

ARTHROPOD PESTS AND THEIR NATURAL ENEMIES
ASSOCIATED WITH MANGO TREES AT THE SÃO FRANCISCO
RIVER VALLEY, BRAZIL¹

F.R. Barbosa², M.E. de C. Gonçalves³, E.A. de Souza², W.A. Moreira², F.N.P. Haji² and J.A. de Alencar²

¹Financial support of CNPq and Banco do Nordeste.

²Embrapa Semi-Árido, BR 428, km 152, C.P. 23, 56300-970, Petrolina, PE, Brazil, flavia@cpatsa.embrapa.br

³Universidade Federal do Ceará/CCA, C.P. 12168, 60356-001, Fortaleza, CE, Brazil, manoeleneas@zipmail.com.br

To evaluate the occurrence and level of infestation of the arthropod pests of mangoes and their natural enemies, from February 2000 to May 2001, studies were carried out in seven commercial plantations of the cv. Tommy Atkins, in Petrolina, Pernambuco State, Brazil. The samplings were made every ten days, five plants per area, each plant subdivided in quadrants, being collected eight branches, four panicles and four fruits. The collected material was transported to the laboratory of Semi-Arid Embrapa, where the identification and recording of the insects and mites were taken in an estereoscopic microscope. The occurrence and infestation level were, respectively: *Aceria mangiferae* – 71.23% and 22.23; *Pseudaonidia tritiformis* – 68.38% and 10.53; *Erosomyia mangiferae* – 58.04% and 15.65; *Selenothrips rubrocinctus* – 38.40% and 10.89; *Polyphagotarsonemus latus* – 38.37% and 5.69; aphids – *Aphis craccivora*, *Toxoptera aurantii*, *A. gossypii* – 15.81% and 2.30; lepidopteran flower feeders – 11.42% and 11.49; *Frankliniella* sp. – 1.89% and 0.13, and the mite *Oligonychus* sp. – 16.29% and 1.16. The natural enemies were: chrysopids, arachnids and predators mites. The highest frequency was for *Cheletogenes ornatus* – 37.38%; followed by Phytoseiidae *Euseius concordis* and *Euseius citrifolius* – 20.64%; arachnids – 21.37%, and *Chrysoperla* spp. – 6.86%.