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*E-mail: zaklinaks@yahoo.com

Influence of a new growing technology on vegetative potential of ‘ a anska Bestrna’ blackberry

Žaklina Karaklaji -Staji ^{1*}, Mihailo Nikoli ², Rade Mileti ¹,
Jelena Tomi ¹, Marijana Pešakovi ¹, Svetlana M. Paunovi ¹

¹ Fruit Research Institute a ak, Kralja Petra No 9, 32000 a ak, Republic of Serbia

² Faculty of Agriculture, University of Belgrade, Nemanjina 6, 11080 Belgrade, Serbia

SUMMARY

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2011-2013
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- The investigation was conducted in a ‘ a anska Bestrna’ blackberry planting using the intensive cultivation technology, i.e. rain-shield cultivation (double-sloping eaves). The research was conducted in a commercial blackberry planting during 2011-2013 under the environmental conditions of a ak using the standard methodology. This cultivation technology contributes to a higher content of high-quality fruits, i.e. prevention of rot, while at the same time securing continual harvesting, regardless of the environmental (external) conditions.
- The results showed that most of the tested parameters were affected by production system and environmental conditions during the research, as well as by their interaction. The rain-shield

(4.48 ± 0.21)
(467.91 ± 16.26 cm),

(15.68 ± 0.45 mm)

- system did not cause any deviation in the onset of flowering and ripening in floricanes compared to open-field cultivation.

- In terms of the vegetative potential parameters, number of canes (4.48 ± 0.21) and cane length (467.91 ± 16.26 cm) were greater in blackberries under rain shields, whereas cane diameter (15.68 ± 0.45 mm) was higher under open-field cultivation.

Key words: blackberry, rain shields, vegetative potential

subg. *Rubus* Watson)

(Nikoli and Milivojevi , 2015).

69%
17.82%
(Strik et al., 2007),

12.000 t (

15.000
) ,

5.000 ha (Nikoli
and Tanovi , 2012).

(*Rubus*

INTRODUCTION

The economic significance of the European blackberry (*Rubus* subg. *Rubus* Watson) makes it an important berry fruit in Serbia, where it is positioned immediately after raspberry and strawberry (Nikoli and Milivojevi , 2015). The blackberry production constitutes 69% of the European and 17.82% of the world's production (Strik et al., 2007), which places Serbia among the four leading global producers of this fruit. As a consequence of the hyper-production on one side and the uncertain sales prospects on the other side, the average blackberry production in Serbia has declined in recent years to approximately 12,000 t (spread to app. 15,000 individual farms), with the total area under blackberry not exceeding 5,000 ha (Nikoli and Tanovi , 2012).

The blackberry orchards in Serbia

95%

(Nikoli et al. 2012; Nikoli and Milivojevi, 2015).

("

(Thompson et al., 2009).

()

- are dominated by the ' a anaska Bestrna' and 'Thornfree' cultivars, with more than 95% share, followed by the 'Black Saten', 'Dirksen Thornless' and some more recent cultivars, such as 'Loch Ness', 'Chester Thornless', 'Triple Crown' (Nikoli et al., 2012; Nikoli and Milivojevi, 2015).

- Considering the fact that over the past several years the difficulties in marketing blackberry have been partly due to a relatively weaker fruit quality of the most widely grown cultivars (' a anaska Bestrna' and 'Thornfree'), it is necessary to introduce new technologies and changes to the cultivars. Regarding this, intensifying the technology of blackberry cultivation is mostly focused on reducing the adverse impact of outer factors (low and high air temperatures, air, rain and light).

- The system of blackberry cultivation in enclosed areas (tunnels) is widely favoured, mostly owing to the protection of the fruits from adverse weather conditions it provides, thereby gaining advantage over open-filed production (Thompson et al., 2009).

- Depending on the construction type, cultivation of blackberry in enclosed and semi-enclosed areas may take different forms. Double-row rain shields (semi-tunnels) represent a simple and highly cost-

(2012) , Strik

- effective planting system,
- conducive to improved fruit quality and increased yields.

Regarding this, Strik (2012) states that differentiation of generative buds in strawberry, raspberry, blackberry and blueberry is significantly influenced by the light regime, temperature conditions and cultivation system applied.

The objective of the research is to indirectly examine the impact of the rain-shield cultivation on phenophase of flowering and ripening and vegetative potential of blackberry ' a anska Bestrna'.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Experimental design

(2011-2013) " .
 2006, (43° 53'N
 , 20° 20' E , 290
 m . .)
 290 m,
 3.0 m,
 1.5 m,

The investigation was conducted over a three-year period (2011–2013) in an orchard of blackberry cultivar ' a anska Bestrna'. The experimental orchard was established in 2006 and was located at Gornja Gorevnica (43° 53'N latitude, 20° 20' E longitude, 290 m altitude) near a ak, Western Serbia. This is mainly an upland area, with an average altitude of about 290 m, characterised by the temperate continental climate. The blackberry were planted in rows spaced 3.0 m apart with plants set at 1.5 m apart in the row, and trained as a three-wire trellis. Plastic arches were placed on the existing trellis structure in the blackberry. The

<p>μ,</p>	<p>150 arches were covered using 150 μ thick foil, forming the shape of an umbrella (rain-shield cultivation). The trial was conducted using a randomised block design and it included four replications of each treatment. Fertilization, and irrigation practices standard for the region were provided during period of investigation.</p>
<p>(</p>	<p>-</p>
<p>,</p>	<p>-</p>
<p>,</p>	<p>.</p>
<p>“</p>	<p>”</p>
<p>1984</p>	<p>Blackberry cultivar ‘ a anaska Bestrna’ made in 1984 from the crossing ‘Dirksen Thornless’ ×</p>
<p>“</p>	<p>”</p>
<p>“</p>	<p>”</p>
<p>4-5</p>	<p>-</p>
<p>,</p>	<p>-</p>
<p>,</p>	<p>Institute, a ak. It is highly vigorous cultivar, produces 4-5 strong, in mid-section bent canes, with short internodes. The flowering season is mid-late. It is self-fertile, abundant cropper.</p>
<p>,</p>	<p>Resistant to low winter temperatures. It is medium resistant to yellow rust (<i>Kuehneola uredinis</i> (Link)) and susceptible to purple blotch of blackberry (<i>Septocyta ruborum</i> (Lib.) Petrark).</p>
<p>(<i>Kuehneola uredinis</i> (Link))</p>	<p>-</p>
<p>(<i>Septocyta ruborum</i> (Lib.) Petrark).</p>	<p>-</p>
<p>,</p>	<p>-</p>
<p>,</p>	<p>-</p>
<p>(</p>	<p>9.3 g Ripening season is mid-early, in the beginning of the third decade of July. The fruit is large. Average fruit weight is around 9,3 g (fruit weight of individual fruits amount to 15 g). It is elongated-cylindrical, glossy black, with sweet-subacid taste and pronounced aroma. It contains 89 drupelets on average.</p>
<p>15 g).</p>	<p>-</p>
<p>,</p>	<p>-</p>
<p>,</p>	<p>-</p>
<p>89</p>	<p>“</p>
<p>“</p>	<p>”</p>
<p>,</p>	<p>-</p>

(mm) (cm)

10% (,)

(,) 90%

()

(,) 10%

()

()

± (SE).

conditions this cultivar has displayed excellent performance in respect of cropping and resistance to diseases and low winter temperatures.

Determination of vegetative potential

Determination of the vegetative potential of the examined blackberry cultivar was performed by establishing the number of canes per bush, as well as the height (cm) and diameter (mm) of the canes. The stated vegetative parameters were measured prior to the winter pruning of the blackberry.

Determination of flowering and ripening time

The flowering phenophase was determined by recording the date of onset (as the phase when 10% of flowers on the bushes were open) and end of flowering (the phase when 90% of lowers shed their petals). Duration of the phenophase is expressed in days (between the start and the end of flowering).

The ripening phenophase was determined by recording the starting date (phase when 10% of fruits are ripe) and the end of ripening (date of final harvesting). The duration of the phenophase is expressed in days (between the start and end of fruit harvesting).

Statistical analysis

The results are presented as mean ± standard error of mean (SE). Differences between mean

(ANOVA)
MSTAT-C (LSD test)
), p
0.05

values were compared by LSD test in two-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) using MSTAT-C statistical computer package (Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, USA). Differences with *p* values of 0.05 were considered insignificant.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Tables 1 and 2 present the results of the research into the flowering phenophase and ripening phenophase of the ‘ a anška Bestrna’ blackberry cultivar in the function of different cultivation systems, over the three-year period.

Having recorded the dates of onset of the flowering and ripening phenophases, duration of each phenophase was calculated.

1. Table 1. Phenophase of flowering of blackberry ‘ a anška Bestrna’ (2011-2013)

Cultivation techniques	/Year	Time of flowering		Duration (/days)
		Onset	End	
Rain-shield	2011	29.05.	20.06.	23
	2012	25.05.	15.06.	22
	2013	24.05.	12.06.	20
	/Mean	26.05.	16.06.	22
Standard	2011	30.05.	22.06.	24
	2012	26.05.	17.06.	23
	2013	26.05.	17.06.	23
	/Mean	27.05.	19.06.	23

Table 2. Phenophase of ripening of blackberry ' a anska Bestrna' (2011-2013)

Cultivation techniques	/Year	Time of ripening		Duration (days)
		Onset	End	
Rain-shield	2011	15.07.	22.08.	39
	2012	10.07.	13.08.	35
	2013	20.07.	25.08.	37
	/Mean	15.07.	20.08.	37
Standard	2011	17.07.	24.08.	39
	2012	12.07.	14.08.	34
	2013	21.07.	27.08.	38
	/Mean	17.07.	22.08.	37

Depending on the applied cultivation system and the prevailing climatic conditions in the years of study, the average onset of flowering for the blackberry cultivar under consideration was recorded in the period between 26th and 27th May. The earliest onset of flowering was recorded in the rain-shield cultivation system in 2013 (24th May), whereas the latest onset was observed in the standard cultivation system in 2011 (30th May). The shortest period of flowering was observed in the rain-shield system in 2013 (20 days), while it was the longest in the standard cultivation system in 2011 (24 days); the average duration of flowering in the rain-shield system was 22 days, as opposed to 23 days in the standard cultivation system. Although the three years' implementation of the examined system of blackberry cultivation made no impact on the duration of the flowering phenophase,

different dates of flowering onset were recorded in different years of the study.

By analysing the data related to the ripening phenophase in the fruits of the examined cultivar, it was established that the earliest onset of ripening occurred in 2012 in the rain-shield cultivation system (10th July), as opposed to the latest onset occurring in 2013 in the standard cultivation system (21st July). The average onset of blackberry fruits ripening in the conditions of different cultivation systems over the three years of study was recorded in the period between 15th and 17th July. The shortest fruit ripening phenophase was recorded in 2012 in the standard cultivation system (34 days), as opposed to the longest duration of the phenophase occurring in the rain-shield system in 2011 (39 days), with the average duration of this phenophase in both cultivation systems amounting to 37 days.

Implementation of the rain shield system in blackberry cultivation made no impact on the duration of the fruit ripening phenophase.

Table 3 shows the study results for the vegetative potential parameters, i.e. the number of shoots per bush, as well as the cane diameter in the function of different cultivations systems observed during the study period.

