DETERMINATION OF NUTRIENT FOLIAR DYNAMICS CURVES FOR HASS AVOCADO FOR THE CENTRAL ZONE OF CHILE

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Nowadays in Chile, in order to diagnose the nutritional status of an avocado cv Hass orchard, leaf analysis is the common way to do it, using standards mainly originated in California, South Africa and Israel. In addition, these standards present values only for one sampling in the season during the months of March and April when, commonly, the fertilization is about to conclude. Therefore, it is necessary to have a comparative foliar standard created under soil-climate conditions of the Central Zone of Chile (Region of Valparaíso) and presenting comparative values from the beginning of the season (August). For that reason, foliar analyses for avocado cv Hass were carried out during from January to December (excluding July) during 2004-2005, 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 seasons, in the zone between Los Andes and Quillota, including Cabildo. Orchards (24) were analysed according to the following characteristics: those with production above 15 ton ha⁻¹, those older than 3 years and those without sanitary problems; with the aim of relating the obtained data to highly productive orchards. Monthly nutrition levels, which are indicative of high production, were identified, establishing sufficiency ranges. In addition, DRIS Norms for Chilean specific agro-climate conditions were designed for avocado cv Hass cultures.