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Possibilities for Use and Application of Broomcorn

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Review paper

SUMMARY

Sorghum
(*Sorghum vulgare*
var. *technicum* [Körn.]),

Sorghum

The subject of this review are the species of the genus *Sorghum* and in particular the broomcorn (*Sorghum vulgare* var. *technicum* [Körn.]), as well as the distribution, cultivation and use of the crop. Discussed is the question of the systematics, the achievements of the national selection and the directions in the research work for improvement and creation of new varieties in the species of the genus *Sorghum* and in particular the broomcoorn during the last decades.

Emphasis is placed on the advantages and potential opportunities for growing fodder and seeds in climates frequent climatic anomalies. Its

<p>multifaceted application as a promising fodder and technical culture in modern conventional and organic agriculture is discussed.</p> <p>Key words: genus <i>Sorghum</i>, broomcorn, breeding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - multifaceted application as a promising - fodder and technical culture in modern - conventional and organic agriculture is - discussed. <p>Key words: genus <i>Sorghum</i>, broomcorn, breeding</p>
<p>(<i>Sorghum vulgare</i> var. <i>technicum</i> [Körn.] (Mazdrakov, 1937).</p> <p>(Berenji, 2008).</p>	<p>Broomcorn (<i>Sorghum vulgare</i> var. <i>technicum</i> [Körn.]) is a well-known and cultivated plant in our country in the past (Mazdrakov, 1937). Limited scientific research, lack of varieties and technological solutions for cultivation the crop are prerequisites for limited distribution in our country.</p> <p>The stimulus for ecological production in modern agriculture leads to a renewed interest in unique crops that are not necessarily related to food production.</p> <p>Trends in the conservation of renewable resources and environmentally friendly living require the use of ecological, natural and biodegradable products (Berenji, 2008).</p>
<p><i>Sorghum</i></p> <p>(<i>Sorghum vulgare</i> var. <i>technicum</i> [Körn.]</p>	<p>Nowadays, broomcorn has more and more applications in industry and people's lives. The plant is well known as a source of raw material for making brooms and brushes for the household, but is increasingly used for decorative purposes (landscaping, decoration, arranging), caused by diversity in the shape of the brooms, color and size of seeds, and habitus, and plant brotherhood. In this aspect, new directions and directions of work in the selection of this crop are emerging. The cross-breeding and the possibilities for hybridization between the species of the genus <i>Sorghum</i> are a prerequisite for increasing the variety of forms with different applicability.</p>
<p>(<i>Sorghum vulgare</i> var. <i>technicum</i> [Körn.]</p>	<p>Broomcorn (<i>Sorghum vulgare</i> var. <i>technicum</i> [Körn.]) is an annual plant of the family cereals <i>Poaceae</i> (<i>Gramineae</i>),</p>

Poaceae (Gramineae),
Panicoide, Sorghum,
Sorghum bicolor (L.) Moench –
(Hill, 1937; Wiersema and Dahlberg, 2007).

(de Wet and Harlan, 1971; de Wet and Huckabay, 1967; Harlan, 1975; Snowden, 1936). Dahlberg (2000)

Sorghum
25-30
(Dahlberg, 2000).

– (*Sorghum bicolor* (L.) Moench.), (*Sorghum vulgare* var. *saccharatum* L.), (*Sorghum vulgare* var. *technicum* [Körn.]), (*Sorghum sudanense* (Piper) Stapf) and *Sorghum halepense* (L.) Pers. (Berenji and Dahlberg, 2004).

(Dahlberg et al., 2012).

: *Sorghum bicolor* var. *technicum* (Körn.) Stapf ex Holland; *Sorghum dochna* var. *technicum* (Körn.) Snowden; *Sorghum technicum* (Körn.) Batt. & Trab.; *Sorghum vulgare* var. *technicum* (Körn.) Jáv. (Marks and Townsend, 1973); *Sorghum bicolor* subsp. *drummondii* (Steud.) de Wet ex Davidse (de W t, 1978).

(), (), (), (); sirak metlaš (), (), (), broom

subfamily Panicoide, genus *Sorghum*, species *Sorghum bicolor* (L.) Moench - sorghum, subspecies broomcorn, the botanical name most commonly used (Hill, 1937; Wiersema and Dahlberg, 2007).

A number of authors in their scientific papers have described the taxonomy, origin, and evolution of sorghum (de Wet and Harlan, 1971; de Wet and Huckabay, 1967; Harlan, 1975; Snowden, 1936). Dahlberg (2000) reviews the current classification and uses an integrated system to describe the variations in cultivated sorghum.

According to taxonomic classifications, the genus *Sorghum* includes 25-30 species, wild and cultivated forms widely distributed with versatile application (Dahlberg, 2000). According to the morphological features and the nature of their use, the different forms of this genus are grouped into four varieties – grain sorghum (*Sorghum bicolor* (L.) Moench.), sugar broom (*Sorghum vulgare* var. *saccharatum* L.), broomcorn (*Sorghum vulgare* var. *technicum* [Körn.]), Sudangrass (*Sorghum sudanense* (Piper) Stapf) and Johnson grass (*Sorghum halepense* (L.) Pers.) (Berenji and Dahlberg, 2004). Johnson grass is known as a major perennial weed that reproduces by seeds and rhizomes (Dahlberg et al., 2012).

