

*
, , ,
, , ,
I" 9,
32000 , ."
*E-mail: glisiciva2004@yahoo.com

Phenological and pomological properties of new plum cultivars from a bak intended for processing

Ivana Gliši *, Nebojša Milošević , Milan Lukić ,
Olga Mitrović , Branko Popović , Milena Čorović

Fruit Research Institute, a bak, 9 Kralja Petra I Str., 32000 a bak, Serbia

SUMMARY

Plum is the most important and the most frequently grown fruit species in Serbia. For a long time, the largest part of annual yield of plums was processed into brandy. A significantly smaller part was used as a desert fruit or for other types of processing. In recent years production of dried plums has been increased. The plum assortment in Serbia is dominated by cultivars a anaska Lepotica , a anaska Rodna , Stanley and autochthonous brandy cultivars.

The aim of this study was to investigate phenological, pomological and productive properties of three new (Zlatka , Mildora , Krina) and one standard (a anaska Rodna) plum cultivars developed at Fruit Research Institute, a bak.

'Mildora' and 'Krina' are cultivars intended for drying. 'Zlatka' is intended for all kinds of processing, especially for compote, whereas a anaska Rodna is a well known cultivar with combined traits.

15-24-
 22-
 31.62 kg
 45.25 kg
 22.11 g
 34.63 g
 16.35%; 9.85±0.51%; 6.32±0.12%),
 22.97; 8.21; 8.21%).
 0.58 %
 1.03%

On average, the studied cultivars flowered from April 15th (Zlatka and Mildora), to April 24th ('Krina' and ' a anska Rodna'), and matured from August 22nd ('Zlatka') to September 2nd ('Krina'). The yield ranged from 31.62 kg tree⁻¹ (a anska Rodna) to 45.25 kg tree⁻¹ (Zlatka). The average fruit weight was between 22.11 g (Zlatka) and 34.63 g (a anska Rodna). Average soluble solids, total and invert sugars content was the smallest in Zlatka (16.35%; 9.85±0.51%; 6.32±0.12%, respectively) whereas it was the highest in Mildora (22.97; 8.21; 8.21%, respectively). The content of total acids varied from 0.58 % (Mildora) to 1.03% (Zlatka).

Key words: plum, time of maturity, yield, fruit properties

507,987 (2010-2014),
 (FAOSTAT, 2015).
 30%
 60-65%
 75-80%
 (Uroševi , 2015).

INTRODUCTION

The average annual plum production in Serbia amounts to 507,987 tons (period 2010-2014), contributing to the country's position of one of the four leading global producers of this fruit species (FAOSTAT, 2015). It is estimated that autochthonous or brandy cultivars constitute a 30% share in the plum assortment, with further around 60–65% share taken by cultivars with combined traits (a anska Rodna , Stanley , a anska Lepotica and Valjevka) (Uroševi , 2015). Around 75-80% of the total quantity of the produced fruits is processed into brandy, whereas considerably lower quantities are used for fresh consumption, drying and processing into other products (Nenadovi -Mratini et al., 2007).

(Nenadovi -Mratini et

(Luki et al., 2016).

virus (Luki et al., 2016).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The study was conducted in the experimental plum orchard at the Ljubi facility of the Fruit Research Institute, aak, originally set up in spring 2002, using standard one-year-old planting material grafted on myrobalan seedling, at the 6 x 5 m planting distance (333 trees per ha). The planting was performed using the randomised block system, with each genotype being represented with 15 trees in three replications. The cultivation system applied was the open vase crown and the plantation was maintained using standard measures of care. Protection against insects and causal agents of fungal diseases was implemented in accordance with the standard plan and the concrete needs.

Three of the more recent plum cultivars recognised in the period between 2004 and 2008 (Zlatka, Mildora and Krina) were chosen as the study material, together with one of the older standard cultivar (anska Rodna). The research was conducted during 2012 and 2013, including a study of the phenological and pomological characteristics and yield. The phenological study focused on the flowering phenophase and fruit maturity phenophase. The flowering phenophase was

The study was conducted in the experimental plum orchard at the Ljubi facility of the Fruit Research Institute, aak, originally set up in spring 2002, using standard one-year-old planting material grafted on myrobalan seedling, at the 6 x 5 m planting distance (333 trees per ha). The planting was performed using the randomised block system, with each genotype being represented with 15 trees in three replications. The cultivation system applied was the open vase crown and the plantation was maintained using standard measures of care. Protection against insects and causal agents of fungal diseases was implemented in accordance with the standard plan and the concrete needs.

Three of the more recent plum cultivars recognised in the period between 2004 and 2008 (Zlatka, Mildora and Krina) were chosen as the study material, together with one of the older standard cultivar (anska Rodna). The research was conducted during 2012 and 2013, including a study of the phenological and pomological characteristics and yield. The phenological study focused on the flowering phenophase and fruit maturity phenophase. The flowering phenophase was

<p>International Pollination Group (Wertheim, 1996).</p> <p>(10%) , (80%) 90%).</p> <p>.</p> <p>,</p> <p>(</p> <p>,</p> <p>)</p> <p>(</p> <p>,</p> <p>,</p> <p>pH</p> <p>(g)</p> <p>(g)</p> <p>25</p> <p>,</p> <p>(Adventurer Pro AV812M, Ohaus Corporation, Switzerland).</p> <p>-</p> <p>(mm)</p> <p>(mm)</p> <p>25</p> <p>(Inox 1/20 mm, ± 0.01 mm).</p> <p>(%).</p> <p>(%)</p>	<p>examined in accordance with the methodology recommended by the International Pollination Group (Wertheim, 1996). Records were made of dates of flowering onset (10% of open flowers on a tree), dates of full bloom (80% of open flowers on a tree) and end of flowering (over 90% of petals fell). The date of full maturity was chosen as the ripening time of fruit of plum genotypes under consideration. Concerning the pomological characteristics, the study focused on both the physical traits (fruit weight and dimensions, stone weight and flesh percentage) and the chemical features (soluble solids content, content of total and invert sugars, sucrose content, total acids content and the pH value of the fruit juice).</p> <p>The fruit weight (g) and stone weight (g) were determined by measuring 25 randomly picked fruits and their stones, using three replications on the technical scales (Adventurer Pro AV812M, Ohaus Corporation, Switzerland).</p> <p>The fruit dimensions – height (mm), width (mm) and thickness (mm) were determined by measuring 25 fruits in three replications, using calliper (Inox 1/20 mm, with ± 0.01 mm precision). The fruit flesh ratio (%) was determined by calculation. The content of soluble solids (%) was established using a manual refractometer (Carl Zeiss, Jena,</p>
---	--

<p>Germany) (20°C).</p> <p>(%)</p> <p>0.1 N NaOH, pH 8.1</p> <p>(%)</p> <p>(%)</p> <p>(pH)</p> <p>pH-meter Cyber Scan 510 (Nijkerk, Netherlands).</p> <p>(kg)</p> <p>ACS System Electronic Scale (Zhejiang, China).</p> <p>(ANOVA)</p> <p>F P ≤ 0.05</p> <p>P ≤ 0.01.</p> <p>,</p> <p>,</p> <p>(LSD</p> <p>)</p> <p>P ≤ 0.05.</p>	<p>Germany) at the room temperature (20°C). The total acids content (%) expressed in malic acid was determined by neutralisation of the fruit juice with 0.1 N NaOH, using phenolphthalein as indicator until pH 8.1.</p> <p>The content of total sugars (%) and invert sugars (%) was determined volumetrically, in accordance with Luff-Schoorl, whereas calculation was used to determine the sucrose content (%). The actual acidity (pH) was determined using the pH- meter Cyber Scan 510 (Nijkerk, Netherlands). The yield was studied by monitoring the yield per tree (kg per tree) using ACS System Electronic Scale (Zhejiang, China).</p> <p>The obtained results were statistically processed using the Fisher Variance Analysis (ANOVA) model of bi-factorial experiment and F test for P ≤ 0.05 and P ≤ 0.01. In the situations when the F test showed significant results, testing of differences in arithmetic means and their interaction effect was performed using the Least Significance Difference Test (LSD Test) for the significance level of P ≤ 0.05. The paper presents the average values of the tested parameters during the study period.</p>
--	--

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The studied plum genotypes did not reveal significant differences concerning the onset and progress of the flowering phenophase (Table 1). The average onset of the flowering phenophase occurred on 15th April in the Mildora and Zlatka cultivars, i.e. 16th April in the Krina and a anaska Rodna cultivars. The full bloom in all the studied genotypes occurred on average in three days, with the flowering phenophase lasting for nine days.

The fruits of the studied plum genotypes ripened between 22nd of August (Zlatka) and 2nd of September (Krina). While the Zlatka cultivar featured an earlier fruit ripening time, the Mildora and Krina had a later ripening time compared to a anaska Rodna (Table 1).

1
Table 1. Phenophase of flowering and ripening of studied plum cultivars

	/Flowering			Ripening time
	/Onset	/Full	/End	
Zlatka	15 th of April	18 th of April	23 rd of April	22 nd of August
Mildora	15 th of April	18 th of April	23 rd of April	26 th of August
Krina	16 th of April	19 th of April	24 th of April	2 nd of September
a anaska Rodna	16 th of April	19 th of April	24 th of April	25 th of August

2,
-
" (
34.63±1.15 g;
- 46.02 mm;

- Based on the data presented in Table 2, it is evident that the largest average fruit weight and dimensions were recorded by the standard cultivar a anaska Rodna (fruit weight – 34.63±1.15 g; fruit length – 46.02 mm; width – 37.0±0.63 mm and thickness –

37.0±0.63 mm
33.75±0.38 mm),

" " (
22.11±0.39 g;
37.30±0.16 mm;
28.65±0.16 mm
28.95±0.12 mm).

- 33.75±0.38 mm), while the lowest
- values of these parameters were
- found in the Zlatka cultivar (fruit
weight – 22.11±0.39 g; fruit
length–37.30±0.16 mm; width –
28.65±0.16 mm and thickness –
28.95±0.12 mm). The detected
- divergences compared to the
- standard cultivar were statistically
significant in all of the studied
genotypes.

2.

Table 2. Physical properties of fruit of studied plum cultivars

	/Fruit					
	Weight (g)	Length (mm)	Width (mm)	Thickness (mm)	Stone weight (g)	Flesh percentage (%)
Zlatka	22.11±0.39 d	37.30±0.16 d	28.65±0.16 d	28.95±0.12 d	1.50±0.01 a	93.23±0.08 c
Mildora	24.10±0.36 c	35.67±0.24 c	33.35±0.16 b	30.42±0.14 b	0.99±0.00 c	95.91±0.01 a
Krina	27.64±0.32 b	41.25±0.22 b	32.25±0.19 c	29.77±0.11 c	1.35±0.33 b	95.12±0.15 b
anska Rodna	34.63±1.15 a	46.02±0.63 a	35.76±0.34 a	33.75±0.38 a	1.32±0.04 b	96.17±0.05 a

The different lower-case letters assigned to columns show significant differences for ≤ 0.05 after applying *LSD* test.

-
"
(1.50±0.01 g),
"
(0.99±0.00 g).
,
"
(96.17±0.05 %)
(95.91±0.01%),
-
"
(95.12±0.15%)
(93.23±0.08%).

The highest average stone weight was found in fruits of the Zlatka cultivar (1.50±0.01 g), as opposed to the Mildora cultivar, which had the lowest stone weight (0.99±0.00 g). Concerning this parameter, statistically significant differences were not established only between Krina and standard cultivar. The highest fruit flesh ratio was established in the standard cultivar (96.17±0.05 %) and Mildora cultivar (95.91±0.01%), whereas a significantly lower fruit flesh ratio was recorded in the Krina (95.12±0.15%) and Zlatka (93.23±0.08%) cultivars.

3. „ (22.97±0.30%),
 „ (16.35±0.22%).
 (13.55±0.13; 8.21±0.41),
 6.32±0.12%).
 4.74±0.17 („
 („ „),
 (1.03±0.01) „
 (1.02±0.03),
 (0.58±0.02) „

- The values of individual
 - chemical parameters in the
 - examined plum genotypes are
 3. shown in Table 3. Significant
 - differences were established
 - comparing the examined plum
 - genotypes in the content of soluble
 - solids in their fruits.
 - The highest soluble solids content
 was found in the Mildora cultivar
 (22.97±0.30%), whereas the
 Zlatka cultivar had the lowest
 soluble solids content
 (16.35±0.22%), as the only cultivar
 with a lower value of this
 parameter than the standard
 cultivar. The highest content of the
 total sugars and invert sugars in
 the fruit was found in the ‘Mildora’
 cultivar (13.55±0.13; 8.21±0.41),
 while the lowest value of this
 parameter was established in the
 ‘Zlatka’ cultivar (9.85±0.51%;
 6.32±0.12%). The divergences
 that have been established in
 relation to the standard cultivar in
 this respect were significant only
 for the ‘Zlatka’ cultivar. Although
 the sucrose content in the fruits of
 the studied plum cultivars ranged
 between 4.74±0.17 (Mildora) and
 3.71±0.43 (Zlatka), the
 differences were not statistically
 significant. A higher level of total
 acids content was typical for the
 fruits of the Zlatka (1.03±0.01)
 and a anska Rodna (1.02±0.03)
 cultivars, while it was lower in the
 fruits of the Mildora (0.58±0.02)
 and Krina (0.66±0.02) cultivars.
 The highest pH value of the fruit

- pH
 " " (3.91±0.02)
 " " (3.81±0.03),
 " " (2.86±0.01).

juice was established in the Mildora (3.91±0.02) and Krina (3.81±0.03) cultivars, while the lowest value of this parameter was found in the Zlatka cultivar (2.86±0.01).

3.

Table 3. Chemical properties of fruit of studied plum cultivars

	/SSC*	Total sugars (%)	Invert sugars (%)	Sucrose (%)	Total acids (%)	pH
Zlatka	16.35±0.22 d	9.85±0.51 c	6.32±0.12 c	3.71±0.43 a	1.03±0.01 a	2.86±0.01 c
Mildora	22.97±0.30 a	13.55±0.13 a	8.21±0.41 a	4.74±0.17 a	0.58±0.02 b	3.91±0.02 a
Krina	22.10±0.28 b	11.05±0.56 b	7.13±0.14 bc	4.31±0.30 a	0.66±0.02 b	3.81±0.03 a
a anska	17.62±0.25 c	12.35±0.37 ab	7.77±0.28 ab	3.95±0.11 a	1.02±0.03 a	3.46±0.04 b
Rodna						

*
 SSC* Soluble solids content
 The different lower-case letters assigned to columns show significant differences for ≤ 0.05 after applying *LSD* test.

" ,
 - ,
 45.25±0.16 kg ,
 " " ,
 42.35±0.60 kg -
 ,
 " "
 (32.17±0.17 kg)
 " "
 " (31.62±1.72 kg)
 (1).

During the trial period, the 'Zlatka' cultivar stood out as the genotype with the highest yield, with an average yield of 45.25±0.16 kg per tree, followed by the 'Krina' cultivar with an average yield of 42.35±0.60 kg per tree, while considerably lower yield was established as typical for the Mildora cultivar (32.17±0.17 kg per tree) and the standard a anska Rodna cultivar (31.62±1.72 kg per tree) (Figure 1).

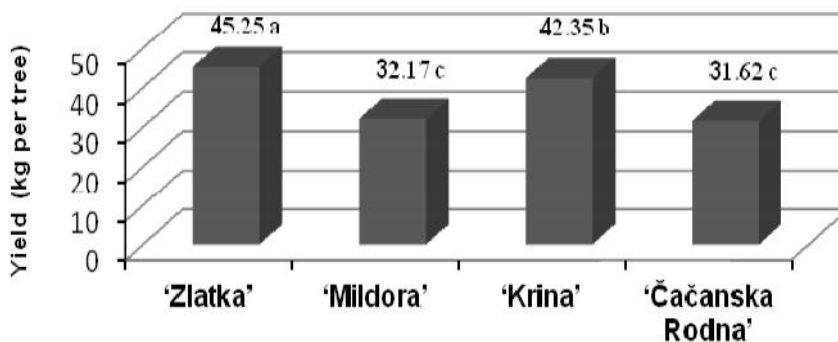


Fig. 1. Yield per tree of studied plum cultivars

The different lower-case letters show significant differences for ≤ 0.05 after applying *LSD* test

(Milošević, 2002; Ogašanić et al., 2005; Glišić et al., 2013). Milenković et al. (2006) and Glišić et al. (2016) (García-Mariño et al., 2008) (Dirlewanger et al., 2004), (Nenadović et al., 2007).

