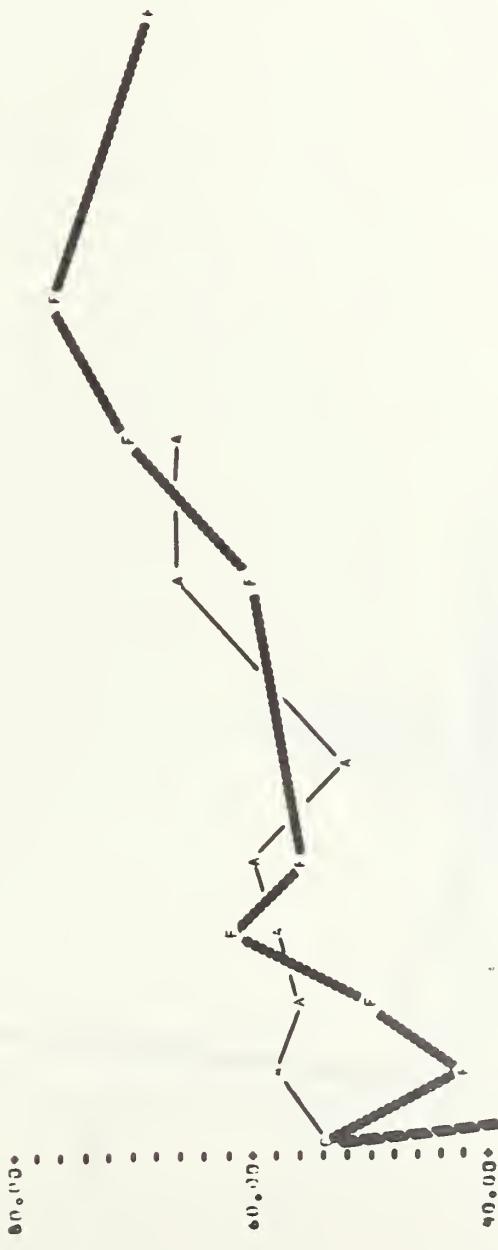


FIGURE 79 B

MAP AT 50MM IN PERCENT  
PLASTIC II

ARIZONA FLORIDA WASHINGTON

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - C (10 MIL)