In the scientific literature, the species is described by many synonyms: *Sorghum bicolor* var. *technicum* (Körn.) Staff ex Holland; *Sorghum dochna* var. *technicum* (Körn.) Snowden; *Sorghum technicum* (Körn.) Batt. & Trab.; *Sorghum vulgare* var. *technicum* (Körn.) Jáv. (Marks and Townsend, 1973); *Sorghum bicolor* subsp. *drummondii* (Steud.) de Wet ex Davidse (de W t, 1978).

In different countries, broomcorn is also known by a number of local (folk, indigenous) names – broomcorn, tatar, sorghum (Bulgaria); sirak metlaš (Serbia), (Ukraine), broomcorn (Macedonia), broom corn and broom

corn broom millet (),
 metla (,),
 (), szczotka,
 miotła, ()
 (EPPO Global
 Database, 2016).

millet (USA and England), metla
 (Slovakia, Slovenia, Croatia),
 (Russia), szczotka, miotła,
 (Poland) and others (EPPO Global
 Database, 2016).

- As a result of the main direction of
 use – for the manufacture of brooms and
 brushes for the household, the local
 selection of broomcorn was focused on
 the selection of brooms with long
 branches. In the recent past, the crop was
 also used for fodder production
 (Mazdrakov, 1937).

- In our country in the 30s and 40s of
 the last century, when broomcorn was
 grown everywhere in private yards,
 scientific and experimental work was
 carried out and field experiments were
 carried out in some scientific experimental
 stations and institutes in the field of
 productivity. Widespread, grown and used
 in the region of Pavlikeni were the so-
 called local varieties, which are the work
 of folk selection - Mihalska improved,
 Pavlikenska yellow, Gornooryahovska
 low-stemmed and Pavlikenska red grain
 (Mazdrakov, 1937; Terziev et al., 2006).
 In the available literature in our country,
 there are no data for purposeful breeding
 and improvement work on the species
 and no variety has been created and
 registered in the National Variety List of
 the Republic of Bulgaria.

- Gene plasm of these local varieties
 grown in Central Northern Bulgaria
 (Mazdrakov, 1934a; 1934b; 1937) has not
 been stored in scientific institutions.
 However, in the different regions of
 Bulgaria has saved of homogeneous and
 well-balanced populations of broomcorn.

- From the middle of the last century
 after the import of the first hybrids of
 sorghum for grain originating in the USA
 and the former USSR, the yield in our
 country began to be tested at the Institute
 of Genetics and Plant Breeding in Sofia,
 Institute of Animal Husbandry in Stara
 Zagora, Institute of Barley in Karnobat,

(Mazdrakov, 1937).
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(Mazdrakov, 1937;
 Terziev et al., 2006).

(Mazdrakov, 1934a;
 1934b; 1937)

(1966-1969 .)

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Sorghum

(*Sorghum bicolor* L.),

71" „ 76" (Kalaydzhev et al., 1969).

Sorghum, 80-90⁻

(

et al., 1987; Tanchev, 1989; 1996; Tsukov, 1991).

(Krachunov et al., 2002; Krachunov and Ilieva, 2005a; 2005b).

(Tsukov and Kertikov, 1995; Dimitrova and Tsukov, 1996; Dechev et al., 1987),

(Tsochev and Kertikov, 1995).

1999 .

(*Sorghum bicolor* L.) (*Sorghum sudanense* (Piper.) Stapf.)

(Kikindonov et al., 2005; 2008; Slanev,

the Institute of Wheat and Sunflower in General Toshevo, and at a later stage in the experimental stations in Pavlikeni, Lom, Haskovo, Targovishte, Razgrad. Attempts were also made (1966-1969) to establish the digestibility and nutritional value, chemical composition of grain and biomass at the Institute of Forage Crops in Pleven.

In the 70s of the 20th century in the Institute of Forage Crops in Pleven in species of the genus *Sorghum* was carried out selection and improvement work in different directions in sorghum for grain (*Sorghum bicolor* L.) were studied, as a result of which it was registered the first hybrids of sorghum for grain "Pleven 71" and "Pleven 76" (Kalaydzhev et al., 1969). Knowing the potential opportunities, individual species of the genus *Sorghum* were tested in the 80-90s in different regions (Karnobat, Pavlikeni, Pleven, Sadovo, Sredets and Targovishte). Grain sorghum, sorghum-sudan hybrids and sudangrass have been worked in different directions - testing of hybrids and introduced varieties in terms of fodder and seed productivity, and separate agro-technical units of the cultivation technology have been developed (Dechev et al., 1987; Tanchev, 1989; 1996; Tsukov, 1991). The chemical composition and digestibility of feed from sorghum, sudangrass and their hybrids, yield, energy and protein nutrition were studied (Krachunov et al., 2002; Krachunov and Ilieva, 2005a; 2005b). Separate agro-technical units for cultivation have been studied (Tsukov and Kertikov, 1995; Dimitrova and Tsukov, 1996; Dechev et al., 1987), as well as possibilities for their use in compaction of crop rotations (Tsochev and Kertikov, 1995).

