TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS ABOUT THE BIOLOGICAL CYCLE OF THE AVOCADO BRANCH-BORER (*COPTURUS AGUACATAE*, KISSINGER) A-11

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This work was carried out during 2001-03, in the avocado producing areas of Michoacán State, México. An experiment was established for each identified ecological stratum, hence three places located in different agroclimatic environments were selected. Under controlled field conditions and following an experimental design the egg-laying of branch-borer females was induced in specific places, e.g., predetermined branches and trees in three different dates; the gathering of data parameters that support the discussion and conclusions of this research started at the moment of insect seclusion.

The information obtained from the different sources consulted, which are integral part of technical and legal referential frames about the life cycle and control of avocado branch-borer, are outdated and lack precision when they are taken into practice; this has been the main reason and intention of these assays.

From the observations carried out and the results obtained after the statistical analysis, the following statements can be derived:

- The branch-borer in the avocado producing areas of Michoacán State, Mexico, shows a single generation in its biological cycle.
- The life cycle of the branch-borer can be lengthened or shorthened in the detection of the progeny stages, in relation to the amount of intrinsic and extrinsic factors which condition its adaptation capacity. There is not a significant interrelation between locations and the behavior or duration of the biological cycle of *Copturus aguacatae*, Kissinger.
- The agroclimatic conditions of the locations studied differ significantly; however, there are also differences in orchard management or cultural practices.

Copturus aguacatae, Kissinger, does not show superimposed generations but it shows a great adaptation capacity in response to factors inducing this condition.