3.

Table 3. Effect of cultivation techniques on parameters of vegetative potential of blackberry ' a anska Bestrna'

Treatment	Number of canes per bush	Cane dimensions		
		Length (cm)	Thickness (mm)	
/ Cultivation techniques (A)				
- Rain-shield	4,48 ± 0,21 a	467,91 ± 16,26 a	15,68 ± 0,45 a	
/Standard	3,92 ± 0,19 b	420,01 ± 16,28 b	16,30 ± 0,43 a	
/Year (B)				
2011	3,69 ± 0,15 a	384,18 ± 12,96 c	14,27 ± 0,38 c	
2012	3,89 ± 0,16 a	520,96 ± 10,62 a	17,55 ± 0,38 a	
2013	5,05 ± 0,28 b	426,74 ± 20,39 b	16,15 ± 0,52 b	
/ Cultivation techniques × Year (A × B)				
- Rain-shield	2011	3,95 ± 0,27 c	414,77 ± 19,08 b	13,89 ± 0,60 a
	2012	4,29 ± 0,20 b	530,22 ± 18,24 a	17,05 ± 0,26 a
	2013	5,19 ± 0,45 a	458,74 ± 30,48 c	16,10 ± 0,93 a
/Standard	2011	3,43 ± 0,08 d	353,60 ± 10,40 d	14,64 ± 0 48 a
	2012	3,41 ± 0,12 d	511,71 ± 10,31 a	18,05 ± 0,70 a
	2013	4,92 ± 0,35 a	394,73 ± 23,68 b	16,20 ± 0,54 a
ANOVA				
A			ns	
B				
A × B			ns	

P 0,05

LSD test.

ns:

Values within each column followed by the same letter are not significantly different at the za *P* 0,05 by *LSD* test.

ns: non significant.

- The variance analysis reveals that the number of shoots per bush and the length of the cane was significantly statistically influenced by both variability factors (system and year of cultivation), as well as their interaction, whereas the only significant impact on the cane diameter was that of the year of study. .

Regarding the number of canes per blackberry bush, the

3.41 5.19. (4.48), 2013 (5.05), 2011 2012. 2011 (3.69). " " " Mileti et al. (2006) " " " " ")

- average value was in the range between 3.41 and 5.19. A significantly larger number of shoots per bush was established in the rain shield cultivation system (4.48), compared to the standard system of cultivation. Contemplated by the year of study, the largest average number of canes per bush was established in 2013, (5.05), which was significantly more compared to 2011 and 2012. The smallest number of canes was observed in 2011 (3.69). During the three ears of the study, the number of canes in the a anaska bestrna blackberry cultivar was on a progressive increase. The average number of canes and the average value of the cane diameter determined in the a anaska Bestrna blackberry cultivar are comparable to the results stated by Mileti et al. (2006) for the same cultivar and growing conditions of Eastern Serbia. The same authors reported a two times lower value for the average length of cane, compared to the results of this paper, which is probably a result of the more favourable ecological conditions for cultivation of blackberry in the a ak region, as well as the level of applied agro- and pomo-technical measures. In their study of the level of adaptation of eight blackberry cultivars (Arapaho, Black Satin, Cherokee, Chester Thornless, Dirksen Thornless, Jumbo, Navaho and Loch Ness) to

(), Eyduran et al. (2008) 10.35, 226.51 cm 17.34 mm. 530.22 cm 13.89 18.09 mm. (467.91 cm) 2012 (520.96 cm; 17.55 mm), 2011 2013. 2011 (348,18 cm; 14,27 mm). 2012 (530.22 cm), 2011 (353.60 mm).

agro-ecological conditions of Turkey (Anatolia), Eyduran et al. (2008) established that the average number of shoots was 10.35, with the average cane length and diameter of 226,51 cm and 17,34 mm, respectively. The average values of the blackberry cane length and diameter were in the range between 353,60 and 530,22 cm, i.e. between 13,89 and 18,09 mm. Significant differences were established in the average length of the cane in the different cultivation system, with the bigger length of the cane (467.91 cm) being observed in the rain-shield cultivation system. No significant differences were recorded in the size of the cane diameter relative to the different cultivation systems. The largest average values in the blackberry cane length and diameter were recorded in 2012 (520.96 cm; 17.55 mm), which was significantly higher compared to 2011 and 2013. The lowest average values of these parameters of the vegetative potential were determined in 2011 (348,18 cm; 14,27 mm). In the interaction effect of the cultivation system and year of cultivation, the highest average length of the cane was established in the rain-shield cultivation system in 2012 (530,22 cm), while the lowest value of this parameter was observed in the standard system of cultivation in 2011 (353.60 mm).

2011 2012, 2013.
 2012, -9.2°C -21.8°C,
 Atila et al. (2006)
 Eyduran et al. (2007),
 (Miši and Nikoli ,
 2003; Gercekcioglu and Esmek,
 2005)
 (Goulart, 1991).

The values of the cane length and diameter increased in 2011 and 2012, before decreasing in 2013. The period of extremely low winter temperatures in 2012 ranging between -9.2°C and -21.8°C resulted in a slow-down of the cane growth, which corresponds to the findings of Atila et al. (2006) and Eyduran et al. (2007), stating that the parameters of blackberry vegetative potential tend to vary depending on the cultivar and agro-ecological conditions during the vegetation period. The result of the previous research confirm the variability of the blackberry vegetative potential parameters relative to agro-ecological conditions (Miši and Nikoli , 2003; Gercekcioglu and Esmek, 2005) and cultivation system applied (Goulart, 1991).

CONCLUSIONS

During the three years of the study, the rain-shield system of blackberry cultivation made a stimulating impact on the examined parameters of the vegetative potential, i.e. on the number of canes per bush and the length of canes, whereas no significant differences were observed in the cane diameter, compared to the standard system.

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” ” ” ” ” 7, 1331
E-mail: vessi1@abv.bg

Water-efficiently technologies to create optimal conditions for microirrigation raspberries

Vesela Petrova-Branicheva

*Institute of soil science, agrotechnologies and plant protection "Nikola Pushkarov",
7 "Shose Bankya" Str., 1331 Sofia, Bulgaria*

SUMMARY

The raspberry is an important crop for Bulgaria given its high productivity and hence good economic results of its cultivation. The use of water for irrigation can be decreased by the introduction of efficient methods and technologies.

Microirrigation has been widely used because of the ability to effectivity control the processes in the irrigation plantation. During the period 2012-2013 year were carried out the fields experimental studies with raspberry crop variety "Lulin" created in 2011 in the region of Sofia field in "Chelopechene", on leached chromic luvisols scheme of planting raspberry plantation is 3,0x0,50m.

The treatment studies include two experiments: first - subsurface dripirrigation (SDI) with micro sprinkler system (use to afternoon or early morning), with 100% irrigation scheduling and second experiment - four different characteristics on irrigation dripline 1. 16 mm, $l_k=0,30m$, $q_k=1,6l/h$; 2. 16

1. 16 mm, $L_K=0,30m$, $Q_k=1,6l/h$; 2. 16 mm, $L_K= 0,30m$, $Q_k = 2l/h$; 3. 16mm, $L_K=0,50m$, $Q_k=1,8l/h$; 4. 16mm, $L_K = 0,75m$, $Q_k = 1,8l/h$ -

16mm, $L_K = 0,30m$, $Q_k = 2l/h$ 875-1000 kg/d .
3,5 5 -

mm, $l_k=0,30m$, $q_k =2 l/h$; 3. 16mm, $l_k=0,50m$, $q_k =1,8l/h$; 4. 16mm, $l_k=0,75m$, $q_k =1,8l/h$.

The highest yield is obtained by subsurface drip irrigation 16mm, $l_k=0,30m$, $q_k =2l/h$ with microsprinkler 875-1000kg/da.

The yield obtained by irrigation is 3.5 to 5 times higher compared to non-irrigated option.

The results achieved under years with varying precipitation show that drip irrigation with microsprinkler of raspberries has positive effect. Costs of establishing the plantation under irrigation conditions recover in the third year

Key words: subsurface drip irrigation, irrigation scheduling, raspberry, leached chromic luvisols, yields

INTRODUCTION

The main raspberry production regions in Bulgaria are the areas of altitude above 500-600m, more humid climate, facing to north of slight to medium slope. There are appropriate soil and climate conditions in the areas of Troyan, Teteven, Berkovitsa, Velingrad, etc.

In the recent years the raspberries do not develop very well because of the more frequent high temperatures during the fruiting period in July and August reaching up to 40 , which results in withering and white spots appearance. The high air humidity is missing at which the optimal quality and quantity yields can be

obtained. In the last years remontant varieties has become spread which may be cultivated at lower altitude but for them also such problems have been observed.

The yields of varieties do not correspond to their potential. Because of the problems mentioned above, it is of highest importance to optimize the water and air regime in order to get sustainable yields of raspberries. The research results obtained up to now and the practical experience gained explicitly show that the drip irrigation is the most appropriate technology for irrigation (Kumanov, 2003; Petkov et al., 2007; Kireva et al., 2013). The water saving in drip irrigation in comparison with the surface irrigation is 40-60% (Petkov et al., 2007; Kumanov et al., 2008; Cetin and Ugan, 2015). The results of Kumanov et al., 2008 show that the water losses from evaporation during watering for micro irrigation are a considerable part of water consumption and it is necessary to improve the irrigating process.

The main purpose of study is testing and establishing the effect of micro-irrigation (drip irrigation – subsoil drip irrigation and subsoil irrigation combined with microsprinkling) on the development and productivity of raspberries under the conditions of optimal water supply and

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-
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- development and productivity of
- raspberries under the conditions of
- optimal water supply and

optimization of watering wings features.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

2012-2013
 “ ”
 2011
 “ ”
 828m²,
 8 36m,
 3,0x0,50m.
 36m.
 q_k=2l/h.
 16mm, l_k= 0,50m,
 100%
 100%
 - 100 %

- To achieve the set goals and
 - to solve the main issues of studies
 in the period 2012-2013
 experimental investigations were
 performed with raspberry planting
 of variety “Lulin” created in the
 area of Sofia Field in district
 Chelopechene on licher chromic
 luvisols (FAO clasification). Two
 experiments are considered on
 area of 828m² that consists of 8
 rows of 36m length, the planting
 scheme of raspberry plantation is
 3,0x0,50m.

- For the resolution of the tasks
 we have examined two experiments.

First experiment

The experiment is set and led
 according to the long parcels
 method in two variants of different
 irrigation ways with four
 replications each of 36m length.
 - The watering wings features for
 drip irrigation are 16mm,
 l_k=0,50m, q_k=2l/h.