Since 1999, the Agricultural Institute in Shumen has resumed research work with sorghum (*Sorghum bicolor* L.) and sudangrass (*Sorghum sudanense* (Piper.) Stapf.) in the direction of grain and green mass production (Kikindonov et al., 2005; 2008; Slanev,

2006; 2010). - - 2006; 2010). Are created and registered in the official variety list of the Republic of Bulgaria: The first Bulgarian variety of sudangrass - "Enge 1" (2009) and two varieties of sorghum "Maxibel" (2014) and "Maxired" (2014) (Kikindonov et al., 2004; Kikindonov et al., 2005; Slanev, 2005; Kikindonov and Slanev, 2011).

Since 2001, the Institute of Forage Crops in Pleven has been conducting research on sowing density, fertilization rates, etc. on grain and green mass yield in sorghum varieties and hybrids for grain, sudangrass and sorghum hybrid hybrids (Krachunov et al., 2002; Kertikov and Lingorski, 2007; Golubinova et al., 2017a).

Breeding and improvement work is also performed in sudangrass and sorghum in different directions: cytological studies to determine the radiosensitivity of different sudangrass varieties to the effects of a wide range of doses of γ -rays (Golubinova and Gecheff, 2011; Golubinova and Gecheff, 2012); Study of the possibilities for enrichment of the initial genetic diversity in sudangrass (*Sorghum sudanense* (Piper) Stapf.) by using γ -rays (physical mutagenesis) together with the Institute of Plant Physiology and Genetics in Sofia (Golubinova, 2012a); the optimal doses for induction of economically useful mutations in different varieties of Sudan in laboratory, greenhouse and field conditions have been established (Golubinova, 2012a; 2012b; Golubinova and Marinov-Serafimov, 2015; Golubinova and Marinov-Serafimov, 2015; Golubinova and Marinov-Serafimov, 2019c). A variety of forms and lines of sudangrass, grain sorghum and broomcorn have been created through various breeding methods (hybridization, physical and chemical mutagenesis), evaluated by a complex of quantitative and qualitative characteristics (Golubinova and Alexiev, 2007; Golubinova et al., 2015a; Golubinova et al., 2015b; Golubinova et al., 2017; Golubinova and Marinov-

(Krachunov et al., 2002; Kertikov and Lingorski, 2007; Golubinova et al., 2017a).

(Golubinova and Gecheff, 2011; Golubinova and Gecheff, 2012);

(*Sorghum sudanense* (Piper) Stapf.)

(Golubinova, 2012);

(Golubinova, 2012 , 2012b, Golubinova and Marinov-Serafimov, 2015; Golubinova and Marinov-Serafimov, 2015; Golubinova and Marinov-Serafimov, 2019);

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(Golubinova et al., 2015a; Golubinova et al., 2015b; Golubinova et al., 2017; Golubinova and

Marinov-Serafimov, 2016; Golubina et al., 2016a; Golubina et al., 2016b; Golubina and Marinov-Serafimov, 2017a; 2017b).

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() *Sorghum*
vulgare var. *technicum* (Körn.) -

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(Golubina and Marinov-Serafimov, 2019a; Marinov-Serafimov and Golubina, 2019b; Golubina et al., 2020).

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Sorghum)

(Golubina and Marinov-Serafimov, 2019b; Golubina, 2020; Marinov-Serafimov et al., 2018a; Marinov-Serafimov and Golubina, 2019a).

(
) *Sorghum vulgare* var.
technicum [Körn.]
Sorghum

(Marinov-Serafimov and Golubina, 2015a; 2015b; Marinov-Serafimov et al., 2016; Marinov-Serafimov et al., 2018c; Marinov-Serafimov and Golubina, 2019c; Marinov-Serafimov and Golubina, 2020).

Sorghum

Serafimov, 2016; Golubina et al., 2016a; Golubina et al., 2016b; Golubina and Marinov-Serafimov, 2017a; 2017b).

Since 2017 at the Institute of Forage Crops in Pleven, began targeted work on the collection, evaluation and preservation of genetic diversity in broomcorn. A working collection was created and the productivity (fodder and seeds) of local populations of broomcorn (*Sorghum vulgare* var. *technicum* [Körn.]) was tested in different locations of the country (Pleven, Pavlikeni, Plovdiv, Knezha and Kardzhali).

In connection with overcoming the natural dormancy of the seeds, the optimal sowing dates and the possibilities for presowing treatment with growth regulators were studied (Golubina and Marinov-Serafimov, 2019a; Marinov-Serafimov and Golubina, 2019b; Golubina et al., 2020). The accumulation of cyanglycosides in aboveground biomass (similar to species of the genus *Sorghum*) and the influence of meteorological factors on the germination and initial development of plants were studied (Golubina and Marinov-Serafimov, 2019b; Golubina, 2020; Marinov-Serafimov et al., 2018; Marinov-Serafimov and Golubina, 2019a). The selectivity and doses of application of different groups of herbicides (soil and vegetation) in *Sorghum vulgare* var. *technicum* [Körn.] and some species of the genus *Sorghum* as a means of combating monocotyledonous and dicotyledonous weeds (Marinov-Serafimov and Golubina, 2015a; 2015b; Marinov-Serafimov et al., 2016; Marinov-Serafimov et al., 2018c; Marinov-Serafimov and Golubina, 2019c; Marinov-Serafimov and Golubina, 2020). The allelopathic potential of the species of the genus *Sorghum* and in particular of the broomcorn was also studied, as an opportunity for use in breeding programs as for improving the competitiveness against weeds (Marinov-Serafimov et al.,

(Marinov-Serafimov et al., 2013; Golubinova and Ilieva, 2014; Marinov-Serafimov et al., 2016; Marinov-Serafimov et al., 2018b; Nikolov et al., 2019).

