RESEARCH ARTICLE

EFFECT OF FOLIAR APPLICATION OF POTASSIUM SOURCES ON MATURITY, YIELD AND LEAF NUTRIENT CONTENT OF PEACH (*PRUNUS PERSICA* L.) CV. SHAN-I-PUNJAB UNDER SEMI-ARID IRRIGATED CONDITIONS

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Abstract: The aim of present study was to study the effect of foliar spray of different nutrients (potassium sulphate, potassium nitrate and potassium orthophosphate) on yield and leaf nutrient content in peach cv. Shan-i-Punjab at different concentrations. The treatments were applied as foliar spray in the end of March at pit hardening stage. Highest total yield (63.03 kg/tree) and fruit weight (83.50g) was obtained with the foliar application of KNO_3 (3%) closely followed by 2% levels of KNO_3 and K_2SO_4.K_2SO_4 (1.5-2.0%) spray advanced fruit maturity 4 days by increasing the yield in first picking (70-72%) over control. Maximum leaf N & K (2.57 & 1.03%) was obtained in KNO_3 @ 3% spray whereas maximum P (0.22%) in KH_2PO_4.

Keywords: Foliar spray, Fruit yield, Peach, Potassium nitrate, Potassium orthophosphate, Potassium sulphate

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