

**EFFECT OF SIZE AND HEIGHT OF FRUIT WITHIN THE TREE ON CONTENT OF OIL IN HASS
AND FUERTE AVOCADOS (*Persea americana* Mill.)**

J. A. Olaeta¹, P. Undurraga¹ and R. Jaque¹

¹ Facultad de Agronomía. Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso. San Francisco s/n, La Palma, Quillota, Chile. E-mail: jolaeta@ucv.cl

In the present test, the effect of height and size of the fruit on maturity was determined. To do this, Hass and Fuerte fruits of “large” (220 g) and “small” size (average 140 g) were harvested every 14 days, at 2 heights: below 2 m and above 3 m. The sampling periods were from July 19th to November 8th 2005 for Hass cultivar, and from June 14th to October 4th 2005 for Fuerte. In each sampling date, parameters of fresh weight, equatorial diameter, moisture content and oil content were evaluated. Regarding Fuerte cultivar, size is related to maturity; larger fruits have higher oil content, whereas this is not the case for Hass. There were no effects of height ($p \leq 0.05$) on maturity in both cultivars. The equatorial diameter is highly related to weight, but not to oil percentage, in Hass and Fuerte cultivars.