

Report from the Nurserymen's Section

Three important programs of the avocado nursery business that help provide healthy, virus-free, and partially root rot resistant trees are briefly described as follows.

Avocado Certification

The avocado nursery stock certification program helps protect the avocado industry from the *Phytophthora cinnamomi* fungus disease known as "avocado root rot." This is accomplished by required sanitation, isolation, and treatment practices recommended by University of California scientists and adopted into the existing regulations.

This regulation was first adopted in 1958 at the request of the concerned avocado industry, and is totally funded by fees paid by participating avocado nurserymen to defray the cost of the program.

Avocado Registration

The avocado nursery stock registration program helps protect the avocado industry from the dissemination of the "sun-blotch" virus disease of avocados. Avocado trees may be registered for the purpose of providing rootstock and scionwood sources for the propagation of nursery stock when inspected and tested for the "sun-blotch" virus disease by the procedures outlined in existing regulations.

This regulation was first adopted in 1962 at the request of the avocado industry, and is completely funded by fees paid by participating avocado nurserymen.

G-6 Program

The avocado nursery stock G-6 program provides trees partially resistant to "avocado root rot." The board of directors of the California Avocado Society, through a special agreement with the University of California and through an agreement signed with the participating avocado nurserymen, provides for the propagation of G-6 rootstock. The nurserymen agree to collect on the sale of each tree the sum of fifty-five cents, which includes the fifty cent fee payable by the Society to the University of California to finance avocado research and five cents to be retained by the Society for administrative costs. Propagation is not allowed by the university without a signed agreement. Membership in the California Avocado Society is not a requirement of the agreement, and the agreement is free.

Financially, the Nurserymen's Section, as of September 18, 1981, had on hand a balance of \$2,078.51, compared to a September 26, 1980 balance of \$1,562.66.

Nurserymen's Section dues are \$10.00 per year, and we urge all interested nurserymen

to join us in the support of these programs.

Respectfully submitted,
E. Mehlschau, Chairman