

(Berchev, 1988; Angelov, 1994; Angelov and Glogova, 2010).

climate and agro-technical factors for the individual regions of the country (Berchev, 1988; Angelov, 1994; Angelov and Glogova, 2010).

Variety, technology and growing conditions are essential to show plant productivity and product quality.

Hristov, 2007).

(Davidkov and

Mineral nutrition has a positive impact on maize production (Hristov and Davidkov, 2007).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The study was conducted in the period 2014-2016 in the experimental field of Maize Research Institute in Knezha.

The subject of the study is the hybrids Kn-517 groups 500-600 FAO and a density of 5500-6000 p/da and Kn-613 group over 600 FAO and density of 5200-5700 p/da.

The maize was grown in a control variant without fertilization (T_0) and two fertilizing levels: $N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4}$ (T_1) and $N_{17} P_{10,8} K_{12,8}$ (T_2). The agrotechnics adopted for the region was applied. For the determination of the energy yield, the energy equivalent for 1 kg grain – 14.6 MJ/kg were used for fertilizer: N-77 MJ/kg, P-14 MJ/kg and K-10 MJ/kg (Pimental, 1984). Energy costs for $N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4}$ – 794 MJ/da; for $N_{17} P_{10,8} K_{12,8}$ – 1588 MJ/da.

2014-2016 .
- .
: -517 500-600
5500-6000 /da -613
600 5200-5700
/da.
: $N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4}$ (1) $N_{17} P_{10,8} K_{12,8}$
(2).
1 kg 14,6 MJ/kg
: N-77 MJ/kg;
P-14 MJ/kg K-10 MJ/kg (Pimentel, 1984).
 $N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4}$ 794
MJ/da, $N_{17} P_{10,8} K_{12,8}$ – 1588 MJ/da.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

When cultivating hybrid Kn-517 and density 5500 p/da without the use of mineral fertilizer, the yield of energy varies from 9388 MJ/da to 9957 MJ/da, respectively for the first and the second year of the experiment (Table1). The use of mineral fertilizer has a positive effect on the quantity of the studied indicator.

The fertilization of maize plants with $N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4}$ increases the yield of energy by 9%, 30% and 39% in the individual

-517
5500 /da
,
9388 MJ/da
9957 MJ/da,
(1).
.
 $N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4}$
,
9%,
30% 39%,

years, respectively for the first, second and third years of experimental work. On average during the studied period this mineral fertilizer yield increased by 26% compared to the cultivation of maize in natural stock (T₁).

1. MJ/da
Table 1. Energy yield MJ/da

Variants	2014	2015	2016	Average	% % to T ₀	CV %
517/5500 /da Kn-517/5500 p/da						
N _{0 0 0}	9388	9957	9811	9719	100	3
N _{8,5 5,4 6,4}	10249	12906	13607	12254	126	12
N _{17P_{10,8}K_{12,8}}	10527	13169	13184	12293	126	10
/Average	10055	12011	12201			
CV%	5	2	14			
-517/6000 /da Kn-517/6000 p/da						
N _{0 0 0}	10030	10395	9665	10030	100	3
N _{8,5 5,4 6,4}	12074	13082	14089	13082	130	6
N _{17P_{10,8}K_{12,8}}	12717	12687	12746	12717	127	0.2
/Average	11607	12055	12167			
CV%	10	10	15			
-613/5200 /da Kn-613/5200 p/da						
N _{0 0 0}	7212	8731	9096	8346	100	10
N _{8,5 5,4 6,4}	8702	12279	12308	11096	133	15
N _{17P_{10,8}K_{12,8}}	8147	12425	12293	10955	131	18
/Average	8020	11145	11232			
CV%	8	15	13			
-613/5700 /da Kn-613/5700 p/da						
N _{0 0 0}	7884	8570	9125	8526	100	6
N _{8,5 5,4 6,4}	9592	12556	12191	11446	134	11
N _{17P_{10,8}K_{12,8}}	8877	12717	11870	11155	131	13
/Average	8784	11281	11062			
CV%	8	17	12			

Analysing the data in the table, it can be seen that the doubling of the fertilizer rate from the N_{8,5 5,4 6,4} to the N_{17P_{10,8}K_{12,8}} study rates varied from a range of 10527 for 2014 to 13169 MJ/da for 2015. The fertilizer effect for individual years is as follows: 16%, 32% and 34%. On average for 2014-2016 the action of

2014-2016 .

1. 26%.

-

10055 MJ/da 12261

MJ/da.

-

- CV=3%.

CV=12% N_{8,5 5,4 6,4} CV=10%
N_{17P_{10,8}K_{12,8}}

CV=5% 2014 . CV=14% 2016 .
-517
6000 /da

9665 MJ/da 10395

10%

N_{8,5 5,4 6,4}

20%, 26% 46%,

30%.

N_{17P_{10,8}K_{12,8}} 12687 MJ/da 12746 MJ/da,

27%

CV=0,2%
N_{17P_{10,8}K_{12,8}}

- this fertilizer combination is the same as for variant T₁. The numerical value of the increase in energy yield is 26%. By year and average of all variants of maize cultivation, the smallest result of the survey was obtained in the first year and the highest in the third, respectively 10055 MJ/da and 12261 MJ/da.

- The coefficient of variation has the lowest average value for the non-fertilization – CV=3%. For the doses used this fertilizer is CV=12% for N_{8,5 5,4 6,4} and CV=10% for N_{17P_{10,8}K_{12,8}}. Over the years on average all variants of maize cultivation varied in the yield of energy within the limit of CV=5% for 2014 to CV= 14% for 2016.

- Cultivation of the Kn-517 hybrid and seed density of 6000 p/da in the non-fertilizer variant energy yield ranges from 9665 MJ/da for the third year to 10395 MJ/da for the second. On average during the study period the difference in energy yield is 10% in favor of higher density.

- The use of mineral fertilizer in proportional N_{8,5 5,4 6,4} increases the numerical value of the surveyed indicator by 20%, 26% and 46% compared to the control successively for the three years of experience. On average over the three experimental years this combination of fertilizer is 30%. When using a double dose of fertilizer N_{17P_{10,8}K_{12,8}} the yield of energy varies from 12687 MJ/da to 12746 MJ/da, respectively for the second and the third year. As can be seen from the data in individual years the value of the surveyed indicator is close to each other.

- The increase of the obtained energy yield on average over the years of study is 27% compared to the control. Analysing the presented results the variance of the survey indicator is at least CV=0.2% for variant N_{17P_{10,8}K_{12,8}}. Secondly the fertilization of maize with N_{8,5 5,4 6,4} with

$N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4}$ 33% -
 5200 /da 34% 5700 /da.
 $N_{17}P_{10,8}K_{12,8}$ 31%.
 CV=6% CV=18%.
 CV=8% CV=17%.
 -613, -517
 2. -517
 5500 /da
 $N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4}$
 1,1 4,8. -
 2014 ., - - 2016
 $N_{17}P_{10,8}K_{12,8}$ $N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4}$
 $N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4}$ $N_{17}P_{10,8}K_{12,8}$, 64%, 54%
 43%,
 /da. 6000
 $N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4}$ 2,6
 2014 . 5,6 2016 .
 $N_{17}P_{10,8}K_{12,8}$
 1,7; 1,4 1,9.

fertilizer $N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4}$ was 33% for the lower density of 5200 p/da and 34% for 5700 p/da. The effect of double the quantity of $N_{17}P_{10,8}K_{12,8}$ fertilizer on the yield of both densities is 31%.

On average over the three years of experience the coefficient of variation changes from CV=6% to CV=18%. Yearly average of all variants of maize cultivation the yield of energy is characterized by a coefficient of variation of CV=8% to CV=17%.

Bioenergy coefficient values for the Kn-517 and Kn-613 hybrids grown at different densities and levels of fertilization are presented in Table 2. For Kn-517 hybrid growing density of 5500 p/da the use of mineral fertilizer in $N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4}$ combines the bioenergy ratio of 1.1 to 4.8.

The lower numeric value of this indicator was received in 2014 and the largest in 2016. Increasing the quantity used from $N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4}$ to $N_{17}P_{10,8}K_{12,8}$ also increases the cost of energy input into the fertilizer.

As a result the numerical value of the bioenergetics coefficient is also reduced. This decrease is inversely proportional to the increase in the quantity of fertilizer used. Percentage of the difference in studies between fertilizers $N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4}$ and $N_{17}P_{10,8}K_{12,8}$ is 64%, 54% and 43% for the first, second and the third year, respectively.

Analysing the presented results the same tendency of change of the bioenergetics coefficient was established and at a density of 6000 p/da. When fertilizing maize with $N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4}$ the value of the survey indicator changes from 2.6 for 2014 to 5.6 for the 2016. When using twice as much $N_{17}P_{10,8}K_{12,8}$ fertilizer for different years, the bioenergetics coefficient has values of 1.7; 1.4 and 1.9. On average during the study period the bioenergetics coefficient for the single

/da. -
 1,6 - 1,7.
 CV=48%.
 1 2
 CV=48%.

3,2 3,9,
 5500 /da 6000
 $N_{17}P_{10,8}K_{12,8}$,
 CV=12%
 CV=20%

- dose of fertilizer ranged from 3.2 to 3.9, respectively for a density of 5500 p/da and 6000 p/da. In the variant using a double higher fertilizer $N_{17}P_{10,8}K_{12,8}$ is 1.6 and 1.7. On the average of the three years of the experiment the coefficient of variation changed from CV=12 to CV=48%. Yearly average of both fertilizer doses T_1 and T_2 the numerical expression of this indicator ranges from CV=20% to CV=48%.

2.

Table 2. Bioenergetic coefficient

Variants	2014	2015	2016	Average	CV %
-517/5500 /da Kn-517/5500 p/da					
$N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4} (T_1)$	1.1	3.7	4.8	3.2	48
$N_{17}P_{10,8}K_{12,8} (T_2)$	0.7	2.0	2.1	1.6	40
/Average	0.9	2.8	3.4		
CV%	22	30	40		
-517/6000 /da Kn-517/6000 p/da					
$N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4} (T_1)$	2.6	3.4	5.6	3.9	32
$N_{17}P_{10,8}K_{12,8} (T_2)$	1.7	1.4	1.9	1.7	12
/Average	2.2	2.4	3.7		
CV%	20	42	48		
-613/5200 /da Kn-613/5200 p/da					
$N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4} (T_1)$	1.9	4.5	4.0	3.5	32
$N_{17}P_{10,8}K_{12,8} (T_2)$	0.6	2.3	2.0	1.6	46
/Average	1.3	3.4	3.0		
CV%	46	32	33		
-613/5200 /da Kn-613/5200 p/da					
$N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4} (T_1)$	2.2	5.0	3.9	3.7	31
$N_{17}P_{10,8}K_{12,8} (T_2)$	0.6	2.6	1.7	1.6	51
/Average	1.4	3.8	2.8		
CV%	57	31	39		

-613,
 5200 /da
 $N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4}$
 -
 -
 1,9
 4,5

For Kn-613 hybrid grown at a 5200 p/da density and a fertilizer $N_{8,5} P_{5,4} K_{6,4}$ the bioenergetic coefficient has the smallest value of 1.9 for the first year and the highest of 4.5 for the second. By doubling the quantity of fertilizer from

			-517	5500	/da
	3,2	1	1,6		
2.			6000		/da
27%	3,9	1,7		N _{8,5} 5,4 6,4	-
					-
	0,7		2	5500	/da
				5,6	
1	6000				/da
			-613	5200	/da
	3,5			1,6	
				5700	
/da			3,7	1,6.	
					-
	0,6				
2	2014				
	1,		4,5	5200	/da
5,0	570				/da.

