

Title Effect of irrigation levels on dry weight of durian pulp cv. Monthong
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Abstract

Dry weight of pulp is used as a maturity index for durians in Thailand. This study is concerned with the effect that the amount of water given to durian trees has on the pulp dry weight. Thirteen year old Monthong durian trees, in three orchards in Chanthaburi province, were irrigated at 200 liters per tree every 2-3 days (normal practice), or every day (heavy irrigation). It was found that if durian trees were heavily irrigated during their food accumulation period, or for at least a week two to three weeks prior to harvest, the pulp dry weight was about 1-2% lower than normal. If heavy irrigation was given one week before harvesting, when fruit were almost fully developed, there was no difference in the dry weight of pulp. This result suggests that heavy rain for a few days during the durian harvesting period, should have no impact on the use of dry weight as a durian maturity index.