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FRUIT AND NUT CROPS RESEARCH IN TEXAS, 1987

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SUBJECT TOPIC: Adapting Plants to High pH Soils by Use of Native Rootstock

INVESTIGATOR(S): Loy W. Shreve - TAEEX, Uvalde

CROP(S): 1. Peaches
2. Apricots
3. Other Stone Fruits

ABSTRACT:

Objective:
Adapt exotic and non-native plants to high pH soils by use of native rootstock.

General Approach and Findings:
Result demonstrations begun in 1977 and continued to the present in Southwest Texas involving the use of native Texas chickasaw plums, Prunus angustifolia, as rootstocks for stone fruits or almonds have demonstrated that the grafted trees have no micronutrient deficiencies. Also, these native stocks appear to be resistant to cotton root rot. Iron, and sometimes zinc, deficiencies must be corrected when stone fruits or almonds propagated onto commercial stocks are planted in the high pH soils of the region. Chickasaw plum stocks planted in spots where Nemaguard or Lovell stocks have been killed by cotton root rot have survived for 9 years without evidence of this soil-borne disease.