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Research Paper

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Received: 01.10.2013 Revised: 25.03.2014 Accepted: 10.04.2014 Shooting –harvest interval and physico-chemical properties of banana (*Musa* AAA cv. GRAND NAINE) in relation to micro climate inside the bunch cover

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ABSTRACT: The experiment was conducted on banana (*Musa* AAA cv. Grande naine) at the Horticultural Research Station, Mondouri, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, West Bengal, India during the years 2006-2009. Polythene bunch cover of transparent and blue colour were taken with different thickness *viz.*, (i) 20μ and (ii) 40μ and different level of perforation *viz.*, (i) 10 per cent (ii) 20 per cent and (iii) 30 per cent. Transparent polythene cover raised temperature inside the bunch cover by 1.5°C and relative humidity by nearly 9 per cent over control. Photosynthetically active radiation and light interception were also higher inside transparent polythene bunch cover over blue polythene bunch cover. Correlation of different meteorological parameters on physico-chemical properties banana fruits revealed negative association with shooting-harvest interval, whereas significantly positive association with temperature was observed in case of TSS, total sugar and non-reducing sugar. By and large other physical and biochemical properties were not influenced solely by any of the four meteorological parameters of temperature, humidity, photosynthetically active radiation and light interception but on their cumulative effect.

KEY WORDS: Banana, Bunch cover, Meteorological parameter, Physico-chemical property

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