

Table 4. Nutrient distribution in different fruit tissues of Guiwei and Feizixiao varieties of lychee grown in Guangdong, China.


Nutrient	----- Fruit shell -----			Seed, %
	Epicarp (outer), %	Endocarp (inner), %	Fruit flesh, %	
Guiwei				
N	21.4	40.1	28.1	10.4
P	31.5	24.8	31.6	12.1
K	31.0	25.9	33.6	9.5
Ca	4.5	21.3	61.7	12.5
Mg	17.5	28.6	38.0	15.8
S	14.0	27.4	44.6	14.1
Fe	3.9	23.1	43.4	29.6
Mn	6.8	71.0	17.8	4.4
Cu	26.9	20.2	35.3	17.6
Zn	25.8	31.9	28.2	14.1
B	16.2	25.1	42.1	16.6
Mo	64.5	35.5	-	-
Feizixiao				
N	15.3	21.4	52.8	10.5
P	8.4	5.9	80.3	5.4
K	14.6	10.6	68.3	6.5
Ca	2.6	8.0	76.8	12.7
Mg	14.6	14.6	54.8	16.0
S	9.5	16.5	57.4	16.6
Fe	2.8	5.7	54.8	36.7
Mn	7.2	40.1	44.2	8.5
Cu	23.7	16.0	47.5	12.7
Zn	11.9	18.1	57.9	12.2
B	13.6	24.6	45.3	16.5
Mo	18.2	40.9	0.0	40.9

was lowest in the roots of both cultivars. Calcium was highest in leaves of Guiwei and the trunk of Feizixiao, but only trace amounts of Ca were detected in the fruit flesh of both cultivars. It should be noted that although Ca is commonly regarded as a secondary nutrient for plants, its concentrations in trunk and roots of tree were higher than N concentrations.

Summary

These results build upon known relationships between improved fertilization techniques and stable tree fruit production. Valuable insight was gained into nutrient uptake and storage patterns in lychee, which is vital information to growers as they decide how best to adapt 4R Nutrient Stewardship principles to achieve high quality fruit production.

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