For hybrid Kn-517 and 5500 p/da bioenergy coefficient was changed from 3.2 for T₁ to 1.6 for variant T₂. For a density of 6000 p/da these values are 3.9 and 1.7 for fertilizing with N_{8,5} 5,4 6,4 and N₁₇P_{10,8}K_{12,8}. By year the bioenergetic coefficient has the lowest value of 0.7 for variant T₂ and 5500 p/da for the first year and highest 5.6 for T₁ and 6000 p/da for the third year.

For hybrid Kn-613 and 5200 p/da research indicator changes from a range of 3.5 for the single to 1.6 for a doubled fertilizer and for a density of 5700 p/da values are 3.7 and 1.6. And for densities this value has the lowest value of 0.6 at the double fertilizer norm T₂ for 2014. The highest result was calculated in the second year and variant T₁, respectively 4.5 for 5200 p/da and 5.0 for 5700 p/da.

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Changes in grain quality for Durum wheat under the influence of organo-mineral products

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SUMMARY

2014-2017 .
-
-
-
,
,
(3000 ml/ha)
ml/ha)
,
,
10 m².
:
-
-
.
:
, -

During the period 2014-2017, in the study, Experimental and Implementation Base of the Department of Plant growing of the Agricultural University – Plovdiv a field experiment is carried out that explores the influence of two organo-mineral products: Megafol (3000 ml/ha) and Megafol protein (3000 ml/ha) on the quality of the Durum wheat variety Predel. The treatment is done in the phases of tillering, stem elongation and ear emergence. The experiment is performed after predecessor chickpea, according to three factor experiment by the method of split plots, repeated four times, with dimensions of the land plot 10 m².

As a result of the conducted experiment, the following is found out:

The tested organo-mineral products have positive influence on the grain quality of the Durum wheat Predel.

Key words: Durum wheat, organo-mineral products, grain quality

INTRODUCTION

Consumption of pasta is constantly increasing, and thus also the quality requirements of the main raw material - durum wheat grain. The quality of the grain is variety and species-specific. It is a complex concept and includes its physical, chemical and technological properties.

The positive influence of the use of biologically active substances to increase the quality of a number of grain cultures is proven in experiments performed abroad (Abad et al., 2004; Delfine et al., 2005; Brown and Prtrie, 2006; Wolber and Seemann, 2006; Orcen et al., 2013; Blandino et al., 2015; Smith et al., 2015) and in our country as well (Delchev et al., 2004; Delchev, 2010; Stoyanova, 2010). Scientific literature presents data about preparations that increase the resistance of the plants towards various stress factors such as high and low temperatures (Delchev and Stoyanova, 2013, Kolev et al., 2015).

In this survey we set ourselves the objective to find out what the influence is of new organo-mineral products on the quality of Durum wheat variety Predel.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

In the Study, experimental and implementation base of the Department of Plant growing of the Agricultural University - Plovdiv a field experiment is carried out during the period 2014-2017, which explores the influence of the following organo-mineral products: Megafol (3000 ml/ha) and Megafol protein (3000 ml/ha) on the productivity of the Durum wheat variety Predel. The treatment is performed in the phase of tillering, stem elongation and ear emergence. The experiment is performed after predecessor chickpea, according to three factor experiment by the method of split plots, repeated four times, with dimensions of the land plot 10m².

(Abad et al., 2004; Delfine et al., 2005; Brown and Prtrie, 2006; Wolber and Seemann, 2006; Orcen et al., 2013; Blandino et al., 2015; Smith et al., 2015) (Delchev et al., 2004; Delchev, 2010; Stoyanova, 2010).

(Delchev and Stoyanova, 2013, Kolev et al., 2015).

2014-2017 ..

ml/ha) : (3000 ml/ha)

10 m².

20.10 05.11. 500
 /m²
 120 kg/ha 80 kg/ha
 ,
 1/2 ,
 -
 .
 (Yanev et al., 2008),
 .
 -
 :
 1000 (g), (kg),
 (%),
 (%),
 (%).
 -
 SPSS.

The sowing of the Durum wheat is done within the optimal period, i.e. from 20.10 to 05.11, with sowing rate 500 germinating seeds/m² and mineral fertilization with 120 kg/ha nitrogen and 80 kg/ha phosphorus, where the entire quantity of phosphor fertilizer and 1/2 of the nitrogen fertilizer are inserted before sowing, while early in the spring the remaining quantity of the nitrogen fertilizer is inserted as a nutrition. All elements are observed of the established technology for growing Durum wheat (Yanev et al., 2008).

The following grain quality indicators are reported: mass per 1000 grains (g), test weight (kg), vitriouness (%), total nitrogen content and crude protein (%), wet and dry gluten (%).

The values obtained are mathematically processed through SPSS software.

: 2014/2015
 . – 655.8 mm, 2015/2016 . – 388.5 mm
 2016/2017 - 278.3 mm 419,0 mm
 .
 .
 2017 .
 -
 .
 2014/2015 .
 ,
 .
 .
 1, 2 3
 -
 .

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The rainfall quantity during the vegetation period of the Durum wheat is as follows: year 2014/2015 . – 655.8 mm, 2015/2016 . – 388.5 mm and 2016/2017 - 278.3 mm, while for the thirty-year period this amount is 419,0 mm. Among the experimental years favourable for the growth and development of the Durum wheat, with good distribution of rainfalls is the harvest year 2017, which gives the highest quality of grain for all variants. Unfavourable for the development of the plants is the first year 2014/2015 due to the drought in the month of April, when the structural elements of the yield are formed.

Due to the common tendency of the data during the experimental period, Table 1, 2 and 3 shows the obtained average values of the measured indicators for the quality of grain.

The tested organo-mineral products influence positively for the increase of the values of the reported elements of the quality of the grain of durum wheat of Predel variety.

1000 ,
 3000 ml/ha
 48.8 g; 81.2 kg 96.3 %
 (1).
 ml/ha. - 3000

The largest mass per 1000 grains, test weight and vitriouness were obtained in the variant treated with the organo-mineral product Megafol in the tillering phase at a dose of 3000 ml/ha respectively 48.8 g; 81.2 kg and 96.3% (Table 1). On the second place is positioned the variant sprayed with the Megafol protein, but in phase of stem extension with dosage 3000 ml/ha. The smallest increase in the values of the quality of the grain is achieved under the influence of the tested organo-mineral products at the treatment in phase heading.

T 1. -

(2014-2017)

Table 1. Influence of organo-mineral products on physical characteristic of grain of Durum wheat (average 2014-2017)

Phases of growth	Products	Physical characteristic of grain					
		Mass 1000 grains g %		Test weight kg %		Virtuousness % % to st.	
Tillering	Control	46.4	100.0	78.6	100.0	93.1	100.0
	Megafol	48.8	105.1	81.2	103.8	96.3	103.4
	Megafol protein	47.5	102.3	79.6	101.4	95.8	102.9
Stem elongation	Control	45.6	100.0	78.4	100.0	93.3	100.0
	Megafol	46.9	102.8	79.4	100.3	93.9	100.6
	Megafol protein	48.0	105.2	80.8	102.4	95.3	102.1
Heading	Control	43.4	100.0	78.6	100.0	93.4	100.0
	Megafol	44.2	101.8	78.9	102.6	94.1	100.7
	Megafol protein	46.0	105.9	79.3	101.1	95.6	102.4
GD 5 %		1.98	4.5	2.1	2.6	1.88	2.01

T 2.
(2014-2017)

Table 2. Content of total nitrogen and crude protein in Durum wheat grain (average 2014-2017)

Phases of growth	Products	Dry substance %	N	
			Total N %	Crude protein content, %
Tillering	Control	88.9	2,2	12,5
	Megafof	90.1	2,4	13,4
	Megafof protein	89.2	2,5	14,0
Stem elongation	Control	88.7	2,3	12,9
	Megafof	89.9	2,3	13,0
	Megafof protein	89.1	2,4	13,6
Heading	Control	88.8	2,2	12,7
	Megafof	89.6	2,2	12,4
	Megafof protein	89.0	2,3	13,2
GD 5 %		1.14	0.18	0.52

2

- The Table 2 presents the results of the surveyed indicators, which are expressed as a percentage and represent an average of three repetitions for the three consecutive years. From the analysis of grain chemistry, it has been found that application of Megafof-protein results in an increase in the crude protein content of the Predel grain. This was observed in the three phases of development, with the increase being most pronounced after application in phases tillering (14% crude protein)

(12.5 %).

(2.5%)
(- 31.2 % - 14.7 %)

(3).

-

compared to the control (12.5%). These results were in positive correlation with the nitrogen content (2.5%) and gluten (wet - 31.2% and dry - 14.7%) during the tillering phase treatment (Table 3).

The higher grain quality of Durum wheat Predel variety is a result of the positive impact of studied organo-mineral products on the tested indicators.

-

-

3.

-

(

2014-2017)

Table 3. Influence of organo-mineral products on some technological characteristic of Durum wheat grain (average 2014-2017)

Phases of growth	Products	Wet gluten		Dry gluten	
		%	% to st.	%	% to st.
Tillering	Control	29.5	100.0	13.1	100.0
	Megafof	24.2	82.0	11.5	87.8
	Megafof protein	31.2	105.8	14.7	112.2
Stem elongation	Control	28.1	100.0	12.1	100.0
	Megafof	23.8	84.7	10.1	83.5
	Megafof protein	32.0	113.9	14.3	118.2
Heading	Control	23.4	100.0	10.7	100.0
	Megafof	23.6	100.8	10.9	101.9
	Megafof protein	27.2	116.2	12.4	115.9
GD 5 %		3.6	15.4	2.3	16.1

2

(12.5 %).

(2.5%)
- 31.2 % - 14.7 %

(3).

1000

3000 ml/ha
48.8 g; 81.2 kg 96.3 %.

(14 %)

(12.5 %).