- *First variant* – Subsurface
 drip irrigation combined with
 microsprinkling –

100% rate of application

- *Second variant* – Subsurface
 drip irrigation – 100% rate of
 application

Second experiment

First variant – 100% rate of

($l_k=0,30m, q_k=1,6l/h$)	16 mm,	application ($l_k=0,30m, q_k=1,6l/h$)
($l_k=0,30m, q_k=2 l/h$)	– 100 % 16 mm,	<i>Second variant</i> – 100% rate of application ($l_k=0,30m, q_k=2l/h$)
($l_k=0,50m, q_k=1,8l/h$)	– 100 % 16 mm,	<i>Third variant</i> – 100% rate of application ($l_k=0,50m, q_k=1,8l/h$)
% $l_k=0,75m, q_k=1,8l/h$)	– 100 16 mm,	<i>Fourth variant</i> – 100% rate of application ($l_k=0,75m, q_k=1,8l/h$)
		Tested four pairs of wings irrigated with different hydraulic characteristic.
		The experiment is led
	8m.	- according to the block method in four replications of five meters each and protection on both sides
	0,10m	- of 8 m each. The watering wings are placed at depth of 0,10m to the raspberry plantation.
		Meteorological conditions
		The main factors that have crucial influence on the cultivation of crops are:
		- air temperature
		- precipitations
		The temperature values of
		- outdoor air are measured full year at 7, 14 and 21h and the average 24-hour temperature is calculated using formula 1.
	7, 14 21	
	1:	

$$t = (t_7 + t_{14} + 2 \cdot t_{21}) / 4 \quad (1)$$

The precipitations are reported full year by the meteorological site located in the experimental field territory Chelopechene to Institute of Soil Science, Agrotechnologies and Plant Protection N. Pushkarov.

Phenological observations

- The phenological studies begin on the second year of raspberries sowing and are carried out during all vegetation period.
- The main phases of raspberries development are rapid growing, blooming and ripening of fruits.

Determining irrigation norms and watering time

- Irrigation of raspberry when is 80% of FC soil water content at the beginning of the growing season and the end and of 85-90% FC during the mass flowering and fruiting was calculated using the formula 2:

80%

85-90%

2:

$$m = [10H \cdot (\rho - t) \cdot (t_{FC} - t)] \cdot K \quad (2)$$

, m – mm;
g/cm³; – m (= 0,60 m);

where, m - size irrigation norm in mm; – bulk density of the soil in g/cm³; H – depth of the active soil layer in m (H = 0,60 m);

t of FC – field capacity limit in % of absolute dry weight of the soil;

t – soil moisture in % of absolute dry weight of the soil;

K – coefficient of reducing irrigation norm, considering the area occupied by plants in 1da under drip irrigation.

1da

5-10

100%

The soil moisture was controlled by taking soil samples every 5-10 days from variants with 100% irrigation, in order to monitor the dynamics of soil moisture.

kg/d .

20m

1
36 23m.

23m
50mm.

8
36m.

5
(),
6m

1,20m

Yield. The yield of raspberries is determined in four replications for each variant in kg/da. Statistical data processing of single - field experience are performed by the dispersion analysis to determine their credibility for each test year.

Installations for subsurface drip irrigation and micro sprinkling systems of raspberries are autonomous and managed by a command unit that takes water from 20m drilling well.

The installation for subsoil drip irrigation consists of 1 irrigation battery of size 36 23m. The distribution pipeline is 23m long made of pipes of 50mm.

The branch lines for watering wings are made with water intake branch having turn-cock mounted for individual turning off and on the wings function.

The battery has 8 wings 36m long.

The wings of micro sprinkling installation are equipped with 5 spraying units (circle) placed in one row in the middle of the battery at a distance of 6m from one another. The units are mounted on metal stands that are at height 1,20m above the terrain and are placed so that there is full contour overlapping in the plot irrigated.

-
: „Naan Dan”,
502-
220l/h
,
1,8-2,0atm.
6,0m.
0,12-0,15m

The technical features of spraying units are – Naan Dan full circle type, model 502- with red nozzle, 220l/h flow rate at head of 1,8-2,0atm. The spraying radius is 6,0m. The watering wings are placed in each row to the plants at depth of about 0,12-0,15m in the soil.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The beginning of vegetation for raspberries began in the second ten-days of March, and in the third ten days of the same month the phase of active growth started. The blooming started at the beginning of June and ended in the first ten days of July. After the end of blooming the raspberries picking started. The mass fruiting period started at the beginning of August and continued until the second ten days of October (up to the first frost) (Table 1).

(1).

1.

2012-2013 .

Table 1. Characteristics of phenophase development of raspberries in the region of Sofia field 2012-2013

Year	Beginning to vegetation	Rapid growing	/Blooming			Ripening of fruit		
			Beginning	Mass fruiting	End	Beginning	Mass fruiting	End to ripening
2012	15.03	22.03	27.05	15.06	30.06	31.07	15.08	25.10
2013	20.03	30.03	5.06	20.06	06.07	26.07	10.08	10.10
FAO56	74/79	81/89	147/156	166/171	181/187	212/207	227/222	298/283

Meteorological conditions in the period of experiment

The main factors of crucial importance for raspberry production are the air temperature and the precipitations fallen.

2013 .		2012 .	
	87,0%	80,0%.	
2012 . (245mm)		46,3mm	
1962-2012 .,	2013 .		
	(260mm)		
	85,0mm	33%	
	1963-2013 .		
		50	
1962-2013			
2012	2013		
	1,36%	5,36%,	

- The precipitations are one of the limiting factors for yield obtaining. Because of their irregularity during the vegetation period we were forced to apply irrigation as a mandatory measure in order to create optimal conditions for the crops growth.

- With respect the amount of precipitations fallen, the periods from April to September, 2012 and 2013 are characterized as very dry with availability of precipitation factor in the long-term yearly series of 87,0% and 80,0%. The amount of precipitation for the vegetation period of April-September 2012 is by 46,3mm or 19,0% lower than the long-term yearly average for the period 1962-2012, and for 2013 the amount of precipitations (260mm) during the vegetation period of crops is by 85,0mm or by 33% lower than the long-term yearly average for the period 1963-2013.

- The annual variation of air temperature at a given location is directly proportional to the soil temperature and influences on the rate of life processes in the plants including on the photosynthesis intensity.

- We consider a 50-year series of data for outdoor air temperature for the period 1962-2013. The years 2012 and 2013 are of probability 1,36% and 5,36%, which defines them as very warm.

2012-2013 .

2 1.

(1) -

14

35-42 ,

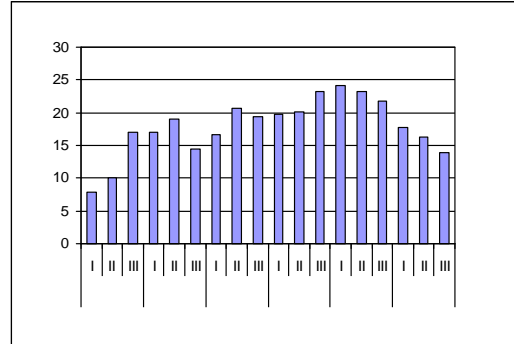
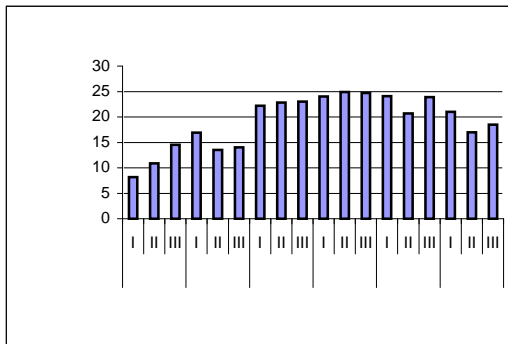
2.

- The temperature distribution by
 - ten-day period and months in the
 - vegetation period for 2012-2013
 are given in Table 2 and Figure 1.

- As it is seen from the
 graphics in Figure 1 the highest
 average 24-hour temperatures
 were observed in July and August
 which coincides with the critical
 phase of raspberry development.
 The average temperatures
 measured at 14 h increase up to
 35-42 , which considerable
 affects the crop development.

Table 2. Monthly amounts of average air temperatures in °C in the experimental field in Chelopechene during the vegetation period of raspberries

/ Month/Year	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	Total
2012	336,0	457,3	679,5	763,3	710,3	564,3	3510,7
2013	349,5	519,0	585,8	654,5	711,8	480,3	3300,9
1962-2013	-	-	-	-	-	-	3014,9



. 1.

()

2012-2013

Fig. 1. Daily average air temperatures in a ten-day periods () for the growing season of raspberries for 2012-2013

The precipitations fallen

12,0mm
 89mm,
 (27,0mm)
 (23,0mm).
 2013 .
 18,6mm.
 32,2mm
 37,8mm.
 150,8mm.,

during vegetation of raspberries
 , were unevenly distributed that
 forced us to irrigate the crop
 - during its vegetation period.

At the beginning of vegetation
 when new leaves form and grow
 the moisture in soil has been
 - sufficient for the normal
 development of raspberries.

- In June, when the blooming
 - began, two irrigations were carried
 out as in this month only 12,0mm
 of rain fell that was insufficient for
 the raspberry development.

July, August and September were
 very dry and the total amount of
 - precipitations fallen were 89mm,
 - the minimum was in August
 (27,0mm) and in September
 (23,0mm). During this period when
 the most active phase of raspberry
 development is in course – the
 mass fruiting, the biggest number
 of watering was carried out.

In 2013 for the first ten days
 of April almost every day rain from
 - 1,6mm to 18,6mm fell for short
 time. The total amount of
 precipitations was 32,2mm and the
 available soil moisture was
 - sufficient to ensure the humidity in
 the root layer of raspberries in
 - April.

In May the total amount of rainfall
 was 37,8mm. The biggest amount
 of rain fell in June 150,8mm,
 - during which 90,0mm were in the

90,0mm.
6,3mm.
6
20,30mm.
3 2.

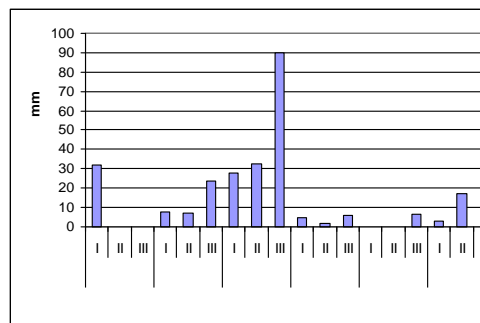
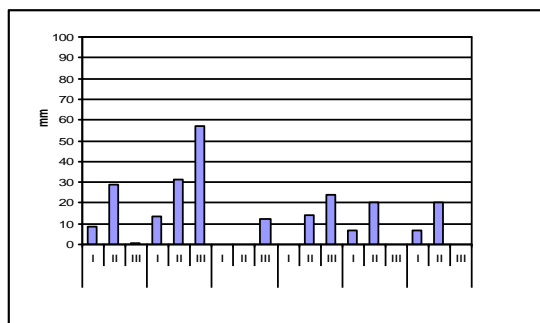
third ten days of the month. August was very dry with rainfall of 6,3mm in the third ten days of the same month.

In September it rained only 6 times of total amount 20,30mm. The data for precipitations by ten days period and months are given in Table 3 and Figure 2.

3.

Table 3. Monthly precipitation in the experimental field in Chelopechene during the vegetation period of raspberries

/ Month/Year	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	Total
2012	38,2	101,9	12,0	38,2	27,4	27,4	245,1
2013	32,2	37,8	150,8	12,6	6,3	20,3	260,0
1962-2013	-	-	-	-	-	-	345,0



. 2.