The onset and progress of the flowering phenophase in the plum cultivars under consideration was in accordance with the many-year means quoted for the agro-ecological conditions of a region and the neighbouring region (Milošević, 2002; Ogašanić et al., 2005; Glišić et al., 2013). The results related to the ripening time of the studied plum genotypes were also in accordance with the results previously published by Milenković et al. (2006) and Glišić et al. (2016). The ripening time and the length of the fruit development period are a genotype-specific characteristic (García-Mariño et al., 2008) and belong to the group of the quantitative hereditary features (Dirlewanger et al., 2004), which means that they are to a certain extent dependent on the cultivation conditions and intensity of yield potential (Nenadović et al., 2007). Knowing the importance of the ripening period

(Neumüller, 2011; Paunovi et al., 2011),

“ ” “ ”

1996).

Ogašanovi et al. (1996), Ogašanovi et al. (2005) Gliši et al. (2011).

(Dragoyski et al., 2009),

(Milenkovi et al., 2006),

“ ” “ ” “ ”

12% 32%,

- and considering the widespread practice of favouring the early and late ripening genotypes (Neumüller, 2011; Paunovi et al., 2011), there can be no doubt that cultivars Mildora and Krina have a potential both for growing and future plum breeding programmes.

- The studied plum genotypes can be categorised within the group of middle-sized fruit cultivars (Miši , 1996). The obtained values are in line with the previously published results Ogašanovi et al. (1996), Ogašanovi et al. (2005) and Gliši et al. (2011).

- It is well known that apart from the genetic base, the fruit weight is also directly affected by the abundance of yield (Dragoyski et al., 2009), which has also been confirmed by our study. As cultivars with inclination to alternative yield (Milenkovi et al., 2006), both ‘Krina’ and standard cultivar a anska Rodna recorded a significantly higher fruit weight compared to Zlatka and Mildora cultivars, while at the same time recording the lowest yields.

- It is believed that the high fruit quality and its good flavour are related to the soluble solids contents present in the fruit, which in European plums ranges between 12% and 32%, demonstrating a positive correlation with the ripening time

<p>(Neumüller, 2010).</p> <p>-</p> <p>.</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>12%,</p> <p>(Crisosto</p> <p>et al., 2004).</p> <p>-</p> <p>17% (Neumüller, 2010).</p> <p>,</p> <p>" "</p> <p>,</p> <p>,</p> <p>,</p> <p>,</p> <p>,</p> <p>18% (Ognjanov et al., 2007).</p> <p>" " " "</p> <p>,</p> <p>.</p> <p>,</p> <p>,</p> <p>,</p> <p>.</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p>	<p>(Neumüller, 2010). The results of our research have confirmed the presence of this correlation.</p> <p>-</p> <p>All of the examined plum cultivars recorded a higher soluble solids content of 12.0%, which is considered as the border value for acceptance of a cultivar by the consumers (Crisosto et al., 2004). It is generally known that later-ripening cultivars ought to have soluble solids content in excess of 17% (Neumüller, 2010).</p> <p>-</p> <p>It is apparent that the 'Zlatka' cultivar does not comply with this criterion – however, owing to its attractive golden yellow colour of skin, it is interesting as a dessert cultivar, as well as for processing into a compote and sweet, which highlight the appearance of the whole plum fruit. In order to qualify for drying purposes, plum cultivars ought to possess the soluble solids contents exceeding 18% (Ognjanov et al., 2007).</p> <p>-</p> <p>Mildora and Krina are the cultivars which stand out as promising from this particular aspect of potential use. In addition to having high soluble solids content, their fruits do not break during drying and there is no leakage of fruit juice, while the stone is free.</p> <p>-</p> <p>The values of individual parameters of the fruit chemical composition were in line with the</p>
---	---

(1996)

Ogašanovi et al., (1996),
Milenkovi et al., (2006)
et al. (2006)

Miši

results stated by Miši (1996) for plum cultivars of European origin, as well as with results quoted by Ogašanovi et al., (1996), Milenkovi et al., (2006) and Mitrovi et al. (2006) for plum cultivars developed in a ak.

CONCLUSIONS

The following conclusions can be made based on the results of the two-year research:

- The studied plum cultivars did not reveal considerable differences concerning the onset and progress of flowering phenophase, either compared to each other or compared to the standard a anaska Rodna cultivar;

- Fruits of the Zlatka cultivar had an earlier ripening time, whereas fruits of the Mildora and Krina cultivars recorded a later ripening time compared to the a anaska Rodna cultivar;

- The standard cultivar a anaska Rodna demonstrated the highest values of fruit weight and certain fruit dimensions;

- The highest content of soluble solids, total and invert sugars and sucrose in fruit were recorded in the Mildora cultivar;

- The highest content of total acids and the lowest pH value of fruit juice was found in the 'Zlatka' cultivar;

- The highest yield was produced by the 'Zlatka' cultivar.

Considering the late ripening time of its fruits, as well as the tolerance to the Sharka virus, high yield and favourable chemical composition of the fruit, it is expected that the studied plum cultivars intended for processing, will have a growing share in the future production of plums. In addition to this, they are expected to provide initial material for future breeding programmes of plum.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This work is supported by the grant of Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia, Project No 31064.

/ REFERENCES

1. **Crisosto C.H., Garner D., Crisosto G.M., Bowerman E.** Increasing 'Blackamber' plum (*Prunus salicina* Lindley) consumer acceptance. *Postharvest Biology and Technology*, 2004, No 34, pp. 237-244.
2. **Dirlewanger E., Graziano E., Joobeur T., Garriga-Caldere F., Cosson P., Howad W., Arús P.** Comparative mapping and marker-assisted selection in *Rosaceae* fruit crops. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 2004, No 101, pp. 9891-9896.
3. **Dragoyski K., Dinkova H., Stefanova B., Mihailova P.** Evaluation of plum cultivars suitable for sustainable fruit production in the mountain regions of Bulgaria. *Journal of Pomology*, 2009, 43, No 165/166, pp. 37-43.
4. **FAOSTAT** FAO Statistics Division. <http://faostat.fao.org/site/567/default.aspx#ancor>, 2015.
5. **Gliši I., Karaklaji -Staji Ž., Paunovi S.A., Luki M.** Plum cultivars Zlatka and Pozna Plava (*Prunus domestica* L.) bred at the Fruit Research Institute in a ak. *Horticultural Science*, 2016, 43, No 1, pp. 10-16.
6. **García-Mariño N., de la Torre F., Matilla A.J.** Organic acids and soluble sugars in edible and nonedible parts of damson plum (*Prunus domestica* L. subsp. *insititia* cv. *Syriaca*) fruits during development and ripening. *Food Science and Technology International*, 2008, No 14, pp. 187-193.

7. **Gliši I.P., Gliši I.S., Mitrovi M., Miloševi T.** Biološko-pomološke i proizvodne osobine sorte 'Timo anka'. *Zbornik nau nih radova Instituta PKB Agroekonomik*, 2013, 19, No 5, pp. 29-38.
8. **Gliši I.S., Karaklaji -Staji Ž., Mitrovi O.** Fenološko-pomološke osobine i organolepti ka ocena ploda novih sorti šljive 'Zlatka' i 'Pozna plava' u agroekološkim uslovima a ka. *Vo arstvo*, 2011, 45, No 173/174, pp. 15-22.
9. **Luki M., Gliši I. S., Karaklaji -Staji Ž., Miloševi N., Radi evi S., Pešakovi M., or evi M.** Novi rezultati oplemenjivanja vo aka u Institutu za vo arstvo, a ak. *Zbornik radova XXI savetovanja o biotehnologiji sa me unarodnim u eš em*, 2016, pp. 223-231.
10. **Milatovi D., urovi D., Zec G.** Evaluation of dessert plum cultivars in the region of Belgrade. *Programme and Abstract book of II Symposium of plum of Serbia with international participation, a ak, Serbia*, 2011, pp. 30-31.
11. **Milenkovi S., Ruži ., Cerovi R., Ogašanovi D., Tešovi Ž., Mitrovi M., Paunovi S., Plazini R., Mari S., Luki M., Radi evi S., Leposavi A., Milinkovi V., Weber C.** Cultivars created at the Fruit Research Institute in a ak and new cultivars of raspberry and blackberry for market of fresh and processed fruit, SRBIJA Institute for Agricultural Research, Belgrade: 2006, pp. 1-182.
12. **Miloševi T.** Šljiva tehnologija gajenja. *Univerzitet u Kragujevcu, Agronomski fakultet, a ak*, 2002, pp. 1-167.
13. **Miši P.** Šljiva, Partenon i Institut za istraživanja u poljoprivredi SRBIJA, Beograd, 1996, pp. 1-329.
14. **Mitrovi O., Gavrilovi -Damjanovi J., Popovi B., Kandi M.** Karakteristike a anskih sorti šljive pogodnih za sušenje. *Vo arstvo*, 2006, 40, No 155, pp. 255-261.
15. **Nenadovi -Mratini E., Milatovi D., urovi D.** Biološke osobine sorti šljive kombinovanih svojstava. *Vo arstvo*, 2007, 41, 157/158: 31-35.
16. **Neumüller M.** Breeding for *Plum pox virus* resistant rootstocks and plum cultivars in Germany. *Programme and Abstract Book II Symposium on plum of Serbia with International Participation, a ak, Srbija*, 2011, pp. 18 19.
17. **Neumüller M.** Fundamental and applied aspects of plum (*Prunus domestica* L.) breeding. In: Flachowsky H., Hanke V.M. (Eds), 'Methods in temperate fruit breeding'. *Fruit, vegetable and cereal science and biotechnology, Global Science Books, Kagawa, Japan*, 2010, 5, No 1, pp. 139-154.
18. **Ogašanovi D.** Selekcija šljive na visok sadržaj rastvorljivih suvih materija. *Vo arstvo*, 2000, 34, No 129/130, pp. 55-61.
19. **Ogašanovi D., Rankovi M., Nikoli M., Mitrovi M., Stamenkovi S., Tešovi Ž., Stanisavljevi M., Papi V., Gari R., Plazini R.** Nove sorte vo aka stvorene u a ku. *Institut za istraživanja u poljoprivredi SRBIJA, Beograd*, 1996, pp. 202.
20. **Ogašanovi D., Rankovi M., Paunovi S., Mitrovi O., Stamenkovi S.** Mildora – nova sorta šljive za sušenje. *Vo arstvo*, 2005, 39, No 153, pp. 49-55.
21. **Ognjanov V., Ogašanovi D., Milatovi D., Paunovi G., Milinkovi V., Radi evi S.** Perspektivne sorte i podloge košti avih vrsta vo aka. *Zbornik radova sa savetovanja o perspektivnim sortama i podlogama vo aka, a ak, Srbija*, 2007, pp. 15-33.
22. **Paunovi S., Jevremovi D., Rankovi M.** Reakcija nove sorte Mildora na razli ite sojeve virusa šarke. *Vo arstvo*, 2006, 40, No 155, pp. 209-217.

23. **Paunovi S., Cerovi R., Gliši I.S., or evi M., Miloševi N.** New plum cultivars and promising hybrids developed at Fruit Research Institute a ak. *Programme and Abstract Book II Symposium on plum of Serbia with International Participation, a ak, Srbija*, 2011, pp. 24-25.
24. **Uroševi I.** (2015): Uticaj sojeva selekcionisanog kvasca i hraniva u fermentaciji na hemijski sastav na i senzorne karakteristike vo nih rakija. *Doktorska disertacija, Poljoprivredni fakultet Univerziteta u Beogradu*, 2015, pp. 1-225.
25. **Wertheim S.J.** Methods for cross pollination and flowering assessment and their interpretation. *Acta Horticulturae*, 1996, No 423, pp. 237-241.

” “ ” “ **

1* 2 3
1 , 1 , 1 ,
, , 1 ,

¹ , Nemanjina 6, 11080 Zemun, ,
² , Studentski trg 12-16, 11000 ,
³ *Email: popovicb@ftn.kg.ac.rs

Okruglica and Valjevka as cultivars appealing for plum brandy production**

Branko Popovi ^{1*}, Ninoslav Niki evi ², Vele Teševi ³,
Olga Mitrovi ¹, Miodrag Kandi ¹, Nebojša Miloševi ¹, Ivana S. Gliši ¹

¹Fruit Research Institute, Kralja Petra I 9, 32000 a ak, Serbia
²Faculty of Agriculture, Nemanjina 6, 11080 Zemun, Serbia
³Faculty of Chemistry, Studentski trg 12-16, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia

**

(TR 31093).

**Original scientific paper; the studies were subsidized by Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Serbia (Project TR 31093).

SUMMARY

The paper presents the results of the gas-chromatography analysis of the major volatile components of plum brandies produced using traditional methods from fruits of Okruglica and Valjevka cultivars: methanol, 8 higher alcohols, 3 fatty acids, 10 esters and 2 aldehydes. The sensory appraisal of the produced plum brandies was conducted using the Buxbaum method.

- Based on the obtained results it can be concluded that while the plum brandies produced from both cultivars satisfy the requirements of the EU regulations

(
)
,
,
.
:
,
,
),
"
", "
", "
")
,
-
,
,
(
,
,
,
,
,
(
16 g).
,
(Miši , 1996;
Niki evi and Teševi , 2010).
"

- (related to the methanol content and content of total volatile components), they
- also differ in the content of certain tested components, thereby featuring different sensory qualities which contribute to their
- appeal for production of brandies with
- distinctive cultivar and region-typical characteristics.

Key words: plum, cultivars, plum brandies, volatile components, sensory characteristics

INTRODUCTION

In addition to cultivars that are widely present in plum orchards throughout Serbia (Požega a, Crvena ranka, Stanley, a anska rodna, a anska lepatica) and constitute the standard raw material for brandy production, there is also a number of cultivars with a limited local production and a smaller share in the overall assortment being used for the production of plum brandy as well. One of these cultivars is the indigenous Okruglica cultivar (also known as Draga ica, Ranka, Rancov, Metlaš), which is traditionally grown only in the area around a ak and is solely used for processing into brandy. It is tolerant to the plum sharka virus and produces small fruits (around 16 g). With the mesocarp firmly attached to the stone, it is processed into high-quality brandy (Miši , 1996; Niki evi and Teševi , 2010). Valjevka is a plum cultivar created at the Fruit Research Institute in a ak (by

707" " "),
 ,
 -
 .
 (30 g) ,
 ,
 (Miši , 1996; Niki evi and Teševi , 2010).

(crossing Agen 707 and Stanley cultivars), which in the few areas where it is grown – almost exclusively in the a ak and Valjevo regions – is mostly used for drying and processing into brandy. The cultivar is tolerant to the sharka virus. With a medium large fruit (around 30 g) and mesocarp which is easily detached from the stone, it is processed into high-quality brandy (Miši , 1996; Niki evi and Teševi , 2010).

Although brandy producers in the region of a ak possess certain experiences in the processing of these two plum cultivars, no precise characterisation of the obtained monovarietal brandies has been conducted. Therefore the purpose of this paper was examine the content of the more significant volatile components and the sensory quality of the brandies obtained from the Okruglica and Valjevka cultivars using traditional methods which imply processing whole fruits with stones, spontaneous alcoholic fermentation and double distillation in traditional copper pot still (alembic).

,
 .
 " " "
 " " ,
 ,
 ,
 () .

