

## Study of Productivity and Stability of Yield of Common Wheat Varieties

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### SUMMARY

The creation and introduction of common wheat varieties with high genetic potential for productivity and grain quality is related to the study of the ecological plasticity of individual varieties over the years with different stress of meteorological factors. The aim of the present study is to evaluate the productivity of seven varieties of common wheat and to determine the most technologically valuable of them in terms of yield stability. The experimental field study was conducted in the experimental field of the Department of Plant Breeding, Faculty of Agriculture at the Trakia University - Stara Zagora, in the period 2017-2019. The object of the study are the following varieties of common wheat: „Ingenio“, „Dalara“, „Moyson“, „Falado“, „Pibrac“ and „Factor“. The relationship between the studied factors and the influence on the studied variants was established and evaluated through the analysis of variance. The variants of stability ( $i^2$  and  $Si^2$  according to Shukla),



|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
|                                 | high cold and drought resistance.  |
|                                 | In addition to resistance to cold and drought, wheat varieties "compete" in plasticity. Successful overwintering of winter cereals is crucial for stable yields, according to a cluster analysis of the yields of twenty winter wheat varieties (Dochev et al., 2009).   |
| (Dochev et al., 2009).          |  |
| ( <i>Triticum aestivum</i> L.), | Heat stress is an important production restriction of wheat ( <i>Triticum aestivum</i> L.), affecting many plant biological activities in the cell membrane, according to (Ibrahim and Quick, 2001). The authors determine the genetic control of heat tolerance by diallel analysis of the selected wheat germ plasma. The growing demand for high and homogeneous technological quality of common wheat ( <i>Triticum aestivum</i> L.) indicates the need to increase the protein and gluten content, improve the strength and stability of the dough (Blandino et al., 2016). |
| (Ibrahim and Quick, 2001).      |  |
| ( <i>Triticum aestivum</i> L.)  | The productive potential of wheat is associated with increased crop tolerance to abiotic stress (Tsenov et al., 2009). Yields as well as their structural elements are strongly influenced by the conditions of the year and the plasticity of the variety (Georgieva et al., 2004). In the conditions of the Upper Thracian lowland, the late germination of wheat leads to the formation of a smaller number of spikelets.   |
| (Blandino et al., 2016).        |  |
| (Tsenov et al., 2009).          |  |
| (Georgieva et al., 2004).       |  |
| Ivanova and Tsenov, (2009),     | According to Ivanova and Tsenov, (2009), meteorological conditions are a major agrotechnical factor for the formation of biological and economic traits in fourteen varieties of winter common wheat and the rate of mineral fertilization mainly affects the size - grain yield. With the identification of stability and adaptability genotype, the nature of the interaction between genotype-environment is established (Ayalneh et al., 2012). Production results can be improved with  |
| (Ayalneh et al.,                |  |

2012).

et al., 2009; Ivanov et al., 2018).

Mohammadi et al., (2009)

(YSi)

(Ydi).

GGE ( )

Brancourt-Hulmel and Lecomte, (2003)

(*Triticum aestivum* L.)

(BIAREG),

(AMMI).

(25 °C)

(Gordana et al., 2014; Döringa et al., 2015).

al. (2004),

Chloupek et

scientific information generated by scientific experiments. The stability of genotypes in the conditions of conventional and organic production was also assessed (Kaut et al., 2009; Ivanov et al., 2018).

Mohammadi et al., (2009) assessed productivity stability through Canes yield statistics (YSi) and two new methods of yield regression statistics (Ybi) and distance statistics (Ydi).

The authors investigated the integration of yield and stability of test genotypes in an unpredictable environment, by testing twenty genotypes, in four places, for three years, by GGE (genotype and ecological genotype) of a biplot.

Brancourt-Hulmel and Lecomte, (2003) explain the interaction of genotype x environment in the very environment of winter wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) under changing environmental conditions to assess the sensitivity of the genotype to the environment and to compare the results of biodiversity factor regression (BIAREG), the classic main effect supplement and the multiplicative interaction model (AMMI). The analysis of their data includes thirteen lines grown in France in fourteen environments (combinations of two years, four locations and two treatments). The grain yield and the date of laying are measured, and the environment is characterized by climatic data (water deficit, radiation, temperature above 25 °C) and others. The influence of the environment has been assessed by the stability of yields by other researchers (Gordana et al., 2014; Döringa et al., 2015).

Climate change is a global problem for crops, which is why the ecological plasticity of different varieties and lines is the subject of a number of studies. According to Chloupek et al. (2004), over the last fifty years, the average air

temperature has increased by an average of 0.021 °C (per year), and for the last ten years the increase has been by 0.087 °C (per year). These climate changes have been favourable for some crops (wheat, barley, rapeseed, sugar beet, rye, corn and legumes), which increase their yields in warmer years, accompanied by more hours of sunlight.

The correct varietal structure depending on the specific agro-ecological conditions of the region can significantly increase the yields and the quality of the production (Ilieva, 2011).

In today's market conditions, increasing the yield and improving the quality of common wheat grain is becoming increasingly important.

This requires the introduction of varieties with high productivity and adaptability to environmental conditions. It is necessary to study the productive potential of each variety in different agro-ecological areas.

Each element of the technology for growing cereals is the subject of research by a number of researchers (Sevov and Delibaltova, 2013; Kuneva et al., 2014; Barakova et al., 2018; Delchev and Angelova, 2019).

Nutrient enrichment, corrective foliar feeding, soil moisture, tillage and weed control have been studied to analyze their impact on the structural elements of yield and crop productivity.

The aim of the present study is to evaluate the productivity of seven varieties of common wheat and to determine the most technologically valuable varieties in terms of yield stability.

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The aim of the present study is to evaluate the productivity of seven varieties of common wheat and to determine the most technologically valuable varieties in terms of yield stability.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

The experimental field study was conducted in the experimental field of the Department of Plant Breeding, Faculty of

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|--|--|
| 2017-2019  | Agriculture at the Thracian University - Stara Zagora, in the period 2017-2019.  |
| „Moyson“, „Falado“, „Gabrio“, „Pibrac“ „Factor“.   | The object of the study are seven varieties of common wheat (Ingenio, Dalara, Moyson). "Falado", "Gabrio", "Pibrac" and "Factor".  |
| Factor“ ( )).  | The creation and introduction of varieties of common wheat with high genetic potential for productivity and grain quality is associated with the study of ecological plasticity of individual varieties, over the years with different stress of meteorological factors. The Factor variety (Bulgarian selection) was used for comparison with the introduced varieties. |
| m <sup>2</sup> .   | The field experiment with common wheat was carried out according to a methodology typical for the region. The study was based on the method of fractional plots. The size of the experimental plot is 10 m <sup>2</sup> .  |
| 30 cm 75 cm.<br>– 0-50 cm.   | The soil in the experimental field is characterized as typically meadow-cinnamon. The thickness of the humus horizon in this soil species varies widely from 30 cm to 75 cm. In this case, the power is clearly expressed and is in the range – 0-50 cm. According to the mechanical composition, the soil type is sandy-clayey.   |
| N <sub>140</sub> .   | The sowing of wheat in the years of field research was carried out in the optimal time for the region. During the vegetation we carried out a single feeding with ammonium nitrate.<br><br>The amount of nitrogen fertilizer applied was N <sub>140</sub> . In terms of humus and nutrient content, the soil is characterized as suitable for growing wheat.             |
| g<br>g<br>3,93%,<br>– 40,8 mg/1000 g<br>0,45 mg/1000<br>– 40,33 mg/1000<br>(3,27 mg/1000 g). | The stock with humus is 3.93%, and with mineral nitrogen - 40.8 mg/1000 g of soil. Ammonia nitrogen is 0.45 mg/1000 g of soil and nitrate is 40.33 mg/1000 g of soil. The soil is poorly stocked with mobile phosphorus (3.27 mg/1000 g).  |
| mg/1000 g  | The content of mobile potassium is 3.2 mg/1000 g of soil, which  |

( $i^2$   $Si^2$  Shukla),  
 ( $W_i$  Wricke)  
 ( $YS_i$  Kang).

