

#### Anuradha Prakash EFFECTIVENESS OF GAMMA IRRADIATION IN REPLACING CHEMICAL POSTHARVEST TREATMENTS IN 'GRANNY SMITH' APPLES



#### Granny Smith apples





#### Storage disorders in Granny Smith apples

- Rot/decay
- Bitter pit
- Water Core
- Internal browning







## **Superficial Scald**



## Superficial scald development





#### **Insect Pests**

- Codling moth
- Light brown apple moth









#### Methyl bromide: Quarantine treatment



## Irradiation

250 Gy approved for California apples to be treated in California or Mexico (if tarped)



USDA APHIS PPQ, Phytosanitary Export Database, https://pcit.aphis.usda.gov/PExD/faces/ViewPExD.jsf



## Objective

To compare low dose irradiation with DPA, 1-MCP, and MeBr treatments on the development of superficial scald and other physiological defects in 'Granny Smith' apples.



# Experimental design





#### Superficial scald









90-day storage at 0 °C			
1MCP = 1-methylcyclopropene -	Control	DPA	G240
DPA = diphenylamine MeBr = methyl bromide G250 = Gamma 240 Gy G800 = Gamma 860 Gy			
International	1MCP	MeBr	G860



Fruit respiration rate and ethylene production 90-day storage at 0 °C











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Control

 $\alpha$ -Farnesene (nmol cm<sup>-2</sup>)



# **Internal Browning**











G240

G860

Control

DPA

\* 25 -% 湯 38 30 000 · de 0 Di-× 200 800 So 00% R alo 00 200 9% 30 Xo 30 -25 る 300

MeBr



60-day storage fruit, but these fruit were held at room temperature 20 days

# Conclusions

- Apples irradiated at 240 Gy were similar to MeBr treated apples in terms of superficial scald. 1-MCP and DPA treated apples maintained better quality.
- Superficial scald development in the irradiation treated fruit was not ethylene-dependent.
- Concentration of conjugated trienes was correlated with incidence of superficial scald in non-irradiated fruit.
- In irradiated fruit, scald was not related to CT concentration, suggesting that this was a different type of necrosis.
- Irradiation stress caused internal browning.



## 2017 x-ray











# **Next Steps**

- Determine the type of necrosis in fruit peel
- Evaluate impacts of irradiation modalities
- Explore the interaction of cold stress, storage, and irradiation
- Evaluate role of complementary technologies in reducing disorders
- Careful control of all factors
- Use transcriptional, proteomic and metabolomic analysis for a comprehensive understanding





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