Sorghum vulgare var. *technicum* [Körn.]

(Elangovan et al., 2015).

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2013; Golubinova and Ilieva, 2014; Marinov-Serafimov et al., 2016; Marinov-Serafimov et al., 2018b; Nikolov et al., 2019).

Currently at the Institute of Plant and Genetic Resources in Sadovo to the national collection of germplasm of *Sorghum vulgare* var. *technicum* [Körn.] are preserved mainly introduced varieties and several local accessions.

This is a good reason to take measures to collect and preserve the valuable genetic reserve of local populations, which are formed on a broad genetic basis, have high ecological plasticity, determining their selection value (Elangovan et al., 2015).

The knowledge of multilateral application (for fodder, technical and industrial purposes) and the allelopathic potential give grounds to consider broomcorn as a promising crop in building balanced crop rotations in conventional and organic farming and to find application as an alternative to regulate the degree of weeding in organic production. In this way, a reduction in the use of herbicides will be achieved, which is a prerequisite for obtaining ecologically clean fodder.

In the current debate on the problem of alternative sources of feed during the summer months, in particular cereals, opportunities are increasingly sought after to reduce and limit investment in feed and seed production and obtain high and stable yields.

Broomcorn can be considered as a promising cereal crop, with potential opportunities and advantages when grown in conditions of extreme droughts.

The increased demand on the market of ecological and natural products during the last decade of the 20th and the beginning of the 21st century is a prerequisite for renewed interest in

Sorghum vulgare var. *technicum* [Körn.] (Berenji and Kisgeci, 1996, Mahmood, 2014).

(*Sorghum vulgare* var. *technicum* [Körn.]

- ecological and biodegradable products in the household and household, which requires an increase in *Sorghum vulgare* var. *technicum* [Körn.] (Berenji and Kisgeci, 1996, Mahmood, 2014).

CONCLUSIONS

- This review focuses on the benefits, analyzes the possibilities for growing broomcorn (*Sorghum vulgare* var. *technicum* [Körn.]) for technical and fodder purposes, demonstrates the possibilities and confirms the potential of culture for its multilateralism application and cultivation for fodder and seeds in the conditions of frequently expressed climatic anomalies.
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- The lack of a registered variety in our country, sporadic studies on the cultivation and improvement of the species and the scarce literature probably contribute to the ignorance of the possibilities of the culture. The published results of studies are valid for certain varieties and accessions for the conditions under which they were conducted. This confirms the need to collect, storage and preserves local populations, conduct targeted selection and improvement work and deepen technological research, which is a prerequisite for creating a promising source material for selection.
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Green mass productivity and stability in pea cultivars under organic production

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Original scientific paper

SUMMARY

To optimize the organic farming system, a diverse range of productive, stable and well-adapted cultivars in different crops is needed. The present study aimed to assess the performances of pea forage cultivars (Glyans, Svit, Kamerton, Modus, Pleven 4) in terms of main characteristics (morphological parameters, green mass productivity, stability, biochemical composition) in organic production conditions.

The experimental activity was carried out during the period 2012-2014, in accordance with the organic standards. It was used a randomized block method. The dispersion analysis proved the influence of the factors "cultivar" and "environment", as well as their interaction on the forage yield. The comparative assessment showed that the Bulgarian cultivar Pleven 4 was distinguished by a complex of characteristics (greater leaf area and biomass/plant, high productivity /17.1 t green mass ha⁻¹/, stability /bi = 1.06/, adaptability /A = 15.9/, biochemical composition of forage /198.55 g kg⁻¹ DM crude protein) determinant it as the most

2012-2014 .,

(17.1 t ha⁻¹),

(bi = 1.06), (A = 15.9)
 (198.55 g kg⁻¹ DM
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suitable for organic production conditions. The Ukrainian cultivar Kamerton also demonstrated good performances and similar values regarding these parameters. Changes in main soil parameters (mineral nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium content) after forage pea harvesting showed higher values in Glyans, Svit and Pleven 4, which confirms the direct dependence cultivar-soil parameters established in previous studies. These cultivars can be used to improve soil fertility in organic production.

Key words: organic farming, biological performances, cultivars, pea

2092/91
 (Hepperly et al., 2006),
 (Piment I et al., 2005, Niggli et al., 2009),
 (Mäder et al., 2002)
 (Badgley et al., 2007).
 (IFOAM, 2019)
 2019 .
 70
 1.4%
 (35.6
 (14.6
 (8
 (37.6%)
 (24%).
 Gopinath et al.
 (2009),

INTRODUCTION

The European Union regulation No. 2092/91 defines organic farming as the most demanding production system. It maintains and improves soil fertility (Hepperly et al., 2006), reduces the negative impact of agriculture on climate change (Piment I et al., 2005, Niggli et al., 2009), guarantees ecosystems balance (Mäder et al., 2002), and produces healthy and quality foods (Badgley et al., 2007). According to the International Federation of Organic Farming Movements (IFOAM, 2019), the organic farming area in the world in 2019 is almost 70 million hectares, representing 1.4% of the total arable land.

