The effect of ethephon and gibberellic acid on delaying the flowering of apricot (CV. Shahroodi).

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The ability to control time of flowering in apricot trees is very important in those regions where the likelihood of spring frost damage is high. Application of plant growth regulators in the fall have been suggested as a way for controlling bloom date. An experiment was conducted with different concentration of ethephon and gibberellic acid (0, 50, 100, 200, 300 ppm) in 3 dates (end. of, Aug, Sept. and Oct.) to delay the flowering in shahroodi apricaot for avoiding or minimizing the damage by late spring frost. A Factorial experiment was laid out in completely randomized-block design with 4 replications for each ones of growth regulators. All the data were subjected to analysis of variance and Duncan's multiple range test was used to compare the treatment means. Results showed, spraying of ethephone (50 ppm) and gibberellic acid (100 ppm) in the end of Aug. was more effective than the other treatments delaying for the flowering time of apricot.