

EFFECTS OF PACLOBUTRAZOL, BRANCH CINCTURING AND RAISED-BED MULCHING ON THE FLOWERING OF ‘SOAN’ ORANGE (*Citrus sinensis* L.) IN PHUNG HIEP DISTRICT, HAU GIANG PROVINCE

Tran Van Hau, Nguyen Minh Thu, Huynh Le Anh Nhi, Tran Sy Hieu

Summary

This study was aimed to evaluate effects of the floral induction methods, viz. foliar application of Paclobutrazol, branch cincturing, raised bed mulching, on the flowering of ‘Soan’ orange grafted on rootstock of ‘Mat’ orange. Trees employed in this study were grown in Phung Hiep district, Hau Giang province. The experiment’s duration was from June 2016 to May 2017. There were five treatments, i.e. (i) control-not applied floral induction; (ii) branch cincturing, 2 mm width; (iii) spraying of PBZ, 2,000 ppm; (iv) raised bed mulching; (v) branch cincturing + PBZ spraying; (vi) branch cincturing + PBZ + mulching. The experiments were arranged in completely randomized design with 5 replications, each of which equalled to one tree. Results reflected that floral induction by spraying PBZ combined with cincturing brought about a flowering ratio observed at 53%, which was higher than the other treatments, particularly 2.7 times higher than that of the control treatment. That floral induction method also resulted in the highest yield (16.5 kg/tree) without causing any negative impact on fruit quality.

Keywords: *‘Soan’ orange, branch cincturing, paclobutrazol, mulching, floral induction.*