## EVALUATION OF SIX SEEDLESS GRAPE VARIETIES IN THE TROPICAL CONDITIONS OF SÃO FRANCISCO RIVER'S VALLEY, NORTHEASTERN – BRAZIL

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This present work was aimed to study aspects related to vegetative and productive development of plants and characteristics and chemical componentes of bunches of six seedless grapes varieties at environmental conditions of São Francisco River's Valley, Northeastern - Brazil. The experiment was carried out in an experimental vineyard which is part of Embrapa Semi-Árido, city of Petrolina, Pernambuco State, during 1997 and 1998. The varieties tested were Vênus, Arizul, Beauty Seedless, Thompson Seedless, Marroo Seedless, and Canner grafted on IAC 572 ('Jales') rootstock. The experimental model utilized was totally randomized with parcels subdivided into different production cycles. The results shown significative differences among varieties at different pruning times. All varieties presented small bunches. The berries of 'Vênus' and 'Marroo Seedless' showed average diameters of 17.83 and 18.26 mm. The total soluble solids (SST) was high in most varieties. However, the total titulable acidy (ATT) was low. The ratio (SST/ATT) varied from 19.05 in 'Beauty Seedless' to 28.57 in 'Vênus'. 'Vênus' and 'Marroo Seedless' were the most productive varieties, with the average annual production of 24 t/ha and 20 t/ha, respectively.