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**THE EFFECT OF ETHEPHON, NAA AND BA, USED SEPARATELY AND JOINTLY, ON THE EFFICIENCY OF THINNING IN APPLE TREES CULTIVARS JONAGOLD, GOLDEN DELICIOUS AND ELSTAR**

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For illustration the effect of sequential thinning by use of different thinning agents the results of three experiments conducted in apple trees will be shown. The trials were conducted in 2002-2003 on cvs. Jonagold, Golden Delicious and Elstar varieties. The following substances were used for thinning: ethephon (in preparation Ethrel, 48% ethephon) at the beginning of bloom, NAA (as Pomonit Super 050 SL, 5% NAA in salt with triethanolamine) soon after bloom, and BA (in Paturyl 050 SL, 9.4% BA) when fruitlets were 10-12 mm in diameter. They were used separately or sequentially for correction of thinning effect of preparation used in the same trees earlier. The effect on fruit set, yield, fruit size, red color and russeting as well as internal quality expressed by firmness and refraction of apple flesh at harvest and after storage, as well as on the subsequent blooming were evaluated.