2012-2013

(mm)

Fig. 2. Distribution of precipitation in a ten-day periods (mm) for the growing season of raspberries for 2012-2013

Results of the first experiment
It is seen from the analysis of meteorological conditions that during the studied years the summer drought occurred that is typical for our climate conditions. The drought is usual in June, July and August. This affects the evapotranspiration of raspberries,

its productivity and the need of watering.

The maximum temperatures were high and in order to avoid the temperature stress it is recommended to apply microsprinkling to regulate the outdoor microclimate and the irrigation should be a mandatory measure.

Watering schedule

We compare subsoil drip irrigation with joint subsoil drip irrigation and sprinkling watering.

The watering schedule was carried out with 100% irrigation rate. The watering during fruit ripening is of essential importance and this period continues for 2,5-3,0 months – from the beginning of August until the beginning of October (the first frost occurrence). During the very dry years 2012 and 2013, in the period of active vegetation, irrigations were carried out through sprinklings (to improve the microclimate) every 3-4 days with irrigation rate of 2-3m³/d within two hours late in the evening or early in the morning. During the vegetation period May-September of raspberries depending on the soil moisture indicators, 19 and 20 irrigations were carried out respectively, of irrigation rate 9,5-9,4m³/d , for subsoil drip irrigation in 2012-2013 . (4).

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4.

2012-2013 .

Table 4. Counts irrigation and watering rates at first attempt for the period 2012-2013

Variant	Number irrigation	Irrigate norm m ³ /da	Total irrig. norm m ³ /da	Precipitation Mm
100 % 2012 100% rate of application 2012	19	9,5	181,0	245,1
100 % 2013 100% rate of application 2013	20	9,43	188,6	260,0
2012 – 2013 Average for 2012 – 2013	19	9,4	185,0	252,6

, -
-
, -
(-
) ,
3
, -
-
m³/d (15-25l/m 5-8
3,00m. 2-
0,80m)
4 ,
, -
, -
, 10-15m³/d
(30 l/m) 10-15 .

The number of irrigations and the average irrigation rates during both experimental years are almost the same but there is substantial difference in the distribution of irrigation rates during the vegetation period depending on the phases of raspberry development (evapotranspiration), and precipitations fallen, and it can be seen in Figure 3 that they are not similar. It has been established that the raspberry needs for moisture in the soil are bigger in the beginning of fruiting until the gathering of economically efficient yield which forced applying of irrigation with irrigation rate of 5-8m³/d in average (15-25l/m for the scheme of planting with distance between rows of 3,00m and with of raspberry strips of 0,80m) every 2-4 days, and in the beginning of vegetation when the leaf mass is still not big, as well as at the end of vegetation when the average 24-hour temperatures decrease, with irrigation rate of 10-15m³/d (30 l/m) every 10-15 days.

:
 2012 .
 580kg/d ,
 18%
 2013 .
 2011 .
 2012 .
 ” ” ()
)
 ,
 - ,
 (5)
 ,
 ”
 5
 2012-2013 . kg/da

Yield: the applied irrigation schedule in 2012 with both subsoil drip irrigation and sprinkling watering resulted in the highest yield – 580kg/d , with yield increase of 18% compared to the subsoil drip irrigation without sprinkling watering. The yield in 2013 was almost two times bigger , because the raspberry plantation was planted in 2011 and in 2012 the optimal yield of Lulin variety was not achieved (there was no required density of fruit giving sprouts).

When sprinkling irrigations were applied after the mass gathering late in the afternoon, no damage of raspberry fruits or leaves was observed, and the fruits were larger and juicier compared to the case of only subsoil drip irrigation (Table 5). For optimal irrigation schedule when hot wind occurs which is typical of the submountain climate of EF Chelopechene, white spots and sticky fruits were observed.

In Table 5 the average yield of raspberries during the period 2012-2013 is given in kg/da, as well as the statistical calculations with respect to the irrigation effect on it. It has been found from the statistical calculations made that the variant of irrigation lacking is quite different from the other variants.

5.

2012 2013

Table 5. Results of statistical processing of yield data of raspberries for the period 2012 and 2013 under subsurface drip irrigation to sprinkler irrigation and subsurface drip irrigation

/Variant	/Yeild	Differences from variant V_3^1		
	2012	kg/da	%	Proven difference
V_0^1 . . 100% . +	580	430	262,5	++
V_1^1 . . 100% .	475,6	325,58	197,25	+
V_3^1	160	St	100	St

GD_{5%}=264,29 kg/da; GD_{1%}= 400,38 kg/da; GD_{0,1%}= 643,61 kg/da

/Variant	/Yeild	Differences from variant V_3^1		
	2013	kg/da	%	Proven difference
V_0^1 . . 100% .	1008	778.0	338.26	+++
V_1^1 . . 100% .	840	610.0	265.21	+++
V_3^1	230	St	100	St

GD_{5%}=42,06 kg/da; GD_{1%}= 63,72 kg/da; GD_{0,1%}= 102,44 kg/da

100% . The variant with 100% irrigation rate of both subsoil drip irrigation and sprinkling watering is of good validity for differences at =1%.

=1% . - The variant with 100% irrigation rate for positioning of watering wings under soil is of usual validity at =5% and is marked by + for 2012.

100% .

=5% .

+ 2012 .

2013 . The data of statistical calculations of yields in 2013, obtained for subsoil drip irrigation and sprinkling watering and with only subsoil drip irrigation for the same agrotechnical activities show that these variants differ substantially, so they are statistically proven.

, . . . - As a reliable yield for optimal ripeness of raspberry plantation

2013 .

50min
50min

$l_k=0,75m$ $q_k=1,8l/h$ (6).

- we consider the yield in 2013.

Results of the second experiment

- For different types of pipelines feeding time the average irrigation rate is accordingly different from 3h 50min for the second option to 9h 50min to version fourth with a distance between holes $l_k = 0,75m$ and $q_k = 1,8l/h$ (Table 6).

6.

2012-2013 .

Table 6. Number irrigation, watering and irrigation norms by variations in raspberries in 2012-2013

2012 ./Variant 2012		Number irrigate. ./number	Irrigation norm m^3/d	Time for irrigation h/min	Total irigat. norms m^3/d
1. Var. P	16mm, $l_k=0,30m$, $q_k=1,6l/h$	19	9,4	4h 30min	185,0
2. Var.	16 mm, $l_k=0,30m$, $q_k=2,0l/h$	19	9,4	3h 50 min	185,0
3. Var.	16mm, $l_k=0,50m$, $q_k=1,8l/h$	19	9,4	6h 40 min	185,0
4. Var.	16 mm, $l_k=0,75m$, $q_k=1,8l/h$	19	9,4	9h 50 min	185,0

(7).

568kg/da (2012 .) 875 kg/da (2013 .)

16mm,

$l_k=0,30m$

$q_k=2,0l/h$

1atm,

$q_k=1,6l/h$

- Differences in the distance of drippers are an impact on yield (Table 7). The highest yield 568kg/da (2012) and 875kg/da (2013) be obtained by pipeline PE 16mm spacing between drippers $l_k = 0,30m$ and leaking water quantity of drip head $q_k=2,0l/h$ at a working pressure 1atm, that distance may be regarded as optimal in consideration.

- A decrease of leaking water quantity of drippers $q_k = 1,6l/h$ at a working pressure 1atm is slight reduction in yield by 33kg/da

1atm - (535kg/da - 2012) and with
 33kg/da (535kg/da - 2012 .) 35 compared to the previous version.
 kg/da (840kg/da - 2013 .)

0,75m - By increasing the distance
 between drippers of 0,75m was
 450kg/da - prepared to a lowering of the yield
 of 450kg/da and 680kg/da-2013,
 2012 680kg/da - 2013 ., which is 21% (2012) and 22%
 21% (2012 .) 22% (2013 .) (2013) less compared to $l_k=0,30m$,
 $q_k=2,0l/h$.

- The decrease in yield and reduced
 plant development in height is due
 to the unequal wetting of the soil in
 root systems layer at optimal
 irrigation rate at different distances
 of the drippers.

7. " " 2012-2013 .
Table 7. Yields raspberry cultivar 'Lulin' in 2012-2013

Variant - Second experiment		Yield kg/da	/Difference from Var 2	% % relative yield
2012				
1. Var.	16mm, $l_k=0,30m$, $q_k = 1,6l/h$	535	33	94
2. Var.	16mm, $l_k = 0,30m$, $q_k = 2,0l/h$	568	st	100
3. Var.	16mm, $l_k = 0,50m$, $q_k = 1,8l/h$	479	98	84
4 Var...	16mm, $l_k = 0,75m$, $q_k = 1,8l/h$	450	118	79
2013				
1. Var.	16mm, $l_k =0,30m$, $q_k=1,6l/h$	840	35	96
2. Var.	16mm, $l_k =0,30m$, $q_k =2,0l/h$	875	st	100
3. Var.	16mm, $l_k =0,50m$, $q_k =1,8l/h$	790	85	90
4. Var.	16mm, $l_k =0,75m$, $q_k =1,8l/h$	680	195	78

2012 .
 50% -
 2013 .,
 ,
 -
 .

Yields in 2012 were substantially lower by nearly 50% compared to 2013, due to the fact that the plantation is in the first year of fruiting and does not form optimum yield for the crop.

CONCLUSIONS

The analysis of results obtained from the field experiments shows:

1. The highest yield obtained after the application of different irrigation schedules was for subsoil drip irrigation combined with sprinkling watering – 1008kg/d , 20% increase compared to the subsoil drip irrigation without sprinkling. 15 sprinkling irrigations were carried out with irrigation rate of 2-3m³/da every 3-4 days.
2. Differences in the distance of drippers affect the yield. The highest yield – 875kg/da is obtained by pipeline PE 16mm spacing between drippers $l_k = 0,30m$ and leaking water quantity of drippers $q_k = 2,0l/h$ at a working pressure 1atm.
3. An increase in the distance between drippers of 0,75m was prepared to a lowering of the yield of 680kg/da, which is 22% less compared to $l_k = 0,30m$, $q_k = 2,0l/h$.
4. The raspberry crop variety "Lulin" began to realize optimum yield in the third year of planting the increase to his second year is about 50%.

1. The highest yield obtained after the application of different irrigation schedules was for subsoil drip irrigation combined with sprinkling watering – 1008kg/d , and the yield increase is by 20% compared to the subsoil drip irrigation without sprinkling. 15 sprinkling irrigations were carried out with irrigation rate of 2-3m³/da every 3-4 days.
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(Quadraspidotus perniciosus Comstock)

1, 2
 1, 35,
 4700, 5600
 E-mail: popescu@abv.bg

Studies on the development and distribution of California Scale (Quadraspidotus perniciosus Comstock) at blackcurrant

Emilian Popescu¹, Boriana Churkova²

¹Experimental Station of Livestock and Agriculture, 35 Nevyastata Str., 4700 Smolyan, Bulgaria

²Research Institute of Mountain Stockbreeding and Agriculture, 5600 Troyan, Bulgaria

SUMMARY

The study was conducted during the period 2013-2015 with plants of blackcurrant from 5 varieties grown in the soil and climatic conditions of the Experimental Station of Livestock and Agriculture in Smolyan, situated at 1530 m altitude. Occurrence, development and spread of California Scale are tracked visually by making regular observations of vegetation on the leaves, branches and fruits.

