

## **358 - Mite diversity on Rosaceae in the São Francisco Valley, northeast Brazil**

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The Rosaceae include about 100 genera and more

than 2,000 species spread throughout the world. Among the fruit trees of this family, apple, pear, peach and plum are highlighted by the potential production and increasing consumption in Brazil. One alternative is the diversification of crops in different irrigation poles of the Brazilian semi arid region. The installation of a plant collection of temperate climate fruits in the region of São Francisco Valley, aiming at the adaptation of these species for commercial cultivation in that region has been challenging to overcome issues such as climatic differences and consequently pest monitoring and control. The study here described was conducted at the Experimental Station (Bebedouro) of Embrapa Semi-Árido and referred to evaluations conducted on apple ('Eva' and 'Condessa' varieties), pear (Ally and 'princesinha' varieties), peach and plum (varieties 'Rubenal', 'Irati', 'Fla 79-3' and 'Fla 87-7'), between July 2008 and March 2010. Sampling of mites was performed weekly on 10 plants at random, collecting 3 leaves per plant (basal, middle and apical of the canopy of the plant). The leaves were placed in paper bags and taken to the Entomology Laboratory of Embrapa Semi-Árido and kept under refrigeration. Then, the leaves were observed under a 40X stereo-microscope, for arthropod counting. The mites were collected and send to the Acarology Laboratory at the Universidade Federal Rural de Pernambuco for identification. Mites of the families Tetranychidae, Tarsonemidade, Phytoseiidae and Tydeidae (Proenematinae) were present on all crops studied. Tenuipalpidae and Stigmaeidae were not recorded on plum and peach. The species were identified as *Tetranychus urticae* Koch (apple and pear), *Tetranychus* sp. (peach and plum), *Eutetranychus* sp. (peach), *Euseius citrifolius* Denmark & Muma (plum variety Rubenal), *Euseius concordis* (Chant) (plum variety Irati) and *Amblyseius tamatavensis* Blommers (pear variety Ally).