( 1).

3916 , 4143 4089

(2006-2019) 3861 .

7,3%.

1,4% 5,9%.

2016/2017 . (-5,4 ).  
 2017/2018 2018/2019 .

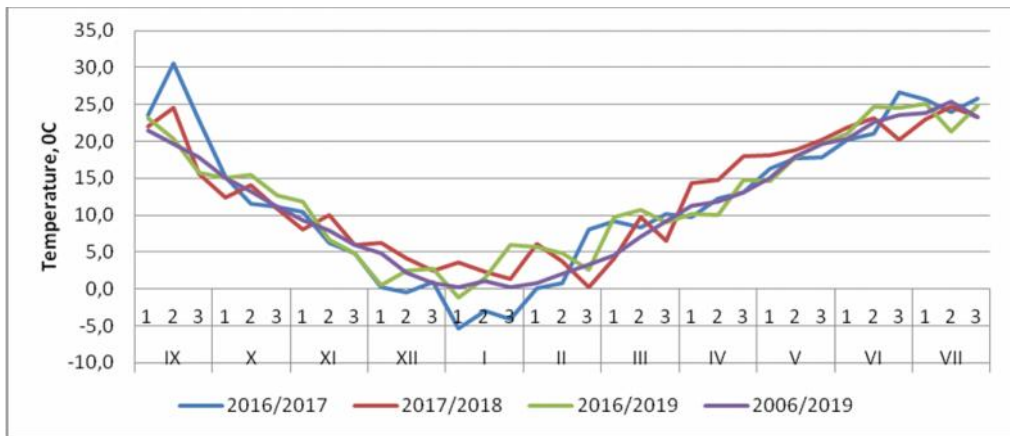
characterizes it as very well stocked with this element.

- A variance analysis for the statistical data processing is applied.
- The interrelation between the studied factors and the influence on the studied variants is established and evaluated. The variants of stability ( $i^2$  and  $Si^2$  according to Shukla), ecovalence ( $W_i$  according to Wricke) and stability criterion ( $YS_i$  according to Kang) were calculated.

*Agrometeorological conditions*

- The study period is characterized by high stress of meteorological factors.
- Stock temperatures are high over the years of the study (Figure 1). The total temperatures for the three economic years are 3916 , 4143 and 4089 respectively at a long-term average (2006-2019) 3861 .
  - In the second economic year the excess of the total temperatures compared to the long-term period is by 7.3%. The first and third years are also characterized by higher temperature sums by 1.4% and 5.9%, respectively. No critically low temperatures were measured during the experimental period.

Negative temperatures were registered in the first ten days of January for 2016/2017 (-5.4 ° ). In 2017/2018 and 2018/2019, the reported ten-day temperature amounts are average. In the last two years of the field study, the average daily temperatures are higher and do not endanger the normal overwintering of the crop.

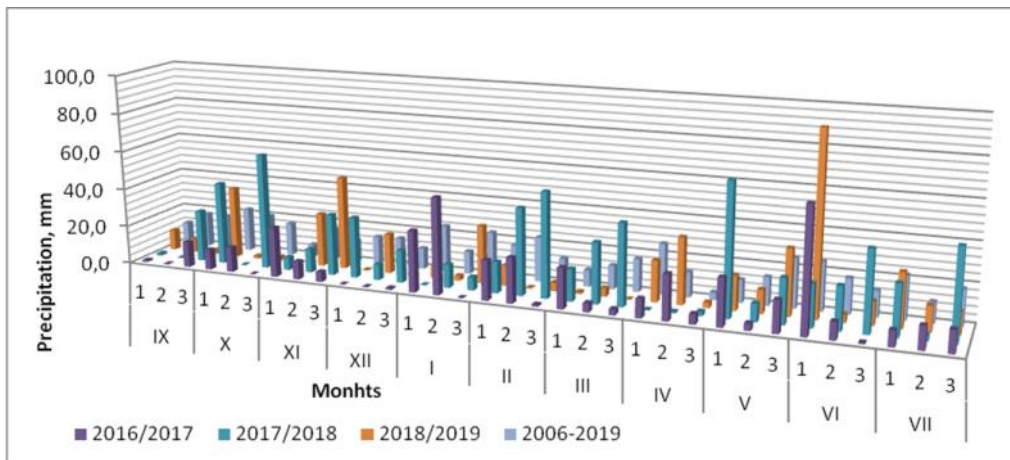


. 1.

**Fig. 1. Average daily temperatures measured during the field survey in the region of Stara Zagora**

( 2).  
 2006-2019 535,2 mm,  
 50 436,76  
 mm. 35,4 %  
 (2016/2017)  
 21,5%

The distribution of precipitation over the three experimental years is extremely uneven (Figure 2). The average annual precipitation rate for the period 2006-2019 is 535.2 mm, and for the wheat growing season the norm for the last 50 years is 436.76 mm. The amount of precipitation is 35.4% higher than the norm. The first year (2016/2017) is characterized by a smaller amount of registered precipitation. The values are 21.5% lower than the norm.



. 2.

**Fig. 2. Amount and distribution of precipitation during the period of the experiment, for the region of Stara Zagora**



## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

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(

„Falado“ (8929,93 kg/ha)  
 „Gabrio“ (8359,63 kg/ha)  
 (2018/2019).  
 „Factor“,  
 91,6% 79,4%.

44,7 42,9% (  
 P 0,1) „ (4909,71).  
 „ “,  
 15,0%.

Table 1 presents the results of grain yield of the studied varieties of common wheat. Yields are a result of the influence of the year (factors of the climatic complex) and the productivity of the variety. The varieties "Falado" (8929.93 kg/ha) and "Gabrio" (8359.63 kg/ha) in the third marketing year (2018/2019) have the highest productivity. Compared to Factor, the increase in yield was 91.6% and 79.4%, respectively. On average for the period the trend continues, as the ecological plasticity and the genotype of the two varieties provide an excess in the yield by 44.7 and 42.9%, respectively (at P 0.1) compared to the variety "Factor" (4909.71). Pibrak variety is characterized by lower productivity, where the excess in the values of the indicator is by 15.0%. The yields obtained are the total effect of the genome of the variety and the adaptability to the specific climatic conditions.

