

APPLICATION METHODS OF PACLOBUTRAZOL ON MANGO CROP.

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The phenological cycle of mangoes in the Brazilian semi-arid region ends up between November and January. However, it has been possible to change the harvest time through adequate use of growth regulators. This study had the objective of evaluating the efficiency of paclobutrazol (PBZ) applied in the leaves (1,000 ppm), in the soil (2 g a.i./plant) in holes and at the soil surface, near the plant trunk and in a combination of these. The experiment was carried out at Petrolina-PE, Brazil (9° 34' of South latitude, 40° 6' of West longitude and 375m of altitude), using a three-year old mango orchard, spaced by 10m x 5m under microsprinkling irrigation system. The PBZ source was Cultar (from ICI/Zeneca). The results showed that the control and PBZ applied in the leaves did not induce any fruit yield, due to the time of application. All the plants which had PBZ applied in the soil produced fruits, with no significant differences among them, even when the level was reduced. For the conditions where this study was carried out, there was no efficiency of applying PBZ through the leaves on interruption of vegetative growth of mangoes.