

**INFLUENCE FROM MANAGEMENT AND SOIL AND WEATHER CONDITIONS ON 'SEMIL 34'  
AVOCADO (*Persea americana* Mill) FRUIT QUALITY IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

María de Js. Cuevas

Investigadora. Instituto Dominicano de Investigaciones Agropecuarias y Forestales (IDIAF). C/Rafael Augusto Sánchez No. 89, Ens. Evaristo Morales. Santo Domingo, República Dominicana. E. mail: [mcuevas@idiaf.org.do](mailto:mcuevas@idiaf.org.do)

Several agricultural practices, soil and weather factors are said to affect avocado fruit quality during the growth period. In the Dominican Republic, avocado has a significant economic importance, being the country's second most exported fruit. In addition, it is ranked seventh among avocado producing countries. A research was conducted to determine how these agricultural, soil and weather factors affect fruit quality of 'Semil 34' avocado in two major producing areas (Moca and Cambita). Fruit samples from 27 farms were randomly selected in each area. For each farm, soil and leaf samples were taken. Furthermore, global positioning and socioeconomic data were collected in every farm. Oil and dry matter content of fruits were analyzed and compared between the two locations, as well as fruit appearance and organoleptic attributes. Results from each area were compared and significant differences were determined for oil content ( $p=0.037$ ) and fruit appearance ( $p<0.0001$ ). No significant differences were found for other variables. For both areas, fruit quality is good and oil content is above the international market standards ( $>8\%$ ).