

## **PARTHENOCARPY IN *Manihot tristis* spp *tristis* X *M. esculenta* spp *esculenta* CROSS.**

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The blossoming of species of *Manihot* is monoecious with conspicuous protogyny (the female flowers mature before the male flowers on the same branch). Fifty crosses were done using a *M.tristis* (BRA-114928, BW 3244) plant collected in the area today overflowed by the AHE Serra da Mesa dam at Goiás State as a female plant with *M. esculenta* (BRA-004979, Clone EAB 182) giving pollen as male plant. The plant used as female was grown under a tent covered by a plastic net cloth that brought down the illumination to 50%. The crosses followed the steps: female flowers were covered and male flowers were harvested releasing anthers and pollen during the morning time, and on the afternoon, cassava pollen was deposited over female stigma of wild species. From all the crosses done, complete fruit development occurred on 60% of them. However, seeds output was nil. The development of the fruits seemed normal and their dehiscence followed the observed pattern for the majority of species from the genus with loculicidal and septicidal patterns at the same time, like an explosion. The ovaries development to fruit by parthenocarpy were induced by depositing cassava pollen over flowers stigmata. Few reciprocal crosses were done at the same time due to the low production of female flowers by the cassava plants. However, despite of not being representative, it was possible to get about 30% of hybrid seeds from this type of cross.

**Key words:** Hibridization, cassava, wild cassava