(2.5%)

The Table 2 presents the results of the surveyed indicators, which are expressed as a percentage and represent an average of three repetitions for the three consecutive years. From the analysis of grain chemistry, it has been found that application of Megafol-protein results in an increase in the crude protein content of the Predel grain.

This was observed in the three phases of development, with the increase being most pronounced after application in phases tillering (14% crude protein) compared to the control (12.5%). These results were in positive correlation with the nitrogen content (2.5%) and gluten (wet – 31.2% and dry – 14.7%) during the tillering phase treatment (Table 3).

The higher grain quality of Durum wheat Predel variety is a result of the positive impact of studied organo-mineral products on the tested indicators.

CONCLUSIONS

The tested organo-mineral products influence positively the quality of the Durum wheat variety Predel.

The new products have helped to increase the values of 1000 grams per mass, test weight and vitriouness in the variant treated with the organo-mineral product Megafol in the tillering phase with a dose of 3000 ml/ha they are the highest, respectively, 48.8 g; 81.2 kg and 96.3%.

From the analysis of grain chemistry, it has been found that application of Megafol-protein results in an increase in the crude protein content of the Predel grain.

This was observed in the three phases of development, with the increase being most pronounced after application in phases tillering (14% crude protein) compared to the control (12.5%). These results were in positive correlation with the nitrogen content (2.5%) and gluten

(– 31.2 | (wet – 31.2% and dry – 14.7%) during the
% – 14.7 %) | tillering phase treatment.

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Evaluation of the stability of mixtures products with synthetic origin applied to control of major insect pests in alfalfa

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SUMMARY

A statistical evaluation was carried out to characterize the representativeness and credibility of the synthetic insecticide Eforia, applied alone and in reduced doses with mineral oil Acarzine, on the productivity of the dry aboveground biomass in alfalfa by dispersion analysis and Fischer's parametric F criterion. Kang's YS_i aggregate stability criterion, taking into account both stability and yield value gave a negative evaluation of the untreated control characterizing it as the lowest yield.

According to this criterion, the most technologically valuable was variant Akarzin + Eforia - 0.03%, followed by Akarzin + Eforia - 0.01% and Eforia, which was applied alone.

Those options combined high yield and very high stability of the indicator over the years. In terms of technology for growing

YS_i Kang,
-
- 0.03 %,
- 0.01 %

alfalfa for forage alone treatment with Akarzin received a score of 0. It combined good yields, but with lower stability over the years of the study.

Key words: alfalfa, synthetic insecticide, mineral oil, mixed, mixtures, stability

(Georgieva and Nikolova, 2010; Nikolova and Georgieva, 2015).

(Deka et al., 2011; Mascarin and Delalibera, 2012).

(Tsybulko et al., 2000; Demkin, 2008).

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Key words: alfalfa, synthetic insecticide, mineral oil, mixed, mixtures, stability

INTRODUCTION

The aim of more studies was not only looking options and solutions to improve productivity and quality of crops, but also improve pest control through the combined use of insecticides with growth regulators, biostimulators, and leaf fertilizers in the context of integrated production (Georgieva and Nikolova, 2010; Nikolova and Georgieva, 2015). It is also important to apply selective pesticides with a minimum side effect on the biocenosis and optimization of their doses. Application of various methods will contribute both to increase the efficiency of agricultural production and to overcome the negative consequences of abiotic and biotic stress (Deka et al., 2011; Mascarin and Delalibera, 2012).

The reduced use of pesticides doses and their application with various products stimulating plant growth and development is another environmentally friendly approach in the integrated pest control. The method leads to a reduction of the negative pesticide impact on the environment. This provides not only better plant protection and higher productivity but also an opportunity to increase plant resistance to certain insect pests (Tsybulko et al., 2000; Demkin, 2008).

Studies on the stability of insecticides and their compatibility with products of different biological activity are also important for successfully integrated control. That kind of research is still in an initial stage in Bulgaria and information is

(Delchev et al., 2013; Georgieva et al., 2015).

scarce (Delchev et al., 2013; Georgieva et al., 2015).

The purpose of the research was to evaluate the stability of the synthetic insecticide Eforia, applied alone and in reduced doses in combination with mineral oil Acarsin based on the productivity of aboveground biomass in alfalfa.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The treatment with the synthetic insecticide Eforia 043 ZK applied alone and in reduced doses in combination with mineral oil Akarzin (the test variants are given in Table 1) was performed at the beginning of the flowering in the second regrowth of alfalfa (59-60) to control of economically important insect pests as a method of the integrated plant protection system. The experimental work was conducted in the Institute of Forage Crops (Pleven, Bulgaria) in field conditions during the period of 2014 to 2015 on slightly leached chernozem with alfalfa variety "Dara" without irrigation. It was used the split plot method with three replications and natural background of soil supply with the major nutrients.

It was made a statistical assessment by the analysis of variance and the parametric criterion (F) of Fisher (Shannin, 1977; Barov, 1982) for the characterization of the representativeness and significant influence of the alfalfa forage after treatment with Eforia in the above-mentioned variants. The programme ANOVA was used for calculation in the analysis of variance (Lindanski, 1988).

The parameters of stability for the productivity of aboveground biomass were calculated [variances of stability σ_i^2 and S_i^2 (Shukla, 1972) and ecovalence W_i (Wricke, 1962)]. The value of each variant was presented through the criterion of stability (Y_{Si}) of Kang (1993), simultaneously recording the worth of the

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2014 2015
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F
(Shannin, 1977; Barov, 1982)
ANOVA (
1988).
[
Shukla (1972)
Wricke (1962)].
(σ_i^2 S_i^2)
 W_i
(Y_{Si}) Kang (1993)

STABLE
Louisiana State University Agricultural
Center, Baton Rouge, USA (1993).

- indicator and the stability of the variant.
, The value of this criterion consisted in the
- fact that through the use of nonparametric
- methods and statistical significance of the
, differences, it was obtained a generalized
assessment arranging the variants in a
descending order according to their
economic value. The programme Stable
of Louisiana State University Agricultural
Center, Baton Rouge, USA (1993) was
used to calculate these parameters.

1.

Table 1. Characteristic of synthetic products

Commercial product	Active substance		Dose	Application
1. / Control	/ Untreated		-	-
2. 045 3	30 g l ⁻¹	+ 15 g l ⁻¹	0.05%	Vegetative
2.Eforia 045 Z	30 g l ⁻¹ thiamethoxam + 15 g l ⁻¹ lambda-cyhalothrin			
3.	85%	- + 15%	400	Vegetative
3.Akarzin	85% mineral oil - paraffin type + 15% emulsifier		ml da ⁻¹	
4. 045 3 +	30 g l ⁻¹	+ 15 g l ⁻¹ +	0.03%+400	Vegetative
4.Eforia 045 Z +	30 g l ⁻¹ thiamethoxam + 15 g l ⁻¹ lambda-cyhalothrin +			
Akarzin	85% mineral oil - paraffin type + 15% emulsifier			
5. 045 3 +	30 g l ⁻¹	+ 15 g l ⁻¹ +	0.01%+400	Vegetative
5.Eforia 045 Z +	30 g l ⁻¹ thiamethoxam + 15 g l ⁻¹ lambda-cyhalothrin +			
Akarzin	85% mineral oil - paraffin type + 15% emulsifier			

*Doses of commercial products are according to the registration of the product by the manufacturer

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

By the analysis of variance with regard to the productivity of aboveground biomass (Table 2) it was established that the years had a significant influence on the parameter, 17.0% of the total variation of the variants (data on average yield are presented in Table 3). It was determined by the unequal reaction of variants to the change in environmental conditions. The large differences in the meteorological conditions during the years of the trial were the reason for that. The influence of products had the highest significance at a level of probability 0.01 – 65.5%. There was a significant interaction of products and the conditions of the years (x), 2.6% at a level of probability 0.5.

2.

(kg ha⁻¹)

Table 2. Analysis of variance for productivity of aboveground biomass (kg ha⁻¹) of alfalfa after treatment

Source of variation	Degrees of freedom	Sum of squares	Influence of factor, %	Mean square
/ Total	44	101721.5	100	-
/ Tract of land	2	189.0	0.2	94.5
/ Variants	14	86572.5	85.1	6183.8***
-				
Factor - Years	2	17261.0	17.0	8630.5***
-				
Factor - Products	4	67655.0	65.5	16913.6***
A x B	8	1656.5	2.6	207.1*
/ Pooled error	28	14960.0	14.7	534.3

*p 0.5 **p 0.1 ***p 0.01

On the basis of the significant interactions of product × year (×), the stability of manifestations of each variant was evaluated with respect to the years (Table 3). The variances of stability, i^2 and Si^2 , which take account of the linear and nonlinear interactions, respectively, evaluate unidirectionally the stability of the variants.

Those variants, which showed lower values, were estimated as more stable because they interacted more weakly with the environmental conditions. The negative values of the indicators i^2 and Si^2 were taken for 0. At significantly high values of any one of the two parameters (i^2 or Si^2) the variants were considered as unstable. At the ecovalence W_i , the higher the values of the parameter, the more unstable the corresponding variant.

On that basis, using these three parameters of stability, it was found that the variant with mineral oil Akarzin was unstable. For that variant, the values of the variances of stability i^2 and Si^2 and ecovalence W_i were highest. By treatment with Akarzin there was instability of a linear type - the values of i^2 were mathematically significant, while the Si^2 values were insignificant. That instability was mainly due to the significant differences in the productivity

Shukla, (i^2 Si^2)

Wricke, W_i

Shukla W_i i^2 Si^2

Shukla W_i i^2 Si^2

during the different experimental years, as the meteorological conditions influenced strongly.

3.

Table 3. Stability parameters of the variants for productivity of aboveground biomass in regard to the years

	kg ha ⁻¹	\bar{y}	s_i^2	S_i^2	W_i	YS_i
/ Control	3012.0 a	301.2	226.7	-0.4	355.0	-2
045 / Eforia 045 ZK – 0.05%	3748.0 c	374.8	-26.4	-0.8	51.3	4+
/ Akarzin-400 ml/da	3274.0 b	327.6	428.6*	-0.9	597.2	0
+ (0.03%)	3998.3 d	399.8	240.8	-0.6	371.9	8+
Akarzin+Eforia (0.03%)						
+ (0.01%)	3946.7 cd	394.7	167.1	0.9	283.4	6+
Akarzin+Eforia (0.01%)						
LSD _{0.05%}	208.800					

YS_i Kang
Yankova (2009),
Myzus persicae

In order to make a complete evaluation of the effectiveness of each variant, both its influence on the productivity of alfalfa and its stability, the reaction of the crop in the different years should be taken into account. Very valuable information about the technological value of the variants was given by the indicator YSi for a simultaneous evaluation of yield and stability, based on the significance of the differences in the yield and the variance of interaction with the environment.

