INTEGRATED PESTS MANAGEMENT ON MANGOES AT THE SÃO FRANCISCO RIVER VALLEY, BRAZIL¹

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The Submedio region of the São Francisco River Valley, Northeast Brazil, is the main producing area of mangoes in the country. The rapid expansion of this fruit crop in the region has been altering the agroecosystem and favoring the emergence of new plant health problems, particularly those related to pests. Aiming at a rational pest control for this crop, sampling strategies for monitoring and action threshold for the main mango pests were determined based on field and laboratory observations, national and international literature reviews, and tests/adaptations of IPM strategies already in use in other countries. Traps are used to monitor fruit fly populations; the other pests are monitored by sampling in the orchard. The key pests and their action threshold are: fruit fly Anastrepha spp. and Ceratitis - one fly/trap/day; red-banded thrips capitata Selenothrips rubrocinctus - 40% or more infested branches and/or equal or more than 10% panicle and/or fruits with 10 or more thrips; mango bud mite Aceria mangiferae – 5% or more branches with overshootings, mango blister midge Erosomyia mangiferae - 10% or more of infested branches and/or 2% infested panicle and/or fruits; microlepidoptera complex of panicles-10% or more of infested panicle. Currently, 26 mango farms (2,939 ha) in the São Francisco Valley adopt the pest monitoring system described.