

The simplest method of assisted pollination is to introduce bouquets of flowers of the pollinator cultivar into the canopy of the crop tree. This has been done for centuries with the dioecious date palm, and is still used to improve pollination of single cultivar orchards of apple and walnut (Stanley and Linskens, 1974; Forde and Griggs, 1975; Way, 1978). A more permanent alternative which has been attempted with apple, walnut and olive (Forde and Griggs, 1975; Williams and Church, 1983; Lavee, 1986), is to graft pollinator scions into the crown of the crop tree. Careful and regular pruning is required to favour the pollinator branch or it will tend to become suppressed and die.