Australia has the largest area (35.6 million hectares), followed by Europe (14.6 million hectares) and Latin America (8 million hectares). The organic area increases in all continents. The countries with the highest organic share of their total agricultural land are Liechtenstein (37.9%), Samoa (37.6%) and Austria (24%).

One of the main problems in organic production is low productivity.

According to Gopinath et al. (2009), the lack of systematic researches and a

- package of practices for different crops limit the realization of high yields in this production. Identifying suitable crop cultivars that are responsive to a great extent to organic management is the key to achieve higher productivity.

- The authors recommend testing "conventional" varieties and determining their suitability for organic growing conditions. Torricelli (2006) also notes that for optimizing the organic farming system is required a diverse range of well-adapted varieties.

- In many species, especially forage crops, it has not been established whether modern varieties can adapt to organic conditions, so screening studies are needed to define the most appropriate ones.

- Organic farmers also have to make the right varietal choice of forage crops, as there are no suitable breeding programs for these species yet.

This study aimed to assess the performances of pea cultivars in terms of main characteristics (morphological parameters, green mass productivity, stability, biochemical composition) in organic production conditions.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

- The experimental activity was carried out at the Institute of Forage Crops (Pleven) during the period 2012-2014. The soil type was slightly leached chernozem. The biological performances of one Bulgarian (Pleven 4) and four introduced cultivars (Glyans, Svit, Kamerton, Modus, originating in Ukraine) of peas (*Pisum sativum* L.) under organic production were studied. A randomized block method, in three replications, was used. The sowing was done manually, with a rate of 120 seeds m⁻². In accordance with the organic standards (Regulation No 1/07.02.2013), no chemical fertilizers and

BBCH 65
 (Meier, 2003)
 (20/30/40 cm) (Beck et al., 1993),
 (t ha⁻¹)
 (Sinyakova and
 Ivanova, 1981),
 (OMA, 1990).
 30
 cm (Minta and Tsige, 2014).
 (500 g),
 pH (Totev et al., 1987),
 (Cornfield, 1966), (Egner-Riehm),
 , Robert et al. (2002).
 (Eberhart and Russell, 1966),
 (bi)
 (Si²di).
 bi. Si²di
 (Valchinkov, 1990).
 Statgraphics Plus.

plant protection products were used. At the phenological stage BBCH 65 (Meier, 2003), soil monoliths (20/30/40 cm) were taken (Beck et al., 1993), and the fresh weight of root and aboveground biomass per plant was recorded.

The pea was harvested at the same stage. Forage yield (t ha⁻¹ green mass) and some quality parameters – leaf area (Sinyakova and Ivanova, 1981), crude protein, calcium and phosphorus content (OMA, 1990) were determined.

After harvesting soil samples from each plot were collected randomly at a depth of 0-30 cm (Minta and Tsige, 2014). Then soil samples from each plot in a block were mixed thoroughly and subsample (500 g) was taken. These samples were analyzed for selected chemical properties: soil pH (Totev et al., 1987), mineral nitrogen (Cornfield, 1966), phosphorus (by the Egner–Riehm method) and potassium (using a flame photometer by Robert et al. (2002).

The ecological stability of pea cultivars was estimated through the application of regression analysis (Eberhart and Russell, 1966), in which the regression coefficient (bi) and the variance of deviation from regression (Si²di) were calculated. The impact of environmental conditions on the yield formation was expressed with the coefficient of regression bi. It characterizes the varietal reaction to the environmental changes and shows its stability. The parameter Si²di reveals to what degree matches the empirical and theoretical meanings of the trait, located on the regression line. The index of total adaptation (A) was calculated to assess the varietal adaptability (Valchinkov, 1990). Mathematical data processing was done by the Software Statgraphics Plus.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

As a legume crop, pea productivity is largely determined by the weather conditions during the relevant experimental period. For the period 2012-2014, the average daily temperature and

2012-2014

..
 (-) 13.3 °C 197.6 mm,
 . 20- (12.6°
 C 150.6 mm),
 -
 -
 (Konvalina
 et al., 2009; Uhr and Grigorov, 2015; Uhr
 et al., 2017)
 -
 .
 " "
 , " "
 : -
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 ;
 (Wolf et al., 2008).
 , « »:
 ,
 (Uhr and Grigorov, 2015).
 -
 (1). 4
 -
 (24.1 %
 (9.4%).
 -
 (3.31 3.20
),
 ,
 ,

the amount of rainfall during the growing
 season (March-May) were 13.3 ° C and
 197.6 mm, respectively. Compared to the
 values of the previous 20-year period
 (12.6 °C and 150.6 mm), the growing
 season can be characterized as warmer
 and less secured by rainfall.

