

†ROOTSTOCK AND SHOOT PREFORMATION IN PISTACHIO AND THEIR INFLUENCE ON CANOPY ARCHITECTURE AND YIELD COMPONENTS

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Rootstock significantly alters the pattern of shoot growth of pistachio (*Pistacia vera*) cv. Kerman. Terminal buds of shoots from trees on three rootstocks were dissected during the dormant season to determine the number of preformed nodes. Data indicate that there are 8-9 preformed nodes in dormant buds regardless of rootstock or shoot carbohydrate status, suggesting genetic control. However, shoots from trees on two of the three rootstocks produce neoformed growth in addition to preformed growth, resulting altered canopy architectures. Neoformed growth is dependent on current season photosynthates and has the potential to compete with reproductive sinks for available resources.