

complete in the alternation and there is less opportunity for close-pollination. Without doubt there are temperatures which prevent fertilization to any kind of pollination. Those temperatures which tend to favor the processes of fertilization after self- and close-pollination can be assumed also to be more favorable to fertilization after proper cross-pollination.

Robinson(?) has recently surveyed the evidence for self-fruitfulness and considered the flower behavior that may be involved, and he concludes that "Despite the observed instances where certain avocado varieties are evidently not dependent on cross-pollination for fertilization of the flowers, it is believed that under most circumstances interplanting of reciprocating varieties, together with the use of bees as pollinating agents, provides a worthwhile measure of security against faulty pollination."

According to present knowledge the self-fruiting of any avocado which has seeded fruit depends (1) on dichogamous close-pollination during an overlap of sets or when there is the forcing of flowers by insects, or (2) on self-pollination of flowers whose pistils remain receptive until pollen is being shed from their stamens.

The writer is inclined to believe that flowers in abnormal opening are, as a rule, unable to function in any relation. Yet rather slightly abnormal cycles produced by moderately inclement weather, especially if it be long continued, may promote self-fruiting especially when insects are active. It also seems to the writer that the forcing of flowers and the self-pollination of certain flowers by insects during normal opening will be more liable to lead to self-fruiting. On account of the shorter cycle of dianthesis it would appear that self-pollinations are more likely to yield fruit on B than on A varieties except when their flowers are open in the long cycle of 54 hours.

How to make avocados bear adequately and regularly has long been and still is a matter of concern to avocado growers both in California and in Florida. The erratic and poor bearing of certain varieties has been a chief factor in their being discarded from general culture. The flower behavior of all varieties clearly indicates a remarkable adaptation for cross-pollination which can best be provided for by proper interplanting and by supplying honey bees in abundance.

To ignore this condition by planting in solid blocks invites low yields of fruit. This means financial loss to growers especially during the period when the relatively few most self-fruitful vari-