

Growing Pomegranates at Water Conserv II

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Location

- Mid-Florida Citrus Foundation
- Located at Water Conserv II
- Winter Garden, Florida
- Alternative crops section

History

- Pomegranate program started in summer of 2010 with 40 plants.
- Second planting in April 2011.
 - Organic supplement vs. no supplement.

Horticultural Practices

- Use of general horticultural practices surrounding crops limit some practices.
- Only use pesticides labeled for pomegranates in Florida at this time.
- New planting site at Conserv II.

Fertilizer Program

- N-P-K
 - February
 - 50# N/A dry
 - 10-2-13-2 mg
 - April-August
 - 35# N/A
 - 8-0-10 liquid
 - Applied via microsprinkler system
- Total N/A/yr = 85#

Fertilizer Program

- Minor and Trace Elements
 - Important to get both leaf and soil analysis.
 - Deficient at Conserv II.
 - Most applied foliar.
- pH
 - Runs upper 6s to mid 7s.
 - Add sulphates to liquid fertilizer.

Insects

- Leaf-footed plant bug.
- Flea beetle.
- Mites.
- Sap beetle (probably secondary).
- Fire ants.



**Leaf-footed
plant bug**



Flea beetle



Sap beetle

Insecticides

- Azadirect
- Lannate
- Knack
- Extinguish (ants)
- Sulfur
- Trilogy (also fungicide)
- Delegate

Fruit and Foliage Diseases

- *Cercospora*
- *Botrytis*
- *Botryosphaeria*



Cercospora Leaf Spot



*Cercospora
punicae*



*Botryosphaeria
spp*



Botrytis cinerea

Fungicides

- Regalia
- Scholar

Weed Control

- AIM
- Chateau
- Glyphosate
- Prowl H₂O
- Fusilade
- Poast
- Surflan

Other Thoughts

- Single trunk vs. Multitrunk
- Windowing and topping
- Twig die back
 - Maybe soil disease
 - Reduced root zone = reduced canopy
- Ornamental varieties

Need for More Research

- Fungicides
- Herbicides
- Insecticides
- Fertilizer levels
- Site selection
- Plant breeding