It should be noted that the treatment of alfalfa with Eforia in reduced doses and in combination with the mineral oil was associated with the highest efficacy and realization of the highest productivity, as differences compared to the other variants were significant. Similar results reported Yankova and colleagues (2009), where the combined use of synthetic insecticides with Akarzin and it alone application against *Myzus persicae* resulted in high product efficacy.

According to the authors, that fact gives another alternative possibility to control green peach aphid density in greenhouse

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Comparative assessment of tolerance to low temperatures of pea accessions

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SUMMARY

The present study aimed to assess the tolerance to low temperatures of 10 pea accessions (Kolorado, Arkta, P-342, Wt 6806, 3981, Fenn, BR 2-P, Szegedi szurke, WPM, Mir). The experiment was carried out during 2016, in the laboratory base of the Institute of viticulture and enology (Pleven), in a frost camera up to -11 °C, by the direct freezing method. The stress-exposed plants exhibited different susceptibility as the percentage of surviving plants varied in the limits of 35.0 to 100.0%. ccessions Kolorado, Arkta, Fenn and Mir were distinguished with the highest survival (85.0-100.0%) and according to the calculated values of the confidence interval for each of them, they formed one group defining them as tolerant. Four of the accessions (P-342, Wt 6806, 3981 and WPM) showed a relatively low survival (from 35.0 to 48.3%) and were determined as

Szegedi szurke
 75.0%,
 (r = 0.833),
 (r = -0.862)
 (r = 0.691).

(Shafiq, 2012).

(Mihailovi and Miki, 2004;
 Nunes et al., 2006).

ú
 (Shafiq, 2012).

(Stoddard et al., 2006).

0 °C
 (Jacobsen et al., 2005).

susceptible to low-temperature stress. With a survival value of 75.0%, accession Szegedi szurke occupied an intermediate position and was moderately tolerant. The parameters correlating with high values with the tolerance to low temperatures were the content of soluble sugars (r = 0.833) in plants, relative water content (r = -0.862) of leaves and seedling vigor index (r = 0.691).

Key words: tolerance, low temperatures, pea, accessions

INTRODUCTION

Pea is an economically important legume culture. It has a fundamental meaning for agricultural production systems, providing sustainability and possibilities for crop rotation. Advantages of crop rotation include increasing nitrogen content in the soil through biological fixation and improved weed control (Shafiq, 2012). The seeds and biomass of pea are rich in proteins wherefore are widely used for fresh fodder, green manure, as hay and silage (Mihailovi and Miki, 2004; Nunes et al., 2006).

One of the main factors limiting the high productivity of the crop and the enlargement of the cultivated areas in the world is the sensitivity to low temperatures (Shafiq, 2012). Low temperatures are a serious problem for pea in both the vegetative and reproductive stages of development. Under the temperature conditions of the countries of Europe and North America, cold in the winter or frost in early spring could significantly damage or kill the plants (Stoddard et al., 2006).

Lowering the temperature below 0 °C results in the water transformation into plant tissues in ice crystals, intracellular dehydration and damages. It is possible a rupturing the plasma membrane followed by cellular death (Jacobsen et al., 2005).

Growing pea as a winter crop for

-12 ÷ -20°
and Pavlov, 1999)

(Kostov

(Ali et al., 1999; Meyer and
Badaruddin, 2001),

(Badaruddin and Meyer, 2001;
Bourion et al., 2003). Shafiq (2012)

country conditions requires accessions that can withstand temperatures up to -12 ÷ -20 °C under field conditions or exhibit tolerance and low level of damage at low temperatures (Kostov and Pavlov, 1999). A number of researchers have investigated the sensitivity to low temperatures during the first few weeks of pea development (Ali et al., 1999; Meyer and Badaruddin, 2001), with a variation between accessions and manifestations of tolerance in the early vegetative stages were found (Badaruddin and Meyer, 2001; Bourion et al., 2003). According to Shafiq (2012), the identification of accessions with slightly expressed sensitivity to low temperatures is the base for breeding of pea varieties with increased tolerance to such stress.

This study aimed to compare the sensitivity to low temperatures of pea accessions in frost camera and determination of tolerant ones.

(1)
2016 .

(Tsenov and Petrova, 1984;
Shafiq, 2012).

MATERIAL AND METHODS
The comparative assessment of 10 pea accessions (Table 1) was carried out in 2016 in the laboratory base of the Institute of viticulture and enology, in a frost camera by the direct freezing method (Tsenov and Petrova, 1984; Shafiq, 2012).

Table 1.

Table 1. Origin and species affinity of pea accessions tested under low-temperature stress conditions

	/Accessions	/Origin	/Species
1.	Kolorado	/USA	<i>P.sativum var. arvense</i>
2.	Arkta	/ Czech Republic	<i>P.sativum var. arvense</i>
3.	P-342	/ Serbia	<i>P.sativum var. arvense</i>
4.	Wt 6806 (wild population)	/ Poland	<i>P.sativum var. arvense</i>
5.	3981	/ Georgia	<i>P.sativum var. arvense</i>
6.	Fenn	/ USA	<i>P.sativum var. arvense</i>
7.	BR 2-P	/ Serbia	<i>P.sativum var. arvense</i>
8.	Szegedi szurke	/ Hungary	<i>P.sativum var. arvense</i>
9.	WPM (wild population)	/ Czech Republic	<i>P. sativum var. melanocarpum</i>
10.	Mir	/ Bulgaria	<i>P. sativum var. arvense</i>

47x17x13 cm

5-6 kg

and Chipilski, 2014).

-6 °

3-5

Shafiq, 2012).

-5 °

ú

-11°

2 °

(Popova, 1991;

3

(-2°).

14

0 /

/

100%

(Vinogradova and Barshkova, 1976):

$$p = \frac{n}{N} \times 100(\%)$$

: p-%

; N-

; n-

Erskine et al. (1981) (Muehlbauer and Kaiser, 2012),

(1) = 75%

(2) =

Sowing was conducted in the first week of October in vegetation pots measuring 47x17x13 cm, filled with 5-6 kg soil. The plants germinated and developed under natural conditions, if necessary they were watered and the snow cover was removed (Petrova and Chipilski, 2014). In the second half of December, when the air temperature reached -6 ° C, the plants (in the stage of 3-5 leaf) as they were in the vegetation pots, were exposed to a low-temperature stress in a frost camera under controlled conditions.

The initial camera temperature was -5 ° C, and the value was decreased by 2 ° C every hour to reaching -11 ° C (Popova, 1991; Shafiq, 2012). The effect of the final temperature lasted for 3 hours, after which the pots with pea were removed from the frost camera and gradually acclimatized to ambient temperature (-2 ° C).

After complete thawing of the soil, the plants were carried for restoration and regrowth in laboratory conditions. On the 14th day after the experiment, the degree of damage (visually, by the percentage of damaged plant area of 0 / no damage / to 100% / completely killed plants) and the survival plants (%) were recorded according to the formula (Vinogradova and Barshkova, 1976):

where: p-% survival plants; n-number of survival plants; N-total number of plants

Based on the calculated survival of plants and improved 3-scored scale of Erskine et al. (1981) (Muehlbauer and Kaiser, 2012), the tested accessions were classified as: 1 (tolerant) = more than 75% surviving, 2 (moderately tolerant) = between 50 and 75%, and 3

2.

Table 2. Tolerance to low temperatures of pea accessions in frost camera

Accessions	Survival of plants, %	Confidence interval, %	Degree of tolerance*	Degree of damage, %	Confidence interval, %
Kolorado	100.0	85.1-114.9		2.7	3.5-8.8
Arkta	100.0	85.1-114.9		2.4	3.8-8.5
P-342	45.0	30.1-59.9	S	91.0	84.8-97.2
Wt 6806	35.0	20.1-49.9	S	86.5	80.5-92.8
3981	35.0	20.1-49.9	S	87.6	81.5-93.8
Fenn	100.0	85.1-114.9		17.1	10.8-23.2
BR 2-P	85.0	70.1-99.9		32.3	26.2-38.5
Szegedi szurke	75.0	60.1-89.9	MT	55.3	49.2-61.5
WPM	48.3	33.4-63.2	S	88.5	82.5-94.8
Mir	100.0	85.1-114.9		48.3	42.4-54.5
	72.3			51.2	
LSD _{0.05}	10.1			4.2	

* - Tolerant, MT - Moderately Tolerant, S - Susceptible

(P-342, Wt 6806, 3981 WPM) - Four of the accessions (P-342, Wt 6806, 3981 and WPM) had a relatively low survival ranging from 35.0 to 48.3%. The upper limit of the confidence interval did not match the limits of the confidence interval of the accessions from the tolerant group. The accessions included in this group were defined as susceptible (S) of low-temperature stress. With a survival value of 75.0%, Szegedi szurke occupied an intermediate position and was determined as moderately tolerant (MT) according to the above-mentioned scale.

The degree of damage, calculated on the base of the percentage of damaged area in plants which were successfully survived the low-temperature stress, was an additional criterion for assessment of the accessions and their ability to overcome the abiotic stress with minimal injuries. A special attention deserved accessions of the tolerant group Kolorado and Arkta, which were characterized by a low percentage of damage (2.4-2.7%), in contrast to Fenn and Mir of the same group, where the percentage of damage was considerably higher (17.1 - 48.3%).

86.5 – In the group of susceptible accessions, the damage percentage showed significantly increase and values ranging from 86.5 to 91.0%, which according to a number of researchers (Mahajan and Tuteja, 2005; Liang et al., 2007) was related with adverse effects on plant growth and development, and reduced productivity.

91.0%, (Mahajan and Tuteja, 2005; Liang et al., 2007)

Shafiq (2012) According to Shafiq (2012), the magnitude of temperature stress and the phenological stage of crop development were two main factors that determine the response to stress and recovery after its termination. When studying several weeks seedlings, Badaruddin and Meyer (2001) found 32% survival at -4 ° C for 4 hours.

and Meyer (2001) 32% -4 °

4 - In similar screening experiments, the most appropriate temperature and duration of impact is that which allows the differentiation of tolerant and sensitive accessions within the species. Testing at a lower temperature in the context of this experiment highlights the tolerance of Colorado and Arkta, which show the highest percentage of survival and, at the same time, a low degree of damage. Based on the variation in cold resistance established in different phenological phases of pea, some researchers (Shafiq, 2012) consider that this indicator can be improved effectively by phenotypic selection.

