THE FRUIT FLY SPECIES OF ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE AT THE FRUIT PRODUCTION REGION OF SUBMEDIO SAO FRANCISCO - STATE OF ART.

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In the Sao Franscisco Vally (Middle Lands) in the Northeast of Brazil we will find the biggest tropical fruit crop production of the country. This region has an irrigating potential of 220,000 ha with mango orchards occupying 8000 ha. Mango production is about 45,000 tons and 48.88% of this is exported to USA and Europe. In this region, the fruit fly became the most important insect pest for mango growers because it is a quarantine insect. During the periods of 1989-1993 and 1995-1997 the fly density was monitored in commercial areas with Mc Phail traps. Several spices of economic importance were collected: *Anastrepha farterculus, A. obliqua, A. sororcula,* and *Ceratitis capitata*. During 89-93, the density (female/trap/year) of *Anastrepha* species reached 0.05 with the frequency of 35.4%, 12.2%, 17.0% for *A. fraterculus, A. obliqua,* and *A. sororcula*, respectively. In the rural zone, the population of *Anastrepha* and *Ceratitis* were 87.7% and 1.3%, respectively. For the period 95-97, the density of *Anastrepha* was similar to the previous period. However, the population *Ceratitis* increased significantly. It is discussed that the high frequency of *C. capitata* in the urban zone act as a function of host number diversity and cropping extension. Specially, due to the growing area of Barbados cherry (*Malpigia emarginata*) and Guava (*Pisidium guajava*)