PEACH AND NECTARINE CORKING: A NUTRITIONAL SURVEY

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Summary:

Leaf samples were collected from 10 orchards with histories of corking ranging from severe to none. Samples were analyzed for nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium, magnesium, calcium, zinc, manganese, iron, boron, sodium, chloride and sulfur. There was no consistent relationship between orchard nutrient status and expression of corking.

Additionally, leaf and fruit samples were taken from two trees within an orchard that has had a history of corking. One of the trees displayed severe corking and the other, which had been severely summer pruned in June, displayed no corking. There was no consistent relationship between the trees with respect to leaf nutrient status, but corked fruit had a higher concentration of total nitrogen (1.15-1.42%) than did fruit displaying no corking (0.88-0.91% total N).