

COMPARISON OF FREEZING PROTECTANT SPRAYS APPLIED TO AVOCADO TREES

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Six freezing protectant products were sprayed at maximum label rates on one year old Hass avocado trees. Control trees were sprayed with water. Treatments were applied three times at monthly intervals, December 20, January 20, and February 20. Products tested were Copper Count-N®, Champ®, Frost Guard®, Frost Shield®, Anti Stress 550®, and Insulate®. Trees experienced one night of damaging temperatures with a duration of five and one-half hours at or below 1.1°C (30°F) and a minimum temperature of 2.3°C (27.9°F) on January 4. All of the products tested provided some level of freezing protection to mature leaves as compared to water-treated control trees, however there was no statistical difference between products.