Manatchaya Rattanachoat 2006: Anthracnose Disease Control of 'Pansetong' Guava with Calcium Chloride and Carbon Dioxide Treatments. Master of Science (Agriculture), Major Field: Plant Pathology, Department of Plant Pathology. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Niphon Visarathanonth, M.S. 123 pages.

ISBN 974-16-2790-4

Postharvest diseases of 'Pansetong' guava (Psidium guajava L.) were observed to cause by five kinds of fungal pathogens with percentage infection: Lasiodiplodia theobromae, 56.25 %; Phoma psidii, 31.25 %; Phomopsis sp., 18.75 %; Colletotrichum gloeosporioides, 12.50 % and Aspergullus niger group 12.50 %.

Colletotrichum gloeosporioides, the cause of guava anthracnose disease was selected to treat with calcium chloride (CaCl2), carbon dioxide (CO2) and their combinations for mycelial growth and spore germination inhibition. All the treatment sets were also conducted with inoculated and non-inoculated guava fruits for disease control efficacy tests. CaCl2 gave fair growth inhibition and best for spore germination. The inoculated guava fruits treated with CaCl, concentrations showed small sizes of disease symptoms at room temperature (26-28 °C) and more size retardation at 10 °C storage. Non-inoculated guava fruits treated with 2 % CaCl2 did not show any anthracnose disease symptoms for 20 days at this 10 °C storage. CaCl2, affected shelf life and quality of guava fruits by decreasing total acidity but increasing total soluble solid, ascorbic acid content and fruit firmness. CO2 fumigation in the closed system revealed fair growth inhibition and spore germination of the fungal pathogen. CO2 could inhibit symptom development of the inoculated guava fruits and more retardation of disease incidence at 10 °C storage. Non-inoculated guava fruits treated with 20 % CO, at the tested time periods did not show any anthracnose disease. Increasing times of CO, exposure could decrease total acidity, but slightly increase ascorbic acid content and fruit firmness. Combination application of 2 % CaCl, with 20 % CO₂ gave the best retardation of mycelial growth and spore germination of C. gloeosporioides and reduced wound sizes of the inoculated fruits. Non-inoculated guava fruits treated with combinations of 2 % CaCl, and 15 % CO2 and or 2 % CaCl2 individually did not showed anthracnose disease symptoms after 8 days of room temperature storage. The treated guavas with this treatment combinations showed slightly decreased total acidity but increased more total soluble solid, ascorbic acid content and fruit firmness.

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