According to a number of authors
 (Konvalina et al., 2009; Uhr and Grigorov,
 2015; Uhr et al., 2017), the crucial factor
 for an efficient organic production system
 is the varietal choice. Compared to
 "conventional" cultivars, "organic" ones
 should have the following main
 characteristics: better potential for uptake,
 and use of nutrients; greater competitive-
 ness against weeds; increased yield
 stability, and resistance to pests (Wolf et
 al., 2008).

- The first two characteristics are
 - determined by some parameters, working
 - together: the larger leaf area of the plants,
 - the accumulation of more vegetative
 tissues and total biomass (aboveground
 and root).

- In the present experiment, considerable
 differences among the cultivars were
 found in terms of the quantity of biomass
 formed (g plant^{-1}) (Table 1). Pleven 4 was
 distinguished by significantly higher
 weight of aboveground mass (24.1% to
 the average value for the studied cultivars),
 followed by Kamerton (by 9.4%). The
 same cultivars were also characterized by
 a larger leaf area (3.31 and 3.20 m^2 per
 m^2 soil surface), which is important both
 for establishing dense plant cover that
 suppresses weed development and for
 the fodder quality.

1.

Table 1. Morphological parameters in pea cultivars under organic production conditions

Cultivars	Aboveground mass g plant ⁻¹	Root mass g plant ⁻¹	Leaf area m ⁻²
Glyans	14.468a	0.655ab	2.50a
Svit	15.168a	0.599a	2.61b
Kamerton	18.723b	0.731c	3.20d
Modus	15.951a	0.672bc	2.83c
Pleven 4	21.232c	0.809d	3.31e
LSD _(0.05)	2.03	0.069	0.078
Environment (E)	*	*	*
Cultivar (C)	*	*	*
CxY	*	*	*

* p 0.05

(Lammerts van Bueren et al., 2002). Pleven 4 (16.7%), Kamerton (5.5%), Glyans (4.5%), Svit (3.5%), Modus (2.5%), and Kamerton (2.5%). (Bozhanova and Dechev, 2014). 17.1 t ha⁻¹, 26.9% (2).

In soils with lower nitrogen content, root growth is more important than the aboveground mass growth. For more efficient absorption of nutrients, the well-developed root system is a very important factor (Lammerts van Bueren et al., 2002). The tendency found concerning the root mass weight followed the trend in the aboveground mass weight. The cultivar, whose root mass was significantly different from that of the rest cultivars, was Pleven 4 (an excess of 16.7% above the average value for the group), followed by Kamerton (excess of 5.5%). Statistical data processing showed significant influence of the studied factors (environment, cultivar) and their interaction on the morphological parameters concerned.

Compared to conventional production, environmental conditions in organic farming are much more diverse, and therefore species and varieties need to be more adaptable and stable (Bozhanova and Dechev, 2014). The highest green mass yield, on average, for the three-year study period, was demonstrated by Pleven 4, 17.1 t green mass ha⁻¹, or 26.9% above the average for the group (Table 2). Also, Kamerton exhibited relatively high productivity, with an excess of 7.6%. The other cultivars were less productive as the amount of

7.6%.

11.0 14.5 t ha⁻¹.

(Hawalbagh), Gopinath et al. (2009)

(Azad graa 1, Vivek Matar 8 Vivek Matar 9) *P. sativum*

(), Agafonova et al. (2011)

Zaiga Almara

al. (2010), Kalapchieva et

(Bozhanova et al., 2014), (Torricelli, 2006), (Spasova et al., 2018)

formed mass varied from 11.0 to 14.5 t ha⁻¹. In a similar experiment conducted in India (Hawalbagh area), Gopinath et al. (2009) tested and identified three pea genotypes (Azad graa 1, Vivek Matar 8 and Vivek Matar 9) of *P. sativum* species as highly productive and suitable for organic cultivation. Summarizing the results of a study in Latvia (Talsinsky region), Agafonova et al. (2011) pointed out Zaiga and Almara as the best-performing varieties in organic production. For the conditions of southern Bulgaria, the Plovdiv region, Kalapchieva et al. (2010) compared four genotypes of garden peas, of which Pulpudeva and Vyatova responded to the greatest extent to different variants applied of organic growing system. For the conditions of southern Bulgaria, the Plovdiv region, Kalapchieva et al. (2010) compared four genotypes of garden peas, of which Pulpudeva and Vyatova responded to the greatest extent to different variants of organic growing system. Similar researches have been conducted in other forage crops: rye and triticale (Bozhanova et al., 2014), alfalfa (Torricelli, 2006), oats (Spasova et al., 2018), and others.

2.

Table 2. Productivity, ecological stability and adaptability of pea cultivars under organic production conditions

Cultivars	Forage productivity t green mass ha ⁻¹	Stability parameters		a
		bi	Si ² di	Index of total adaptation
Glyans	11.0a	0.98	3.13	10.0
Svit	12.1b	0.87	8.04	11.2
Kamerton	14.5c	1.02	0.38	13.5
Modus	12.7b	0.96	-0.03	11.7
Pleven 4	17.1d	1.06	0.30	15.9
LSD (0.05)	0.74	-	-	-

3

The analysis of variance, presented in Table 3, regarding forage yield showed the strongest influence of the factor environment – 59.4% of the total variation, which is due to differences in meteorological conditions over the three experimental years. The impact of the cultivar was less pronounced, but with

(36.1%),

(2).

