

Influence of Synchron® and Nitroactive® on flowering and ripening time in two sweet cherry cultivars

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Dormancy breaking agents are used in fruit tree species to induce budbreak in situations of insufficient winter chilling or to advance and uniform ripening. In this work, the influence of Synchron® and Nitroactive® on flowering and ripening is evaluated in two sweet cherry cultivars, Earlise and Lapins. A combination of Synchron 2% and Nitroactive 20% were applied at three dates during dormancy in two consecutive years with different winter weather conditions. In the first year, the treatments advanced the time of flowering and ripening in Earlise, but effects were less remarkable in Lapins. In the second year, the effects of the applications were more appreciable in Lapins than in Earlise. The different effects observed between years in both cultivars treated at the same dates are discussed in terms of the chilling accumulated at each date and the stage of bud development in which the applications were made.