MATERIAL AND METHODS

31- (" ") 25-

Fruits of the plum cultivars under consideration were taken from commercial orchards on the slopes of the Jelica mountain near a ak. The fruits were harvested at full ripeness, i.e. on 31st July (Okruglica) and 25th August

<p>("),</p> <p>"</p> <p>16.2 g,</p> <p>8.22%</p> <p>" "</p> <p>29.8 g,</p> <p>4.66%,</p> <p>20.9%.</p> <p>180 kg</p> <p>(2</p> <p>).</p> <p>,</p> <p>25±3 °C.</p> <p>(" "</p> <p>9.0%) 25 (</p> <p>" ,</p> <p>11.7%).</p> <p>100 l)</p> <p>,</p> <p>22 25 vol%.</p> <p>vol% ,)</p>	<p>(Valjevka), featuring typical cultivar-specific characteristics. Okruglica had a fruit mass of 16.2 g, with stone-fruit ratio amounting to 8.22% and with dry solubles content of 19.2%; Valjevka had the fruit mass of 29.8 g, the stone-fruit ratio of 4.66% and the content of dry soluble matter amounting to 20.9%.</p> <p>- Polyethylene vessels were filled with 180kg of whole plum fruits (in 2 replications for each cultivar). Spontaneous alcoholic fermentation of the plums was conducted in closed vessels, using epiphytic microflora, at the temperature of 25±3 °C.</p> <p>10 The alcoholic fermentation lasted for 10 days (in Okruglica cultivar, the final content of the dry soluble matter in the fruit mashes was 9.0%), i.e. 25 days (in Valjevka cultivar, the final content of the dry soluble matter in the fruit mashes was 11.7%). Distillation of the fermented mashes, was performed in traditional alembic (capacity 100 l) immediately after fermentation, produced raw soft brandies, with ethanol content in the range between 22 and 25 vol%.</p> <p>Redistillation of raw soft brandies from both cultivars was performed using the same distillation apparatus and with separation of the fractions: 1% of the head, middle fraction (with 55-56 vol% of ethanol) and tail. Only the middle</p>
---	---

fraction was used for further analysis.

Gas chromatography methods for quantitative determination of light volatile components (methanol, 1-propanol, 1-butanol, 2-butanol, 2-methyl-1-propanol, 2-methyl-1-butanol, 3-methyl-1-butanol, ethyl acetate, isoamyl acetate, ethyl butanoate, ethyl hexanoate, ethyl octanoate, acetaldehyde and benzaldehyde) and heavy volatile components (2-phenylethanol, 1-hexanol, hexanoic acid, octanoic acid, decanoic acid, ethyl decanoate, ethyl dodecanoate, ethyl tetradecanoate, diethyl succinate and ethyl lactate) in samples of plum brandies were described in our previous paper (Popovi et al., 2009).

(Popovi et al., 2009).

fraction was used for further analysis.

Gas chromatography methods for quantitative determination of light volatile components (methanol, 1-propanol, 1-butanol, 2-butanol, 2-methyl-1-propanol, 2-methyl-1-butanol, 3-methyl-1-butanol, ethyl acetate, isoamyl acetate, ethyl butanoate, ethyl hexanoate, ethyl octanoate, acetaldehyde and benzaldehyde) and heavy volatile components (2-phenylethanol, 1-hexanol, hexanoic acid, octanoic acid, decanoic acid, ethyl decanoate, ethyl dodecanoate, ethyl tetradecanoate, diethyl succinate and ethyl lactate) in samples of plum brandies were described in our previous paper (Popovi et al., 2009). The sensory analysis of plum brandy samples was conducted by the Buxbaum model of positive ranking (Popovi et al., 2009).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 shows the results of gas-chromatographic analysis of the plum brandies obtained from the Okruglica and Valjevka cultivars. Considering that the distillation of the fermented fruit mashes were performed immediately upon completed fermentation, both brandies comply with the EU legislation stipulating that the methanol content in brandies must not exceed 12000 mg/l a.a.

Table 1 shows the results of gas-chromatographic analysis of the plum brandies obtained from the Okruglica and Valjevka cultivars. Considering that the distillation of the fermented fruit mashes were performed immediately upon completed fermentation, both brandies comply with the EU legislation stipulating that the methanol content in brandies must not exceed 12000 mg/l a.a.

(Paunovi , 1991)

12000 mg/l a.a.
 (Stojanovska, 1982),

(
 (5644 mg/l a.a – "
 mg/l a.a. – ")
 2000 mg/l a.a.).

- Regardless of the fact that various authors (Paunovi , 1991) obtained contradictory results regarding the impact made by length of duration of alcoholic fermentation on the methanol content in the brandy, it may be assumed that the longer alcoholic fermentation of the Valjevka cultivar plum fruits compared to fruits of the Okruglica cultivar resulted in the higher content of this adverse component in the brandy.
- Therefore, it cannot be inferred whether a higher methanol content in the brandy can be treated as a cultivar-specific trait of the Valjevka cultivar, compared to Okruglica.
- This assumption is further supported by the findings that brandies produced from Okruglica in a traditional way, using fruit mashes which were not distilled immediately upon fermentation, but sometimes several months following its completion, were sometimes characterised by the methanol content in excess of 12000 mg/l a.a. (Stojanovska, 1982), with a potential adverse safety effect upon the brandy.
- The content of total volatile components (excluding methanol) in both of the examined brandies (5644 mg/l a.a – Okruglica, 5829 mg/l a.a. – Valjevka) complies with the EU requirements (min 2000 mg/l a.a.).

1. - a - ” “ ” “

(mg/l a.a.)

Table 1. Gas chromatographic analysis of the most important volatile components of plum brandies obtained from Okruglica and Valjevka plum cultivars (mg/l a.a.)

Volatile component		Okruglica	Valjevka
	/Methanol	5100	7433
1-	/1-propanol	834	1592
1-	/1-butanol	24	25
2-	/2-butanol	15	98
2-	-1- /2-methyl-1-propanol	935	310
2-	-1- /2-methyl-1-butanol	630	211
3-	-1- /3-methyl-1-butanol	2455	825
1-	/1-hexanol	22	31
2-	/2-phenylethanol	59	22
	()/Higher alcohols (Total)	4974	3114
	/Ethyl acetate	157	1256
	/Ethyl butyrate	1	1
	/Ethyl hexanoate	1	3
	/Ethyl octanoate	4	11
	/Ethyl decanoate	5	12
	/Ethyl dodecanoate	4	3
	/Ethyl tetradecanoate	2	1
	/Ethyl lactate	299	1082
	/Isoamyl acetate	2	2
	/Diethyl succinate	7	3
	()/Esters (Total)	482	2374
	(- -)	26	36
	Esters (Total – Ethyl acetate – Ethyl lactate)		
	/Hexanoic acid	8	12
	/Octanoic acid	24	36
	/Decanoic acid	26	60
	()/Acids (Total)	58	108
	/Acetaldehyde	94	204
	/Benzaldehyde	36	29
	(-)	5644	5829
	Volatile components (Total – Methanol)		

- It is interesting to observe that the characteristics of fruits belonging to the plum cultivars under consideration make a significant impact on alcoholic fermentation in the conditions of the traditional spontaneous

fermentation of whole fruits.

- Upon reaching the full ripeness stage, fruits of the Okruglica cultivar are markedly juicy and owing to their thin skin, easily release the juice, enabling a fast onset of alcoholic fermentation, rapid establishment of ellipsoid yeasts dominance in the fruit mash, as well as fast completion of fermentation (the overall duration of fermentation being 10 days).

- On the other hand, fruits of the Valjevka cultivar grown in the a ak region are typically quite dry upon reaching full ripeness, lacking juiciness and with a relatively thick and tough skin, preventing the release of the juice from the fruits and slowing down the onset of alcoholic fermentation, as well as the establishment of the ellipsoid yeasts dominance, ultimately resulting in the fermentation (which lasted 25 days) being dominated by prolonged and more intense activity of microorganisms (apiculate yeasts, acetic acid bacteria and lactic acid bacteria) with a potential adverse impact on the brandy quality. It was due to these characteristics of the fruits of the Valjevka cultivar that caused an increase in the components of the brandy that may be an indicator of the presence of undesired microorganisms in the indigenous microflora at

91%), 2- (700%),
 262%),
 131%)
 " "
 -
 Scholten Kacprowski
 (1995)
 ,
 , . .
 ,
 " "
 :
 ;
 ,
 .
 ,
 " "

- spontaneous fermentation. In other words, the brandy made from the Valjevka cultivar contained more 1-propanol (by 91%), 2-butanol (by 553%), ethyl acetate (by 700%), ethyl lactate (by 262%), decanoic acid (by 131%) and acetaldehyde (by 117%), compared to the brandy made from the Okruglica cultivar. Apart from this and considering the fact that the distillation of the fermented fruit mash was performed immediately upon completion of fermentation, the contents of these components in the brandy made from the Valjevka cultivar remain at a considerably lower level than the ones which Scholten and Kacprowski (1995) state as boundary levels for occurrence of adverse sensory characteristics, i.e. occurrence of impure and untypical brandy odour. In other words, presence of certain previously stated components in concentrations observed in the brandy from the Valjevka cultivar, make a favourable impact on the brandy odour and aroma: while 1-propanol gives the distillate the flowery odour, ethyl acetate contributes to the odour's fruity tonus and ethyl lactate gives it the nice and enjoyable odour of high-quality fruit brandies.

- Considering the fact that the traditional spontaneous fermentation of the Okruglica cultivar takes place in the warmest

<p>() , - (28 °C) (Moreno et al., 1988). , " mg/l a.a 2- -1- 3- 1-), " " , Scholten Kacprowski (1995) , 5620 mg/l a.a. - , 2- " " " Moreno et al. (1988) , .</p>	<p>- part of the year (first half of - August), the turbulent fermentation - at somewhat higher temperatures (around 28 °C) may result in increased amounts of isomyl alcohols (Moreno et al., 1988). - Consequently, the brandy made from the Okruglica cultivar was found to contain 3085 mg/l a.a. of isomyl alcohols (sum of 2-methyl- 1-butanol and 3-methyl-1-butanol), which is by 198% more compared to the brandy obtained from the Valjevka cultivar. This high a concentration of isomyl alcohols may have an adverse effect on the sensory quality of the brandy, in the form of a heavy tail over-tone. a Scholten and Kacprowski (1995) - established this type of - shortcoming in brandies containing - concentrations of isomyl alcohols in the range between 3000 and 5620 mg/l a.a. A higher content of total higher alcohols, 2-feniletanola and diethyl-succinate in the brandy from the Okruglica cultivar, compared to the Valjevka-cultivar brandy can also be attributed to a - somewhat higher temperature of - the fruit mash at alcoholic fermentation, since according to Moreno et al. (1988) these components are under a - pronounced impact of the - fermenting fruit mash temperature. - - However, the impact made by these factors on the brandy quality may vary. While on the one side 2- phenylethanol possesses a</p>
---	---

<p>2- a.a.</p>	<p>- pleasant rose odour and diethyl succinate gives a fresh and fruity enjoyable smell, a total content of high alcohols in excess of 4000 mg/l a.a. may conceal the fineness of the distillate aroma.</p>
<p>"</p>	<p>- This occurs due to their assertive aroma, and is the case with the brandy from the Okruglica plum cultivar, which contains 4974 mg/l a.a. of the total higher alcohols.</p>
<p>Popovi et al. (2009)</p>	<p>- Both brandies were found to contain the same values of isoamyl acetate, possessing a specific banana smell. According to the content of fatty acids and their ethyl esters, it can be observed that brandies made from the Okruglica and Valjevka cultivars are more similar to the brandies obtained from cultivars which, according to Popovi et al. (2009) are characterised by a fruity plum brandy aroma (Požega a and a anska rodna), then brandies made from cultivars with a pronounced flowery character (a anska leptotica and a anska najbolja).</p>
<p>"</p>	<p>- The content of benzaldehyde was slightly higher in the brandy from the Okruglica plum cultivar compared to the brandy obtained from the Valjevka cultivar, despite the considerably shorter fermentation time compared to that of the Valjevka fruit mash. This may be an indication of a higher content of cyanogenic glycosides in the fruits of the</p>

" ,
 - .
 a -
 , -
 - 100 mg/l a.a.,
 -
 (2)
 ,
 .
 . . 2- -1
 1-
 ,
 . Satora Tuszynski
 (2008),
 /1- -
 1
 ,
 " "
 ,
 - 1,
 .
 " ,
 1,

Okruglica cultivar, i.e. its fruit stones, which also have a more porous shell. Both cultivars' brandies were distilled immediately upon the completion of fermentation, therefore having the benzaldehyde content lower than 100 mg/l a.a., which according to older Serbian legislation represented a borderline concentration above which the odour of a brandy becomes dominated by the smell of the stone.
 Ratios of certain higher alcohols (Table 2) can be used in more detailed characterisation of certain monovarietal plum brandies, i.e. in defining certain conditions during the technological process of their production. This is especially true of the ratios involving isoamyl alcohols as one of the components, i.e. 2-methyl-1-propanol on one side and 1-propanol on the other side, as previously noted.
 According to Satora and Tuszynski (2008), the ratio isoamyl alcohols/1-propanol lower than or close to 1 is an indicator of a markedly spontaneous fermentation, which was established in the case of Valjevka. The same authors state that when this ratio is higher than 1, it becomes an indicator of a fermentation conducted using a yeast monoculture. In the case of Okruglica, this ratio exceeds 1, due to the fact that despite the spontaneous fermentation, the

Saccharomyces cerevisiae yeast in the fruit mash. A similar conclusion can be drawn regarding the ratio 2-methyl-1-propanol/1-propanol. In addition to this, the sensory characterisation of the brandy can make use of the ratio between 2-phenylethanol (characterised by specific rose odour) and 1-hexanol (characterised by fresh and pleasant odour of green part of plants). The values of this ratio show large differences (2.68 for Okruglica, compared to 0.71 for Valjevka), resulting in the different characteristics of the cultivar-specific aromas of the two plum brandies.

2.

Table 2. Ratios of higher alcohols in plum brandies obtained from Okruglica and Valjevka plum cultivars

/Ratio	/Okruglica	/Valjevka
3-methyl-1-butanol/2-methyl-1-butanol	3,90	3,91
Isoamyl alcohols/2-methyl-1-propanol	3,30	3,34
Isoamyl alcohols/1-propanol	3,69	0,65
2-methyl-1-propanol/1-propanol	1,12	0,19
2-phenylethanol/1-hexanol	2,68	0,71

It is evident from Table 3 that the brandy obtained from the Valjevka cultivar received a higher sensory grade than the brandy made from the Okruglica cultivar, while the values of the grades correspond to our earlier research

(Popovi et al., 2012, 2015). It ought to be noted that brandy made from the Okruglica cultivar produces highest-quality distillates, through blending with brandies produced from other indigenous Serbian plum cultivars. These distillates are awarded high sensory grades – above 18.01 (Popovi et al., 2015) – even before maturing in oak barrels. This corresponds to the high-quality brandies which are awarded gold medals at official assessments of sensory quality of brandies. Our unpublished information based on practical experiences indicate that after a prolonged period of maturation in oak barrels, both monovarietal brandies – Okruglica and Valjevka– can attain the level of the highest-quality brandies.

3. (45
 vol%)
Table 3. Sensory analyses of plum brandies (ethanol content 45 vol%) produced from Okruglica and Valjevka plum cultivars

/Characteristics	/Okruglica	/Valjevka
/Colour (max 2 pts)	2,00	2,00
/Clearness (max 1 pts)	1,00	1,00
/Odour (max 7 pts)	5,95	6,15
/Taste (max 10 pts)	8,50	8,48
/Total (max 20 pts)	17,45	17,63

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the obtained results, it can be inferred that if fruits of traditional plum cultivars Okruglica and Valjevka are subjected to traditional method of

processing implying spontaneous alcoholic fermentation of whole plum fruits and double distillation, it is possible to obtain high quality brandies.

Differences in their chemical composition and sensory characteristics were in this method of processing conditioned exclusively by the characteristics of the fruits of the two cultivars, and most probably by the ensuing differences in the composition of the indigenous microflora causing the alcoholic fermentation. Considering the quality and the specific sensory characteristics of the obtained distillates, these two plums cultivars which at the moment occupy a minor proportion in the Serbian plum assortment, ought to be spread to suitable regions, as cultivars intended for production of high-quality brandies.

/ REFERENCES

1. **Miši P. D.** Šljiva. Partenon, 1996, IZIUP Srbija, Beograd.
2. **Moreno J., Medina M., Garcia M. D.** Optimisation of the fermentation conditions of musts from Pedro Ximenez grapes grown in Southern Spain. Production of higher alcohols and esters. *South African Journal of Enology and Viticulture*, 1988, 9, 2: 16-20.
3. **Niki evi N., Teševi V.** Proizvodnja vo nih rakija vrhunskog kvaliteta. *Poljoprivredni fakultet*, 2010, Beograd.
4. **Paunovi R.** Uticaj izaziva a i uslova izvo enja alkoholne fermentacije vo nog kljuka na sastav vo nih rakija. *Arhiv za poljoprivredne nauke*, 1991, 52, 186: 171-176.
5. **Popovi B., Gavrilovi -Damnjanovi J., Mitrovi O., Ogašanovi D. Niki evi N., Teševi V.** Major volatile components and sensory characteristics of plum brandies produced from plum cultivars developed in a ak. *Acta Horticulturae*, 2009, 825: 575-581.
6. **Popovi B., Niki evi N., Teševi V., Mitrovi O., Kandi M., Mileti N.** Kvalitet šljivovica od sorata šljive kombinovanih svojstava. *Vo arstvo*, 2012, 46, 177-178: 23-31.

