

PUBLICATIONS

1987

FRUIT AND NUT CROPS RESEARCH IN TEXAS, 1987

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19, 20	Duery Menzies	Pecan

COMPILED AND EDITED BY:

Robert E. Rouse
 Texas Agricultural Experiment Station
 2415 East Highway 83
 Weslaco, TX 78596

David H. Byrne
 Department of Horticulture
 Texas A&M University
 College Station, TX 77843

The Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Neville P. Clarke, Director,
 Texas A&M University System, College Station, TX.

SUBJECT MATTER TOPIC: Chemical thinning and nutrition of peaches

INVESTIGATOR(S): Calvin G. Lyons - TAEX, College Station

CROPS: Peaches

ABSTRACT:

Objectives:

1. Chemical Peach Thinning
2. Sulfur Nutrition
3. Iron Nutrition

General Approach:

1. Ammonium thiosulfate used to chemically thin peaches at bloom. The material is sprayed during full bloom at varying rates.
2. Sulfur deficiency exists in some East Texas soils. Investigations are under way to find an inexpensive effective means of correcting this problem.
3. Iron deficiency associated with calcareous soils is a major problem. Foliar and soil applied products are being tested to correct this problem.

Findings:

1. Ammonium thiosulfate has been erratic in its thinning of peaches, but rates of 27.9 - 46.6 l/ha (3 - 5 gal/acre) continue to give at least some thinning without defruiting the trees.
2. Ammonium thiosulfate at 27.9 l/ha (3 gal/acre) has proven to have a beneficial growth effect on sulfur deficient peach trees. Other materials are being tested to evaluate the most practical means of correcting sulfur deficiency.
3. Soil applications of FEEDHA and Fe methyl EDDHA were effective in long term correction of iron deficiency in peaches. Foliar sprays gave short term response, but were generally unacceptable.