Abstract:

This paper overviews the studies of calcium in relation to lychee fruit cracking. Evidences support the following conclusions about calcium's role: (i) Deficiency of calcium causes severer cracking, (ii) calcium contributes to cracking resistance through its structural role in the cell walls of the pericarp, (iii) there are a number of barriers that hinder the calcium applied to become a structural part in the cell walls, (iv) the effect of calcium applied may vary with time of application and its combined anions, (v) availability of calcium in the early stage of fruit ontogeny is important for cracking resistance, and (vi) calcium contributes only part of cracking resistance and application of the element is not the whole answer towards the problem.