7. **Popovi B., Niki evi N., Teševi V., Uroševi I., Mitrovi O., Kandi M.** Senzorne karakteristike šljivovih prepe enica dobijenih mešanjem destilata šljive sorte Crvena ranka i drugih sorata. *Vo arstvo*, 2015, 49, 191-192: 99-105.
8. **Satora P., Tuszynski T.** Chemical characteristics of liowica Ł cka and other plum brandies. *Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture*, 2008, 88: 167-174.
9. **Scholten G. and Kacprowski M.** Häufige Qualitätsmängel in Obstbränden leicht vermeidbar. *Kleinbrennerei*, 1995, 6: 130-133.
10. **Stojanovska D.** Odnos komponenata u destilatima fermentisane džibre šljive. *Jugoslovensko vo arstvo*, 1982, 16, 59-60: 103-111.

A.

1“9,

32000

*E-mail: darko.jevremovic@institut-cacak.org

Raspberry leaf blotch virus – a common raspberry pathogen in Serbia

Darko Jevremovi *, Aleksandar Leposavi , Svetlana A. Paunovi

Fruit Research Institute, 9 Kralja Petra I Str., 32000 a ak, Republic of Serbia

SUMMARY

(RLBV)	-	is a newly discovered virus infecting raspberries. Raspberry leaf blotch disease was known for a decades, but until recently the only suspected cause of the disease was raspberry leaf and bud mite (<i>Phyllocoptes gracillis</i>). Yellow blotching and twisting of raspberry leaves have been commonly found by farmers in many raspberry fields in Serbia. These symptoms have been ascribed to be caused by <i>P. gracillis</i> that was described as the most important secondary pest in raspberry plantations.
(Phyllocoptes gracillis).	-	From 2012–2015, a large-scale survey was conducted in order to investigate the presence and distribution of RLBV in Serbia. Plantations in major raspberry growing regions were surveyed for the presence of symptoms of yellow blotch, patches and mottling indicating the possible presence of RLBV.
P. gracillis,	-	Sixty leaf samples were collected from 20 surveyed locations and stored for laboratory analysis. All samples were tested on the RLBV presence by RT-PCR
RLBV	-	
2012-2015.	-	
RLBV.	-	
20	-	
RLBV	-	

RT-PCR (- .),
 -
 567 bp RNA3. RT-PCR
 (76%) RLBV -
 . RLBV
 ” “ ” “ ” “
 RLBV -
 , RLBV
 -
 : , RLBV,
Phyllocoptes gracilis, RT-PCR

using RLBV-specific primers amplifying the 567 bp fragment from RNA3. RT-PCR analysis revealed the high incidence (75%) of RLBV in analyzed samples. RLBV was confirmed in raspberries 'Willamette', 'Meeker' and 'Tulameen'.

The high incidence of RLBV indicates the need to initiate the control of the planting material for RLBV and suspected vector raspberry leaf and bud mite in commercial plantations.

Key words: raspberry, RLBV, *Phyllocoptes gracilis*, RT-PCR

Rubus
 30
 (Martin et al.,
 2013).
 (*Phyllocoptes gracilis*, Nalepa)
 (Gratwick, 1992).
 ,
 ,
 McGavin et al. (2012)
 ,
 ,
 (RLBV).
 ,
 ,

INTRODUCTION
Rubus species are the hosts of more than 30 viruses and virus like agents (Martin et al., 2013). The symptoms caused by viruses can be easily confused by the ones induced by other pathogens or insects. Yellow patches and blotches on raspberry leaves were commonly found in plantations and they were described as the infestation by the raspberry leaf and bud mite (*Phyllocoptes gracilis* Nalepa) (Gratwick, 1992). The mites feed on the raspberry leaves causing pale green and yellow patches and blotches, twisting and distortion of the leaf margins. Recently, McGavin et al. (2012) reported the presence of a new negative-strand RNA virus in red raspberry plants showing leaf blotch symptoms, The virus was named *Raspberry leaf blotch virus* (RLBV) and it was identified in Great Britain, Serbia, Finland, Bulgaria, Poland and Montenegro

(McGavin et al., 2012; Bi et al., 2012; Pleško et al., 2014; Cie li ska & Tartanus, 2014; Zindovi et al., 2015).

-
.
,
(Jevremovi & Paunovi , 2012).

RLBV,

RLBV

RLBV

2012-2015.

60

“ ” “ ”

(

(McGavin et al., 2012; Bi et al., 2012; Pleško et al., 2014; Cie li ska & Tartanus, 2014; Zindovi et al., 2015).

Red raspberry is economically one of the most important fruits in Serbian agriculture. Viral diseases of raspberries have not been intensively studied in Serbia the last decade, except for a few short reports (Jevremovi & Paunovi , 2012). Leaf blotch symptoms have been commonly found by the growers in many raspberry plantations in Serbia over the past two decades. It was considered that the mites are the causative agents of these symptoms.

The main aim of this study was to analyze symptomatic plants for the RLBV presence, but symptomless plants were also analyzed. In this paper we present the results of the large-scale survey for RLBV in Serbia.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

RLBV was surveyed at 20 locations in Serbia from 2012–2015. Raspberry plantations were visually inspected on the presence of leaf blotch symptoms. In total, 60 leaf samples of raspberries 'Willamette', 'Meeker' and 'Tulameen' grown in the field were collected. Most of the samples were with yellow leaf blotches, but significant portion of samples were symptomless (Table 1).

1. (RLBV) RT-PCR
Table 1. Detection of *Raspberry leaf blotch virus* (RLBV) using RT-PCR

Number	Cultivar	Locality	The presence of leaf blotch symptoms	RT-PCR
1	Tulameen	/Arilje	/yes	positive
2	Willamette	/Arilje	/yes	positive
3	Willamette	/Arilje	/yes	positive
4	Willamette	/Arilje	/yes	positive
5	Willamette	/Arilje	/yes	positive
6	Willamette	/Arilje	/yes	positive
7	Willamette	/Arilje	/yes	positive
8	Meeker	/Arilje	/yes	positive
9	Tulameen	/Arilje	/yes	positive
10	Willamette	/Arilje	/no	negative
11	Meeker	/Arilje	/yes	positive
12	Meeker	/Arilje	/yes	positive
13	Willamette	/Arilje	/yes	positive
14	Willamette	/Arilje	/yes	positive
15	Willamette	/Arilje	/yes	positive
16	Meeker	/B. Bašta	/yes	positive
17	Willamette	/B. Bašta	/yes	positive
18	Willamette	/B. Bašta	/yes	positive
19	Willamette	/B. Bašta	/no	negative
20	Meeker	/ a ak	/yes	positive
21	Willamette	/Ivanjica	/no	negative
22	Willamette	/Ivanjica	/yes	positive
23	Willamette	/Ivanjica	/no	negative
24	Willamette	/Ivanjica	/yes	positive
25	Willamette	/Ivanjica	/yes	positive
26	Willamette	/Ivanjica	/yes	positive
27	Willamette	/Ivanjica	/no	negative
28	Meeker	/Ivanjica	/no	negative
29	Meeker	/Ivanjica	/no	negative
30	Willamette	/Ivanjica	/yes	positive
31	Willamette	/Ivanjica	/yes	positive
32	Meeker	/Ivanjica	/yes	positive
33	Meeker	/Ivanjica	/no	negative
34	Willamette	/Ivanjica	/yes	positive
35	Meeker		/yes	positive
		Jošani ka Banja		
36	Meeker	/Kosjeri	/yes	positive
37	Willamette	/Kotraža	/yes	positive
38	Meeker	Kriva Reka	/yes	positive
39	Willamette	Kriva Reka	/yes	positive
40	Willamette	/Latvica	/yes	positive
41	Willamette	/Ljubovija	/yes	positive
42	Willamette	/Ljubovija	/no	negative
43	Willamette	Lu ani	/yes	positive

44	Willamette	/Priboj	/yes	positive
45	Willamette	/Prijepolje	/yes	positive
46	Willamette	/Prijepolje	/no	negative
47	Willamette	/Prijepolje	/yes	positive
48	Willamette	/Prizren	/yes	positive
19	Willamette	/Prizren	/yes	positive
50	Willamette	/Prizren	/no	negative
51	Willamette	/Radaljevo	/yes	positive
52	Willamette	/Rudno	/yes	positive
53	Meeker	/Rudno	/no	negative
54	Willamette	/Stapari	/yes	positive
55	Willamette	/Užice	/yes	positive
56	Willamette	/Užice	/no	negative
57	Willamette	/Užice	/no	negative
58	Willamette	/Užice	/yes	positive
59	Meeker	/Vlasina	/yes	positive
60	Willamette	Zlodol	/no	negative

(2008).	100 mg	Li et al.	Total nucleic acids were extracted from fresh leaves with the protocol described by Li et al. (2008). A total of 100 mg of the plant material was grinded in 1 ml of 2% CTAB buffer, incubated at 65°C for 15 minutes and centrifuged at 10,400 rpm for 5 min. Supernatant was transferred to a new tube and vortexed with the equal volume of chloroform/isoamyl alcohol (24:1). The mixture was centrifuged at 12,800 rpm for 10 min. Obtained supernatant was transferred to a new tube with 350 ml of isopropanol, and centrifuged at 12,800 rpm for 10 min. The pellet was washed with 70% ethanol by centrifugation at 12,800 rpm for 5 min, dried at room temperature and dissolved in 100 ml of TE buffer.
CTAB	,	1 ml	
65°C	15	2%	
	10.400 rpm	5 min.	
(24:1).	/	.	
	12,800 rpm	10 min.	
ml	,	350	
	12,800 rpm	10 min.	
		70%	
	12,800 rpm	5	
		,	
		-	
		100 ml TE	
		.	Reverse transcription and polymerase chain reactions (RT-

(RT-PCR)
 RLBV-
 567 bp RNA3 (McGavin
 et al., 2012). PCR
 1.5%
 UV-

PCR) were done using RLBV-
 specific primer pair amplifying 567
 bp fragment from RNA3 (McGavin
 et al., 2012). PCR products were
 analyzed by electrophoresis in
 1.5% agarose gel, stained by
 ethidium-bromide and visualized
 under UV-light. The presence of
 the fragment of the expected size
 was considered as a positive
 reaction.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

During visual inspection,
 great differences among raspberry
 plantations regarding the presence
 of leaf blotch symptoms were
 observed. In a very few
 plantations, there were no plants
 with leaf blotch symptoms. In
 others, the share of symptomatic
 plants varied greatly, up to 100%.
 Different types of symptoms were
 evidenced: yellow and light green
 patches, blotches, severe leaf
 yellowing, twisting and distortion of
 leaf margins (Figure 1).
 Raspberry leaf blotch symptoms
 were noticed in raspberry
 plantations in Serbia for a long
 time. In most cases, these
 symptoms were attributed to the
 damage caused by raspberry leaf
 and bud mite. Often, the presence
 of these symptoms were also
 attributed to viral infections, but
 without laboratory confirmation
 (Dobrivojevi & Petanovi , 1985).
 Milenkovi & Mar i (2012)

During visual inspection,
 great differences among raspberry
 plantations regarding the presence
 of leaf blotch symptoms were
 observed. In a very few
 plantations, there were no plants
 with leaf blotch symptoms. In
 others, the share of symptomatic
 plants varied greatly, up to 100%.
 Different types of symptoms were
 evidenced: yellow and light green
 patches, blotches, severe leaf
 yellowing, twisting and distortion of
 leaf margins (Figure 1).
 Raspberry leaf blotch symptoms
 were noticed in raspberry
 plantations in Serbia for a long
 time. In most cases, these
 symptoms were attributed to the
 damage caused by raspberry leaf
 and bud mite. Often, the presence
 of these symptoms were also
 attributed to viral infections, but
 without laboratory confirmation
 (Dobrivojevi & Petanovi , 1985).
 Milenkovi & Mar i (2012)

gracilis

reported that *P. gracilis* is widespread in raspberry plantations, especially in western Serbia. Mites can cause a significant damage to the plants, particularly if control measures are not carried out.



1. “
”
Fig. 1. Raspberry leaf blotch virus symptoms on ‘Willamette’ raspberry

60
RNA3 RLBV
RT-PCR.
RT-PCR
1. RLBV
75% (45/60)

- | A total of 60 samples of
- | raspberry leaves were collected
| and analyzed for RNA3 of RLBV
| by RT-PCR method. RT-PCR
| results are presented in Table 1.
| RLBV was confirmed in 75%
| (45/60) of the samples. All RLBV

<p>RLBV</p> <p>(15)</p> <p>RLBV.</p> <p>RLBV.</p> <p>RLBV</p>	<p>positive samples were showing leaf blotch symptoms. In symptomless plants (15 samples) RLBV was not detected. The clear association of the leaf blotch symptoms and virus presence was evidenced, confirming that the primary cause of the symptoms was RLBV. The high incidence and wide distribution of RLBV suggests that it is present in the Serbian raspberry plantations for a long time.</p>
<p>RLBV</p> <p>(McGavin et al., 2012, Cie li ska & Tartanus, 2014, Dong et al., 2016).</p>	<p>In some studies, RLBV was also detected in mites and they may be vectors of the virus, but this hypothesis requires further study (McGavin et al., 2012, Cie li ska & Tartanus, 2014, Dong et al., 2016).</p>
<p>“ ” “ ”</p> <p>“ ”</p> <p>“ ”</p> <p>90%, “ ” (5%), 5%</p> <p>(Petrovi & Leposavi , 2016).</p>	<p>Raspberry leaf blotch virus was confirmed in all three raspberry varieties tested: 'Willamette', 'Meeker' and 'Tulameen'. Raspberry 'Willamette' is leading cultivar in the production with the share of approximately 90%, followed by 'Meeker' (5%), and all other cultivars with about 5% (Petrovi & Leposavi , 2016).</p>
<p>RLBV</p> <p>RLBV</p>	<p>The preliminary observations in the field showed that the fruits from the RLBV-infected plants are smaller in size than from the healthy plants. The research of the impact of the RLBV infection on fruit characteristics and yield is underway.</p>

CONCLUSIONS

RLBV	-	The high RLBV incidence and wide distribution suggests that it is a common raspberry pathogen in Serbia. RLBV wide presence indicates the need to initiate the control of the planting material for RLBV, as well as suspected vector raspberry leaf and bud mite in commercial plantations.
RLBV	-	
RLBV,	-	

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

	-	The work was funded by the Ministry for Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia within the project TR 1661046 and the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Serbia.
TR 1661046		

/ REFERENCES

1. **Bi Y., Artola K., Kurokura T., Hytönen T., Valkonen J. P. T.** First report of *Raspberry leaf blotch virus* in raspberries in Finland. *Plant Disease*, 2012, 96, No. 8, pp.1231.
2. **Cieliska J., Tartanus M.** Molecular diversity of *Raspberry leaf blotch virus* – a new pathogen of *Rubus* sp. plants in Poland. *Book of Abstracts of the 11th Conference of the European Foundation for Plant Pathology 8-13 September 2014, Krakow, Poland*, 2014, pp. 162.
3. **Dobrivojevi K., Petanovi R.** Eriophyid raspberry leaf mite, *Phyllocoptes gracilis* (Nal.) (*Eriophyoidea, Acarina*), an insufficiently known pest in Yugoslavia. *Zaštita Bilja*, 1985, 36, No. 3, pp. 247-254.
4. **Dong L., Lemmetty A., Latvala S., Samuilova O., Valkonen, J. P. T.** Occurrence and genetic diversity of *Raspberry leaf blotch virus* (RLBV) infecting cultivated and wild *Rubus* species in Finland. *Annals of Applied Biology*, 2016, 168, No. 1, pp. 122-132.
5. **Gratwick M.** Raspberry leaf and bud mite. In M. Gratwick (Ed.), *Crop Pests in the UK*, Springer Netherlands, 1992, pp. 350-353.
6. **Jevremovi D., Paunovi S.** Small fruit virus diseases. *Biljni lekar*, 2012, 40, No. 2-3, pp. 92-101. (in Serbian)

7. **Li R., Mock R., Huang Q., Abad J., Hartung J., Kinard G.** A reliable and inexpensive method of nucleic acid extraction for the PCR-based detection of diverse plant pathogens. *Journal of Virological Methods*, 2008, 154, No.1, pp. 48-55.
8. **Martin R. R., MacFarlane S., Sabanadzovic S., Quito D., Poudel B., Tzanetakis I. E.** Viruses and virus diseases of *Rubus*. *Plant Disease*, 2013, 97, No. 2, pp.168-182.
9. **McGavin W. J., Mitchell C., Cock P. J., Wright K. M., MacFarlane S. A.** Raspberry leaf blotch virus, a putative new member of the genus *Emaravirus*, encodes a novel genomic RNA. *Journal of General Virology*, 2012, 93, No. 2, pp. 430-437.
10. **Milenkovi S., Mar i D.** Raspberry leaf and bud mite (*Phyllocoptes gracilis*) in Serbia: the pest status and control options. *Acta Horticulturae*, 2012, 946, pp. 253-256.
11. **Petrovi S., Leposavi A.** *Raspberry – new technologies of growing, protection and processing, Updated and revised edition*. Scientific Pomological Society of Serbia, a ak, 2016, pp. 1-235. (in Serbian).
12. **Pleško I., Marn M., Lazarova S., Peneva V., Širca S., Urek G.** First detection of *Raspberry leaf blotch virus* in red raspberry in Bulgaria. *Journal of Plant Pathology*, 2014, 96, No. 2, pp. 437.
13. **Zindovi J., Virš ek Marn M., Mavri Pleško I.** First report of *Raspberry leaf blotch virus* in red raspberry in Montenegro. *Journal of Plant Pathology*, 2015, 97, No. 2, pp. 398.