Kolorado Arkta, (Shafiq, 2012)

(Shafiq, 2012), (Kendal et al., 2016), (Guy, 1990). 83 Pisum sativum, Shafiq (2012)

83 - Factors determining low-temperature tolerance may relate to the geographical origin of the accessions, some morphological and growth parameters (Shafiq, 2012), phenological peculiarities (Kendal et al., 2016), and biochemical indicators (Guy, 1990). In studying 83 cultivars *Pisum sativum* species, Shafiq (2012) observed an increased frost resistance in those originating in England, Estonia, Kazakhstan and China. According to the author, the conditions of pea cultivation in these countries were characterized by

low temperatures in the early stages of plant growth, making them less sensitive and suitable for choosing parental forms with increased cold and winter resistance. Similar tolerance related to the geographical origin of the cultivars was also demonstrated by accessions originating in England in the present study (Kolorado and Fenn).

(Kolorado Fenn)

A particular interest presents studies related to establishing dependence between winter and cold resistance and some physiological parameters. According to Nagao et al. (2005) an increased concentration of soluble carbohydrates plays an important role in survival at freezing temperatures by providing reserve energy for plant growth and development.

(Nagao et al., 2005).

(RWC)

(Guy, 1990).

(75.84 - 84.56%)

SS (10.2 - 13.0%),

1).

Wt 6806, 3981 WPM,

SSC (

11.1%,)

(MC)

RWC

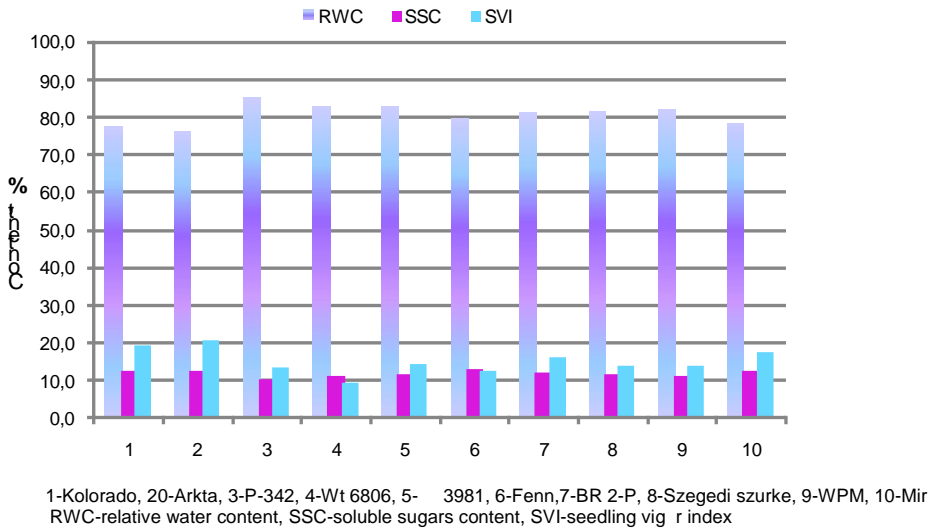
RWC

82.8

Soluble sugars serve as osmolytes (fluid balance regulators) and protect cell membranes from permeability changes and damage due to cell dehydration during low temperature stress (Nagao et al., 2005). Another physiological indicator, moisture content (MC) and relative water content (RWC) in the leaves also has a relationship to temperature stress.

The low water content limits the availability of free water, prevents ice formation in cells and intercellular spaces and improves tolerance to frost (Guy, 1990).

The variation among accessions which were subjects of the present study was considerable with respect to RWC (75.84 - 84.56%) and in narrower limits for SSC (10.2 - 13.0%), but followed the dependencies found in abovementioned investigations (Figure 1). For example, the susceptible accessions P-342, Wt 6806, 3981 and WPM were characterized by relatively higher RWC and low SSC (average values of 82.8 and 11.1%, respectively).



. 1.

Fig. 1. Relative water content, soluble sugars content and seedling vigor index in pea accessions

Fenn (Kolorado, Arkta,)
SSC 13.5% RWC, 5.4% K
RWC (r = -0.862)
SSC (r = 0.833).
Palonen et al. (2000),
(SVI) (r = 0.691)
Shafiq (2012)

In contrast, in accessions from the tolerant group (Kolorado, Arkta, Fenn and Mir), an increase in SSC and a decrease in RWC (by 13.5% and 5.4%, respectively) was observed. The correlation analysis of data showed a negative dependence between low-temperature tolerance and RWC (r = -0.862), and a positive one with SSC (r = 0.833). The last dependence confirmed the results obtained by Palonen et al. (2000), according to which the high level of soluble carbohydrates (fructose, glucose, sucrose, raffinose and sorbitol) correlated positively with the level of tolerance to sub-zero temperatures. The calculated seedling vigor index (SVI) for the ten pea accessions also correlated positively (r = 0.691) with the tolerance to low temperatures. This corresponded to the established by Shafiq (2012) ability in pea varieties with increased seed vigor to compensate and reduce damages due to temperature stress in the early stages of plant growth.

CONCLUSIONS

The ten pea accessions exposed to a low-temperature stress exhibited different susceptibility as the percentage of surviving plants after direct freezing in frost camera up to -11 °C varied in the limits of 35.0 to 100.0%.

Accessions Kolorado, Arkta, Fenn and Mir were distinguished with the highest survival (85.0-100.0%) and according to the calculated values of the confidence interval for each of them, they formed one group defining them as tolerant. Four of the accessions (P-342, Wt 6806, 3981 and WPM) showed a relatively low survival (from 35.0 to 48.3%) and were determined as susceptible to low-temperature stress. With a survival value of 75.0%, accession Szegedi szurke occupied an intermediate position and was moderately tolerant.

The tolerance of accessions to low temperatures correlated positively with the content of soluble sugars ($r = 0.833$) in plants and seedling vigor index ($r = 0.691$), and negatively with the relative water content ($r = -0.862$) of leaves.

-11 °C
 35.0 100.0%
 Kolorado, Arkta, Fenn
 (85.0-100.0%)
 (P-342, Wt 6806,
 3981 WPM)
 (35.0
 48.3%)
 75.0%, Szegedi
 szurke
 ($r = 0.833$)
 ($r = 0.691$),
 ($r = -0.862$)

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Monitoring and collecting of plant genetic resources from meadow grass species in Bulgaria and Slovakia

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SUMMARY

2016-2017 .

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2017 .,

During 2016-2017 the project „Collection and research of genetic material of local origin of grass forage species of for the need of selection“ was implemented through the bilateral Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Government of the Slovak Republic and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria. The project was focused at monitoring of important grassland habitat localities and collection of seeds of grasses and legumes which can be used in agriculture, plant breeding and environment protection. At start of August and September 2017 the National Agricultural and Food Centre – Grassland and Mountain Agriculture Research Institute

(BGSK SKBG)

Dactylis glomerata L., *Festuca rubra* L.,
Festuca arundinacea L., *Phleum pratense*
L., *Trifolium pratense* L., *Trifolium repens* L.,
Trifolium hybridum L., *Lotus corniculatus* L.

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(GPS,

23

Villegas et al., 2012).

(Ramirez-

(Batello et al., 2008).

Banská Bystrica and Research Institute of Mountain Stockbreeding and Agriculture Troyan carried out two joint seed collecting expeditions (BGSK and SKBG) in Bulgaria and Slovakia. The collection was focused at important forage grasses and legumes: *Dactylis glomerata* L., *Festuca rubra* L., *Festuca arundinacea* L., *Phleum pratense* L., *Trifolium pratense* L., *Trifolium repens* L., *Trifolium hybridum* L., *Lotus corniculatus* L.. In central part of Stara Planina Mts. 37 accessions of grasses and legumes were collected and source localities were described (GPS, grassland type, botanical composition). In central Slovakia 23 accessions of plant species were collected.

In this paper, joint study on source grassland habitats and database of collected accessions is described.

Key words: genetic resources, collection, grasses, legumes, grasslands

INTRODUCTION

Plant genetic sources are an important part of agricultural biodiversity. They represent the diversity of genetic material contained in wild plants, traditional and modern varieties as well. The use of genetic resources is crucial for the sustainable production of agricultural products (Ramirez-Villegas et al., 2012). Seed collection represents a significant and widespread means of conserving plant genetic sources. In addition to collection, documentation and description of the sites of plant seed origin is an important source of information on the environment and the management of them.

Grasslands play an important role in food security, poverty alleviation and contribute to environmental sustainability (Batello et al., 2008). The collection of wild grass and clover seeds from semi-natural grasslands is a key activity for obtaining valuable genetic material. Moreover, an

(Okumura et al., 2007).

APPV-SK-BG-2013-0005 "

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(*Dactylis glomerata*,
Phleum pratense, *Festuca arundinacea*,
Festuca rubra) (*Trifolium*
pratense, *Trifolium repens*, *Trifolium*
hybridum, *Lotus corniculatus*).

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- international collaboration creates
- conditions for increasing the level of
- knowledge about the extensions of
- individual species of grass and clover and
- their potential use for breeding purposes
(Okumura et al., 2007). An example of a
- joint research of forage genetic resources
- from two environmentally diverse areas is
- the bilateral project APPV-SK-BG-2013-
- 0005 "Collection and research of fodder
- genetic material of fodder origin for
- breeding purposes" between Slovakia and
- Bulgaria".

- The main aim of joint project
- "Collection and research of genetic
- material of local origin of grass forage
- species for the need of selection" was:

- to collect seeds of wild ecotypes
of selected grass and legume species in
Slovakia and Bulgaria;

- to monitor of selected collecting
localities and to make comprehensive
characteristics of collecting area;

- to exchange of genetic plant
materials for breeding a new variety of
forage grass or legume.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

- The Research Institute of Mountain
Stockbreeding and Agriculture Troyan
(RIMSA) organized collecting expedition
1 from 1 to 8 August 2017 under the
- International Bilateral Scientific and
- Technology Cooperation. The collecting
expedition in Slovakia was organized by
the National Agricultural and Food Centre
– Grassland and Mountain Agriculture
Research Institute Banská Bystrica from 5
to 12 September 2017. The expeditions
were focused on wild species of plant
genetic resources, especially on grasses
(*Dactylis glomerata*, *Phleum pratense*,
Festuca arundinacea, *Festuca rubra*) and
legumes (*Trifolium pratense*, *Trifolium*
repens, *Trifolium hybridum*, *Lotus*
corniculatus). The Department of
Mountain Grassland Associations and
Maintenance of their Biological Diversity
- at the Research Institute of Mountain

(*Phleum pratense*, *Festuca arundinacea*, *Dactylis glomerata*, *Festuca pratensis*, *Festuca arundinacea*, *Trifolium pratense*, *Trifolium repens*) *Festuca arundinacea*, *Phleum pratense* *Trifolium pratense*.

: *Festuca arundinacea*, *Phleum pratense*

, *Medicago sativa*, *Onobrychis Gaerth*, *Bromus inermis*, *Dactylis glomerata*, *Festuca arundinacea*

Levo ské

Lúky

, *Festuca arundinacea*

41° 44° N 22° 28° E.

