

Title CPPU influences fruit quality and fruit abscission of 'McIntosh' apples.
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Abstract

A range of concentrations (2, 4 or 6 mg.l⁻¹) and timings of CPPU [forchlorfenuron] application were evaluated in attempt to identify situations in which fruit size, flesh firmness, and soluble solids could be increased while minimizing increased incidence of fruit asymmetry and reductions in flower bud formation and fruit surface red colour on 'McIntosh' apples (*Malus x domestica* [*M. pumila*]). The greatest response to CPPU for most attributes evaluated occurred when it was applied at fruit size between 6 and 16 mm. The conclusion from this series of experiments is that differential response to CPPU could not be established by altering the time of application. The response to CPPU is linear with increasing concentration. Results suggested that use of 4 to 6 mg.l⁻¹ CPPU on apples to increase fruit size was the maximum and appropriate range to use without causing fruit asymmetry. Chemical name used: N-(2-chloro-4-pyridyl)-N'-phenyl urea (CPPU).