Nie Peixian¹, Wang Laiping¹, ^{2*}, Song Laiqing³,
Zhao Lingling³, Wang Jinzheng¹

¹ Shandong Institute of Pomology, 271000 Tai'an, P.R.China
² Institute of Agriculture, 2500 Kyustendil, Bulgaria
³ Fruit Institute of Yantai Agriculture Academy, 265500, Yantai, P.R.China

* -mail: dksotirov@yahoo.com

Studies on different methods for transformation of airtight apple orchards

Nie Peixian¹, Wang Laiping¹, Dimitar Sotirov^{2*}, Song Laiqing³,
Zhao Lingling³, Wang Jinzheng¹

¹Shandong Institute of Pomology, 271000 Tai'an, P.R.China

²Institute of Agriculture, 2500 Kyustendil, Bulgaria

³Fruit Institute of Yantai Agriculture Academy, 265500, Yantai, P.R.China

SUMMARY

Since 2011 the renovation of airtight apple orchards had been done in Zhaoyuan and Rongcheng City to explore different transformation methods for airtight apple orchards and their effects on orchard structure, solar energy utilization and fruit quality.

- Three methods were adopted for contrast: interlaced thinning (Method I), septum strain thinning (Method II), every four trees cutting one in the line (Method III).

- Results showed that interlaced thinning was the best way for orchard renovation.

- For interlaced thinning, the leaf area index was reduced significantly by 52.1%, but the solar energy utilization and the

2011 .
()
Zhaoyuan Rongcheng,
,
:
(),
(),
().
,
- 52.1%,

38.3% 84.1%,
 SPAD-502
 2011 2013 ,
 I 15.3%, 10.3%, 10.8%,
 3.1% 13.3%, II 13.7%,
 7.7%, 8.5%, 2.9% 10.5%
 III 4.9%, 1.4%, 5.7%, 3.2% 5.1%,

1980
 (Liu and Wei,
 1987; Wei et al., 2003; Wei et al.,
 2004).
 (Kikuchi et al., 1994;
 Yang et al., 1998; Nie et al., 2011).

intracoronar light transmittance w re
 increased by 38.3% and 84.1%,
 respectively and the values of chlorophyll
 (measured by SPAD-502 chlorophyll
 meter) increased as well.

From 2011 to 2013, the average
 weight, color index, smoothness index,
 firmness and soluble solid content of the
 fruit were increased respectively on
 Method I by 15.3%, 10.3%, 10.8%, 3.1%
 and 13.3%; on Method II by 13.7%, 7.7%,
 8.5%, 2.9% and 10.5%, on Method III by
 4.9%, 1.4%, 5.7%, 3.2% and 5.1%,
 compared with the control.

Key words: apple, thinning, leaf
 area index, photosynthesis, fruit quality

INTRODUCTION

Since the early of 1980^s,
 close planting of apple orchards
 had been popularized for early-
 fruiting and high yield (Liu and Wei,
 1987; Wei et al., 2003; Wei et al.,
 2004). As the trees grew up, the
 canopy overlaped each other, and
 then the apple orchards became
 airtighted. Therefore, the light
 conditions within the orchards was
 deteriorated, fruiting position of the
 canopy movied outward, diseases
 and pests problems got worsening,
 fruit yield and quality was
 decreasing the rotten fruit was
 increasing (Kikuchi et al., 1994;
 Yang et al., 1998; Nie et al., 2011).
 All of these problems had
 restricted the sustainable
 development of apple production,
 so the transformation of airtighted
 apple orchards had become very
 important for sustainable apple
 production.

Rongcheng Zhaoyuan

According to this situation, we transformed some airtight apple orchards in Zhaoyuan and Rongcheng apple production areas, and have done systematic and relevant researches on different transform methods for airtight apple orchards and their effects on orchard structure, solar energy, utilization and fruit quality.

The goal was to select the best method for optimizing the structure of the orchard, improving yield and quality of apple production.

2011 .
Zhaoyuan City Rongcheng
City.
Fuji
17 20
Malus hupehensis
Rheda, Zhaoyuan City
:
(I),
(II),
(III). Rongcheng City
I.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Since 2011 the transformation of airtight apple orchards had been done in Zhaoyuan City and Rongcheng City. The studies were carried out with apple trees of Fuji cultivar on age 17 to 20 years on the rootstock *Malus hupehensis* Rhed, and Gala cultivar as pollinator. In Zhaoyuan City, three methods of transformation were adopted: interlaced thinning (Method I), septum strain thinning (Method II), every four trees cutting one in the line (Method III).

In Rongcheng City, interlaced thinning was adopted. After transformation, the orchard structure, solar energy utilization and apple quality were measured in 201, 2012 and 2013.

2011-2013 .

CI-110 (CID,)

- In different orchards, CI-110 canopy analyzers (made by CID Company of America) were used to measure the canopy, spacing between trees and spacing between lines of every tree and capture images.

Jixiang ()

Zhang

- Relevant software and Zhang Jixiang's method (to delete the outermost ring of sensitive film of the fisheye camera) were adopted to analyze the leaf area index, mean tilt angle, direct light projection coefficient and extinction coefficient of airtight orchards and renovated orchards.

- It should be noted that the leaf area index, which was measured by canopy analyzer here, is not the traditional sum of leaf area per unit of land but all the visible objects above the fisheye camera lens of canopy analyzers including the covering index of leaves, branches and paper bags.

() .

CIRA S-II (PP-)

- CIRA S-II made by PP-Systems of UK was used to measure photosynthesis rate.

10:00

- At 10:00 in the mornings of September, the net photosynthesis rate, transpiration rate and intercellular CO₂ concentration of the mature leaves of peripheral branches which were 1.5 m above the ground were measured by photosynthetic system analyzers.

1,5 m

$$= \frac{\text{CO}_2}{\text{A}} \times \frac{1}{\text{SPAD}}$$

502 (Minolta,)
 (SPAD)
 1,5 m
 SPAD
 CR-400 ()

;
 ;

.
 - Meanwhile, carboxylation efficiency and water use efficiency were calculated. Carboxylation efficiency = net photosynthesis rate / intercellular CO₂ concentration, water use efficiency = net photosynthesis rate / transpiration rate. Fifteen leaves of each place were measured and average values were calculated.

- Chlorophyll analyzer -502 (made by Konica Minolta of Japan) was used to measure the SPAD values of the mature leaves of short or average peripheral fruitless branches which were 1.5 m above the ground.

,
 Twenty five leaves of each place were measured three times and the average values were the values of the SPAD values of leaves.

- CR-400 tristimulus colorimeters made by Japan were used to measure the peel color and put down the L, a and b values. Meanwhile, softwares were used to analyze the peel color.

- Electronic platform scales were used to weigh out the fruits of single trees, digital calipers were used to measure the longitudinal and transverse diameter of fruits; fruit flesh firmness was measured after peeling the fruits, digital saccharimeters were used to

; -
 .
 = () /
 × () × -
) 100%.
 ,
 : 0 , 0~5%
 ; 1 , 5~25%
 ; 2 , 25~50%
 ; 3 , 50~75%
 ; 4 , 75~100%
 .
 =
 (×) / (×)
) 100%.
 0~10% ; 1 , 10~30%
 ; 2 , 30~60%
 ; 3 , 60~85%
 ; 4 , 85~100%
 .
 () ,
 -
 () .

- measure soluble solid content.

Peel coloring index = the number of each kind of fruits × typical value / the sum of all fruits × the highest value × 100%.

The criteria of grades of coloring: 0 grade 0~5% peel coloring, 1 grade 5~25% peel coloring, 2 grade 25~50% peel coloring, 3 grade 50~75% peel coloring, 4 grade 75~100% peel coloring.

Smoothness index = the number of each kind of fruits × typical value / the sum of all fruits × the highest value × 100%.

The criteria of grades of smoothness: 0 grade 0~10% peel smoothness, 1 grade 10~30% peel smoothness, 2 grade 30~60% peel smoothness, 3 grade 60~85% peel smoothness, 4 grade 85~100% peel smoothness.

The total soluble sugar determination was done by hydrochloric acid conversion - copper reduction - direct titrimetric method (by Bertrand's method) and titratable acids by acid-base neutralization titration.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Leaf area index (LAI) is one vital index for canopy structure. The leaf area index of airtight orchards and renovated orchards were significantly different. In Method I, it is evident with lower values than the control (C) and the

(LAI)

I

other two methods (Table 1). The LAI of Method I is the smallest, which is followed by Method II, Method III and the control C. By Method I, the dramatic decrease of leaf area index of lines results in the decrease of leaf area index of the whole renovated orchards.

1.

Table 1. Effects of different methods to leaf area index (LAI) and mean leaf angle (MLA)

Methods	LAI	MLA	Canopy light transmittance rate %	SPAD value
Method I	1.19	56.12	40.39	61.2
Method II	1.37	45.29	34.26	59.8
Method III	1.55	43.27	23.75	58.6
/ C	1.81	21.48	21.94	58.1

Mean tilt angle is the included angle between leaf axis and horizontal surface. Light areas of plants have direct relation with mean tilt angle and also have relation with the solar elevation of incoming radiation. When the leaf tilt angle and the solar elevation are wide, the light areas of plants would be large.

From Table 1, the mean tilt angle of renovated orchards is wider than that of the airtight orchards and among these situations, by Method I (deleting one line between two lines), the mean tilt angle is the widest, which is followed by Method II, Method III and C.

2
 0.837,
 6
 0,262,
 54
 I > II > III > C
 ()

From Table 2, the direct light projection coefficient of these three methods of renovation was higher than that of control (C) to some degree.

The highest projection coefficient is 0.837 when the zenith angle is 6 degrees and the lowest projection coefficient is 0.262 when the zenith angle is 54 degrees. The sequence from high to low: Method I > Method II > Method III > C.

2.

Table 2. Effects of different methods to direct light projection coefficient

Methods	Zenith angle					Average
	6	18	30	42	54	
Method I	0.837	0.723	0.637	0.513	0.493	0.641
Method II	0.657	0.631	0.616	0.567	0.547	0.604
Method III	0.463	0.458	0.434	0.421	0.398	0.435
/ C	0.218	0.248	0.287	0.287	0.262	0.260

(K)

Light extinction coefficient (K) is one important parameter to describe group light distribution.

The light extinction coefficient of levels of canopy reflects the leaves area, vertical distribution of leaf angles and adiabatic lapse of light.

Under different leaf spatial orientation and different direction of incoming solar radiation, group leaf areas would have different weakening effects on direct solar radiation. If K is small, it is

beneficial for light transmittance and net assimilation rate is high.

From Table 3, the extinction coefficient of these three methods is lower than that of C. The highest extinction coefficient is 0.962 when zenith angle is 54 degrees in C and the lowest one is 0.203 when the zenith angle is 6 degrees in Method I. The sequence is from high to low: C > Method III > Method II > Method I.

3.

beneficial for light transmittance and net assimilation rate is high.

From Table 3, the extinction coefficient of these three methods is lower than that of C. The highest extinction coefficient is 0.962 when zenith angle is 54 degrees in C and the lowest one is 0.203 when the zenith angle is 6 degrees in Method I. The sequence is from high to low: C > Method III > Method II > Method I.

Table 3. Effects of different methods to light extinction coefficient

Methods	Zenith angle					Average
	6	18	30	42	54	
Method I	0.203	0.290	0.413	0.590	0.863	0.472
Method II	0.397	0.467	0.561	0.694	0.899	0.604
Method III	0.535	0.578	0.634	0.703	0.912	0.672
/ C	0.835	0.850	0.873	0.905	0.962	0.885

The photosynthetic rate, CO₂, intercellular CO₂ concentration, carboxylation, transpiration rate and water use efficiency of apple trees would have direct or indirect relations with state and productivity of trees.

The net photosynthetic rate after all three methods of renovation is higher than that of C (Table 4). According to research, the greater the density is, the lower the photosynthetic rate is. The highest rate is 15.65 μmol·m⁻²·s⁻¹ in Method I, which indicates

The photosynthetic rate, CO₂, intercellular CO₂ concentration, carboxylation, transpiration rate and water use efficiency of apple trees would have direct or indirect relations with state and productivity of trees.

The net photosynthetic rate after all three methods of renovation is higher than that of C (Table 4). According to research, the greater the density is, the lower the photosynthetic rate is. The highest rate is 15.65 μmol·m⁻²·s⁻¹ in Method I, which indicates

I, 15.65 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$, - that Method I could improve airing
 - and lighting and then increase the
 - photosynthetic rate.
 .

4.

Table 4. Effects of different methods to photosynthesis indexes

Methods	Photosynthetic rate	CO ₂ Intercellular CO ₂ concentration	Carboxylation	Transpiration rate	Water use efficiency
	$\mu\text{mol.m}^{-2}.\text{s}^{-1}$	$\mu\text{mol.mol}^{-1}$	mol.mol^{-1}	$\text{mmol.m}^{-2}.\text{s}^{-1}$	$\mu\text{mol.mol}^{-1}$
Method I	15.65	200.32	0.078	2.48	6.31
Method II	15.33	212.58	0.072	2.51	6.11
Method III	14.24	218.36	0.065	2.37	6.01
/C	13.35	221.45	0.060	2.40	5.56

4
 ,
 CO₂
 CO₂
 -
 -
 CO₂ 221.45 $\mu\text{mol mol}^{-1}$
 (),
 200.32 $\mu\text{mol mol}^{-1}$
 I.
 CO₂.
 ,
 (4).
 -
 0.060 $\text{mol}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$

From Table 4, as the density of orchards increases, intercellular CO₂ concentration would increase.

- The intercellular CO₂ concentration after all these three methods of renovation is lower than that of C. The highest intercellular CO₂ concentration is 221.45 $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ in C, and lowest intercellular CO₂ concentration is 200.32 $\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ in Method I.

- Carboxylation reflects the levels of intercellular CO₂ assimilation. The carboxylation after all these three methods of renovation is higher than that of C (Table 4). As the density increases, the carboxylation decreases and the carboxylation has positive correlation with net photosynthetic rate. The lowest carboxylation is 0.060 $\text{mol}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ in C and the highest carboxylation is

C,
0.078 mol•mol⁻¹ - I.

0.078 mol•mol⁻¹ in Method I.

- There are no definite
- differences between three
- methods and C in terms of
4). transpiration rate which is irregular
(Table 4). Water use efficiency
- corresponds to photosynthetic rate
- and carboxylation. The water use
- efficiency after all these three
- methods of renovation is higher
- than that of C and as the density
- decreases, the water use
- efficiency increases. The lowest
- water use efficiency is 5.56
5.56 μmol•mol⁻¹ in C and the highest
- water use efficiency is
- 6.31 μmol•mol⁻¹ in Method I.