Griffiths et al. (2004)

(Meshinev et al., 2005, 2009; Beaufoy et al., 2012; Stefanova and Kazakova, 2012).

Stockbreeding and Agriculture, under the leadership of prof. Mihovski, is dedicated to breeding of forage grasses and legumes adapted to mountain conditions (*Phleum pratense*, *Festuca arundinacea*, *Dactylis glomerata*, *Festuca pratensis*, *Festuca arundinacea*, *Trifolium pratense*, *Trifolium repens*), and especially *Festuca arundinacea*, *Phleum pratense* and *Trifolium pratense*. In Bulgaria the following varieties of forage grasses and legumes were bred: *Festuca arundinacea* cv. Elena, *Phleum pratense* cv. Troyan at the Research Institute of Mountain Stockbreeding and Agriculture, and *Medicago sativa*, *Onobrychis Gaerth*, *Bromus inermis*, *Dactylis glomerata*, *Festuca arundinacea* cv. Albena at the Forage Reserach Institute Pleven. In Slovakia, the Breeding Station Levo ské Lúky is engaged in grass breeding. The variety *Festuca arundinacea* cv. Lekora was bred at this station.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Bulgaria is situated in south-east Europe on the Balkan Peninsula between latitudes 41° and 44° N and longitudes 22 and 28 ° E. The Balkan Peninsula, as south-east corner of the European continent, is well known for its rich flora and well-preserved vegetation. Bulgaria's climate is a combination of continental and Mediterranean influences. Griffiths et al. (2004) describe this area as glacial refuge for animal and plant species and as a crossroad for fauna and flora exchange between Central Europe and Asia Minor. Moreover, in Bulgaria, which covers the north-eastern part of the Balkan Peninsula, semi-natural grasslands of high nature value (HNV grasslands) persisted until today to an extent that exceeds most other European countries (Meshinev et al., 2005, 2009; Beaufoy et al., 2012; Stefanova and Kazakova, 2012). The flora and vegetation in Bulgaria is rich and diverse.

:
 - 81,02%
 17,22 %
 - 1,31%
 0,07%
 - 0,37%

The vegetation includes the following grassland types:

- dry grassland – 81,02 %
- mesic grassland – 17,22 %
- seasonally wet and wet grassland – 1,31 %
- alpine and subalpine grassland – 0,07 %
- inland salt steppes – 0,37 %

Monitoring and collecting of plant genetic resources was conducted in areas of north-western Bulgaria. The expedition was carried in the western part of the Balkan (Stara planina) and Tsentralen Balkan National Park, the district of Troyan, Lovech, Karlovo, Ribaritsa. Comparing to Rila and Pirin alpine nature parks, the Tsentralen Balkan National Park has higher diversity of flora and fauna, and there were found more than 2,000 vascular plants. Database of accessions and donor site localities collected in Bulgaria is shown in Table 1.

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 Festuco
 Brometea.
Digitaria sanguinalis

In Bulgaria, 37 accessions of grasses and legumes were collected. Out of the monitored localities, dry grasslands especially association *Festuco - Brometea* occupied the largest area. At pastures, plant association *Digitaria sanguinalis* was the most abundant. The similar research expedition in two contrasting areas in north-west Bulgarian mountains (Vratsa and Koprivnitsa) was conducted by the European Dry Grasslands Group. Members of this group came from various countries including Slovakia (Pedashenko et al., 2013).

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 (Pedashenko et al., 2013).

Table 1. Database Bulgarian collection from meadow grass species BGSK 2017

Acronym number	/Species	/Locality	/Habitat	Altitude
BGSK-1	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	/Golets	upland meadow	405
BGSK-2	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	/Golets	upland meadow	405
BGSK-3	<i>Phleum pratense</i>	/Sopot	lowland dry meadow	329
BGSK-4	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	/Sopot	lowland dry meadow	341
BGSK-5	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Bulgarski Izvor	lowland dry meadow	282
BGSK-6	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Bulgarski Izvor	upland meadow	466
BGSK-7	<i>Trifolium hybridum</i>	/Jablanica	upland meadow	467
BGSK-8	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	//Jablanica	upland meadow	468
BGSK-9	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	//Jablanica	upland meadow	469
BGSK-10	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	/Malak Izvor	lowland dry meadow	555
BGSK-11	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	/Malak Izvor	lowland dry meadow	556
BGSK-12	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	/Malak Izvor	lowland dry meadow	557
BGSK-13	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	/Teteven	non-mowed meadow	558
BGSK-14	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	/Ribaritsa	upland meadow	560
BGSK-15	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	/Ribaritsa - exit	upland meadow	654
BGSK-16	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	/Bogoja	upland meadow	1014
BGSK-17	<i>Trifolium hybridum</i>	/Bogoja	upland meadow	1014
BGSK-18	<i>Phleum pratense</i>	/Terzisko	lowland dry meadow	614
BGSK-19	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	/Terzisko	lowland dry meadow	614
BGSK-20	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	/Dobrodan	/pasture	361
BGSK-21	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	/Dobrodan	/pasture	616
BGSK-22	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	/Vrabevo	plum orchard	436
BGSK-23	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	/Vrabevo	plum orchard	436
BGSK-24	<i>Festuca rubra</i>	/Vrabevo	plum orchard	436
BGSK-25	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	/Velchevo	mowed meadow	375
BGSK-26	<i>Trifolium hybridum</i>	/Velchevo - exit	mowed meadow	417
BGSK-27	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	/Vidima	wet meadow	539
BGSK-28	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	/Vidima	wet meadow	539
BGSK-29	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	Vidima - exit to the mountain	wet meadow	643
BGSK-30	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Drashkova Polyana	wet meadows	440
BGSK-31	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Drashkova Polyana	wet meadows	440
BGSK-32	<i>Phleum pratense</i>	Drashkova Polyana	wet meadows	440
BGSK-33	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Troyan - Livadeto	wet meadows	437
BGSK-34	<i>Phleum pratense</i>	Troyan - Livadeto	wet meadows	437
BGSK-35	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Troyan - Livadeto	wet meadows	437
BGSK-36	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Troyan - Livadeto	wet meadows	437
BGSK-37	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	/Beklemeto	mountains meadows	1640

- | In Slovakia, the variable
- | geographic, soil and ecological conditions
- | result in rich plant diversity of semi-

20	.	natural grasslands. There have been identified 20 types of grassland habitats which are among the most important habitats of Central and Eastern Europe. In order to maintain grassland habitats, they are used by traditional way and extensive management.
(2)	23	In Slovakia, 23 accessions of forage grasses and legumes were collected (Table 2) at seven collecting sites located under different soil and climatic conditions of Central Slovakia: Podzám ok (Pliešovská kotlina valley), Detva Krné (Zvolenská kotlina valley), Zbojská, Chlipavica, Predná hora (National park Murá plain), Martinské hole (National park Malá Fatra Mts.), Donovaly (National park Ve ká Fatra Mts. and Nízke Tatry).
Podzám ok (Pliešovská kotlina valley), Detva Krné (Zvolenská kotlina valley), Zbojská, Chlipavica, (Murá plain), Martinské hole (Malá Fatra), Donovaly (Ve ká Fatra Nízke Tatry).		
Podzám ok Detva Krné		
Fatra Ve ká Fatra Murá , Mala		Semi-natural grasslands in Podzám ok and Detva Krné were alluvial wet meadows. Grassland habitats on Murá plain, Malá Fatra Mts. and Ve ká Fatra Mts. included mesophillous hay meadows, pastures grazed by cattle, amenity grassland near to castle and meadows near to ski lifts. The vegetation at the localities was mostly of mesophillous and wet meadows. These grasslands can be considered as habitats of national or European importance.
(Natura 2000 code – 6510) – Arrhenatherion elatioris Koch 1926 (Lk1),		Lowland hay meadows (Natura 2000 code – 6510) – alliance Arrhenatherion elatioris Koch 1926 (Lk1), mesophillous pastures (habitat of national importance) – alliance Cynosurion cristati (Lk3),
(Lk3),		alliance Cynosurion cristati (Lk3), foxtail alluvial meadows (habitat of national importance) – alliance Alopecurion pratensis (Lk7) are the most important habitats.
(Lk7)		

2.
SKBG 2017

Table 2. Database Slovak collection from meadow grass species SKBG 2017

Acronym number	/Species	Locality	Habitat	Altitude
SKBG-1	<i>Festuca arundinacea</i>	Podzám ok	wet mowed meadow	358
SKBG-2	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Podzám ok	wet mowed meadow	358
SKBG-3	<i>Phleum pratense</i>	Podzám ok	wet mowed meadow	358
SKBG-4	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Podzám ok	wet mowed meadow	358
SKBG-5	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	Podzám ok	wet mowed meadow	358
SKBG-6	<i>Trifolium hybridum</i>	Podzám ok	wet mowed meadow	358
SKBG-7	<i>Trifolium hybridum</i>	Detva, Krné	wet mowed meadow	329
SKBG-8	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	Detva, Krné	wet mowed meadow	329
SKBG-9	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Detva, Krné	wet mowed meadow	329
SKBG-10	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Detva, Krné	wet mowed meadow	329
SKBG-11	<i>Phleum pratense</i>	Zbojská, Muránska planina	/grazed pasture	369
SKBG-12	<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Zbojská, Muránska planina	/grazed pasture	557
SKBG-13	<i>Phleum pratense</i>	Chlipavica, Muránska planina	mountain meadow	847
SKBG-14	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Chlipavica, Muránska planina	. /mountain meadow	847
SKBG-15	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Chlipavica, Muránska planina	. /mountain meadow	847
SKBG-16	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	Chlipavica, Muránska planina	. /mountain meadow	847
SKBG-17	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Predná hora, Muránska planina	lawn mowing	883
SKBG-18	<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Martinské Hole, ski resort	mountain meadow	1251
SKBG-19	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Martinské Hole, ski resort	. /mountain meadow	1251
SKBG-20	<i>Phleum pratense</i>	Martinské Hole, ski resort	. /mountain meadow	1251
SKBG-21	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Martinské Hole, ski resort	. /mountain meadow	1251
SKBG-22	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Donovaly	edge of meadow	1000
SKBG-23	<i>Phleum pratense</i>	Donovaly	edge of meadow	1000

CONCLUSIONS

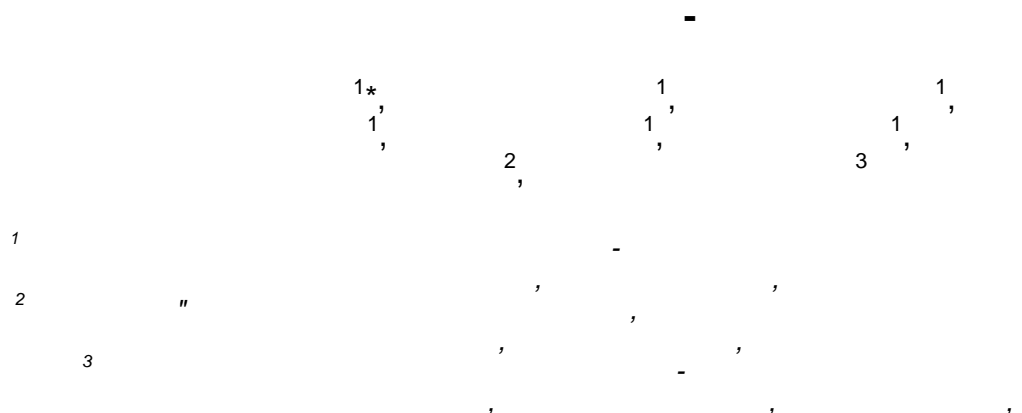
Natural and semi-natural grasslands in Bulgaria belong to the most rich habitats in Europe. The collecting expedition was focused on forage grasses and legume. The collecting of species *Phleum pratense*, *Festuca arundinacea*, *Festuca rubra*, *Dactylis glomerata*, *Lotus corniculatus*, *Trifolium pratense*, *Trifolium repens*, *Trifolium hybridum* has increased the biological diversity that can be used for agriculture and plant breeding.