It is established that the development and dissemination of pest occurs differently in different years of study and in 2013 and 2014 are reported higher values of the indicators. The first decade of June and the third decade of August are favorable for the development of the larvae from the first and respectively the second summer generations of California Scale (Quadraspidotus perniciosus Comstock).

From reviewed plants these of varieties "Silvergieters schwarze" and "Lissil" are infested to 28% and 30% respectively, while in other varieties "Hedda", "Titania" and "Ben Tirran" the average procental number of the infested plants is between 10 and 12.

2013-2015
 5
 1530 m
 2013 2014
 (Quadraspidotus perniciosus Comstock).
 "Silvergieters schwarze" "Lissil"
 28% 30%
 "Hedda", "Titania" "Ben
 Tirran"
 10 12.

(10)
 ,
 "Silvergieters schwarze"
 "Lissil".
 :

- When performing subsequent observations of vegetation in the fall (after 10 September) is found dry most of the infested leaves, branches and annual growth rates,
 - especially under varieties "Silvergieters schwarze" and "Lissil".
Keywords: California Scale, development, distribution, blackcurrant

INTRODUCTION

- The California Scale
 (Quadraspidotus pernicius
 Comstock),
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 -
 -

The California Scale (Quadraspidotus pernicius Comstock) most injurious pest of all scale insects infests most apple and pear, but also occurs in peach, cherry, red and black currants.

The damages caused by it are most often in the form of cracking of the cortex of the stems, weakening the vitality of the plants, deformation of branches and fruits, dry branches and plants.

All this leads to a reduction in production and a deterioration of fruit quality (Ferrari et al., 1989; Kosztarab, 1996; Alston et al., 2011; Besleaga et al., 2009).

(Ferrari et al., 1989; Kosztarab, 1996; Alston et al., 2011; Besleaga et al., 2009).

Depending on the area and length of growing season louse evolves from 2 to 4 generations and winters as larva first age (Iacob et al., 1979; Stanley, 1993; Besleaga, 2008).

2 4
 (Iacob et al., 1979; Stanley, 1993; Besleaga , 2008).

Caraman (2011)
 ,
 1

Under the conditions of Romania, Caraman (2011) reports that on blackcurrant louse winters as an egg under the shield of the female form and develops one

generation per year.

- The aim of this study is to
- establish the level of development and harm the pest on plants of blackcurrant and on this basis to develop a system of measures to
- prevent it from multiplying and spreading.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The study was conducted during the period 2013-2015 in plantation with 5 varieties of blackcurrant ("Silvergieters schwarze", "Lissil", "Hedda", "Titania" and "Ben Tirran") grown in soil and climatic conditions of the Experimental Station of Livestock and Agriculture Smolyan, located at 1530 m altitude.

- The emergence, development and distribution of California Scale were followed by making regular observations of vegetation on the leaves, branches and fruit and trough placing pheromone strips. Reporting the damage and calculate the degree of damage inflicted by it are made by the method described by Mihailova et al. (1982).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

- The development and distribution of California Scale passed differently in different years and this is largely dictated by weather conditions. The sunny and warm weather ($T = 25-30^{\circ}\text{C}$), and a longer growing season (214

2013-2015
5
("Silvergieters schwarze", "Lissil",
"Hedda", "Titania" "Ben Tirran")

1530 m

(1982).

($=25-30^{\circ}$),

2013 (214)

-

“Silvergieters schwarze” “Lissil” 28% 30%

0.64% 0.75%

“Hedda”, “Titania”

“Ben Tiran”

10 12

0.21% 0.23%.

-

,

,

,

,

(1).

days) in 2013 foster stronger growth and more damage from pest.

From surveyed plants in varieties "Silvergieters schwarze" and "Lissil" 28% and 30% of them have an average score of failure 0.64% and 0.75%, while varieties "Hedda", "Titania" and "Ben Tiran" percentage number of the attacked plants is between 10 and 12 with an average score of 0.21% and 0.23% damage.

The lesions are most often of the type of deformation of the leaves, especially those of young branches, abandonment in increments of growth and plants, grain refinement of the leaf lamina, drying part of the branches, drying of whole plants or shrubs (Figure 1).



. 1.
Fig. 1. Damaged branches and bushes of black currant from California Scale

1 2
 2
 2013
 15) (10-
 28- - 10-
 40-45 3-10
 , 2-3
 - (2, 3).

In the region of Smolyan in alpine conditions of the experimental field louse evolves from 1 to 2 offspring per year and overwinters as larvae. The development of two generations per year is possible in 2013, characterized by a warm and sunny weather. In spring with the warming time (after 10-15 March) remained alive in the winter larvae begin to feed and develop as further differentiate into male and female forms. The emergence of these forms was established on 28th April - 10th May. After copulation with males forms females continue to feed and develop for 40-45 days and to 3-10 June appears first offspring larvae. At the beginning they are moving, but after 2-3 days they are attached the plants and are coated with a waxy-white film (Figure 2, 3).



2.
Fig. 2. Colony larvae of California Scale on branches of black currant



. 3.

Fig. 3. Wax-white film and shield at larvae California Scale

15 - Larvae of the second offspring appear after 15th August and their formation continued in September. During the summer season (June to July), there is observed overlapping of the larvae of two offsprings.

(-)

2014 2015 , In 2014 and 2015, years with more rain and cool weather during the growing season, adults developed from overwintered larval of lice appear to 20-28 May.

20-28 The first and only offspring larvae is found on 10-15 July and their formation is continued in September.

10-15

(, , , , ,)

1530 m 1100 m , The lack of fruit trees (apple, pear, cherry, sour cherry, plum) near the plantation and in the belt of 1100 m to 1530 m altitude gives us grounds to assume that in the transfer of larvae from remote

locations a role have the birds and smaller air and air currents.

The removal of infested branches and plants and burning them helps reduce the density of the infestation.

CONCLUSIONS

- The alpine conditions at 1530 m altitude in the Smolyan region are conducive to the development of California Scale on the plants of blackcurrant;
- The warm weather and the vegetation period of 214 days contribute to the development of offspring 1 to 2 larvae per year;
- The blackcurrant varieties "Silvergieters schwarze" and "Lissil" are more sensitive to California Scale compared with varieties "Hedda", "Titania" and "Ben Tiran";
- The system of measures, including mechanically remove the infested parts of California Scale branches and plants and burning them help to reduce the density of the pest, limit his development and distribution and provide better plant health blackcurrant.

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*E-mail: anton_stoev@yahoo.com

Opportunities for addition to the methodology for testing the resistance of fruit species to economically important pathogens

Antoniy Stoev^{1*}, Georgi Kostadinov¹, Stela Dimkova², Nikolina
Marinova², Darina Ivanova², Silvena Todorova², Svetla Maneva¹

¹ Institute of soil science, agrotechnologies and plant protection "Nikola Pushkarov",
7 "Shose Bankya" Str., 1331 Sofia, Bulgaria

² Research Institute of Mountain Stockbreeding and Agriculture, Troyan 5600,
281 Vasil Levski Str. - Branch Dryanovo 5370, Bulgaria

SUMMARY

The resistance to economically important pathogens is a major characteristic for the cultivars of plant species and a condition for their introduction in the agricultural practice. The paper presents additions to the methods for testing the resistance to the following pathogens: *Polystigma rubrum*, *Gymnosporangium sabine* and Plum Pox Virus (V). The additions were based on contemporary methods for measuring of the pathological changes, developed as a result of infection. It was suggested to measure the spots in order to evaluate the resistance to *P. rubrum* and *G. sabine* (pear rust). A new scale allowed the classification of fruits according to the

Polystigma rubrum, *Gymnosporangium sabine* Plum Pox Virus (V).
P. rubrum *G. sabine*

Polystigma
rubrum, Gymnosprangium sabine, Plum
Pox

- pathological changes in morphology,
- typical of the fruits of healthy trees of the
- established cultivars. It made possible to
- report the occurring changes on the tree,
- prior to fruit drop caused by plum pox
- (sharka disease on plums).

Key words: Polystigma rubrum,
Gymnosprangium sabine, Plum Pox

INTRODUCTION

- The research on hybrids,
- elites and cultivars is an important
- part of the study of plant resources
- for agriculture.
-
- The demand to provide food for
- people and farm animals as well as
- raw materials for the industry
- imposes the development of new
- hybrids and cultivars. Cultivar
- testing answers the question
- whether they comply with the
- requirements.
- The new selection products
- should not only possess valuable
- nutritive characteristics and flavor
- but also be resistant to the
- pathogens that jeopardize
- cultivated plants. Therefore, the
- response of cultivars to pathogens
- needs to be studied. The
- resistance and tolerance to the
- pathogens are valuable
- characteristics for agricultural
- practice. These characteristics will
- prevent losses due to diseases or
- they will be minimal. That is why
- the study of the plant-pathogen
- relationship is a separate field of
- cultivar testing with its own

(Prunus domestica)
 (Pyrus domestica),
 (1986),
 Polystigma
 rubrum (
), Gymnosporangium sabine
 () lum ox
 virus ().

V

(, 1972).

methodology. It should be updated
 - in accordance with the
 - contemporary means of disease
 diagnostics and methods of
 biometrical data processing.

The trees and yield of plum
 - (Prunus domestica) and pear
 - (Pyrus domestica), which are
 traditional for Bulgaria (Kitanov,
 1986), are threatened by a number
 of pathogens, Polystigma rubrum
 (red leaf spot disease),
 Gymnosporangium sabine (pear
 rust) and plum ox virus (sharka
 disease on plum) among them.

The stigmatizing on plum
 - leaves reduces their assimilation
 - area. The same is true about pear
 rust. The larger number of spots on
 a leaf can cause early leaves fall-
 off. The early defoliation impedes
 the accumulation of reserves and
 - exhausts the trees before the
 - winter period and beginning of the
 next vegetation.

The losses caused by sharka
 disease are due to yield reduction
 because of early fruit drop,
 deteriorated appearance, bad
 flavor and technological
 characteristics. In some cultivars,
 PPV infection can result in the
 drying of whole branches or even
 trees (Trifonov, 1972).

It is the above mentioned
 damages that make the study of
 the response to the causal agents
 of red leaf spots, pear rust and

(, 2013). , 1979; (Nedev et al., 1979; Lazarov, 2013).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The resistance of the tested plant categories (hybrids and elites, etc.) was rated according to their response to pathogens. In case the plants were not immune and the pathogen settled in the plant organism, different sensitivity and resistance rates would be reported. In case of the red spots and pear rust diseases, the pathogens affected the leaves.

The initial evaluation was visual. Yoncheva et al. (1979) proposed a 6-grade scale, depending on leaf spotting:

- | | | |
|----|-------|---|
| 0. | – | 0. no spots – means immunity; |
| 1. | – | 1. single small spots – practical resistance; |
| 2. | 5% – | 2. spotting up to 5% – low sensitivity; |
| 3. | 10% – | 3. spotting up to 10% – medium sensitivity; |
| 4. | 25% – | 4. spotting up to 25% – sensitivity; |
| 5. | 50% – | 5. up to 50% – high sensitivity. |

This approach has been accepted by Lazarov et al. (1979) as suitable for pear rust as well.

Prokopova (2011) used an adapted scab scale to evaluate the

1
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<http://park-vitosha.org>.