1. , kg/ha (2017-2019)  
**Table 1. Wheat grain yields, kg/ha (2017-2019)**

| Varieties             | 2017    | 2018       | 2019        | Average<br>(Factor ) |
|-----------------------|---------|------------|-------------|----------------------|
|                       | kg/ha   | kg/ha      | kg/ha       | kg/ha                |
| Ingenio               | 6022,25 | 5234,50    | 6810,13     | 6021,54              |
| Dalara                | 6587,00 | 6004,07    | 7170,22     | 6568,86              |
| Moyson                | 6322,38 | 4944,75    | 7699,60     | 6325,49              |
| Falado                | 7106,00 | 5282,35    | 8929,93     | 7104,89              |
| Gabrio                | 7015,75 | 5671,51    | 8359,63     | 7014,28              |
| Pibrac                | -       | 5928,40    | 5460,28     | 5694,34              |
| Factor                | 4909,25 | 5158,53    | 4660,10     | 4909,71              |
| Average<br>(Factor A) | 6343,59 | 5276,81    | 7012,84     | -                    |
| LSD                   | F. A    | p 5%=309,9 | p 1%=412,1  | p 0,1%=536,1         |
|                       | F. B    | p 5%=473,4 | p 1%=629,6  | p 0,1%=818,9         |
|                       | A x B   | p 5%=819,9 | p 1%=1090,4 | p 0,1%=1418,3        |

( 2)  
 ,  
 85,6% (P 0,1)  
 - 41,4,

The analysis of the variance in terms of grain yield (Table 2) found that the influence of the tested variants was 85.6% (P 0.1) of the total variation of the data. The variety has the strongest influence on grain yield - 41.4, the reason for which is the ecological plasticity and

28,3%.

( )

( 0,1).

( ) – 15,9% (P 0,1%).

2.

**Table 2. Dispersion analysis for wheat grain yield**

| Source of variation  | Degrees of freedom | Sum of squares | Influence of the factor, % | Mean squares | Fisher's criterion | Probability level |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------------------|--------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Total                | 83                 | 1,5            | 100                        | -            | -                  | -                 |
| Blocks               | 3                  | 1750016,0      | 1,2                        | 583338,7     | 0,2                |                   |
| Variants             | 20                 | 1,3            | 85,6                       | 6501080,0    | 0                  | ***               |
| Factor - Year        | 2                  | 4,2            | 28,3                       | 63,9         | 0                  | ***               |
| Factor B - Varieties | 6                  | 6,2            | 41,4                       | 31,2         | 0                  | ***               |
|                      | 12                 | 2,4            | 15,9                       | 2008000,0    | 0,1                | ***               |
| Error                | 60                 | 2,0            | 13,2                       | 336017,1     | -                  | -                 |

\*p 5 % \*\*p 1 % \*\*\*p 0,1%

genotype of each variety. The strength of the influence of the years is 28.3%. High value of this parameter is due to differences in meteorological conditions during the experimental years. The influence of both factors (year and variety) has been proven with a high degree of reliability (P 0.1). There is also an interaction of herbicides with the conditions of the years (A x B) - 15.9% (P 0.1%).

x  
( 3).  
–  $i^2$   $Si^2$  ( Shukla),  
–  $W_i$  ( Wricke)  
–  $YS_i$  ( Kang).  
Shukla ( $i^2$   $Si^2$ )  
, -  
, -  
 $i^2$   $Si^2$   
–  $i^2$   $Si^2$ ,  
 $W_i$  Wricke,

- Based on the established year-variety interaction, the stability of the manifestations of each variant with respect to the yield of common wheat grain was assessed (Table 3). The variants of stability –  $i^2$  and  $Si^2$  (according to Shukla), ecovalence –  $W_i$  (according to Wricke) and the criterion for stability –  $YS_i$  (according to Kang) are calculated.

- The stability deviations of Shukla ( $i^2$  and  $Si^2$ ) analyze the linear and nonlinear interactions and unilaterally evaluate the stability of the variants. Variants with lower values are considered more stable because they interact less with environmental conditions. The negative values of the indicators  $i^2$  and  $Si^2$  are considered to be 0. At reliably high values of the parameters –  $i^2$  or  $Si^2$ , the variants are considered as unstable. In Wricke's  $W_i$  ecovalence, the higher the value of the indicator, the more unstable the corresponding variant.

3.

**Table 3. Stability parameters of some wheat varieties for grain yield with respect to years**

| Varieties    | $\bar{x}$ | $i^2$       | $S_i^2$ | $W_i$     | $YS_i$ |
|--------------|-----------|-------------|---------|-----------|--------|
| Ingenio      | 6022,25   | -518406,3   | 53,8*   | 530,5     | 0      |
| Dalara       | 6587,00   | -311457,8   | -1,4    | 296171,2  | 8+     |
| Moyson       | 6322,38   | 1510286,0** | -5,8    | 2898663,0 | -1     |
| Falado       | 7106,00   | 5635311,0** | -6,4    | 8791555,0 | 2+     |
| Gabrio       | 7015,75   | 1291582,0** | -5,2    | 2586229,0 | 1+     |
| Pibrac       | 5694,00   | 5188631,0** | -0,8    | 8153440,0 | -9     |
| Factor       | 4909,25   | 5361271,0** | -1,6    | 8000069,0 | -10    |
| Average      | 6237,1    |             |         |           | -1,2   |
| LSD (p=0,05) | 2,5       |             |         |           |        |

Based on the  $i^2$  stability variant, it was found that the varieties Moyson, Falado, Gabrio, Pibrac and Factor were unstable. The instability is of the linear type because it is proven only at this parameter. The variation of yields in the individual years is the reason for the instability. The 'Dalara' and 'Ingenio' varieties show better ecological plasticity and high yield stability, respectively.

According to Shukla's  $S_i^2$  variant of stability, "Ingenio" is rated as unstable based on linear interactions.

The Wricke  $W_i$  results show that the Ingenio variety shows the highest stability due to insignificant differences in grain yields during the experimental years.

Similar analyzes in 18 genotypes found little environmental fluctuation (Ayalneh et al., 2012). The other variants register high values of the indicator, which determines the instability of the results under the influence of the environment.

A complete assessment of the efficiency of the varieties can be made after analysis of the interaction variety x environment and level of adaptability, which is represented by the yield.

A comprehensive assessment of the technological value of the varieties is



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## Erosion Control Methods and Technologies as a Factor for Changes the Physical Properties of Calcium Chernozem

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*Original scientific paper*

### SUMMARY

- In recent years, in Bulgaria, it was working hard for creation of technologies for controlling and limiting soil water erosion. In addition to soil fertility and the content of organic matter, water erosion processes also affect the basic physical properties of the soil.

- The protection of agricultural land from the negative impact of erosion processes and the preservation of the physical properties and structure of the soil can be accomplished by the application of erosion control practices, including various erosion control methods and technologies.