Si^2di

bi

Allard and Bradshaw (1964),

sufficiently high value (36.1%), and the weakest was the influence of the interaction environment \times cultivar.

The effect of the factors and their interaction was significant at $p = 0.05$ level. Based on the significant interaction, the stability and adaptability of the studied cultivars were estimated (Table 2).

With the regression coefficient close to 1, Kamerton and Pleven 4 can be defined as ecologically the most stable. In addition to the pointed out, the values of the mean squared deviation Si^2di indicated a greater stability in Pleven 4. Glyans, Svit and Modus had bi -values lower than 1, which characterize them as stable, but they were low-productive. They can be determined as suitable for growing under less favorable environmental conditions when they would form more stable yields. According to Allard and Bradshaw (1964), accessions which are characterized by higher phenotypic stability of the yield have less pronounced interaction genotype-environment, better total adaptability, and relative persistence in the manifestation of their genetic characteristics.

3.

Table 3. Analysis of variance regarding green mass productivity of pea cultivars under organic production conditions

Causes of variation	Degrees of freedom	Mean square	Sum of squares	Significance	F-ratio
/Total	44	-	1190.63		
Factor A - environment	2	353.53	707.05	*	1057.76
Factor B - cultivar	4	107.55	430.19	*	321.78
A \times B	8	5.42	43.37	*	16.22
/Error	30	0.33	10.03		

* $p = 0.05$

The cultivars, that are the subject of this study, differed considerably in their plasticity. According to the index of total adaptability, they can be arranged in the

4 > > > >

(Hornick, 2005; Spasova et al., 2010; Gerdzhikova et al., 2012; Ksi ak and Bojarszczuk, 2019).

169.72 g kg⁻¹ DM, (182.61).

8.7 (4,) 6.4%

DM (12.65 3.78 (12.12 3.88 g kg⁻¹)).

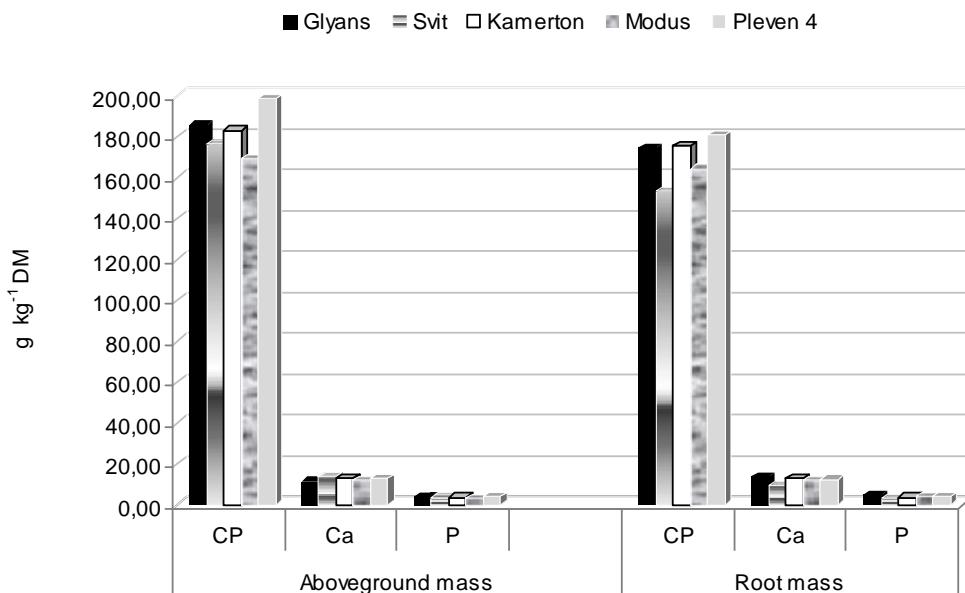
following descending order: Pleven 4 > Kamerton > Modus > Svit > Glyans.

In the scientific literature, the issue of crop quality, and in particular of legumes, in organic farming is debatable (Hornick, 2005; Spasova et al., 2010; Gerdzhikova et al., 2012; Ksi ak and Bojarszczuk, 2019). Some authors found an increase in quality parameters, others a decrease, and some found no change compared to conventional production.

The protein content of the aboveground and root mass of the tested cultivars averaged 182.61 and 169.72 g kg⁻¹ DM, respectively (Figure 1). More essential differences compared to the group averages were observed in Pleven 4 as the excess was by 8.7 (for above ground mass) and 6.4% (for root mass).

In the remaining cultivars, the protein content was closer or lower than the indicated values. Important for organic production is both the content of CP in the above ground mass, which determines to a large extent the forage quality, as well as its accumulation in the root system of the plants, as it subsequently undergoes mineralization and enhanced soil fertility.

Regarding the calcium and phosphorus content, the differences between the cultivars were negligible, with averages of 12.65 and 3.78 (for above ground mass), and 12.12 and 3.88 g kg⁻¹ DM (for root mass).



. 1.

Fig. 1. Biochemical composition of pea cultivars in organic production conditions

(Lesznyák et al., 2008).