μmol•mol⁻¹
6.31 μmol•mol⁻¹ , - I.

From Table 5, the
- appearance quality, single fruit
- weight, coloring index and
- smoothness index after renovation
- are better than those of C. From
- the research in Zhaoyuan City,
- those parameters of apple from
- high to low were: Method I >
- Method II > Method III > C. From
- the research in Rongcheng City
- those parameters of apple from
- high to low were: Method I > C. All
- the results indicate that the
- renovation of airtight orchards has
- reduced the density, improved
- light illumination and then
- improved all the parameters of
- apple quality.

C.
Zhaoyuan City
:
I > II >
III > C.
Rongcheng City
:
I > C (5).

5.

Table 5. Effects of different methods to apple fruit quality

Place	Methods	Year	Average fruit weight, g	Appearance index	Coloring index, %	Smoothness index,%	Firmness, kg/cm ²	Soluble solid, %	Sugar-acid ratio
Zhaoyuan City	Method I	2011	206.3	0.87	93.7	98.4	10.1	14.46	20.16
		2012	210.4	0.88	94.2	97.9	9.8	14.70	22.34
		2013	222.8	0.90	94.0	98.0	7.4	13.45	23.48
	Method II	2011	200.1	0.88	91.8	97.2	10.2	14.21	19.96
		2012	209.8	0.88	93.6	96.3	9.8	14.20	20.14
		2013	221.1	0.83	90.0	95.0	7.3	13.14	22.14
	Method III	2011	192.9	0.88	88.5	96.2	10.2	13.24	19.53
		2012	197.6	0.87	90.1	96.1	8.8	13.50	19.42
		2013	192.0	0.92	81.0	89.0	7.1	12.79	22.06
	/ C	2011	181.6	0.88	85.6	92.3	10.5	12.24	19.10
2012		190.5	0.88	89.4	92.2	9.3	12.80	19.12	
2013		183.0	0.89	81.0	82.0	6.9	12.59	20.15	
Rongcheng City	Method I	2011	201.4	0.87	93.5	95.4	8.4	13.30	20.15
		2012	205.6	0.88	95.4	94.8	8.6	14.20	21.15
		2013	196.5	0.87	89.6	90.6	9.2	15.82	19.89
	/ C	2011	195.8	0.88	90.2	92.3	8.0	12.70	19.42
		2012	192.7	0.88	89.9	90.6	8.2	12.80	19.68
		2013	183.6	0.87	90.0	96.0	9.5	15.22	19.14

2011 2013 ., - From 2011 to 2013,
 , - compared with C, by deleting one
 (I), - line between two lines, single fruit
 , , - weight, coloring index,
 , - smoothness index, firmness and
 , - soluble solid content have
 15.3%, 10.3%, 10.8%, 3.1% and 13.3%,
 10.3%, 10.8%, 3.1% 13.3%. - increased by 15.3%, 10.3%,
 (II) - 10.8%, 3.1%, and 13.3%,
 13.7%, 7.7%, 8.5%, 2.9% - respectively. Compared with C, by
 2.9%, and 10.5%, respectively. By

10,5%.
 III),
 1.4%, 5.7% 5.1%,
 (LAI)
 Zhangjixiang (Zhang et al., 2010)
 (68)
 (Ellis and Grindle, 1981; Zhang et al., 1999; Sun et al., 2000).
 (1),
 e

deleting every four trees in the line, they have increased by 4.9%, 1.4%, 5.7%, and 5.1%, compared to the control.

LAI by canopy analyzer and LAI by block sampling have obvious linear correlation.

- If data by canopy analyzer are not adjusted, there would be a great distance from true value.

Therefore, Zhangjixiang's method (Zhang et al., 2010) was adopted in this experiment.

- Data were calculated by deleting the outermost ring (the average zenith angle is 68 degrees) of fisheye lens and then error between these data and data by block sampling decreased, which were closer to the true value and reflected the true leaf area index of orchards.

Light illumination is one primary factor for fruit quality, which affects not only the coloring but also the transportation and accumulation of carbohydrate (Ellis and Grindle, 1981; Zhang et al., 1999; Sun et al., 2000).

- In the renovation of airtight orchards, interlaced thinning has improved the light illumination, reduced the leaf area index (Table 1) to make low and interior parts of canopy get more illumination,

(4),
 (5),
 a
 III
 (SPAD
 II III.

- increased the chlorophyll content (Table 1) and parameters of photosynthesis (Table 4), the number of commodity fruits is increased.

- Interlaced thinning and septum strain thinning delete the same number of trees in orchards, but actually the former one does better than the latter one.

- Probably the reason has relation to solar incident angle, which requires further research.

CONCLUSIONS

- After all these three methods for renovation of airtighted apple orchards the indexes of photosynthesis are better than that of the control (C). Among these three methods, Method III has the least difference with C. It is safely concluded that the photosynthesis might improve a little if we do not delete enough trees. Only when we delete enough trees does the photosynthesis greatly improve.

- In terms of index of the leaf area, photosynthesis, chlorophyll values (SPAD values) and the quality of apple fruits, Method I is the best method, followed by Method II and Method III.

/ REFERENCES

1. **Ellis S W, Grindle M.** Effect of osmotic stress on yield and polyol content of dicarboximide sensitive and resistant strains of *Neurospora crassa*. *Mycological Research*, 1981, 95: 457-464.
2. **Kikuchi T, Shiozaki Y, Asada T, et al.**, Light and fruit distribution within a canopy of Fuji apple trees trained to a traditional open center system in Japan. *Journal of the Japanese Society for Horticultural Science*, 1994, 62:761-768.
3. **Liu CS, Pu YY.** 1987. Studies on the relationship between apple fruit quality of 'Delicious' strains and meteorological conditions. *Acta Horticulturae Sinica*, 14 (2): 73-80.
4. **Nie P.X, Xue XM, Wang J.Z, et al.** Study on thinning effect in high-density apple orchards. *Shandong Agricultural Sciences*, 2011, 5:37-39.
5. **Sun J.S, Ma B.K, Zhang W.C.** The study on the characters of needed light in the coloration of "Fuji" apple skin. *Acta Horticulturae Sinica*, 2000, 27(3): 213-215.
6. **Wei Q.P, Zhang J.X, Mao Z.Q, et al.** Optimum meteorological factors and climate divisions of apple for good quality. *Chinese Journal of Applied Ecology*, 2003, 14(5): 713-716.
7. **Wei Q.P, Lu R.Q, Zhang X.C, et al.** Relationships between distribution of relative light intensity and yield and quality in different tree canopy shapes for 'Fuji' apple. *Acta Horticulturae Sinica*, 2004, 31 (3): 291-296.
8. **Yang Z.W, Zhou Y.W, Fu Y, et al.** Relationship between microclimatic character of different crown types and fruit quality of Fuji apple. *Chinese Journal of Applied Ecology*, 1998, 9 (5): 533-537.
9. **Zhang X.C, Zhang W.H, NIU Z.M.** Leading in open center shape lead to apple quality cultivation. *Shanxi Fruits*, 1999, 77(3): 6-8.
10. **Zhang J.X, Wei Q.P, Zhang J., et al.** Leaf area index estimated with plant canopy analyzer in apple orchards and analysis of its reliability. *Acta Horticulturae Sinica*, 2010, 37(2):185-192.

1

2*

1

2

“, 2500
“ 10,
1756
*E-mail: liljanamarkova@abv.bg

Effects of organic fertilization on the community structure of plant-parasitic nematodes in strawberry plantations under organic farming conditions

Elena Tsolova¹ and Lilyana Koleva^{2*}

¹Institute of Agriculture-Kyustendil, Sofjisko shose Str., 2500 Kyustendil, Bulgaria

²University of Forestry, Sofia, 10 Kliment Ohridski Blvd., 1756 Sofia, Bulgaria

SUMMARY

Fragaria × ananassa (Duch.)
Decne. & Naudin

Organic production of strawberry (*Fragaria × ananassa* (Duch.) Decne. & Naudin) is increasing world-wide, but knowledge about the influence of cultural practices especially organic fertilization and amendments on the beneficial and harmful fauna is empirical rather than field-based. Some species of plant-parasitic nematodes, which are closely related to the host plants, damage strawberry plants. They can occur in populations with joint free-living soil nematodes. The aim of this work was to study the organic fertilization effects on plant-parasitic nematodes in organic strawberry production systems.

The investigation of the nematode populations was carried out in the region of Balkan Mountain Range, village Sredogriv (43.549 N, 22.786 E) during the vegetation period on an area of 10 ha,

(43.549 N, 22.786 E),
 ".
Pratylenchus, *Tylenchorhynchus*,
Hoplolaimus, *Helicotylenchus*.

- with cultivar 'Senga Sengana'. The following genera of plant-parasitic nematodes were dominated: *Pratylenchus*, *Tylenchorhynchus*, *Hoplolaimus*, *Helicotylenchus*. The established indicators of the nematode communities can be used as bioindicators for changes in soil and health status of the plantation.

- Organic fertilization suppresses harmful activity of the plant-parasitic nematodes and a tool for sustainable management of nematodes, which should be included in strategies for pest management in organic production of strawberries. Although, it is better study the mechanisms of influence on the existing soil conditions.

- New researches for example should be directed towards optimizing the mineralization in soil and thorough analysis of interactions between soil organisms.

Key words: strawberry, organic farming, plant-parasitic nematodes management

Fragaria × *ananassa*
 (Duch.) Decne. & Naudin

INTRODUCTION

In Bulgaria, the organic cultivation of strawberries *Fragaria* × *ananassa* (Duch.) Decne. & Naudin is a new and promising direction in the production of this crop. The successful production is based mainly on the selection of appropriate areas and cultivars, the use of healthy seedlings, application of organic and other environmentally friendly methods to control diseases and pests. In this context, it is also necessary to create the better management of soil nutrients.

- The organic fertilization

improves availability of nutrients and creates conditions to increase the biological activity in the soil.

- The studies on the effect of organic fertilizers on soil fauna are numerous and include various groups of animals (Burmeister et al., 2015). The application of organic fertilizers is not intended to pest control, but has an indirect effect on their populations.

(Burmeister et al., 2015).

Strawberries are attacked by number of species plant-parasitic nematodes that inhabit the soil.

- The nematodes are often spread irregularly over a large area and usually have a broad host range (Sikora & Schuster 2000).

(Sikora & Schuster 2000).

The introduction of organic matter as a measure to control of plant-parasitic nematodes is the subject of numerous studies (D'Addabbo, 1995; Akhtar & Malik, 2000; Litterick et al., 2004; Oka, 2010).

- Reduction of nematode populations can be observed in the decomposition of organic matter in the soil (Noling, 2001).

(Noling, 2001).

of plant-parasitic nematodes (Jaffee et al., 1994; McSorley & Gallaher, 1995a), but in some cases it can lead to increasing numbers of nemathodes (Belair and Tremblay, 1995; Kimpinski et al., 2003; Belair and Tremblay, 1995).

- According to the literature findings, it can be concluded that while the use of organic fertilizers not always observed suppressive effect on the

(Jaffee et al., 1994; McSorley & Gallaher, 1995a),

(Kimpinski et al., 2003; Belair and Tremblay, 1995).

(Thoden et al., 2011),
 (Chauvin et al., 2015).

nematode populations (Thoden et al., 2011), the variations in the biochemical composition of the soil always lead to changes in the structure of nematode communities (Chauvin et al., 2015).

- In this regard the determination of the species composition of nematodes is essential for sustainable organic production of strawberries. Hence, the objective of this work is to study the influence of organic fertilization on species composition of plant-parasitic nematode communities in the soil.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

(2012-2014 .),
 (43.549 N, 22.786 E).
 10 ha,
 Hemofol N 4, Hemosym NK Hemosym BIO N5.
 (Balkan Biocert

- The monitoring of the nematode fauna was carried out during the vegetation period (2012-2014), in the region of Balkan Mountain Range, village Sredogriv (43.549 N, 22.786 E).
- The strawberry plantation was established in 2012 on an area of 10 ha, with major cultivar 'Senga Sengana'. Before planting, the plants were not fertilized pre-sowing with mineral fertilizer. All the plant protection products and fertilizers to nourish were authorized for use in the organic farming.

- These fertilizers were used Hemofol N 4, Hemosym NK and Hemosym BIO N5. The fertilizers were imported under an approved scheme. The plantation is certified for organic farming by Balkan Biocert Plovdiv (Balkan Biocert

BG02).

Knuth et al. (2003).

0-15 cm.

()

4-5°C

cm³.

Cobb

Baermann (Townshend, 1963).

ml

(5 1 ml)
Bogorov Modified Counting Chamber.

BG02).

The period of sampling of plant and soil samples was recommended by Knuth et al. (2003). The soil samples were taken randomly from rows and row spacing with soil probe. The depth of sampling was from 0-15 cm.

Plant samples (roots and leaves) were taken randomly. The samples were placed into plastic bags, sealed and stored in a refrigerator at 4-5 °C to perform laboratory analysis. After mixing the samples, the average samples of 100 cm³ were determined by means of a measuring cylinder.

The resulting quantitative and qualitative data was related to this volume. For the extraction of the mobile stages of plant-parasitic nematodes, the method of Cobb and the Baermann pan method were used (Townshend, 1963).

In addition, the samples were examined for the presence of cyst nematodes by flotation methods. The liquid nematode culture was filled to 100 ml with water to include the number of extracted individuals. The suspension was transferred (5 times per 1 ml) into Bogorov Modified Counting Chamber.

Initially, all nematodes were counted under stereomicroscope and the plant parasitic nematodes were separated at recount. The

cm³)
 100 ml
 (2013).
 Andrassy (1998), Ruess (2003),
 Castillo & Vovlas (2007)

(100

Peters

-
 -

average number of live nematodes in the sample (100 cm³) in the starting suspension of 100 ml was determined by Peters (2013). The taxonomic identity of plant-parasitic nematodes was determined by using the identification books by Andrassy (1998), Ruess, (2003), Castillo and Vovlas (2007) and others. Due to the complexity of the process of identification, the extracted nematodes were determined up to genus level.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The nematological analysis of soil samples before planting of strawberries shows presence of migratory endoparasitic nematodes of the family Pratylenchidae, and in all samples these nematodes were below the economic threshold. Ectoparasitic nematodes of the genus *Pratylenchus* were also present, but in very low density and would not pose a threat to the plantation. The virus-vector nematodes of families Longidoridae and Trichodoridae were not found, and invasive larvae (2nd juvenile stage) of plant-parasitic root-knot nematodes of the genus *Meloidogyne*.

During processing of the soil and plant samples, a total number of 1114 ind./100 cm³ nematodes were extracted, 460 ind./100 cm³ of them were plant-parasitic nematodes. The largest number of plant-parasitic nematodes was established in 2013, followed by

. Pratylenchidae,

Pratylenchus

-
 -
 -

Longidoridae

Trichodoridae,

Meloidogyne.

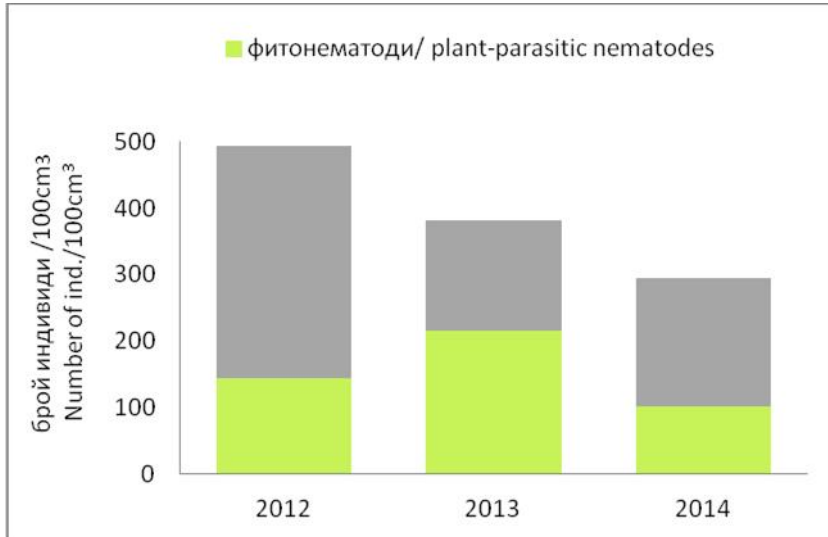
1114

./100 cm³
 460 ./100 cm³

2013,

2012

144 ind./100 cm³ in 2012, 215 ind./100 cm³ in 2013, and 101 ind./100 cm³ in 2014. The lowest was the number of nematodes in 2014 (101 ind./100 cm³) (Figure 1).



