

DETERMINATION OF THE BEST GIRDLING DATE ON AVOCADOS (*PERSEA AMERICANA* MILL) BASED ON THE RATIO OF DETERMINED AND UNDETERMINED INFLORESCENCES

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According to Lahav *et al.*, (1971) there are no data available on the effect of girdling on *Hass* avocado size. Moreover Francis (1996) stated that girdling at different times of the year improved avocado yields in California, yet no effect on fruit size was even noticed. So there must be an optimum determined and undetermined inflorescence ratio. If all inflorescences on a girdled branch were determined, there would not be enough shoots and leaves to properly feed the onset fruit. Though girdling might significantly increase fruit yield, fruit size still would not meet current commercial sizes. Two girdling dates at the end of October and February were tested on both adult trees branches and on two-year suckers arising from avocado stumps.