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Primary production and provision ecosystem service of grass monoculture and grass-legume mixtures

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SUMMARY

2014

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(

(RGR),
(RGR),
(NAR),
(CGR)

braunii cv. Achilles,

-

-

(RGR),

Festulolium

In 2014 an impact of weather variables (rainfall and mean air temperature) on dry matter yield and growth analysis parameters (RGR, RGRA, NAR, CGR) of intergeneric hybrid *Festulolium braunii* cv. Achilles, red clover/grass and alfalfa/grass mixtures was observed.

The red clover/grass and alfalfa/grass

37 % -
 braunii.
 sativa + Festulolium braunii
 RGR (16.49 mg.g⁻¹.d⁻¹)
 CGR (35.45 mg.g⁻¹.d⁻¹).

Festulolium
 (, RGR NAR).
 :
 , Festulolium,
 Trifolium pratense, Medicago sativa

(Søegaard et al., 2007).
 Trifolium pratense -
 -
 Medicago sativa
 conditions
 (Wilkins and Kirilov, 2003).

mixtures produced 30 % and 37 % less dry matter yield comparing to monoculture of Festulolium braunii. On average, the mixture of Medicago sativa + Festulolium braunii showed the highest values of RGR (16.49 mg.g⁻¹.d⁻¹) and CGR (35.45 mg.g⁻¹.d⁻¹).

Our results confirmed the lowest dependency of alfalfa/grass mixture on weather variables. On the contrary, Festulolium monoculture showed significant negative correlation between weather variables (rainfalls and temperature) and growth analysis parameters (primary production, RGR and NAR).

Key words: primary production, photosynthesis, Festulolium, Trifolium pratense, Medicago sativa

INTRODUCTION

All grasslands, permanent and temporary as well, provide several ecosystem services (Humphreys et al. 2014). The most important service of sown grasslands is to provide high quality forage for livestock. However the environment and management effect the ability of temporary grasslands to produce sufficient amount of weather variables - temperature and rainfalls are the two main variables susceptible to alter primary production.

Forage legumes plays a valuable role in sustainable grassland production encompassing cold to warm climes (Søegaard et al., 2007). Trifolium pratense is the most important legume crop of temporary and permanent grassland on less fertile soils. Whereas Medicago sativa is widely sown in Central and Eastern Europe due to high adaptability to climate conditions (Wilkins and Kirilov, 2003).

At present climate change affect grassland ecosystem services.

(Shen et al., 2014; Tribouillois et al., 2015).

(Reich et al., 2003).

Shortage of the precipitation and increased air temperature during the summer period cause changes in the botanical composition, which is reflected in changes in both production potential and other qualitative and quantitative characteristics of grasslands. These changes determine the functionality of the grassland ecosystem as a provider of ecosystem services. Crop growth parameters are considered as key parameters for quantitative measurement of vegetation (Shen et al., 2014; Tribouillois et al., 2015). These parameters are widely used in agricultural and environmental studies to including the evaluation of various plant stresses, transpiration, nutrient cycles and carbon cycles, and they are important variables for various models that allow predicting management of grassland biomass production (Reich et al., 2003).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

2013 .
(Suchý
vrch, 49° 43' 05.11 "N, 19° 06'22.86 "E,
480 m .).

(
9.2 °C,
759 mm),

3
1 - *Festulolium
braunii* " ",
Trifolium pratense " " +
Festulolium braunii " " (
/);
Medicago sativa " " +
Festulolium braunii " " (
/).

*Festulolium
braunii* 35 kg.ha⁻¹,
26 kg.ha⁻¹, 16
kg.ha⁻¹ *Festulolium braunii* 10
kg.ha⁻¹ *Trifolium pratense*
Medicago sativa.
60 kg N ha⁻¹ (),

In 2013, the trial was set up in the central Slovakia (Suchý vrch, 49°43'05.11"N, 19°06'22.86"E, 480 m a.s.l.). The site was located in a moderately warm region (an average annual temperature - 9.2°C, annual rainfall - 759 mm), the soil was Cambisol. The trial was arranged in a randomized complete block design with tree replications and comprised the following 3 treatments: Treatment 1 – monoculture of *Festulolium braunii* cv. Achilles; Treatment 2 – mixture of *Trifolium pratense* cv. Fresko + *Festulolium braunii* cv. Achilles (clover/grass mixture); Treatment 3 – mixture of *Medicago sativa* cv. Tereza + *Festulolium braunii* cv. Achilles (alfalfa/grass mixture).

The seeding rate of the *Festulolium braunii* was 35 kg.ha⁻¹, and the seeding rates for mixtures were 26 kg.ha⁻¹, of which 16 kg.ha⁻¹ was for *Festulolium braunii* and 10 kg.ha⁻¹ for *Trifolium pratense* or *Medicago sativa*, respectively. The fertiliser application included 60 kg N

30 kg N ha⁻¹ (), 30 kg P ha⁻¹ 60 kg K ha⁻¹,

2013 . 60 kg N ha⁻¹ 1-

2014 . :

Festulolium braunii - 120 kg N ha⁻¹ (60 kg N ha⁻¹ + 60 kg N ha⁻¹ 1-

), 30 kg P ha⁻¹ 60 kg K ha⁻¹; - 30 kg P ha⁻¹ 60 kg K ha⁻¹.

(- R, - T)

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AREAMETER LI-COOR 3000.

- (RGR),

(RGR_A), (NAR), (CGR)

Šesták atský (1966). (DMY)

60° RGR, RGR_A, NAR, CGR DMY (ANOVA).

60° RGR, RGR_A, NAR, CGR DMY (ANOVA).

(ANOVA). Pearson

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Statgraphics Centurion 5.0.

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Suchý vrch 795.5 mm,

431.5 mm, 8.1°C,

14.6 °C. 2014 . ,

.

.

101.7, 161.2 121.2 mm.

ha⁻¹ (monoculture), 30 kg N ha⁻¹ (mixtures), 30 kg P ha⁻¹ and 60 kg K ha⁻¹

applied before seeding in spring 2013 and 60 kg N ha⁻¹ (monoculture) after the 1st

cut. In 2014, fertilisation was as follows:

Festulolium braunii monoculture - 120 kg N ha⁻¹ (60 kg N ha⁻¹ spring + 60 kg N ha⁻¹

after the 1st cut), 30 kg P ha⁻¹ and 60 kg K ha⁻¹; mixtures - 30 kg P ha⁻¹ and 60 kg K ha⁻¹.

The climate variables (rainfall – R, average temperature – T) were recorded daily. The stands were cut three times a year.

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Growth analyses were conducting using the classical approach. Leaf area was determinate by using an electronic leaf area meter AREAMETER LI-COOR 3000. The calculation of the crop growth parameters - relative growth rate (RGR), relative growth rate of leaf area (RGR_A), the net assimilation rate (NAR) and the crop growth rate (CGR) was performed according to the formulas given in Šesták and atský (1966). The dry matter yield (DMY) was determined by drying to a constant weight at 60°C in an oven. The data for RGR, RGR_A, NAR, CGR, and DMY were analysed by One-way analysis of variance method (ANOVA). The Pearson correlation was used to determine the relationship between two variables. Statistical analyses were performed using Statgraphics Centurion software version 5.0.

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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

At the Suchý vrch site, the mean annual rainfall is 795.5 mm, the sum of rainfall over growing season is 431.5 mm, mean annual temperature is 8.1°C and mean temperature over growing season is 14.6°C. Despite the 2014 year was wet, distribution of rainfall during the growing season was irregular. The highest rainfall occurred in May, July and August with 101.7, 161.2 and 121.2 mm, respectively. Compared to long-term averages, the sum of rainfall in June and September

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55 54% (1).
 2014
 0.6° C.
 1,4 1,5 ° C.

were lower by 55 and 54 %, respectively, and these months could be classified as very dry (Figure 1).

The mean temperature over growing season 2014 was higher by 0.6°C. Compared to long-term averages, the average temperature in July and September was higher by 1.4 and 1.5 °C, respectively.

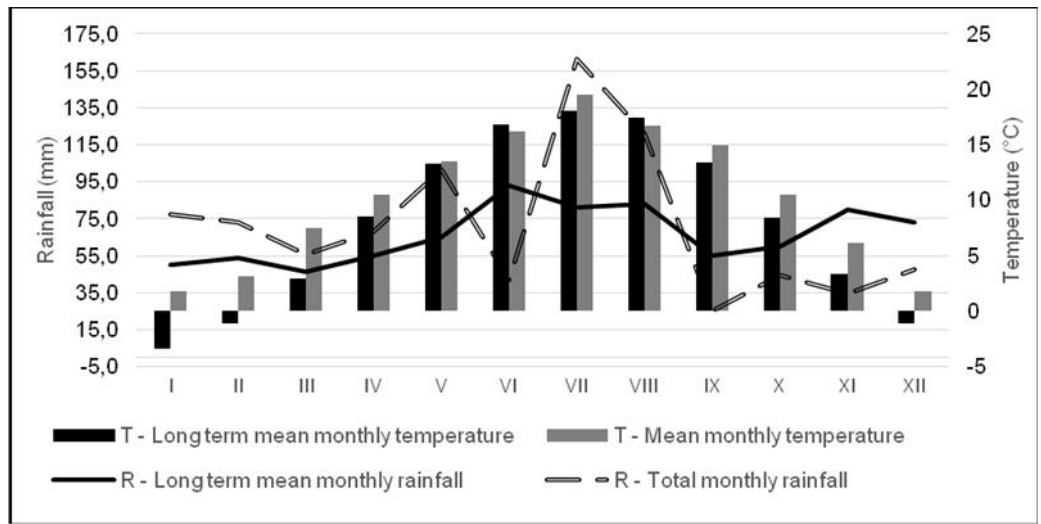


Fig. 1. Monthly mean temperature (°C), total monthly rainfall (mm) in 2014, and long-term mean temperature and rainfall at Suchý vrch, Slovakia

RGR
 1st 50.84 mg.g⁻¹.d⁻¹,
 2nd
 RGR (-22.78 mg.g⁻¹.d⁻¹). Ilavská et al. (2001)
 RGR
 RGR
 RGR
Medicago sativa + *Festulolium braunii* (1).