100.0%

80.0%

60.0%

40.0%

20.0%

0.0%

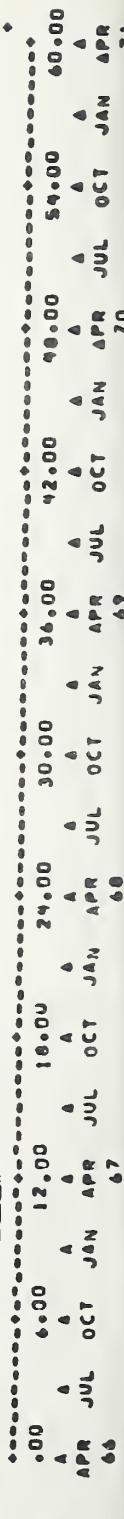
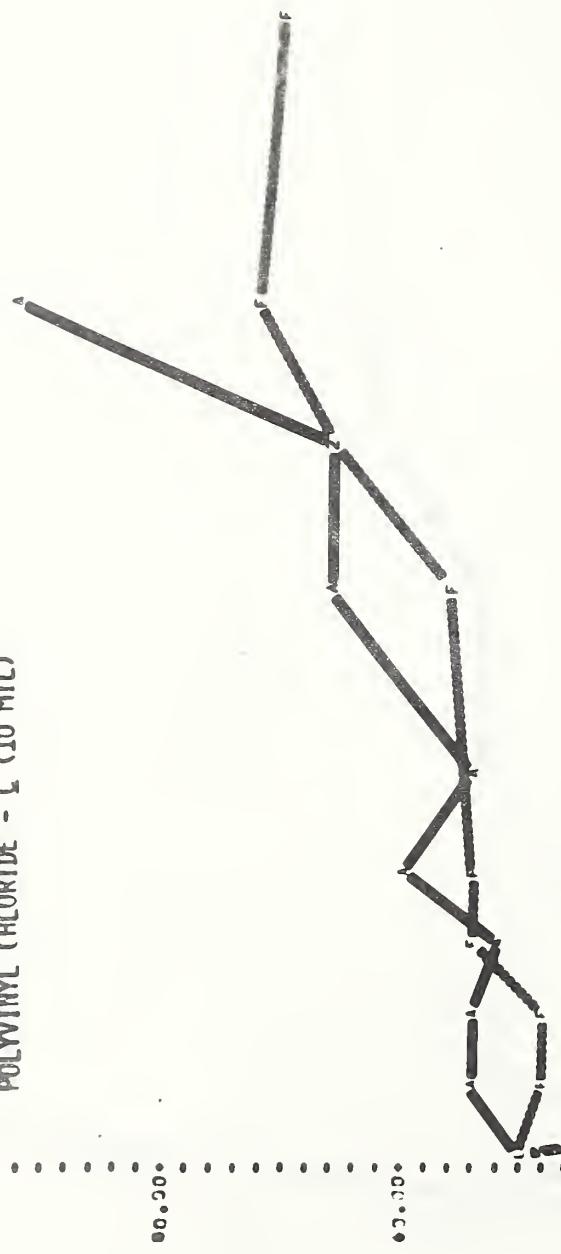
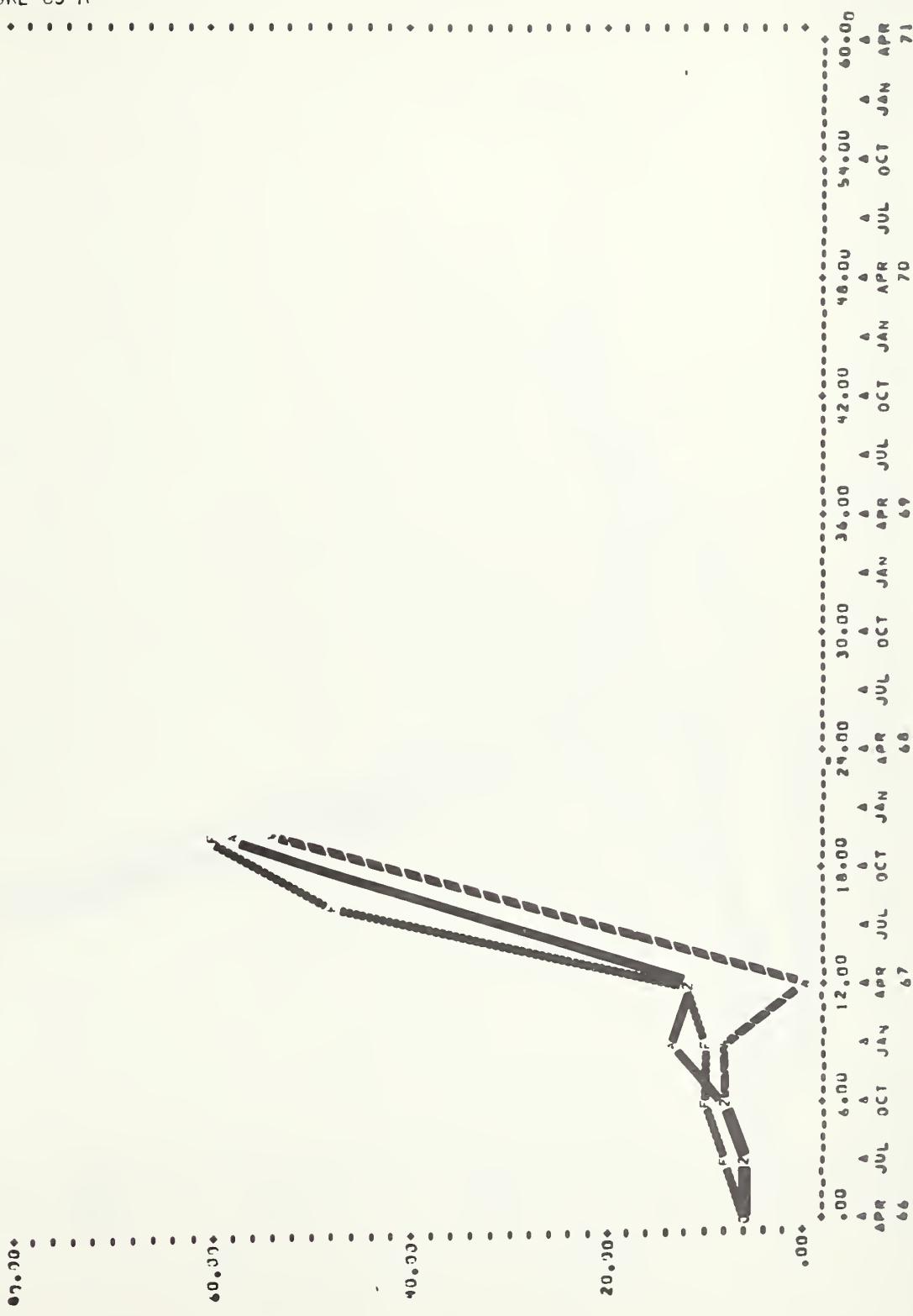


FIGURE 80 A

MAZE AT 92000 (IN PERCENT) PLASTIC 12  
AQUARIUM FLORIDA WASHINGTON

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - C (60 MIL)