- The present study examines and establishes the positive impact of such erosion control technology (advanced technology for minimum and unconventional

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|---|--|
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- tillage) applied in the maize for grain cultivation on slope lands, on some of the physical properties of soil - calcium chernozem.</li> </ul>  |
| <p>2017-2019</p>  | <p>In the period 2017-2019, analyzes of the bulk density, the total porosity and the hardness of the soil were implemented, as well as some erosion indicators, in application of traditional (conventional) technologies and the advanced technology for minimum and unconventional tillage, proving its high soil protection effectiveness.</p> <p>In three-years experiment, we found that the application of advanced technology for minimum and unconventional tillage leads to a decrease in bulk density, increase the total porosity and reduces soil hardness.</p>  |
| <p>1,26 kg/ m<sup>3</sup>,<br/>53,38%,</p> <p>1,36 kg/ m<sup>3</sup><br/>49,69%</p> <p>4,75<br/>17,15</p> | <p>In the final phase, after harvesting, the bulk density in the variant grown with this technology is 1.26 kg/cm<sup>3</sup> and the total porosity is 53.38%, while in the control variant grown along the slope, by conventional technology, these indicators are 1.36 kg/cm<sup>3</sup> for bulk density and 49.69% for total porosity, respectively.</p> <p>When applying the erosion control technology for minimum and unconventional tillage, the surface water runoff is reduced to 4.75 times and the eroded soil to 17.15 times, compared to the control grown along the slope, and this effect is maintained throughout the all period of the study.</p> |
| <p>2017-2019 . 16,07 % (<br/>1005,0 kg/ha) -</p>  | <p>Also, the maize grain yield, grown by this technology, is 16.07% (by 1005.0 kg/ha) higher than that of the control, on average for three years period.</p> <p><b>Key words:</b> water erosion, erosion methods and technologies, soil physical properties, minimum soil tillage, surface mulching, vertical mulching</p>  |



## INTRODUCTION

(Enchev, 2012).  
(Dimitrov et al., 2017; Dimitrov et al., 2019).  
(Nikolova and Dimitrov, 2014; Dimitrov et al., 2019)  
(Mitova et al., 2015; Dimitrov et al., 2016).  
(Malinov et al., 2014; Ruseva et al., 2015).  
(Velizarova and Marinov, 2008).  
(Kolchakov et al., 2019).

The preservation of the natural balance depends on the rational use of natural resources, the soil in particular (Enchev, 2012). The protection of agricultural lands from water erosion can be done with the erosion control agricultural techniques, including various methods and technologies: minimum tillage and some unconventional practices such as surface and vertical mulching (Dimitrov et al., 2017; Dimitrov et al., 2019).

Long-term research on the application of various agro-technical practices in recent years (Nikolova and Dimitrov, 2014; Dimitrov et al., 2019) proves the importance of the approach in choosing agro-technical measures and that the cultivation of agricultural land is a factor in overcoming the negative changes in the physical properties of the soil (Mitova et al., 2015; Dimitrov et al., 2016). These parameters have a direct impact on its fertility. The physical properties and structure of the soil are also influenced by the specific topographic, climatic, soil and economic conditions in Bulgaria.

They create prerequisites for the development of intensive degradation processes by water erosion (Malinov et al., 2014; Ruseva et al., 2015). These processes are greatly enhanced with the development of human activity (Velizarova and Marinov, 2008). On the other hand, the physical characteristics of soil types and applied agricultural practices significantly affect the yield potential of agricultural crops (Kolchakov et al., 2019).

Under the influence of water erosion, the most fertile surface layer of the soil is destroyed and its agrochemical properties deteriorate. It reduces the depth of the root layer, as well as the content of organic matter (Kuncheva, 2016).

The losses are significant and have



2016). (Dimitrov, 2016).

Dimitrov (2016), Hristov (1982), (Todorov et al., 1982; Onchev et al., 1984). Ruseva (2017)

(Nekova, 1998).

reduction of soil organic matter (Dimitrov, 2016).

- In our country, the erosion control agrotechnical measures according to Dimitrov (2016), Hristov (1982) include operations that create conditions for increasing the water permeability of the soil by accelerating water permeability or by extending the time of absorption (Todorov et al., 1982; Onchev et al., 1984).
- According to Ruseva (2017), their aim is to provide a protective plant cover on the soil surface in periods of intensive precipitation, increase the infiltration capacity of the soil and soil organic matter.
- Damage by water erosion affects the yield potential in agricultural production by increasing production costs, reducing yields of crops and net income (Nekova, 1998).

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

2017-2019

"Nikola Pushkarov" - Sofia, in the village of Trastenik, Rousse region, in the case of corn, on soil type medium eroded calcium chernozem with a slope of 5° (8.7%).

The variants of the experiment are the following:  $f_0$  - conventional tillage along the slope (using basic tillage with inversion of the layer)- control;  $f_1$  - conventional tillage across the slope (using basic tillage with inversion of the layer), applied transversely to the slope;  $f_2$  - conventional tillage with surface mulching (using basic tillage with inversion of the layer and with the implementation of surface mulching with manure), applied transversely to the slope;  $f_3$  - maize sowing grown with advanced soil protection technology for minimum and unconventional tillage (for

), ; f<sub>3</sub> -  
 ( -  
 ), -  
 (Shanin, 1977). -  
 : (g/cm<sup>3</sup>),  
 (%) ( -  
 ) (g/cm<sup>3</sup>)  
 100 m<sup>3</sup>,  
 (%)  
 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>  
 (l/ha; m<sup>3</sup>/ha)  
 (kg/ha)

growing corn for grain, includes basic soil tillage without plowing - loosening and soil protection operations vertical mulching with compost or manure, cutting with making ducts simultaneously with sowing and digging and furrowing along the hilling, applied transversely of the slope).

The experiment is based on the block method in four replications (Shanin, 1977).

The aim is to establish the influence of anti-erosion methods on the physical properties of calcium chernozem. Analyzed soil indicators were: bulk density (g/cm<sup>3</sup>), total porosity (%) and hardness when applying conventional and soil protection technologies (advanced technologies for minimum and unconventional tillage).

The bulk density of the soil (g/cm<sup>3</sup>) was determined by the method of Kachinski N.L. with a metal ring with a cutting edge and a volume of 100 cm<sup>3</sup>, and the total soil porosity (%) is calculated by volume and relative density.

Soil hardness kg/cm<sup>2</sup> was measured with Kachinski hardness tester with falling weight. The amount of surface water runoff (l/ha; m<sup>3</sup>/ha) was reported through stationary drainage sites.

The amount of eroded soil (kg/ha) was measured by taking medium samples from the drainage facilities in three-liter bottles, then decanting in laboratory conditions and drying the solid phase.

The data obtained from the measurements are processed with mathematical statistics.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Analyzing the results of three years of research, it was found that agronomic operations affect the physical characteristics of the soil. The quality of

Dimitrov (2008; 2016),

$1,32 \text{ kg/ m}^3$   
 $50,89\%$   
 $f_2 \quad f_3$

$1,35 \text{ kg/ m}^3$ ,

$1,25 \text{ kg/ m}^3$ .

