

## A CATALOGUE FOR AVOCADO (*PERSEA AMERICANA* MILL.) CULTIVARS IN CUBA A-38

N. N. Rodríguez-Medina<sup>1</sup>, V. R. Fuentes-Fiallo<sup>1</sup>, J. B. Velázquez-Palenzuela<sup>1</sup>, G. L. González-García<sup>1</sup>, D. G. Sourd-Martínez<sup>1</sup>, J. A. Rodríguez-Rodríguez<sup>1</sup> e I. M. Ramírez-Pérez<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Instituto de Investigaciones en Fruticultura Tropical. Ave 7<sup>ma</sup> NO. 3005, e/ 30 y 32, Miramar, Playa, Ciudad de La Habana, Cuba. E-mail: [iicif@ceniai.inf.cu](mailto:iicif@ceniai.inf.cu).

<sup>2</sup> Centro de Estudios Aplicados al Desarrollo Nuclear. Calle 30 No. 502 e/ 5<sup>ta</sup> y 7<sup>ma</sup>, Miramar, Playa, Ciudad de La Habana, Cuba. E. Mail: [fuentes@ceaden.edu.cu](mailto:fuentes@ceaden.edu.cu).

In spite of the fact that the avocado started to be part of the Cuban flora more than 400 years ago, it was not until 1904 with the foundation of the Estacion Experimental Agronómica de Santiago de las Vegas, that it started to call the attention of growers from villages close to Havana. With the foundation of the Banco de Germoplasma de Frutales Tropicales y Subtropicales in 1965 (currently Instituto de Investigaciones de Fruticultutra Tropical) which included other established collections as well as material from prospections carried out all over the Island, the greater avocado collection of the country was created. As part of the results obtained in the evaluation of the avocado collection, 21 cultivars have been characterized through the utilization of descriptors proposed by the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute, as well as others established by the authors. The information is offered as a Catalogue which includes color photographs of young branches, fruits (as a whole and as a half) as well as 92 evaluated descriptors: 65 qualitative and 27 quantitative (average of 20 measurements). In additional notes, information of race, dichogamy group, origin and several distinctive traits of the cultivar is offered. Selected cultivars are: 'Amado Gómez No.1', 'California', 'Casimiro', 'Catalina', 'Centro América No. 3', 'CH No. 3', 'Chavao No. 3', 'Choquette', 'Darío', 'Duke 7', 'Govin', 'Hass', 'Itzamná', 'Jaruco No.1', 'Jose Antonio', 'Los Moros', 'Lula', 'Miguel García', 'Monroe (Estación)', 'Sicilia No.6', 'Suardia' and 'Wilson Popenoe'. They belong to different races and dichogamy groups and their culture allows the obtention of mature fruits practically all year round; moreover, their high production capacities and fruit quality make them ideal for avocado production in Cuba. This Catalogue is a manual to be consulted by researchers, growers, teachers, and students.