1.
Fig. 1. Density of nematodes in the sturdy period

Tylenchorhynchus,
Helicotylenchus.

2014,
2
Paratylenchus,

-
Pratylenchus,
Hoplolaimus,

The following genera of plant-parasitic nematodes *Pratylenchus*, *Tylenchorhynchus*, *Hoplolaimus*, *Helicotylenchus* were identified in soil samples. The plant-parasitic nematodes in the plant samples were not found, apart from 2014. In these samples 2 nematodes of *Paratylenchus* sp. were established, which have a slight pathogenic effect. Leaf nematodes were not found.

The identified taxa are arranged systematically as follows:

Kingdom: Animalia
 Subkingdom: Eumetazoa
 Phylum: Nematoda

Class: Secernentea

Order: Tylenchida

Suborder: Hoplolaimina

Superfamily: Hoplolaimoidea

Family: Pratylenchidae

Genus: *Pratylenchus* Thorne 1949

Pratylenchus sp.

Family: Hoplolaimidae

Genus: *Hoplolaimus* Daday 1905

Hoplolaimus sp.

Genus: *Helicotylenchus* Steiner 1945

Helicotylenchus sp.

Superfamily: Dolichodoroidea

Family: Tylenchorhynchidae

Genus: *Tylenchorhynchus* Cobb 1930

Tylenchorhynchus sp.

Suborder: Criconematina

Superfamily: Criconematoidea

Family: Paratylenchidae

Genus: *Paratylenchus* Micoletzky 1922

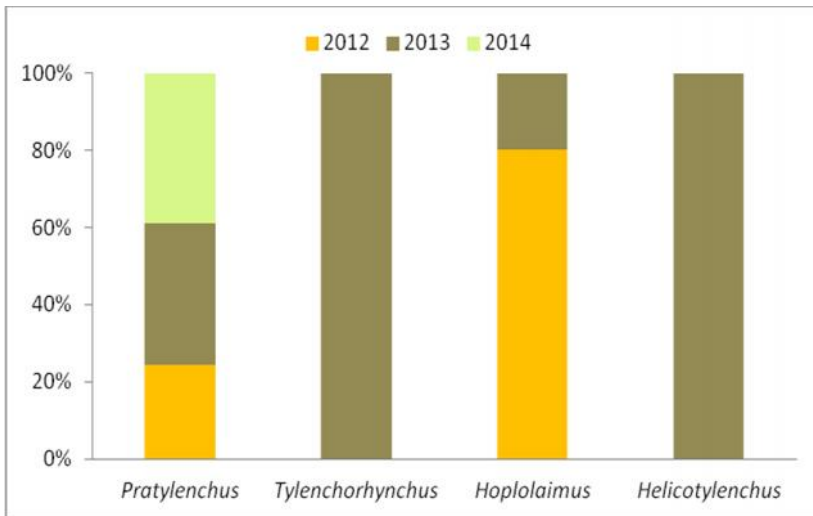
Paratylenchus sp.

2

Paratylenchus spp.

Tylenchorhynchus sp.
Helicotylenchus spp.
 2013

The Figure 2 shows the relationship between the established genera of plant-parasitic nematodes. The species *Pratylenchus* spp. were present over the three years of the study, while *Tylenchorhynchus* spp. and *Helicotylenchus* spp. only in 2013.



. 2. (%)

Fig. 2. Relative proportion (%) of identified genera of plant-parasitic nematodes

structure of plant-parasitic nematodes. It can be incorporated into the management process for pest control in organic production of strawberries. Future work should be directed towards to optimize the soil mineralization and to analyze the interactions between soil organisms and plant.

CONCLUSIONS

- The density of plant-parasitic nematodes was different during the study. The highest density was recorded in 2013, followed by 2012 and the lowest density was in 2014.
- The species composition is characterized by relatively few taxa to 5 genera belonging to four families. Most common are species of the genus *Paratylenchus*.
- The results provided the farmers current information on best practices to control pests in organic production of strawberries.

Paratylenchus.

/ REFERENCES

1. **Akhtar M., Malik A.** Roles of organic soil amendments and soil organisms in the biological control of plant-parasitic nematodes: a review. *Bioresource Technology*, 2000, 74(1), pp. 35-47.
2. **Andrassy I.** Nematodes in the sixth continent. *J Nematode Morphol Syst.*, 1998, 1, pp. 107-186.
3. **Belair G., Tremblay N.** The influence of chitin-urea amendments applied to an organic soil on a Meloidogyne hapla population and on the growth of greenhouse tomato. *Phytoprotection*, 1995, 76, pp.75-80.
4. **Burmeister J., Walter R., Fritz M.** Düngung mit Biogasgärresten – Auswirkungen auf Bodentiere. In: Biogas Forum Bayern Nr. I - 27/2015, Hrsg. ALB Bayerne.V., 2015.
http://www.biogasforumbayern.de/publikationen/Auswirkung_der_Duengung_mit_Biogasgarresten_auf_die_Bodentiere.pdf.

5. **Castillo P., Vovlas N.** Pratylenchus (Nematoda: Pratylenchidae): diagnosis, biology, pathogenicity and management. *Nematology Monographs and Perspectives*. Brill, 2007, 6, p. 529.
6. **Chauvin C., Dorel M., Villenave C., Roger-Estrade J., Thuries L., and Risède J. M.** Biochemical characteristics of cover crop litter affect the soil food web, organic matter decomposition, and regulation of plant-parasitic nematodes in a banana field soil. *Applied Soil Ecology*, 2015, 96, pp. 131-140.
7. **D'Addabbo T.** The nematicidal effect of organic amendments: a review of the literature, 1982-1994. *Nematología mediterránea*, 1995, 23 (2), pp. 299-305.
8. **Jaffee B. A., Ferris H., Stapleton J. J., Norton M. V. K., Muldoon A. E.** Parasitism of nematodes by the fungus *Hirsutella rhossiliensis* as affected by certain organic amendments. *Journal of Nematology*, 1994, 26, pp. 152-161.
9. **Kimpinski J., Gallant C. F., Henry R., Macleod J. A., Sanderson J. B., Stur A. V.** Effect of compost and manure soil amendments on nematodes and yields of potato and barley: a 7-year study. *Journal of Nematology*, 2003 35, pp. 289-293.
10. **Knuth P., Lauenstein G., Ipach U., Braasch H., Müller J.** Untersuchungsmethoden für pflanzenparasitäre Nematodenarten, die in Deutschland von Rechtsvorschriften betroffen sind. Braunschweig: *Eigenverlag, Ber. Biol. Bundesanst. Land- Forstwirtsch.*, 2003, 121, pp. 1-49
11. **Litterick A. M., Harrier L., Wallace P., Watson C. A., Wood M.** The role of uncomposted materials, composts, manures, and compost extracts in reducing pest and disease incidence and severity in sustainable temperate agricultural and horticultural crop production—A review. *Critical Reviews in Plant Sciences*, 2004, 23(6), pp. 453-479.
12. **McSorley R.** Overview of organic amendments for management of plant-parasitic nematodes, with case studies from Florida. *Journal of Nematology*, 2011, 43(2), pp. 69-81.
13. **McSorley R., Gallaher R. N.** Cultural practices improve crop tolerance to nematodes. *Nematropica*, 1995, 25(1), pp. 53-60.
14. **Noling J. W.** Nematodes and Their Management. Entomology and Nematology. Department ENY-625. Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida, 2001. http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/body_cv112
15. **Oka Y.** Mechanisms of nematode suppression by organic soil amendments – A review. *Applied Soil Ecology*, 2010, 44, pp. 101-115.
16. **Peters A., Stepper F., Iwahn K., Kölzer U.** Qualitätssicherung von entomopathogenen Nematoden. *DGaaE-Nachrichten*, 2003, 17, p. 16.
17. **Ruess L.** Nematode soil faunal analysis of decomposition pathways in different ecosystems. *Nematology*, 2003, 5, pp. 179-181.
18. **Sikora R. A., Schuster R. P.** Handbuch der phytonematologie. Shaker. Verlag, Aachen, 2000.
19. **Thoden T. C., Korthals G. W., Termorshuizen A. J.** Organic amendments and their influences on plant-parasitic and free-living nematodes: a promising method for nematode management. *Nematology*, 2011, 13(2), pp. 133-153.
20. **Townshend J. L. A.** Modification and Evaluation of the Apparatus for the Oostenbrink Direct Cottonwool Filter Extraction Method. *Nematologica*, 1963, 9(1), pp. 106-110.

1* , 1 , 2 , 3
1 , 4000 ,
2 , 4020 ,
3 , 5600 ,
*E-mail: krasi_petrova80@abv.bg

Study the influence of pre-treatment of blackberries on the content of polyphenols, anthocyanins and antioxidant capacity in the juices obtained from them

Krasimira Petrova^{1*}, Petya Ivanova¹, Kiril Mihalev², Diyan Georgiev³

¹Food Research and Development Institute, 4000 Plovdiv, Bulgaria

²University of food technologies, 4020 Plovdiv, Bulgaria

³Research Institute of Mountain Stockbreeding and Agriculture, 5600 Troyan, Bulgaria

SUMMARY

The aim of this study was to investigate the effect of pre-treatment of the raw material on the content of total polyphenols, anthocyanins and antioxidant capacity of juices of three varieties blackberries – "Dirksen", "Black Satin" and "Hull Thornless". Two technological approaches were used – classic and processing through fine grinding in obtaining mono-component juices.

Raw materials were grown and selected by experts from the Research institute of mountain stockbreeding and agriculture-Troyan.

It was found that the applied technological approach with stage of fine grinding increases the values of tested parameters compared to raw material,

(p<0.05).
 -
 e
 " 643.40 mgGAE/100g 98.90
 mg CGE/100g, a o
 DPPH
 FRAP -
 " 3515
 μmolTE/100g 3178.30 μmolTE/100g.
 :

- while the juices produced by the classic method show the reverse trend.

After statistical analysis for all developed variants of juices the method of obtaining has influence of the studied parameters (p<0.05).

With the highest content of total polyphenols and anthocyanins is the developed juice from variety "Dirksen" 643.40 mgGAE/100g and 98.90 mg CGE/100g respectively, the determined antioxidant capacity by DPPH and FRAP assays have the highest values in the monocomponent juice from variety "Black Satin", 3515 μmolTE/100g and 3178.30 μmolTE/100g respectively.

Key words: antioxidant activity, juice, blackberry, total polyphenols, anthocyanins

INTRODUCTION

- Consumers are increasingly looking for products with high quality and composition similar to fresh fruit. Characteristics such as freshness, high vitamin content, bioactive compounds and good nutritional quality are cause to increase the market of fruit juices in the recent years (Patras et al., 2009).

Blackberries (*Rubus fruticosus* sp.) are of particular interest in this regard, due to the high anthocyanin and phenolic contents that contribute to its noted antioxidant capacity (Wang & Lin, 2000).

- Most fresh blackberries are used as raw material for frozen, dried, and canned products, or processed into jams, jellies, and juices for longer storage to satisfy

(Patras et al., 2009).
 (*Rubus fruticosus*
 sp.)
 ,
 (Wang
 & Lin, 2000).

(Rickman et al., 2007).

(Skrede et al., 2000; Rossi et al., 2003; Lee et al., 2002),

(Thomas et al., 2015).

300 g : „ ”“ ”

various markets and consumer demands (Rickman et al., 2007)

The processing technology significantly affects the quality of the products. Some studies have reported that treatment may result in a significant loss of water-soluble phenolic compounds (Skrede et al., 2000; Rossi et al., 2003; Lee et al., 2002), particularly anthocyanins, which adversely affects the color and their nutritional qualities.

Each process step in the manufacture of juice (washing, milling, pressing, heat treatment, etc.) can lead to changes in the amounts of bioactive ingredients in the obtained juice (Thomas et al., 2015).

The purpose of this study was to determine the influence of pre-treatment of blackberries on the content of total polyphenol, total monomeric anthocyanins and antioxidant capacity in monocomponent juices.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Raw materials

For the preparation of each of the developed mono-component juices were used 300 g raw material of three blackberry varieties: "Dirksen," "Black Satin" and "Hull

” - . ”,
 : , , (,
 o),
 ,
 Nutribullet,
 ,
 “NS -750 Kuvings Silent Juicer”,
 ,
 .
 5 g
 (0.1% HCl)
 50 mL.
 2/3
 12 10°C

Thornless", from Research institute of mountain stockbreeding and agriculture - Troyan.

Juice extraction

Two technological approaches were used for obtaining a mono-component juice from blackberries. The first approach is a classical method and includes the following steps: receiving, cleaning, weighing, obtaining juice (pressing), filling and storage. The second approach comprises the same processing steps, such as before the step for the juice extraction is done finely grinding of the raw material.

The fine grinding is carried out by means of a blender Nutribullet, which uses an innovative blade to extract nutrients and cyclone technology for crushing the pulp, the skin and the seeds of the fruit.

For the juice extraction in both technological approaches is used the juice extractor – "NS -750 Kuvings Silent Juicer", whose priority is low-speed extraction of the juice, that achieves retention of nutrients.

Preparation of sample

Before analyses 5 g from each variant juice was diluted into 50 mL volumetric flask. The content of the flask is filled with acidified (0.1% HCl) methanol. After extraction for 12 h at 10°C the flask is filled to the mark.

- The extracts was filtered through a paper filter and analyzed for content of total polyphenols and
- total monomeric anthocyanins and
- the antioxidant capacity

Chemicals

For the analytical purposes

DPPH (2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl), TPTZ (2,4,6-tri(2-pyridyl)2-triazine) Trolox [(±)-6-Hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchromane-2-carboxylic acid](Sigma-Aldrich, Steinheim, Germany); Folin-Ciocalteau (FC-reagent) (Merck, Darmstadt, Germany); Gallic acid monohydrate(Fluka, Buchs, Switzerland).

DPPH (2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl), TPTZ (2,4,6-tri(2-pyridyl)2-triazine) Trolox [(±)-6-Hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchromane-2-carboxylic acid](Sigma-Aldrich, Steinheim, Germany); Folin-Ciocalteau's (FC) reagent (Merck, Darmstadt, Germany), Gallic acid monohydrate(Fluka, Buchs, Switzerland) was used. All the other reagents and solvents used were of analytical grade.

Methods of analysis

Determination of total polyphenols

Singleton and Rossi (1965)

0.1 mL
 0.5 mL FC-
 1:4
) 1.5 mL
 (7.5%, w/v),
 10 mL
 2 h
 750 nm.

The content of total polyphenols (TPP) was determined by the method of Singleton and Rossi (1965) with some modifications. In test tube appropriately diluted sample extract (0.1 mL) was mixed with 0.5 mL of FC-reagent (diluted with distilled water 1:4, v/v) and 1.5 mL of sodium carbonate solution (7.5%, w/v) and the volume was made up to 10 mL with distilled water; the mixture was incubated for 2 h at room temperature before the absorbance was measured at 750 nm. The results were presented as mg gallic acid

(GAE) mg 100 g .

(TMA) pH- (Giusti and Wrolstad, 2001).

pH 1.0 (0.025 M potassium chloride) and buffer pH 4.5 (0.4 M sodium acetate). After 1 h of incubation at room temperature, the absorbance was measured at 520 and 700 nm. Results were calculated using a molar extinction coefficient of 26900 L/(mol cm) and molecular weight of 449.2 g/mol and expressed as equivalents of cyanidin 3-glucoside (CGE) in mg per 100 g sample.

(DPPH-) (FRAP-).

E (Trolox)

Trolox ()

µmol 100 g DPPH-

Brand- Williams et al. (1995), : 2250 µL DPPH (6

equivalents (GAE) per 100 g of sample.