$1,26 \text{ kg/ m}^3$ ,

$1,36 \text{ kg/ m}^3$ .

(Koinov et al., 1980).

tillage is influenced by the bulk density of the soil, which is the most dynamically changing physical indicator.

Volume density, according to Dimitrov (2008; 2016), is a complex and quantitative indicator of soil. All water-physical and physico-mechanical properties of the soil, its biological activity and its diet are connected with it. Machining changes this soil indicator.

The bulk density is closely related to the porosity of the soil, in the calculation of which it participates together with the relative density. At the beginning of the experiment, the bulk density and total porosity in variants  $f_0$  and  $f_1$  show almost the same values ( $1.33 \text{ kg/cm}^3$  and  $1.32 \text{ kg/cm}^3$  at the density and  $50.89\%$  and  $51.04\%$  at the porosity), and for  $f_2$  and  $f_3$  these indicators are different due to the application of erosion control technologies with surface mulching and one for minimum tillage with vertical mulching with manure. During the maximum growth of the plants, the bulk density in the variant with conventional technology for cultivation along the slope  $f_0$  is  $1.35 \text{ kg/cm}^3$ , while in the variant with the advanced technology  $f_3$  decreases to  $1.25 \text{ kg/cm}^3$ .

In the final phase, after harvesting, the bulk density in the variant with applied technology for minimum and unconventional tillage is  $1.26 \text{ kg/cm}^3$ , and in the control variant, grown along the slope is  $1.36 \text{ kg/cm}^3$ .

Porosity is a physical property of the soil that is important for soil fertility.

The water-air properties of the soil and the plant nutrition depend on it (Koinov et al., 1980). These soil indicators in the studies conducted with advanced soil protection technologies for minimum and unconventional tillage using manure as mulching material in the cultivation of corn on sloping terrain have different values

- (Table 1 and 2).

( 1 2).  
 - f<sub>0</sub>,  
 f<sub>0</sub>, f<sub>1</sub>, f<sub>2</sub>  
 53,13%,  
 54,49%.

f<sub>3</sub>,

The total porosity is the most high in variant f<sub>3</sub>, and lowest in variant f<sub>0</sub>, in which conventional technology along the slope are applied.

Before sowing, the total porosity in the variants f<sub>0</sub>, f<sub>1</sub>, f<sub>2</sub> with conventional tillage is 50.89%, 51.04% and 53.13%, respectively, and that in variant f<sub>3</sub> is 54.49%.

**1. (g/cm<sup>3</sup>), (kg/cm<sup>2</sup>) 0-40 cm, (%) 2017-2019 .**  
**Table 1. Bulck density (g/cm<sup>3</sup>), total porosity (%) and soil hardness (kg/cm<sup>2</sup>) in the layer 0-40 cm, in the experiment with maize 2017-2019**

| Year                     | Before sowing                      |                    |                                | Maximum growth                     |                    |                                | After harvesting                   |                    |                                |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
|                          | Bulck density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> ) | Total porosity (%) | Hardness (kg/cm <sup>2</sup> ) | Bulck density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> ) | Total porosity (%) | Hardness (kg/cm <sup>2</sup> ) | Bulck density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> ) | Total porosity (%) | Hardness (kg/cm <sup>2</sup> ) |
| <b>2017</b>              |                                    |                    |                                |                                    |                    |                                |                                    |                    |                                |
| f <sub>0</sub>           | 1.33                               | 50.82              | 14.85                          | 1.38                               | 49.08              | 25.42                          | 1.46                               | 46.13              | 34.10                          |
| f <sub>1</sub>           | 1.32                               | 51.29              | 14.41                          | 1.36                               | 49.82              | 23.20                          | 1.43                               | 47.23              | 30.25                          |
| f <sub>2</sub>           | 1.27                               | 53.14              | 13.30                          | 1.29                               | 52.40              | 19.15                          | 1.38                               | 48.71              | 27.50                          |
| f <sub>3</sub>           | 1.22                               | 54.98              | 12.80                          | 1.26                               | 53.51              | 17.21                          | 1.32                               | 51.29              | 24.33                          |
| <b>2018</b>              |                                    |                    |                                |                                    |                    |                                |                                    |                    |                                |
| f <sub>0</sub>           | 1.38                               | 49.08              | 13.50                          | 1.35                               | 50.18              | 29.17                          | 1.31                               | 51.66              | 52.37                          |
| f <sub>1</sub>           | 1.38                               | 49.08              | 12.03                          | 1.32                               | 51.29              | 27.22                          | 1.30                               | 52.03              | 48.01                          |
| f <sub>2</sub>           | 1.35                               | 50.18              | 9.87                           | 1.31                               | 51.66              | 23.35                          | 1.29                               | 52.40              | 41.70                          |
| f <sub>3</sub>           | 1.31                               | 51.66              | 8.21                           | 1.25                               | 53.87              | 21.16                          | 1.28                               | 52.77              | 32.59                          |
| <b>2019</b>              |                                    |                    |                                |                                    |                    |                                |                                    |                    |                                |
| f <sub>0</sub>           | 1.28                               | 52.77              | 16.72                          | 1.33                               | 50.92              | 38.11                          | 1.32                               | 51.29              | 38.01                          |
| f <sub>1</sub>           | 1.28                               | 52.77              | 16.72                          | 1.32                               | 51.29              | 32.04                          | 1.31                               | 51.66              | 34.83                          |
| f <sub>2</sub>           | 1.19                               | 56.09              | 15.35                          | 1.30                               | 52.03              | 25.87                          | 1.21                               | 55.35              | 26.12                          |
| f <sub>3</sub>           | 1.17                               | 56.83              | 13.02                          | 1.26                               | 53.50              | 20.31                          | 1.19                               | 56.09              | 24.12                          |
| <b>Average 2017-2019</b> |                                    |                    |                                |                                    |                    |                                |                                    |                    |                                |
| f <sub>0</sub>           | <b>1.33</b>                        | <b>50.89</b>       | <b>15.02</b>                   | <b>1.35</b>                        | <b>50.06</b>       | <b>30.90</b>                   | <b>1.36</b>                        | <b>49.69</b>       | <b>41.49</b>                   |
| f <sub>1</sub>           | <b>1.32 n.s</b>                    | <b>51.04 n.s</b>   | <b>14.38 n.s</b>               | <b>1.33 n.s</b>                    | <b>50.80 n.s</b>   | <b>27.48 n.s</b>               | <b>1.34 n.s</b>                    | <b>50.30 n.s</b>   | <b>37.69 n.s</b>               |
| f <sub>2</sub>           | <b>1.27 n.s</b>                    | <b>53.13 n.s</b>   | <b>12.84 n.s</b>               | <b>1.30**</b>                      | <b>52.03 n.s</b>   | <b>22.79 n.s</b>               | <b>1.29 n.s</b>                    | <b>52.15 n.s</b>   | <b>31.77 n.s</b>               |
| f <sub>3</sub>           | <b>1.23 n.s</b>                    | <b>54.49 n.s</b>   | <b>11.34 n.s</b>               | <b>1.25***</b>                     | <b>53.62 n.s</b>   | <b>19.56*</b>                  | <b>1.26 n.s</b>                    | <b>53.38 n.s</b>   | <b>27.01 n.s</b>               |
| P 0.5                    | 0.120                              | 4.460              | 4.530                          | 0.033                              | 1.248              | 8.311                          | 0.145                              | 5.473              | 15.619                         |
| P 0.1                    | 0.176                              | 6.490              | 6.591                          | 0.049                              | 1.816              | 12.093                         | 0.211                              | 7.964              | 22.727                         |
| P 0.01                   | 0.179                              | 6.628              | 6.731                          | 0.0742                             | 2.729              | 18.169                         | 0.318                              | 11.965             | 34.147                         |



- Soil hardness is its ability to provide
- mechanical resistance to the deforming
- action of foreign bodies.