- 0.
1. 5%
2. 5-20%
3. 21-50%
4. 51- 80%
5. 81- 100%

pear rust disease:

0. no infected leaves on the tree;
1. less than 5% of infected leaves;
2. 5- 0% of infected leaves;
3. 21-50% of infected leaves;
4. 51-80% of infected leaves;
5. 81-100% of infected leaves.

The practical resistance can be also defined as tolerance as long as the spotting does not cause early leaf fall and does not affect yield quality and quantity.

In the case of a cultivar testing plot with an ongoing experiment, i.e. sufficiently developed planted and grown plum trees, the reports should be done on 1000 leaves (200 leaves of 5 trees each).

The possibility to collect large leaf samples is limited for a number of reasons. For example, the primary inspection in natural conditions may draw the attention to single specimens, having emerged after self-pollination.

Besides, there are orchards with mixed varieties and trees of diverse size and age.

In such cases it is possible to evaluate the infestation on the basis of a smaller sample,

³ Currently the Plant Protection Department of ISSAPP „N. Pushkarov”

⁴ Check out <http://park-vitosha.org>.

according to the percentage of the infected leaves on the same rank of skeleton branches.

The standard statistical evaluation methods require large data samples for a statistically significant result. A new branch of statistics has developed in the recent years – biometrics. It has been designed to adapt the familiar statistical methods to smaller samples and is directed to data of biological origin (Sokal and Rohlf, 1981). On the basis of these algorithms a software was developed (Maneva, 2007) that was used for the processing of experimental data at the Plant Protection Institute in Kostinbrod³. The statistical methods, based on biometrics, provide more precise evaluations with small data samples. They are applicable to the above mentioned assumption.

The scale proposed by Yoncheva et al. (1979) and Prokopova (2011) did not take into consideration the spot size. One leaf could have several spots with different areas that could be measured with a digital camera and scanner (Kostadinov & Moteva, 2014). The damage of the leaf area will give an exact idea of the resistance of the plant form.

The possibility for an early leaf fall should be taken into account in view of the final evaluation.

The variation of the damage can be reported according to the

(Stoev and Kostadinov, 2015).

Juniperus.

Gymnosprangium (., 1979).²

(

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V

20

21

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V

(., 1990; 1990).

- number of trees of the tested type and checked year by year.

The testing of cultivars for resistance against pear rust requires a permanent infection background. In Sofia, for example, the disease occurs frequently in the foothills of Vitosha Mountain (Stoev and Kostadinov, 2015).

- Representatives of Juniperus genus, which are host plants of the pathogen fungi of Gymnosporangium genus, grow on the Vitosha slopes (Tsanova et al., 1979).⁴

The tolerance (practical resistance) to plum pox (sharka) is economically important.

- A range of tolerant cultivars were developed and implemented at the end of the 20th, beginning of the 21st century in order to solve the problem of the permanent infection background and mass occurrence of PPV in plum orchards.

The trees of these cultivars can be infected with the virus but the symptoms appear on the leaves only. The fruits keep their appearance and flavor. It doesn't mean that only such cultivars should be grown in practice.

- There are contemporary technologies that limit the PPV infection and the losses, caused by plum pox (Dragoiski et al., 1990; Iliev, 1990).

- There are two approaches to the evaluation of plum trees according to the pathological manifestations on fruit. The more sensitive cultivars are known for early fruit drop from infected trees. It is not only PPV infection that causes fruit drop.

V.

- There are non-infectious factors that cause fruit drop prior to picking maturity. That is why Stoev (2000) proposed a scale for rating the damage of fruit with unmistakable plum pox symptoms.

- The anatomical and morphological characteristics of the fruit were taken into consideration in the development of the scale:

- 0. smooth and normally colored fruit skin; color and texture of the fruit flesh (pulp), typical for the respective cultivar;
- 1. dark purple mottling on the fruit skin, no changes in the coloring and texture of the fruit pulp;
- 2. initial concavities in the mottled area, darkening of the pulp right below the concavity;
- 3. several concavities in the mottled area, darkening of the pulp right below the concavities;
- 4. fusion of the concavities into a larger area of annular, arch or indefinite shape, dark resinous pulp;
- 5. concave areas of arch or

6. (;)
 6. significant portions of the
 exocarp are sunken and wrinkled;
 the typical morphological
 characteristics of the fruit are
 damaged.
 The index of the disease
 (damage) can be calculated after
 the division of the fruit into
 fractions (Kegler and Hartmann,
 1998):

indefinite shape, larger areas of
 darkening, the pulp glues to the
 endocarp;

6. significant portions of the
 exocarp are sunken and wrinkled;
 the typical morphological
 characteristics of the fruit are
 damaged.

The index of the disease
 (damage) can be calculated after
 the division of the fruit into
 fractions (Kegler and Hartmann,
 1998):

$$DI = \frac{100 \sum_i^n n_i m_i}{N \cdot m}$$

DI =
 ();
 n_i =
 ;
 m_i =
 ;
 N =
 ;
 m =
 .
 V,
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 (1996).

where:
 DI = Disease Index;

n_i = number of damaged fruits in
 the corresponding fraction;

m_i = grade of damaging (scores) in
 the corresponding fraction;

N = number of fruits investigated;

m = maximal damaging.

The variation of the indexes
 is subject to comparison in the
 separate representatives of the
 cultivar.

The cultivars with
 hypersensitivity to PPV should be
 tested for compatibility with grafts
 that carry the pathogen due to the
 risk of necrosis on the grafting
 spot. Stoev (1996) proposed a
 suitable scheme for this case.

It involves the preliminary
 selection of the breeding forms by

- means of transplants onto infected grafts.

CONCLUSIONS

Additions that enhance data collection and allow for a more precise evaluation of economically important plant forms, found in natural conditions, were proposed as follows:

- grafting of transplants of the tested forms on PPV-infected root stocks in order to report the response to the pathogen on the grown transplants;
- characteristics of the aggression rate of *G. sabine* and *P. rubrum* and, respectively, the resistance of the plant forms to both pathogens based on the ratio of the spot area to total leaf area;
- estimation of the damage (disease) index of plum pox (V) after fruit classification based on the reported pathoanatomical changes.

rubrum

G. sabine

(V)

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, 4004
*E-mail: tsarewa@abv.bg

Growth rate of fruit and shoots in seven sweet-cherry cultivar/rootstock combinations

Irina Staneva*, Kouman Koumanov, Georgi Kornov

Fruit-Growing Institute, 4004 Plovdiv, Bulgaria

SUMMARY

- With the intensification of the sweet
- cherry production, questions arise
- concerning the growth and the fruiting. To
- obtain maximum effect of the
- management practices they have to be in
- conformity with the biological rhythm of
- the trees. The present work is aimed to
- tracing out the growth rate of fruit and
- shoots in seven sweet-cherry
- cultivar/rootstock combinations. The
- subject of this study are three cultivars
- ('Bigareau Burlat', 'Regina', 'Lapins') on
- three rootstocks (*Prunus avium*, 'Camil'
- 'Gisela 5'). As the trees grow older, the
- traditional management on the dwarfing
- rootstock results in suppressed shoot
- growth and smaller fruit.
-
- However, the provision of appropriate
- water and nutritional regimes through
- microirrigation and fertigation combined
- with proper winter pruning appear capable
- to maintain average shoot growth of 43
- cm and average fruit size of 28 mm
- irrespectively of the tree age.
-
- **Key words:** *Prunus avium*, growth,
- fruit size, drip irrigation, fertigation

INTRODUCTION

The occurred in the last decades opportunity of obtaining small trees on dwarfing rootstocks is a prerequisite for transition to more intensive management of the cherry orchards.

A main characteristic of these rootstocks is the tendency of the grafted trees to overset.

Initially, in the second and the third vegetation after grafting, the trees seem like a dream come true for growers: they form their crowns soon; they are not higher than three meters and heavily laden with large fruit.

This, however, negatively affects the leaf/fruit ratio and results in both suppressed growth and decreased fruit size (Lang, 2001; Whiting and Lang, 2004; Whiting et al., 2005).

In order to keep the leaf/fruit ratio in the proper range, fruit set must be limited and the growth has to be stimulated by annual strong pruning, which is often characterizes as even aggressive (Lang, 2000; Long, 2004; Robinson et al., 2007).

Pruning for fruit-set regulation and growth stimulation is a necessary but insufficient condition to ensure the desired quantity and quality of the yield. The

(Lang, 2001; Whiting and Lang, 2004; Whiting et al., 2005).

(Lang, 2000; Long, 2004; Robinson et al., 2007).

- maintaining of favorable to the trees water and nutritional regimes is important for the system of the intensive cherry production as well.

-
-
- Microirrigation systems are most suitable for that purpose. They are efficient delivery systems in the irrigated orchard and even for a single tree.

- To obtain maximum effect of the management practices they have to be in conformity with the biological rhythm of the trees, and particularly with the cherry-trees' changing requirements of mineral nutrients and water.

- It is best these requirements to be linked with specific periods of changes in the development of the trees or of their particular organ.

- In the present work we have traced out the growth rate of fruit and shoots in seven sweet-cherry cultivar/rootstock combinations in order to use he obtained information for improvement in the regime of microirrigation and fertigation, and pruning perfection.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The investigation was carried out in an intensive cherry orchard established in 2002 on the territory of the Fruit Growing Institute in Plovdiv. Three cultivars ('Bigareau Burlat', 'Regina' and 'Lapins') on ('Bigareau Burlat',

<p>'Regina' 'Lapins') (<i>Prunus avium</i> L., 'Camil' 'Gisela 5') 2006-2012 . () 5 3 m 'Camil' 'Gisela 5', 6 x 4 m <i>Prunus avium</i>. 2003 . 10-15 J () Baggiolini (Granier and Bergougnoux, 2006) 2006 . 2009 . 2010 .</p>	<p>three rootstocks (<i>Prunus avium</i> L., 'Camil' and 'Gisela 5') were studied in the period 2006-2012 (from fourth to tenth vegetation). The planting distances were 5 x 3 m for the clonal rootstocks Camil and Gisela 5, and 6 x 4 m for the <i>Prunus avium</i> seedling rootstock.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The trees in the experimental cherry orchard were supplied with water and fertilizers through a drip irrigation system installed in 2003. - There was no preplant application of fertilizers. The mineral nutrition of the cherry trees was controlled by leaf diagnostics and the annual fertilizer application rates were estimated based on the results of the leaf sample analysis. The same fertilization was applied for all cultivar/rootstock combinations. - The shoot growth rate was studied by measuring the shoot length every 10-15 days from the Baggiolini's stage J (fruitlets) (Granier and Bergougnoux, 2006) till the growth cessation. Since 2006 till 2009 we measured all shoots on one representative branch of three trees in each cultivar/rootstock combination. - Since 2010 we had measured 30 shoots from different locations in the tree crown. The shoot growth rate is related to both the dates of measurement and the growing degree days (GDD). <p style="text-align: right;">The fruit growth rate was</p>
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(
Baggiolini)

2007 . 2009 .

30 . 2010 .

. 2.

12÷99 %

2005, 12÷82 %
2006 51÷100 % 2008

J studied by measuring the fruit diameter every five days from the Baggiolini's stage J (fruitlets) till the fruit harvesting. Since 2007 till 2009 we measured all fruit on one representative branch of three trees in each cultivar/rootstock combination.