On average, RGR in the growth period of the 1st cut was 50.84 mg.g⁻¹.d⁻¹, while in the growth period of the 2nd cut RGR reached negative values (-22.78 mg.g⁻¹.d⁻¹). Ilavská et al. (2001) also reported decreasing of RGR during the growing season. The highest average RGR values for the growing season were recorded with the mixture of *Medicago sativa* + *Festulolium braunii* (Table 1).

1. (RGR) (RGR_A)

Table 1. Relative growth rate (RGR) and Relative growth rate of leaf area (RGR_A) during growth period of different cuts

Cut	RGR [mg.g ⁻¹ .d ⁻¹]				RGR _A [mm ² .m ⁻² .d ⁻¹]			
	/Treatment			Average	/Treatment			Average
	1	2	3		1	2	3	
1 /1 st	45,95	57,97	48,60	50,84c	44,31	45,97	43,78	44,68b
2 /2 nd	-19,47	-26,09	-22,79	-22,78a	-12,36	-10,56	-10,96	-11,29ab
3 /3 rd	-8,56	3,03	15,26	1,44b	-160,39	1,08	11,41	-56,89a
/Average	5,97a	11,63a	16,49a	-	-42,81a	12,16a	15,16a	-

P < 0,05

The values with different superscript letters are significantly different at P < 0.05 level

1st cut, NAR varied from 5697.92 mg.m⁻².d⁻¹ with the mixture of *Medicago sativa* + *Festulolium braunii* to 8229.31 mg.m⁻².d⁻¹ with the monoculture of *Festulolium braunii*. The means of NAR values in the growth period of the 2nd cut for all treatments were significantly lower than in the period of the 1st cut. Contrary to treatment with the monoculture of *Festulolium braunii*, treatments with grass/legume mixtures showed increase of NAR in the 3rd cut (Table 2). Our findings are not consistent with Ilavská et al. (2001) who stated clear tendency for the decrease of NAR with temporary grasslands from the 1st cut to the 3rd one.

During the growth period of the 1st cut, NAR varied from 5697.92 mg.m⁻².d⁻¹ with the mixture of *Medicago sativa* + *Festulolium braunii* to 8229.31 mg.m⁻².d⁻¹ with the monoculture of *Festulolium braunii*. The means of NAR values in the growth period of the 2nd cut for all treatments were significantly lower than in the period of the 1st cut. Contrary to treatment with the monoculture of *Festulolium braunii*, treatments with grass/legume mixtures showed increase of NAR in the 3rd cut (Table 2). Our findings are not consistent with Ilavská et al. (2001) who stated clear tendency for the decrease of NAR with temporary grasslands from the 1st cut to the 3rd one.

2. (NAR) (CGR)

Table 2. Net assimilation rate (NAR) and crop growth rate (CGR) during growth period of different cuts

Cut	NAR [mg.m ⁻² .d ⁻¹]				CGR [g.m ⁻² .d ⁻¹]			
	/ Treatment			Average	/Treatment			Average
	1	2	3		1	2	3	
1 /1 st	6617,04	8229,31	5697,92	6848,09b	473,99	428,36	222,47	374,95c
2 /2 nd	-1262,10	-1658,12	-1170,71	-1363,69a	-413,79	-430,45	-206,49	-380,26a
3 /3 rd	-1571,44	286,12	1606,83	-80,28a	-79,86	23,31	117,88	9,39b
Average	1261,17a	2285,15a	2099,39a	-	-5,55a	7,06a	35,45a	-

P < 0,05

The values with different superscript letters are significantly different at P < 0.05 level

2014, NAR varied from 5697.92 mg.m⁻².d⁻¹ with the mixture of *Medicago sativa* + *Festulolium braunii* to 8229.31 mg.m⁻².d⁻¹ with the monoculture of *Festulolium braunii*. The means of NAR values in the growth period of the 2nd cut for all treatments were significantly lower than in the period of the 1st cut. Contrary to treatment with the monoculture of *Festulolium braunii*, treatments with grass/legume mixtures showed increase of NAR in the 3rd cut (Table 2). Our findings are not consistent with Ilavská et al. (2001) who stated clear tendency for the decrease of NAR with temporary grasslands from the 1st cut to the 3rd one.

In 2014, DMY was significantly higher with the treatment of the monoculture of *Festulolium braunii* when compared to alfalfa/grass mixture (Figure

1
Festulolium braunii,
 66% 80%
 2
 1
 2
 2).

2). On average, all treatments demonstrated the same pattern with the highest DMY in the 1st cut. In treatment with monoculture of *Festulolium braunii*, the DMY decreased in the 2nd and the 3rd cut by 66 % and 80 % compared to the 1st cut. To the contrary, seasonal pattern with the grass/legume mixtures differed to the monoculture treatment with the lowest DMY in the 2nd cut (Figure 2).

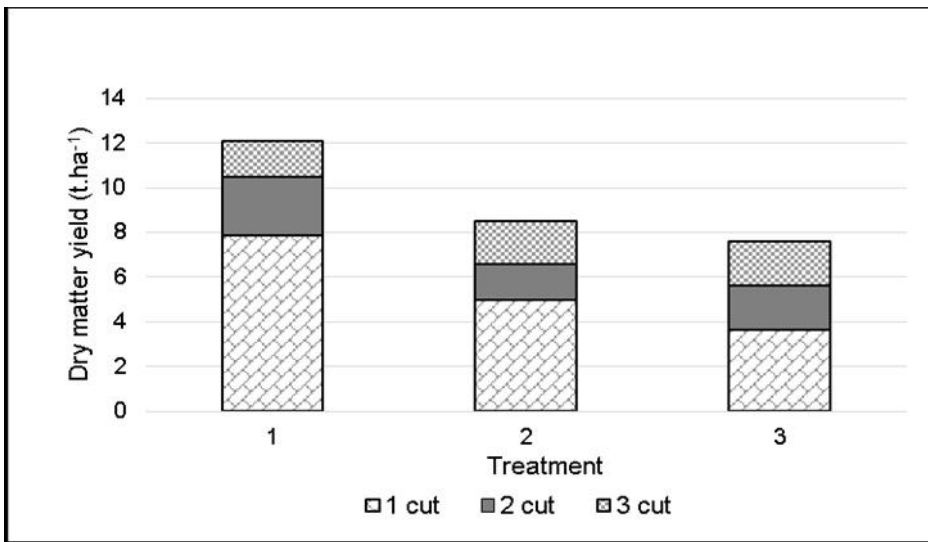


Fig. 2. Dry matter yield (t.ha⁻¹) in monoculture of *Festulolium braunii*, mixture of *Trifolium pratense* + *Festulolium braunii*, and mixture of *Medicago sativa* + *Festulolium braunii*

3
 Pearson
 . RGR, NAR
Festulolium braunii
 (r = -0.77*, P 0.0143; r = -0.84*, P 0.0043; r = -0.87*, P 0.0096)
 (r = -0.94*, P 0.0002; r = -0.94*, P 0.0001; r = -0.98*, P 0.0001).
 , RGR CGR
Trifolium pratense +

Table 3 shows values of the Pearson correlation coefficient for the weather variables associated with the crop growth parameters. RGR, NAR and DMY of the monoculture of *Festulolium braunii* displayed significantly negative correlation with rainfall (r = -0.77*, P 0.0143; r = -0.84*, P 0.0043; r = -0.87*, P 0.0096) and temperature (r = -0.94*, P 0.0002; r = -0.94*, P 0.0001; r = -0.98*, P 0.0001) as well.

By contrast, RGR and CGR of the mixture of *Trifolium pratense* +

Festulolium braunii

($r = -0.84^*$, $P = 0.0043$; $r = -0.62^*$, $P = 0.043$).

Trucak et al. (2016), Kizeková et al. (2013).

CGR

Festulolium braunii showed negative correlation mainly with the average temperature during the growth period of different cuts ($r = -0.84^*$, $P = 0.0043$; $r = -0.62^*$, $P = 0.043$). The sensibility of red clover and its mixtures to temperature was recorded by Trucak et al. (2016), Kizeková et al. (2013). The low values of correlation coefficients indicated that either rainfall or average temperature during the growth period did not significantly affect the CGR and DMY at alfalfa/grass mixture.

3. K

e

Pearson

Table 3. Pearson correlation coefficient between weather variables and crop growth parameters during growth period of different cuts

Parameter	Weather variable	/ Treatment					
		1		2		3	
		r	P	r	P	r	P
RGR	R [mm]	-0,77*	0,0143	-0,62*	0,0717	-0,52*	0,1827
	T[°C]	-0,94*	0,0002	-0,84*	0,0043	-0,78*	0,0210
RGR _A	R [mm]	-0,56	0,1148	-0,74*	0,0220	-0,84*	0,1009
	T[°C]	-0,47	0,1951	-0,92*	0,0004	-0,84*	0,0077
NAR	R [mm]	-0,84*	0,0043	-0,69*	0,0372	-0,62*	0,0992
	T[°C]	-0,94*	0,0001	-0,85*	0,0030	-0,84*	0,0075
CGR	R [mm]	-0,60	0,0823	-0,43	0,268	-0,32	0,4303
	T[°C]	-0,89*	0,0046	-0,62*	0,0430	-0,62	0,0948
DMY	R [mm]	-0,87*	0,0096	-0,63	0,1250	-0,52	0,7723
	T[°C]	-0,98*	0,0001	-0,90*	0,045	-0,69	0,7806

R -
T -
period
* -

/ total monthly rainfall during the growth period
/ monthly mean temperature during the growth

P < 0.05 / significantly different at P < 0.05 level

CONCLUSIONS

The highest values of crop growth parameters confirmed that the 1st cut is the most productive growth period for grass monoculture and grass/legume mixtures as well. Irregular rainfall and warm temperatures during the growth period in the 2nd and 3rd cut impacted the production of all treatments. The effect of rainfall and average temperature was not significantly correlated with CGR and DMY with the mixture of *Medicago sativa* + *Festulolium braunii*.

Medicago sativa + *Festulolium braunii*.

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APPV-0098-12.

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