It is in close interaction with other properties such as bulk density, moisture, organic matter content, clay content, etc.

- Hardness is related to bulk density and expresses the mechanical resistance of the soil against the deforming action of agricultural machinery, tillage and the penetration of sprouts and roots of plants. It depends on soil density and moisture, but this dependence is different for different soil types (Todorov et al., 1982).

(Todorov et al., 1982).

- From the obtained results it is established that with calcium chernozem with increasing bulk density, the hardness of the soil increases. As a result of field experiments with advanced soil protection technologies for minimum and unconventional tillage, it was also found that erosion control methods and technologies used in the cultivation of wheat and corn for grain on sloping terrains also have a certain effect on soil hardness.

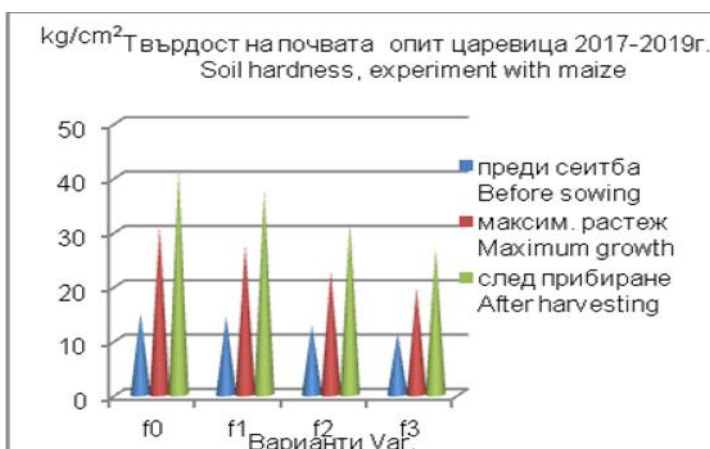


Fig. 3. Soil hardness, experiment with maize for grain 2017-2019



1.  $f_0$  ( ),

$f_0$ ,  $f_1, f_2, f_3$

$f_0, f_1, f_2$

12,84kg/m<sup>2</sup>,  $f_3$  15,02, 14,38, 11,34 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

( kg/m<sup>2</sup> ),  $f_0$  e 30,90 ( $f_1$ ),

$f_2$ , 27,48 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

a. 22,79 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

$f_3$  19,56 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

$f_3$ , 65,1 % -

The results of the different variants of the experiment during the three-years study period are shown in Table. 1. On average for the experiment period in the variant without soil protection  $f_0$  (control), the soil hardness is the highest in all phases. In the initial phase, the values of this indicator have minimal differences between the different variants, but the contour and the application of soil protection operations lead to lower hardness in variants  $f_1, f_2, f_3$  compared to  $f_0$ .

Before sowing maize, the hardness of the soil is the lowest, increasing during the other phases and highest in the last phase, after the harvest. Before sowing, in variants  $f_0, f_1, f_2$  the average value of hardness is still close between the different variants of the experiment and is respectively 15.02, 14.38, 12.84 kg/m<sup>2</sup>, and in variant  $f_3$  with minimum tillage and vertical mulching with manure it is 11.34 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

In the maximum growth phase, on average for the study period, the soil hardness in variant  $f_0$  (control) is higher and is 30.90 kg/m<sup>2</sup>. In the variant with conventional tillage transverse to the slope ( $f_1$ ), in which the influence of water erosion and compaction is significantly influenced by the change in the direction of the applied operations, it is 27.48 kg/m<sup>2</sup>. In variant  $f_2$  with surface mulching with manure, the anti-erosion effects, as well as the higher water holding capacity, affect the soil compaction and hardness. In the maximum growth phase of maize, the hardness in this variant is 22.79 kg/m<sup>2</sup>. The lowest soil hardness is in the variant with minimum tillage and vertical mulching with manure,  $f_3$  respectively 19.56 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

At the end of the vegetation period, the average soil hardness in variant  $f_3$ , with minimum tillage and vertical mulching with manure is 65.1% lower compared to variant  $f_0$ , (control), the values being 27.01

$f_0$ , ( ),  
27,01 kg/m<sup>2</sup> 41,49 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

kg/m<sup>2</sup> and 41.49 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

(Stanev, 1979).

The formation of surface water runoff and the development of erosion processes is a complex phenomenon of genetic, hydrological, hydraulic and hydrodynamic nature (Stanev, 1979).

In our specific case, with the help of drainage sites, after each fall and registered on the area of field experiments runoff, the amount of surface runoff and removed soil is determined. The table 2 presents the results of the study period and change of this erosion process under the influence of the applied advanced soil protection technologies for minimum and unconventional soil tillage in the cultivation of corn for grain on sloping terrains.

2.

2017-2019 .

