

MANGO DISEASE MANAGEMENT AND FRUIT INTEGRATED PRODUCTION SYSTEM IN THE BRAZILIAN SEMI-ARID¹

Selma C.C. de H. Tavares², Valéria S. de O. Costa² and Andréa N. Moreira².

¹CNPq - Financial Support

²Agronomist, M.Sc., Embrapa Semi-Árido, C.P. 23, 56300-970 Petrolina, PE, Brazil, selmaht@cpatsa.embrapa.br

The modern fruit crop exploitation must be able to yield good quality and healthy products, meeting the requirements of environmental sustainability, food safety and economical viability, by using technologies which do not harm the environment and human health. Based on these concepts, this study had the objective of monitoring mango diseases as an important practice within the crop management in the Fruit Integrated Production Program – FIP. The six most prevalent mango diseases occurring in the Brazilian semi-arid region were selected. Taking into account previous studies, the following data were distinctly defined: the plant organs most susceptible to infections; year period and plant stage of greatest occurrence of the diseases, and seasonal periods most favoring the diseases. Grade scales were applied and levels requiring immediate control were defined through quantitative occurrence data. The results from one year are being kept to be used in a computerized program to serve as Warning Station; they already show decrease in the number of pesticide applications and, consequently, production cost reduction. The results also show a consciousness about the importance of this study for all who take part of the mango productive chain, as well as increase the knowledge and speed in disease diagnoses.