Since 2010 we had measured 30 fruits from different locations in the tree crown. The fruit growth rate is related to both the dates of measurement and the growing degree days (GDD).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

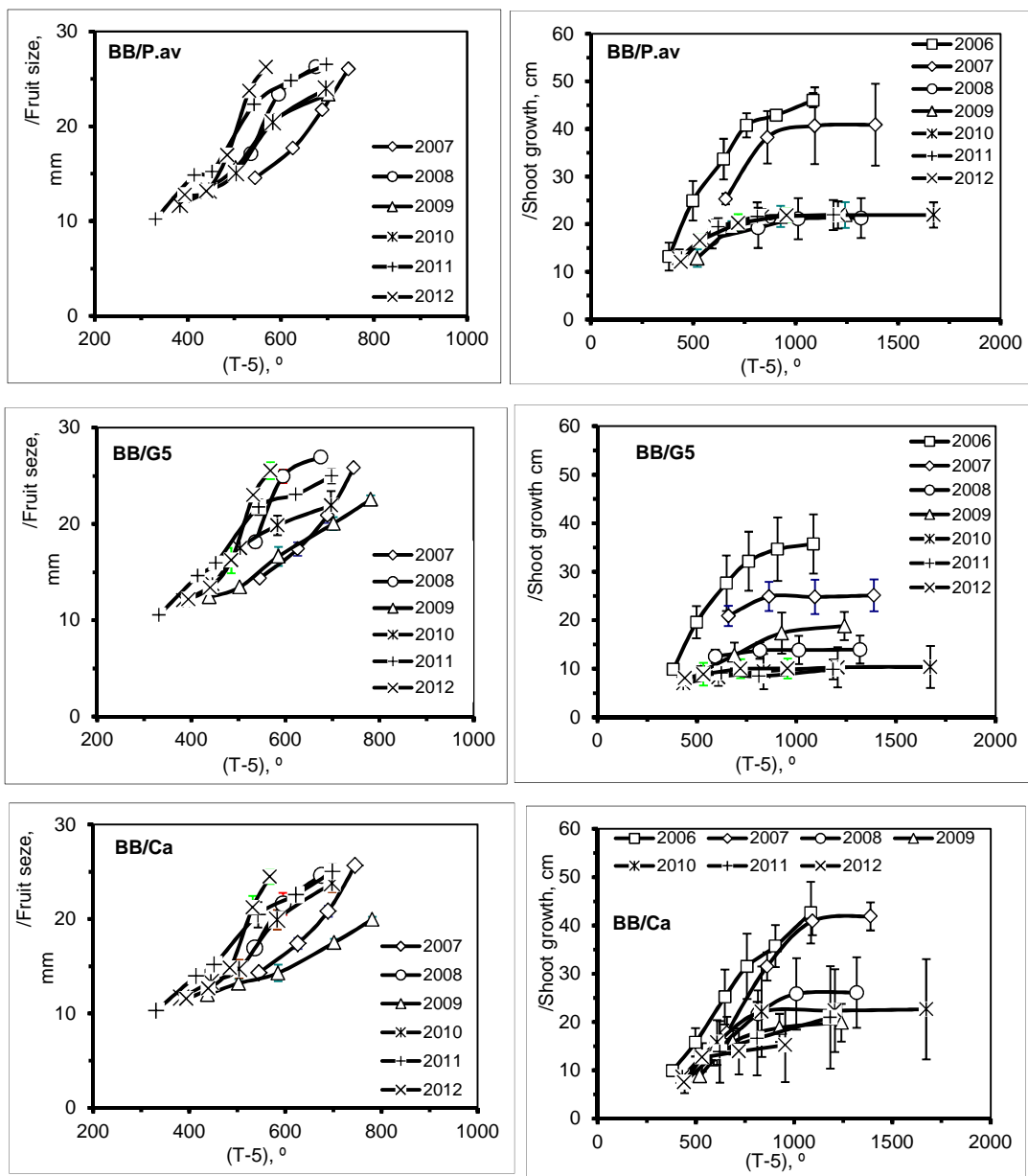
The fruit and shoot growth rate in each of the studied cultivar/rootstock combinations is illustrated on Fig. 1 and 2. Because of the existing strong correlation between the fruit set and the vegetative growth, the results have to be considered in the light of extreme natural or anthropogenic effects on one or on the other biometrical indicator.

Thus, for example, late spring frosts resulted in 12÷99% damaged flowers among the different cultivar/rootstock combinations in 2005, 12÷82% in 2006 and 51÷100% in 2008.

The significantly reduced fruit set stimulated vegetative growth, which had to be restrained by machine contour pruning in the summer of 2006 and 2009

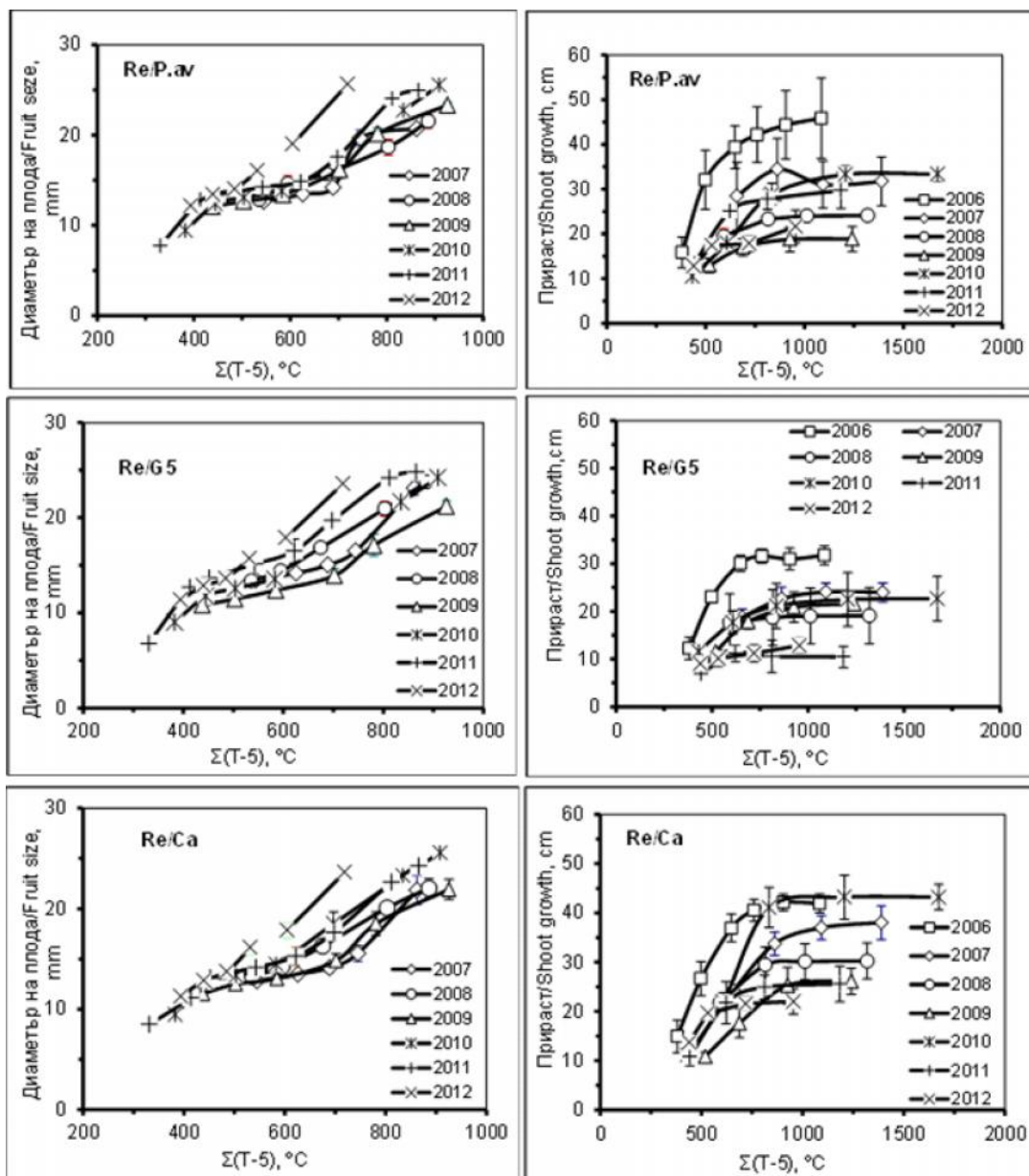
2006 , 2009 .
 2006 2007 .
 'Bigareaux Burlat' 'Regina'
Prunus avium
 'Camil'.
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 2007 2010 .
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 Dzhuvinov (2008).
 2012 .
 'Lapins' / 'Gisela 5',
 30 cm.

respectively. The growth was particularly vigorous in 2006 and 2007, and in the trees of the 'Bigareaux Burlat' and 'Regina' cultivars grafted on *Prunus avium* and 'Camil', respectively a vigorous and a semi-vigorous rootstock. Because of management flaws in 2009, the growth of these cultivar/rootstock combinations was measured after the contour pruning, which yielded significantly lower figures for this year. The severe pruning stimulated vigorous growth in the grafted on 'Gisela 5' cvs. 'Bigareaux Burlat' and 'Lapins', as well. However, the removing of considerable quantity of vegetative/leaf mass had hampered the provision of carbohydrates to the fruit of the self-fertile and prone to oversetting 'Lapins' cultivar in the next 2007 and 2010. The attempts at optimizing crop load in small trees on 'Gisela 5' clearly showed the negative effect of improper pruning on the growth: the annual shoot length reached not more than 10-15 cm. Progressively decreasing growth in the first years after planting was reported also by Kolev and Dzhuvinov (2008).
 For that reason, in 2012 we severely pruned the trees of the 'Lapins' / 'Gisela 5' combination, which resulted in shoot length of 30 cm, the longest for the years of investigation.



1. () ()
 'Bigareaux Burlat'

Fig. 1. Growth rates of fruit (left) and shoots (right) of the 'Bigareaux Burlat' cultivar in the years of investigation

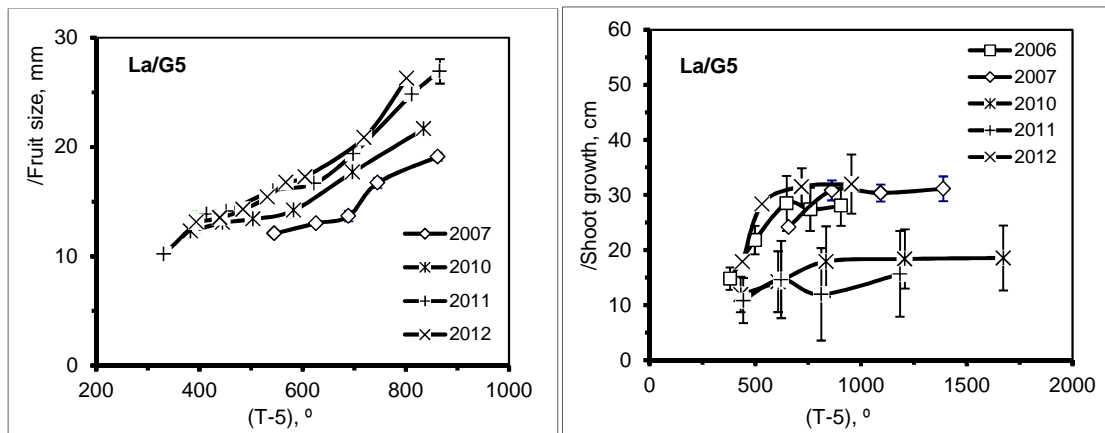


2. () ()
 'Regina'
 Fig. 2. Growth rates of fruit (left) and shoots (right) of the 'Regina' cultivar in the years of investigation

- Moreover, fruit size rivaled that in the vigorous trees on *Prunus avium*. Even better results were

Prunus avium. -
 2014 . (-
),
 43±18 cm
 (. 3 4),
 28 mm.

obtained in 2014 (the thirteen
 vegetation) when average growth
 was 43±18 cm (Fig. 3 and 4) and
 the average fruit diameter
 surpassed 28 mm.