**Table 2. Total amount of surface runoff and eroded soil, experiment with maize for grain 2017-2019**

| Date                     | Precipitation<br>l/m <sup>2</sup> | m <sup>3</sup> / ha |                |                |                | kg/ha           |                |                |              |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
|                          |                                   | Surface runoff      |                |                |                | Eroded soil     |                |                |              |
|                          |                                   | / Variant           |                |                |                | / Variant       |                |                |              |
|                          |                                   | $f_0$               | $f_1$          | $f_2$          | $f_3$          | $f_0$           | $f_1$          | $f_2$          | $f_3$        |
| 06.05.17                 | 20.2                              | 255.582             | 149.591        | 133.060        | 50.269         | 3116.7          | 1240.6         | 1162.8         | 140.1        |
| 27.05.17                 | 13.0                              | 168.435             | 99.785         | 88.198         | 32.618         | 2017.7          | 748.2          | 697.6          | 89.0         |
| 19.06.17                 | 11.0                              | 170.149             | 95.054         | 85.230         | 31.812         | 2039.6          | 756.3          | 705.7          | 89.7         |
| 02.07.17                 | 32.0                              | 261.940             | 153.979        | 137.809        | 51.544         | 2960.6          | 1136.9         | 1059.6         | 133.4        |
| 13.08.17                 | 18.0                              | 220.299             | 129.462        | 114.912        | 41.477         | 2692.2          | 1036.7         | 925.9          | 119.2        |
| 03.09.17                 | 42.0                              | 256.567             | 153.979        | 134.841        | 50.336         | 2885.9          | 1118.3         | 1030.4         | 130.0        |
| <b>Total year</b>        | <b>136.2</b>                      | <b>1332.97</b>      | <b>781.850</b> | <b>694.050</b> | <b>258.056</b> | <b>15712.7</b>  | <b>6037.0</b>  | <b>5582.0</b>  | <b>701.4</b> |
| 25.05.18                 | 12.0                              | 106.171             | 72.171         | 59.610         | 35.858         | 1193.6          | 634.6          | 355.3          | 182.5        |
| 16.06.18                 | 14.5                              | 107.286             | 73.238         | 60.584         | 36.036         | 1207.1          | 657.5          | 359.1          | 185.6        |
| 26.06.18                 | 24.0                              | 145.428             | 103.345        | 86.104         | 51.834         | 1766.8          | 1016.0         | 540.9          | 276.4        |
| 28.06.18                 | 12.0                              | 121.338             | 90.107         | 70.103         | 41.894         | 1474.5          | 832.9          | 444.1          | 230.1        |
| 30.06.18                 | 16.0                              | 158.364             | 112.313        | 96.623         | 58.580         | 1916.3          | 1135.0         | 593.1          | 305.7        |
| 19.07.18                 | 15.0                              | 181.304             | 101.250        | 82.330         | 32.991         | 2197.6          | 820.0          | 710.1          | 91.3         |
| <b>Total year</b>        | <b>93.5</b>                       | <b>1210.23</b>      | <b>701.466</b> | <b>586.212</b> | <b>226.042</b> | <b>15052.9</b>  | <b>5772.5</b>  | <b>5093.5</b>  | <b>647.7</b> |
| 02.06.19                 | 27.0                              | 141.691             | 101.767        | 84.231         | 50.659         | 1816.7          | 1069.3         | 559.5          | 285.0        |
| 04.06.19                 | 11.0                              | 124.428             | 89.046         | 68.462         | 43.114         | 1508.5          | 848.3          | 452.8          | 235.8        |
| 17.06.19                 | 10.0                              | 108.487             | 71.661         | 60.385         | 36.279         | 1236.1          | 661.1          | 363.6          | 189.9        |
| <b>Total year</b>        | <b>48.0</b>                       | <b>374.606</b>      | <b>262.474</b> | <b>213.078</b> | <b>130.052</b> | <b>4561.3</b>   | <b>2578.7</b>  | <b>1375.9</b>  | <b>710.7</b> |
| <b>Average 2017-2019</b> | <b>92.566</b>                     | <b>972.602</b>      | <b>581.93</b>  | <b>497.78</b>  | <b>204.71</b>  | <b>11775.63</b> | <b>4796.06</b> | <b>4017.13</b> | <b>686.6</b> |

Anova test  
Anova test

/ Surface runoff HSD[0.05]=33,34 HSD[0.01]=41,04 P 0,0001  
/ Eroded soil HSD[0.05]=357,05 HSD[0.01]=439,58 P 0,0001

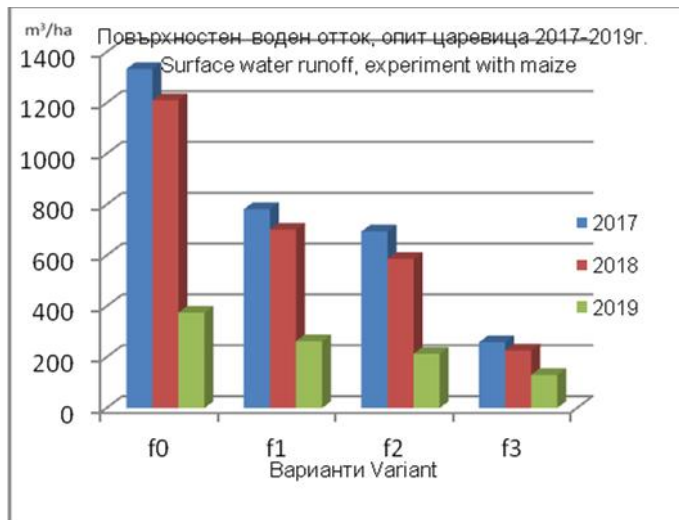


Fig. 4. Surface water runoff, experiment with maize for grain 2017-2019

From the data in Table 2 it can be seen that the values of the surface water runoff and the eroded soil are the lowest in variant  $f_3$ , in which the corn is grown with the help of advanced soil protection technology. In this variant the surface water runoff decreases 4.75 times (from 972.602 m<sup>3</sup>/ha to 204.71 m<sup>3</sup>/ha).

A weaker anti-erosion effect is observed in variant  $f_2$  grown by soil protection technology using surface mulching with manure, transverse to the slope, respectively 497.78 m<sup>3</sup>/ha or 1.95 times.

The surface water runoff in variant  $f_1$ , grown by traditional technology applied transversely to the slope, decreased 1.67 times (581.93 m<sup>3</sup>/ha), compared to the control 972.602 m<sup>3</sup>/ha. The value of this erosion indicator is the highest in the variant  $f_0$  - 972.602 m<sup>3</sup>/ha.

The results obtained for the amount of eroded soil are similar. The average annual values of this indicator are the lowest in variant  $f_3$ , which uses the advanced soil protection technology for minimum tillage with vertical mulching.

From the data in Table 2 it can be seen that the values of the surface water runoff and the eroded soil are the lowest in variant  $f_3$ , in which the corn is grown with the help of advanced soil protection technology. In this variant the surface water runoff decreases 4.75 times (from 972.602 m<sup>3</sup>/ha to 204.71 m<sup>3</sup>/ha).

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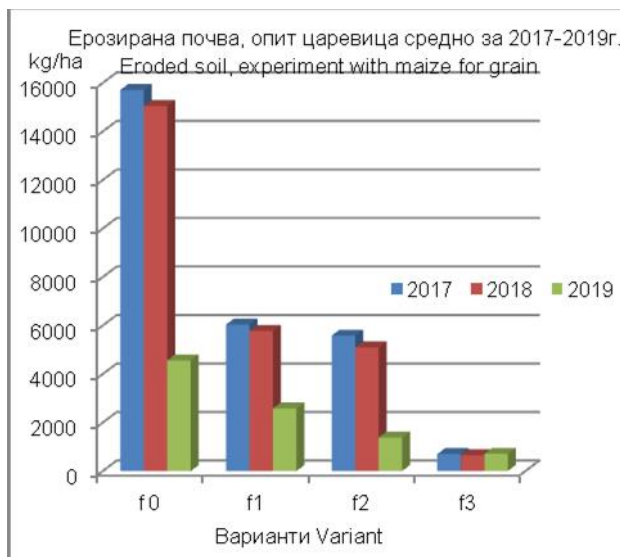
The results obtained for the amount of eroded soil are similar. The average annual values of this indicator are the lowest in variant  $f_3$ , which uses the advanced soil protection technology for minimum tillage with vertical mulching.

686,6 kg/ha  
( - ) 0,058.  
f<sub>2</sub>. 4017,13 kg/ha,  
0,341. f<sub>1</sub>,  
4 796,06 kg/ha,  
0,407,  
11 775,6 kg/ha.