MADE AT 500MM LIN PLATECHI

PLASTIC 12

ARIZONA FLORIDA WASHINGTON

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - C (60 MIL)

FIGURE 80 B

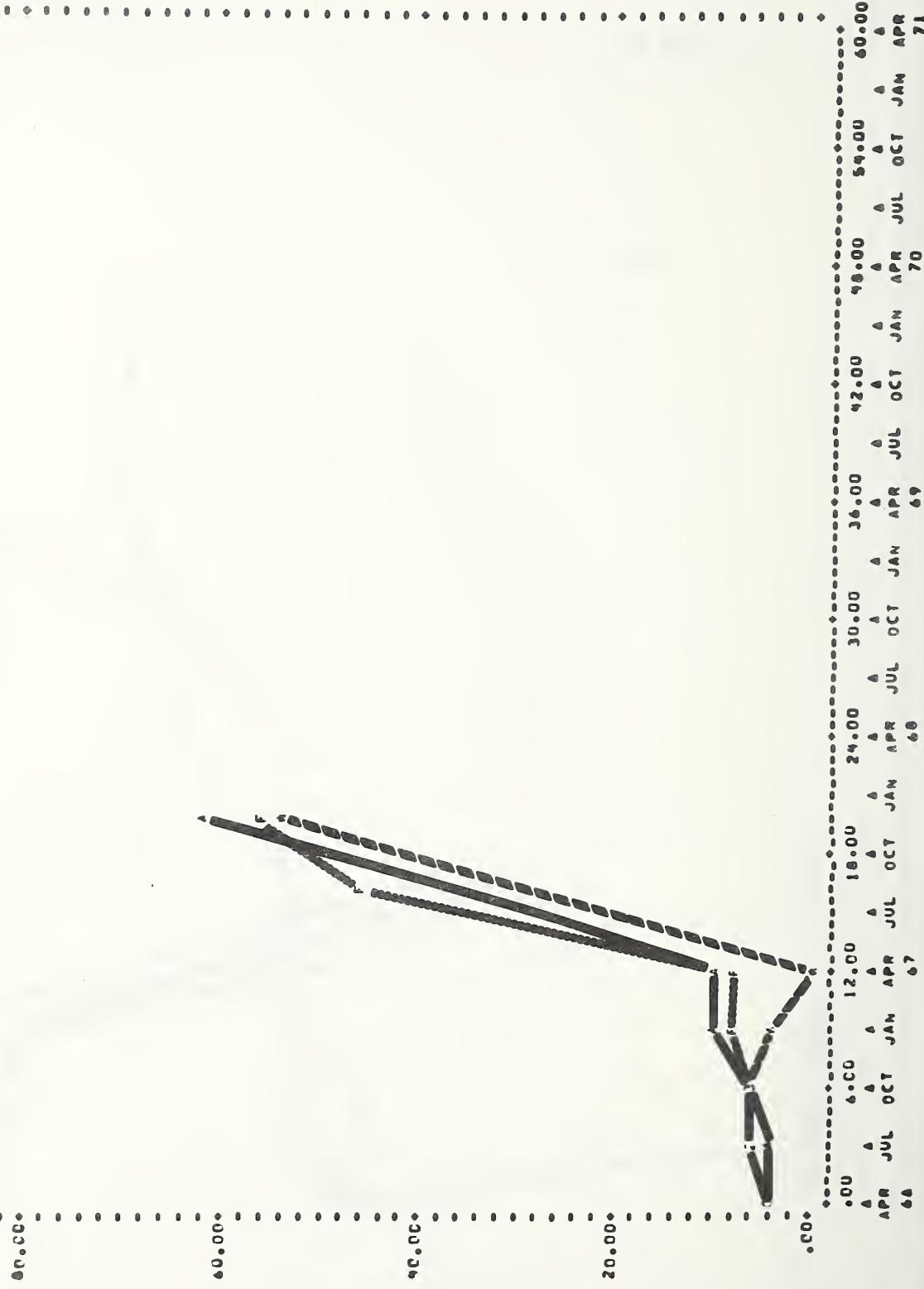


FIGURE 81 A

ASARIZONA FAFLOIDA WASHINGTON

PLASTIC 13

WEAR AT 420MM (14 PERCENT)

100.00\*

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - U (60 MIL)

80.00\*

40.00\*

20.00\*

0.00\*



FIGURE 81 B

ACARIZINA DE FLORIDA - DATA SHEET

PLASTIC 13

DATA AT 65°C (IN PERCENT)

100.00

POLYVINYL CHLORIDE - II (60 MIL)

00.00

40.00

20.00

00.

00.

69

70

71

60.00

54.00

48.00

42.00

36.00

30.00

24.00

18.00

12.00

6.00

0.00

APR

JUL

OCT

JAN

APR