. 3. () ()
 'Lapins' / 'Gisela 5'

Fig. 3. Growth rates of fruit (left) and shoots (right) of the 'Lapins' / 'Gisela 5' combination in the years of investigation

-
 'Regina'
 'Lapins' (. 2
 3.) -
 500 700 ° .
 -
 ,
 (Chalmers et al., 1984). -

The specific for stone-fruit
 species second stage of fruit
 development, when the fruit
 growing rate is very low, became
 apparent in later ripening cultivars
 as 'Regina' and 'Lapins' for GDD
 values between 500 °C and 700
 °C (Fig. 2 and 3).

In the same period, shoot
 growing rate was the highest.
 Hence, eventual irrigation with
 regulated water deficit may be
 used for decreasing the growth
 size (Chalmers et al., 1984).
 However, such a strategy could be

- applied only to trees of vigorous cultivar/rootstock combinations.
- With tress on dwarfing rootstocks, any departure from the optimum irrigation regime is unacceptable.



4.
 'Lapins' / 'Gisela 5' 2014 . ()
 Fig. 4. Growth in the trees of the 'Lapins' / 'Gisela 5' combination in 2014 (thirteenth vegetation)

'Gisela 5'
 10-15 cm.
 43 cm 28 mm
 ,
 ()

CONCLUSIONS

- The improper pruning stunted small trees on Gisela 5, the annual shoot growth being limited to 10-15 cm. Properly executed severe winter pruning resulted in average annual growth of 43 cm and average fruit size of more than 28 mm, irrespectively of the tree age but under proper water and nutritional regimes provided by microirrigation (drip or trickle) and fertigation.

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* -mail: dksotirov@yahoo.com
, 2500

Siyana – a new apple cultivar

Dimitar Sotirov*, Stanislava Dimitrova, Atanas Blagov

Institute of Agriculture, 2500 Kyustendil, Bulgaria

SUMMARY

- Siyana apple cultivar is created in
- the Institute of Agriculture - Kyustendil from a cross between Florina and Macfree. It is recognized as a new
- Bulgarian cultivar in 2015. The original seedling was propagated on MM 106 rootstock. The trees were planted at a distance of 4,5 x 2,5 m and grown under conventional technology for this species. The article presents data on agrobiological and economic qualities of the cultivar for the period 2012-2015.
- It was found that the tree of Siyana has moderate growth, high and stable yields. The fruit ripen between 20-25 September. They are medium large (130-150 g), equally in size and shape, juicy, with a light aroma and very good quality. During the study were not found damages from apple scab, which makes it suitable for inclusion in organic apple production.

Key words: apple, selection, growth, fruiting, chemical composition

INTRODUCTION

In the production of apples is observed a fast implementation in

2015 .
106.
4,5 2,5 m

2012-2015 .
20-25
(130-150g),

<p>(Brown and Maloney, 2013).</p>	<p>practice of new cultivars that are created in both the public and private breeding programs (Brown and Maloney, 2013).</p>
<p>-</p>	<p>The most major requirements for new cultivars are: good appearance of the fruits, equal size and color, good taste and technological qualities, late ripening and long storage period.</p>
<p>(White, 2000; Kellerhals et al., 2009; , 2011).</p>	<p>The trees to have high and regular yields, weak to moderate growth, fruitage mainly on short or weak branches (White, 2000; Kellerhals et al., 2009; Blagov, 2011).</p>
<p>(<i>Venturia inaequalis</i> Cke. Wint), (<i>Podosphaera leucotricha</i> (Ellis et Everh.) Salm) (, 2003a; 2003b; Tóth, et al., 2012; Sasnauskas et al., 2015).</p>	<p>In order to obtain ecologically pure fruit production and environmental protection are preferred cultivars - possessing resistance or low sensitivity to economically important diseases such as apple scab (<i>Venturia inaequalis</i>), powdery mildew (<i>Podosphaera leucotricha</i>) (Ellis et Everh.) Salm) and other (Djouvinov, 2003a; 2003b; Tóth et al., 2012; Sasnauskas et al., 2015).</p>
<p>2010 . 2015 .</p>	<p>As a result of selection work at the Institute of Agriculture - Kyustendil in recent years have created six new apple cultivars - five of them in 2010 and one in 2015. They are recognized and recorded in the Official cultivars list of the country.</p>

o he objective of this study
 - was to evaluate agro biological and
 - economic qualities of the newest
 Bulgarian apple cultivar Siyana
 through a period of full fruiting.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Apple cultivar Siyana is
 - created from a cross between the
 cultivars Florina x Mackfree in the
 - Institute of Agriculture - Kyustendil.
 It was ratified as a new cultivar in
 2015. The trees (5 numbers) were
 - grafted on rootstocks MM 106 and
 were planted in the spring of 1998
 in a collection plantation at
 distances of 4,5 x 2,5 m. They
 - were trained as free-growing
 crowns. In the plantation was
 - applied conventional technology
 for growing of the apple. The soil
 surface was maintained in good
 condition by shallow cultivation
 - between rows and herbicide
 application in the rows. All
 observations and readings of the
 indicators were conducted in
 accordance with the Methodology
 for the study of plant resources in
 fruit plants (Nedev et al., 1979).

The chemical composition of
 the fruit was determined on
 average samples taken during
 - harvesting and was found dry
 matter content (% by
 refractometer), total sugars (% by
 Luff-Schoorl method), and
 - titratable acid (% by titration with
 0,1 n NaON.)

During the study 2012-2015
 the trees were in full fruiting period

(15-18 vegetation). The trees from the standard cultivar Golden Delicious were used as a control.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The tree of cultivar Siyana during the period of full fruiting shows moderate to strong growth, according to thickness of the trunk and crown volume of the trees. The trunk cross-sectional area at the end of the 18th year is about 20% higher than that of the control Golden Delicious (Table 1). The tree forms a rounded crown, which is about 15% greater, compared to Golden Delicious. Skeletal branches are well garnished with fruit-bearing wood - mostly with weak and short fruiting branches.

Table 1. Vegetative characteristics, 15-18 growing season

/ Cultivar	Trunk cross-sectional area, m ²				Crown volume, m ³ 2015
	2012	2013	2014	2015	
Siyana	100,9	114,2	195,9	205,3	4,12
Golden Delicious (st)	111,2	127,4	139,9	170,8	3,58

From the phenological observations on the duration of individual phenophases was established that the flowering of Siyana is medium early. Early flowering is about 21 April, the start of full flowering – about 25 April, and the end of flowering in early May (Table 2). The average

9-10 .
 4,0-4,2 cm, .
 25 , . .
 (2). -
 .
 10%.

duration from the beginning of full blooming to the end of blooming is about 9-10 days. Flowering is almost simultaneously with that of the control Golden Delicious. The flowers have a diameter of 4,0-4,2 cm, white in color.

According to the term of ripening of the fruit Siyana is winter cultivar. Under the conditions of the Kyustendil region fruit ripen around 25 September, i.e. about a week before those of Golden Delicious (Table 2). Consumables maturity of the fruit coincides with the harvesting. The premature falling off of the fruit is about 10%.

2. , 2012-2015 .
Table 1. Phenological data, average for 2012-2015

/ Cultivar	Flowering, date			Ripening of fruit, date				
	Onset	Start of full	End	2012	2013	2014	2015	Average
Siyana	21.04	25.04	03.04	21.09	29.09	26.10	25.09	25.09
Golden Delicious (st)	19.04	23.04	04.05	05.10	06.10	30.09	30.09	03.10

kg, 1,6
 (16,8 kg).
 ,
 -
 (3).

Siyana is highly fertile and regular fruiting cultivar. The average yield per tree is 27.6 kg, which is 1.6 times more than that of the standard Golden Delicious (16.8 kg). For good fertility of the cultivar can be judged by the coefficient of productivity, which also has a higher value than the control (Table 3).

3.

2012-2015 .

Table 3. Reproductive characteristics for the period 2012-2015

/ Cultivar	(kg/)					Yield efficiency, (kg/cm ² of TCSA)	
	Yield (kg/tree)						
	2012	2013	2014	2015	Average	Total	
Siyana	34,9	8,0	21,5	46,0	27,6	110,4	0,54
Golden Delicious (st)	42,1	4,0	11,2	10,0	16,8	67,3	0,39

130	150g.	145 g,	14,6 %	(61,6	The fruit of Siyana are medium sized, evenly matched in size and shape. In the different years fruit mass varies from 130 to 150g. Average for the studied period it is about 145 g, or in comparison with the standard they are larger by about 14.6% (Table 4). Shape of the fruit is conical – globular (61.6 x 66.4 mm), with lightly expressed ribs. The fruit stalk is medium thick (2.0-2.5 mm) and medium long (1.78-1.82 cm).
(4).	66,4 mm),	(2,0-2,5 mm)	(1,78-1,82 cm).		

4.

2012-2015 .

Table 4 Size, firmness and chemical composition of the fruit, average for the period 2012-2015

Cultivar	Fruit weight, g	Fruit width, mm	Fruit height, mm	Fruit flesh firmness, kg/cm ²	Soluble solids, %	Total sugar, %	Titratable acids, %	Sugar / Acids
Siyana	145,0	61,6	66,4	6,9	15,3	7,9	0,51	15,5
Golden Delicious (st)	122,2	61,0	56,6	10,4	17,0	8,6	0,40	21,5

Fruit peel is thin, tender, with yellow-green base colour, covered with evenly distributed over the

(6,9 kg/cm²),

20,

entire surface light red color, with slight stripes. From the sun-lit side it is sometimes colored in intense red color. There are many weak wax coating, probably inherited from the mother cultivar Florina and slightly greasiness.

The fruit flesh is with a gentle texture, juicy, average firmness (6.9 kg/cm²), yellowish with a slight aroma and very good taste. The fruit have a good keeping.

The content of dry matter and total sugars in the fruit of Siyana has lower values, and titratable acids are slightly higher than those of Golden Delicious (Table 4). Sugar-acid ratio is below 20, which gives them a pleasant sour-sweet and harmonious taste.

During the studied period it is not found attack from scab on the leaves, shoots or fruit.

CONCLUSIONS

Apple cultivar Siyana has moderate to strong growth, regular and high fertility. The fruit are with very good quality, suitable for fresh consumption and have a long storage period under normal conditions.

As a practical scab resistant this cultivar is suitable for inclusion in schemes for organic production of apples.

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40, 408-414.
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