

The "SOLENE" : New training system for apple trees

A. Attar

Khorasan Agriculture Research Center, Mashad

The Solene system that has initiated by Dr.J.M. Lespinasse in (INRA) France, Is very simple and economic method.

Its objectives are:

- 1- To adapt to the fruiting habit of each variety.
- 2- To facilitate access to the fruit from the ground by reducing tree height.
- 3- To insure fruit quality by having a dome-shaped form, for effective light interception.

In this system:

- * Use M9 rootstock.
- * Distances within the row 2m in all sides.
- * Distances between rows 3 to 4m according to the tractor type.
- * Post ever tird tree.
- * 2 wires 10 cm vertically apart.
- * Select and bending the 2 scaffolds.

Solene systems is a very good system for high density planting, because light interception allowing narrow spacing between rows. A good crops, about 60 to 80 tons, obtained from forth years.