

ANALYSIS OF DIFFERENT TISSUES AS INDICATORS OF BORON LEVEL IN AVOCADO (*PERSEA AMERICANA* MILL.) A-9

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A prospection was carried out in 18 avocado orchards variety Hass, distributed in the main avocado producing regions in Chile to determine the boron concentration in leaves, inflorescences, peduncles and fruit pulp. The objective was to evaluate those tissues as indicators of the level of boron in the trees. A single tree was selected in each orchard and a sample of each tissue was collected and yield measured. The concentration of boron was higher in the inflorescences and in the fruit pulp, followed by the peduncles and, finally, the leaves. However, variability among the 18 orchards was higher in the peduncles (variation coefficient 93,1%), followed by the fruit, the inflorescences and, finally, the leaves (variation coefficient 31,9%); these results suggest that the peduncle is the most sensitive tissue to discriminate the trees according to their boron level. On the other hand, the peduncle was the only tissue in which boron concentration has a significant relation with yield ($r = 0,90$). These results indicate that the peduncle of the fruit is a promising tissue (perhaps more than leaves) for boron diagnosis of avocado.