Determination of total monomeric anthocyanins

The amount of total monomeric anthocyanins (TMA) was determined by the pH-differential method (Giusti & Wrolstad, 2001). The sample extract was diluted in parallel with buffer pH 1.0 (0.025 M potassium chloride) and buffer pH 4.5 (0.4 M sodium acetate). After 1 h of incubation at room temperature, the absorbance was measured at 520 and 700 nm. Results were calculated using a molar extinction coefficient of 26900 L/(mol cm) and molecular weight of 449.2 g/mol and expressed as equivalents of cyanidin 3-glucoside (CGE) in mg per 100 g sample.

Determination of total antioxidant capacity

The total antioxidant capacity was determined by the free radical scavenging activity (DPPH) and ferric reducing antioxidant power (FRAP) assay. Trolox, a water-soluble vitamin E analogue, was used as a reference in both assays and the antioxidant capacity was expressed as µmol Trolox equivalents (TE) per 100 g .

DPPH assay was based on the method of (1995) modified as follows: 2250 µL of a DPPH methanolic solution (6×10^{-5} M) was mixed with 250 µL of sample

<p>10⁻⁵ M) (1:3, v/v); 515 nm</p>	<p>250 µL - 15 min</p>	<p>extract (diluted with distilled water 1:3, v/v); absorbance at 515 nm was measured after 15 min of reaction in a cap-sealed cuvette kept in the dark at room temperature.</p>
<p>FRAP- Strain (1996), FRAP</p>	<p>Benzie 2.5 TPTZ (10 mmol/L) (40 mmol/L), FeCl₃ 2.5 mL (20 mmol/L) 25 mL (0.3 mol/L, 3.6). , 2250 µL FRAP 250 µL (1:3, v/v) - - 593 nm</p>	<p>FRAP assay was performed according to Benzie and Strain (1996) with some modifications. The FRAP reagent was prepared by mixing 2.5 mL of a TPTZ solution (10 mmol/L) in hydrochloric acid (40 mmol/L), 2.5 mL of a FeCl₃ water solution (20 mmol/L) and 25 mL of an acetate buffer (0.3 mol/L, pH 3.6). In the assay, 2250 µL of FRAP reagent and 250 µL of sample extract (diluted with distilled water 1:3, v/v) were mixed in a cuvette and absorbance at 593 nm was measured after 4 min in the dark at room temperature.</p>
<p>4 min</p>	<p>- UV-Vis Helios Omega VISIONlite (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Madison, WI, USA), 1 cm.</p>	<p>All measurements were performed with a Helios Omega UV-vis spectrophotometer equipped with VISIONlite software (all from Thermo Fisher Scientific, Madison, WI, USA) using 1 cm path length cuvettes.</p>
<p>- - - ANOVA, Microsoft Excel.</p>	<p>- - 5%. - - ANOVA, Microsoft Excel.</p>	<p>Statistical analysis The presented results are the average of at least three determinations, the coefficients of variation were less than 5%. The statistical analysis of the data were performed using the statistical apparatus ANOVA, Microsoft Excel.</p>

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Figure 1, 2, 3 and 4 presents the results of a comparative analysis of total polyphenols content, total monomeric anthocyanin and antioxidant capacity measured by two assays (DPPH and FRAP) of mono-component fruit juices obtained through two technological approaches and of raw material from three blackberry varieties.

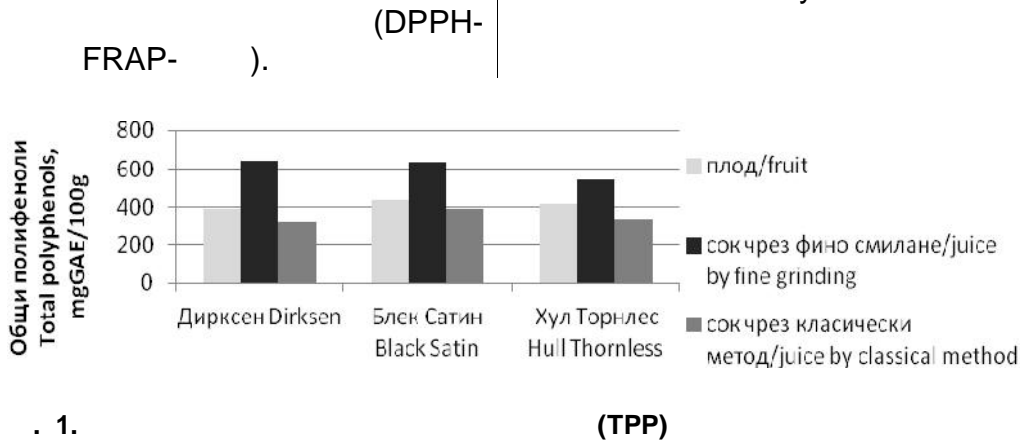


Fig. 1. Total polyphenols content (TPP) of blackberry fruits and juices from variety Dirksen, Black Satin and Hull Thornless

1

From the data in Figure 1 it is seen that the values of total polyphenols in minimally processed fruit juices of all blackberry varieties prepared by the process using a fine grinding are considerably higher than the raw materials. In the classical method of obtaining seen the opposite trend. The data are statistically distinguishable due to technological solutions ($p < 0.05$).

($p < 0.05$).

The highest values of total polyphenols has variant with fine

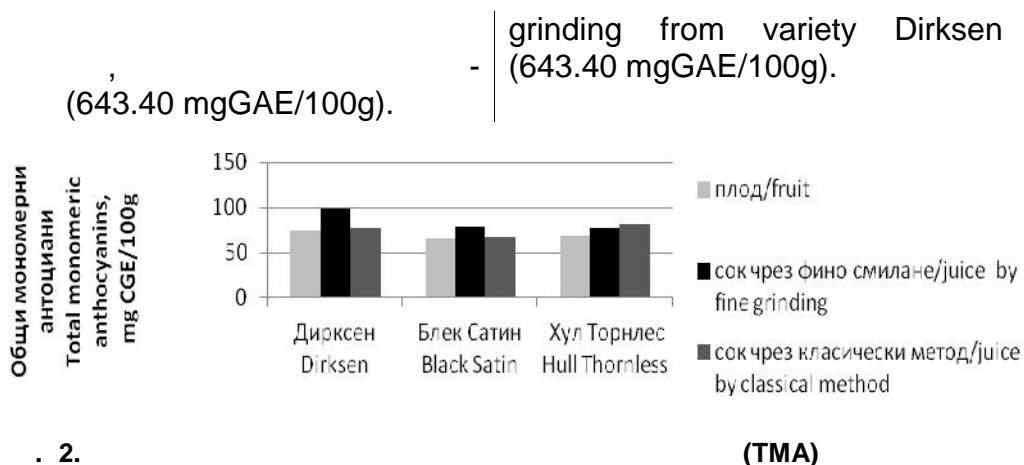


Fig. 2. Total monomeric anthocyanins content (TMA) of blackberry fruits and juices from variety Dirksen, Black Satin and Hull Thornless

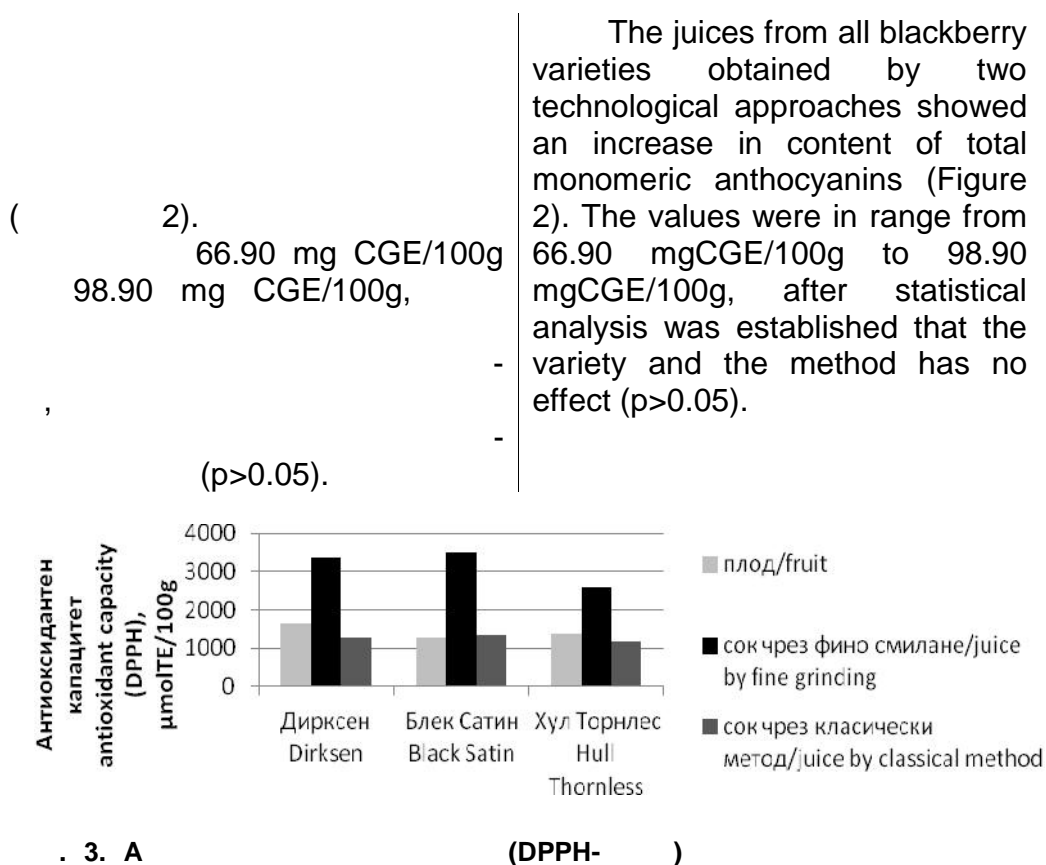
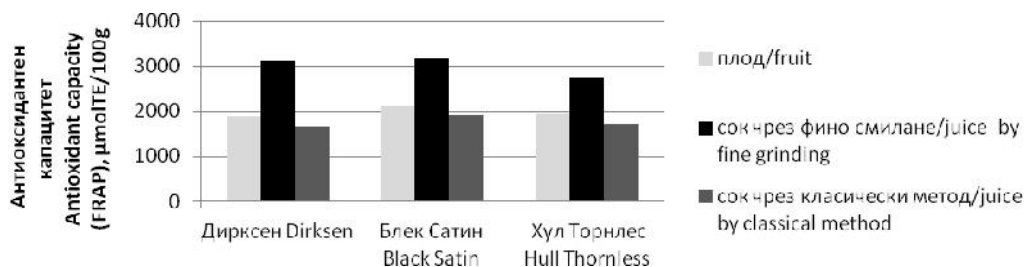


Fig. 3. Antioxidant capacity (DPPH-test) of blackberry fruits and juices from variety Dirksen, Black Satin and Hull Thornless



4. A (FRAP-)

Fig. 4. Antioxidant capacity (FRAP-test) of blackberry fruits and juices from variety Dirksen, Black Satin and Hull Thornless

FRAP-) (DPPH-)

3 4). (()

($p < 0.05$),

FRAP- (3515 $\mu\text{molTE}/100\text{g}$ 3178.30 $\mu\text{molTE}/100\text{g}$).

5 6

The antioxidant capacity (DPPH and FRAP assays) of received minimally processed fruit juices for all studied varieties obtained by fine grinding showed an increase and decrease in the classical method (Figure 3 and 4).

Significant effect on the antioxidant capacity has the processing technology ($p < 0.05$).

The highest values of antioxidant capacity assessed by DPPH and FRAP assays were observed in juice from variety "Black Satin" obtained by fine grinding (3515 $\mu\text{molTE} / 100\text{g}$ and 3178.30 $\mu\text{molTE} / 100\text{g}$).

Figure 5 and 6 show radar diagrams of the received mono-component juices from three blackberry varieties, respectively for the classical method and the method with fine grinding.

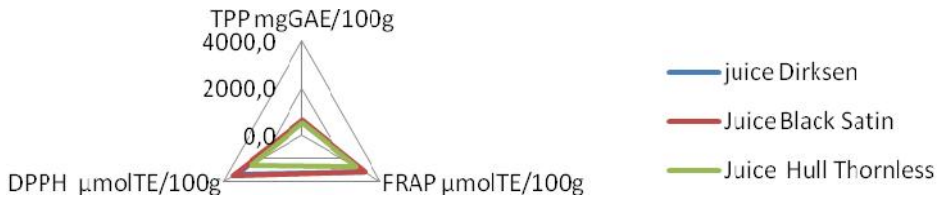


. 5.

Fig. 5. Radar diagram of blackberry juices obtained by classical method from varieties Dirksen, Black Satin and Hull Thornless

(FRAP-),
(5).

In the classical approach, the antioxidant capacity is mainly due to the antioxidants act as electron donors (FRAP-test), and the possible interactions between phenolic compounds (Figure 5).



. 6.

Fig. 6. Radar diagram of blackberry juices obtained by method with fine grinding from varieties Dirksen, Black Satin and Hull Thornless

(6).

In the other method the antioxidant capacity is mainly due to antioxidants acting as a hydrogen donor cations and of synergistic effects of the other components in the system (Figure 6).

CONCLUSIONS

There are developed mono-component juices of three blackberry varieties – "Dirksen", "Black Satin" and "Hull Thornless", by two technological approaches – classical and by fine grinding.

It was found that for all variants of developed juices the method of processing affects the content of total polyphenols and antioxidant capacity ($p < 0.05$).

The developed juice from variety "Dirksen" by fine grinding has the highest values of total polyphenols content and anthocyanins, respectively 643.40 mgGAE/100g and 98.90 mgCGE/100g, the antioxidant capacity measured by DPPH and FRAP assays has the highest values in juice from variety "Black Satin", respectively 3515 $\mu\text{molTE}/100\text{g}$ and 3178.30 $\mu\text{molTE}/100\text{g}$.

Parameter	Classical	Fine Grinding
Total polyphenols (mgGAE/100g)	98.90	643.40
Anthocyanins (mgCGE/100g)	-	98.90
Antioxidant capacity (DPPH)	-	-
Antioxidant capacity (FRAP)	3178.30 $\mu\text{molTE}/100\text{g}$	3515 $\mu\text{molTE}/100\text{g}$

($p < 0.05$).

/ REFERENCES

1. **Benzie I., Strain J.** The ferric reducing ability of plasma (FRAP) as a measure of "antioxidant power": the FRAP assay. *Analytical Biochemistry*, 1996, 239, 70-76.
2. **Brand-Williams W., Cuvelier M., Berst C.** Use of a free radical method to evaluate antioxidant activity. *Lebensmittel Wissenschaft and Technologie*, 1995, (28): 25-30.
3. **Giusti M. M., Wrolstad R. E.** Characterization and measurement of anthocyanins by UV-visible spectroscopy. In: Wrolstad R. E. (Ed) *Current Protocols in Food Analytical Chemistry*, John Wiley & Sons, New York, 2001, pp F1.2.1-F1.2.13.
4. **Lee J., Durst R.W., Wrolstad R.E.** Impact of juice processing on blueberry anthocyanins and polyphenolics: comparison of two pretreatments. *J Food Sci*, 2002, 67:1660-1667.
5. **Patras A., Brunton N.P, Da Pieve S., Butler F.** Impact of high pressure processing on total antioxidant activity, phenolic, ascorbic acid, anthocyanin content and colour of strawberry and blackberry purées, *Innovative Food Science and Emerging Technologies*, 2009, 10, 308-313.
6. **Rossi M., Giussani E., Morelli R., Scalzo R., Nani R.C., Torreggiani D.** Effect of fruit blanching on phenolics and radical scavenging activity of highbush blueberry juice. *Food Res Int*, 2003, 36:999-1005.

7. **Singleton V., Rossi J.** Colorimetry of total phenolics with phosphomolybdic-phosphotungstic acid reagents. *American Journal of Enology and Viticulture*, 1965, (50): 3828-3834.
8. **Skrede G., Wrolstad R.E., Durst R.W.** Changes in anthocyanins and polyphenolics during juice processing of highbush blueberries (*Vaccinium corymbosum* L.). *J Food Sci*, 2000, 65:357-364.
9. **Tomas M., Toydemir G., Boyacioglu D., Hall R., Beekwilder J., Capanoglu E.** The effects of juice processing on black mulberry antioxidants. *Food Chemistry*, 2015, 186, 277-284
10. **Wang S. Y. & Lin H. S.** Antioxidant activity in fruits and leaves of blackberry, raspberry, and strawberry varies with cultivar and developmental stage. *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry*, 2000, 48, 140-146.