The amount of eroded soil during the studied period is 686.6 kg/ha with a parameter for the effectiveness of anti-erosion measures (P - factor) 0.058.

Significantly higher is the average annual value of eroded soil when sowing corn, cultivated and grown transversely on the slope with the application of surface mulching with manure f<sub>2</sub>. It is respectively 4017.13 kg/ha, for the three - year study period, with the value of the P - factor averaging 0.341.

In variant f<sub>1</sub>, grown by conventional technology, applied transversely to the slope, the average annual amount of eroded soil is 4 796.06 kg/ha, with P factor - 0.407, and the highest is in variant f<sub>0</sub> - 11 775.6 kg/ha.



5. Eroded soil, experiment with maize for grain 2017-2019

These results confirm that the highest are the flow-reducing and anti-erosion efficiency of the advanced soil protection technology for minimum and unconventional tillage with the application of the methods of loosening (as a main

), (

,

( 2) ,

f<sub>3</sub>.

4,75 ,

17,15 ,

f<sub>0</sub>,

,

.

1,95 ,

2,93 ,

.

3 ,

,

f<sub>3</sub> 7 256 kg/ha,

,

.

2017-2019 . 16,07 % (

1005,0 kg/ha) -

f

tillage), vertical mulching with manure, slits with ducts formation.

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- From the results obtained for the erosion studies (Table 2) it can be seen that the values of the surface water runoff and the eroded soil are the lowest in the variant f<sub>3</sub>.

In this case, the surface water runoff decreased to 4.75 times and the eroded soil to 17.15 times, compared to the control f<sub>0</sub>, grown along the slope, and this effect is maintained throughout the study period.

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- A weaker anti-erosion effect is observed in variant f<sub>2</sub> with the application of erosion control technology using the method of surface mulching with manure.

With it the reduction of the surface runoff is up to 1.95 times, and with the amount of eroded soil it is up to 2.93 times, compared to the control.

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- The applied technologies for tillage in the different variants of the experiment and the changes in the physical properties of the soil affect the obtained grain yields.

Presented in Table 3 results for the reported average yields of maize for the three-years study period show that the yields of this crop are highest in variant f<sub>3</sub>, respectively 7 256 kg/ha, which uses advanced soil protection technology for minimum and unconventional tillage, including methods of vertical mulching with manure, slits with ducts formation in different stages of the production cycle and furrowing with slits with ducts formation, simultaneously with the technological operation of hilling.

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The yield of maize for grain on average for 2017-2019 is 16.07% (by 1005.0 kg/ha) higher than that of the control for traditionally grown crops on the slope.

$f_2$  ( )  
 6869 kg/ha  
 - 9.88 % ( 618kg/ha),  
 $f_1$  5,17 %  
 323,3 kg/ha.

Compared to the control variant  $f_0$ , in variant  $f_2$  (with conventional tillage system across the slope and with application of surface mulching with manure) the yield is 6869 kg/ha and the increase of the average yield is lower by 9.88% (by 618kg/ha), and in variant  $f_1$  it is 5.17% or 323.3kg/ha.

**3. kg/ha 2017-2019 .**  
**- 14%**

**Table 3. Grain yield kg/ha for the period 2017-2019, experiment with maize for grain, at humidity – 14%**

| Variant | 2017          |       | 2018  |       | 2019  |       | / Grain yield 2017-2019 |        |
|---------|---------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------------------|--------|
|         | / Grain yield |       |       |       |       |       |                         |        |
|         | kg/ha         | %     | kg/ha | %     | kg/ha | %     | kg/ha                   | %      |
| $f_0$   | 5723          | 100   | 6105  | 100   | 6925  | 100   | 6251                    | 100    |
| $f_1$   | 6041          | 105.6 | 6426  | 105.3 | 7256  | 104.8 | 6574.3                  | 105.17 |
| $f_2$   | 6326          | 110.5 | 6720  | 110.1 | 7561  | 109.2 | 6869                    | 109.88 |
| $f_3$   | 6677          | 116.7 | 7122  | 116.7 | 7969  | 112.1 | 7256                    | 116.07 |
| GD 5    | 3.83          | 1.12  | 66.9  | 1.2   | 72.0  | 1.0   |                         |        |
| GD 1    | 4.50          | 1.54  | 101.4 | 1.9   | 109.8 | 1.5   |                         |        |
| GD 0.1  | 8.09          | 2.17  | 162.9 | 3.0   | 176.6 | 2.5   |                         |        |

- The differences between the variants are positive and well statistically proven.
- All these results for average yields of corn in the conducted experiments emphasize the advantages of the offered advanced soil protection technologies for minimum and unconventional tillage in growing corn on sloping terrains over the conventional ones used so far in our country.
- This is due to the higher water retention effect created by them, the better water accumulation capacity and the more appropriate air regime for the whole period of growing the agricultural crops.
- This confirms the correctness of the decision to use these soil protection technologies, combining complementary soil protection methods, for growing corn for grain on sloping terrain.
- Moreover, the effect of such an approach is significantly greater than the effects of single applied soil protection methods in the considered technologies and this

(Dimitrov, 2016).

applies to both crops with a fused surface and row crops (Dimitrov, 2016).

## CONCLUSIONS

The conclusions that can be formulated as a result of the research conducted using advanced soil protection technologies for minimum and unconventional tillage and the system of machines for water erosion control in the cultivation of corn for grain on sloping terrain:

1. The effect of the various complementary soil protection agrotechnical methods included in the advanced soil protection technology for minimum and unconventional tillage (loosening, vertical mulching, slits with ducts formation during sowing and hoeing, furrowing with slits with ducts formation) on the physical properties of the soil, contribute to creation of better conditions for growth and development of maize and to increase yields.

In the maximum growth of maize, the bulk density in the variant grown by this technology is  $1.25 \text{ g/cm}^3$ , and the total porosity is  $53.62\%$  and  $19.56 \text{ kg/cm}^2$  hardness, while in the control variant grown on the slope, according to traditional technology, these indicators are respectively  $1.35 \text{ g/cm}^3$  for bulk density,  $49.69\%$  for total porosity and  $30.90 \text{ kg/cm}^2$  hardness.

The average yields of corn grain also increased, in the variant with applied soil protection system for cultivation, compared to the control by  $16.07\%$ .

2. The soil protection technologies for growing corn for grain on sloping terrains, as well as the system of machines for their implementation are rational and economically expedient means from agrotechnical, technical point of view for protection of the soil from

1. The effect of the various complementary soil protection agrotechnical methods included in the advanced soil protection technology for minimum and unconventional tillage (loosening, vertical mulching, slits with ducts formation during sowing and hoeing, furrowing with slits with ducts formation) on the physical properties of the soil, contribute to creation of better conditions for growth and development of maize and to increase yields.

1,25 g/ m<sup>3</sup>,  
53,62% 19,56 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>

1,35 g/ m<sup>3</sup>,  
49,69% 30,90 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>

16,07%.

2.

( 4,75 )  
( 17,15 ),

- water erosion. They create conditions for a significant reduction of surface water runoff (by 4.75 times) and the soil loss (by 17.15 times), compared to the control cultivated along the slope.
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