

## **EFFECT OF PRUNING TIME AND USE OF DIFFERENT GROWTH REGULATORS ON DEVELOPMENT AND FLOWERING OF AVOCADO PRUNING REGROWTH**

F. Mena<sup>1</sup>; F. Gardiazábal<sup>1</sup> and C. Magdahl<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Sociedad Gardiazábal y Magdahl Ltda. E-mail: secretaria@gama.cl

After severe pruning, avocado (*Persea americana* Mill.) trees respond with a vigorous growth. One way to control the vigour of this response is through re-pruning the shoots developed after the first pruning. The appropriate period for re-pruning can determine a favourable productive response from it.

This work summarizes two thesis projects guided by our team. In one of them, the effect of re-pruning at different periods, the use of Uniconazol-p, and the combination of both on shoot development and flowering were evaluated. In the second trial, different concentrations of Prohexadione Calcium were evaluated on the same productive parameters.

Results indicate that the pruning date had a clear effect on shoot growth and also conditioned the growth-regulating effect of Uniconazol-p.

In the case of Prohexadione Calcium, only one of the tested concentrations could slightly increase the number of inflorescences per treated shoot. The growth-retardant effect of this product was less extended in time. These results can be probably explained by the short period that residues of this product remain in avocados.