

Propagation of pistachio trees by usig epicotyle grafts

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Pistachio plays an important role in the agricultural economy of Iran. To make pistachio industry as much as possible, more economical grafting is recommended to shorten the required period before fruiting. For grafting the pistachio trees, normally 3 and 4 years old seedling plants are selected and grafted and they reach the proper fruiting stage when they are 7 and 8 years old. But whenever the propagation is through epicotyle grafts, then the required period for fruiting is again shortened.

In this regard, three grafting techniques i.e. saddle, cleft and side grafting was evaluated for epicotyle grafting. The result indicated that epicotyl grafting is possible in pistachio seedlings and saddle grafts caused the highest success (66%) compared with other two types.

In order to increase healing percentage of grafts, BA hormones with four different concentrations of 0,5,10 and 15 ppm, and ascorbic acid with two concentrations of 0 and 150 ppm, were used. According to the results, not BA hormone nor ascorbic acid had considerable positive effect on healing situation and even they caused some negative effects too.