15.2 13.8%

4.

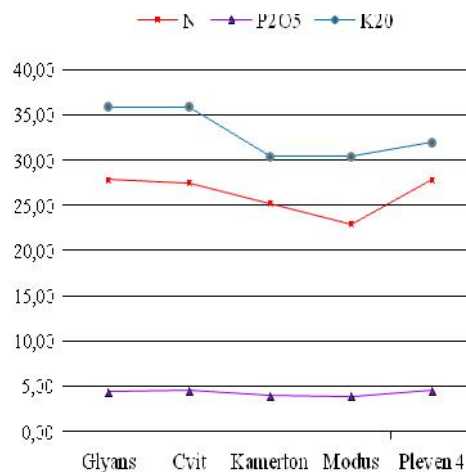
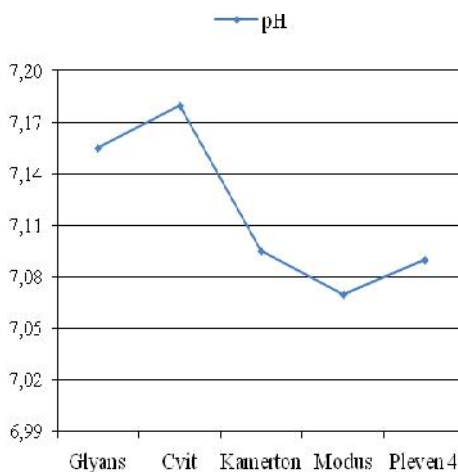
- Legumes, especially pea, play an important role in the enhancement of available nutrients of soil in the organic cropping system (Lesznyák et al., 2008).

- Changes in soil parameters after pea harvesting in terms of nitrogen and phosphorus content showed higher values in Glyans, Svit and Pleven 4 (on average by 15.2 and 13.8% respectively) compared with Kamerton and Modus (Figure 2). In terms of potassium content, variation between cultivars was weakly pronounced as higher values demonstrated again Glyans, Svit and Pleven 4. The lowest values of all soil parameters after harvesting were those of cultivar Modus.

In general, the soil reaction was neutral, and the changes under the influence of the different organically grown cultivars were negligible. The obtained data

al. (2008) Bilalis (2015),
(2015)
Andros Amorgos.
Onward,
-
4

confirmed the studies of Lesznyák et al. (2008) and Bilalis (2015), according to which soil properties were positively affected by organic pea cultivation, but this effect was directly correlated with different pea varieties. Bilalis (2015) observed differences among the cultivars in regard to the percentage of total soil nitrogen, and recommended the cultivation of cultivars Onward, Andros and Amorgos. In the present research, Glyans, Svit and Pleven 4 provided higher content of nitrogen and phosphorus in the soil, creating in this way conditions for the improvement of soil fertility in organic farming.



2. N (mg/1000 g soil), P₂O₅ (mg/100 g soil), K₂O (mg/100 g soil) and pH
Fig. 2. Soil chemical properties after harvesting of pea cultivars in organic farming – mineral N (mg/1000 g soil), P₂O₅ (mg/100 g soil), K₂O (mg/100 g soil) and pH

CONCLUSIONS

The comparative assessment of five cultivars of forage peas showed that the Bulgarian cultivar Pleven 4 was distinguished by a complex of characteristics (greater leaf area and biomass/plant, high productivity /17.1 t green mass ha⁻¹/, stability /bi = 1.06/, adaptability /A = 15.9/, biochemical

<p>),</p> <p>-</p> <p>.</p> <p>.</p> <p>,</p> <p>,</p> <p>(</p> <p>,</p> <p>4,</p> <p>-</p>	<p>/198.55 g kg⁻¹ DM</p> <p>composition of forage /198.55 g kg⁻¹ DM</p> <p>crude protein) determinant it as the most</p> <p>suitable for organic production conditions.</p> <p>The Ukrainian cultivar Kamerton also</p> <p>demonstrated good performances and</p> <p>similar values regarding these</p> <p>parameters.</p> <p>The analysis of variance proved the</p> <p>influence of the factors "cultivar" and</p> <p>"environment", as well as their interaction</p> <p>on the forage yield.</p> <p>Changes in main soil parameters</p> <p>(mineral nitrogen, phosphorus, and</p> <p>potassium content) after forage pea</p> <p>harvesting showed higher values in</p> <p>Glyans, Svit and Pleven 4, which confirms</p> <p>the direct dependence cultivar-soil</p> <p>parameters established in previous</p> <p>studies. These cultivars can be used to</p> <p>improve soil fertility in organic production.</p>
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Ustilago maydis (Bescman)

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Degree of Attack of Experimental Maize Geneplasms from *Ustilago maydis* (Bescman)

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Original scientific paper

SUMMARY

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2017-2019 .

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Ustilago maydis (Bescman)

Ustilago maydis (Bescman)

Ustilago maydis
Snetselaar (1993).

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16

The study was conducted at the Institute of Agriculture and Seed Science "Institute of Agriculture and Seed Science "Obraztsov Chiflik" - Ruse in the period 2017-2019.

The object of study is 30 general plasmas from preliminary varietal experience from the selection program of the institute. The aim is to determine the degree of infestation by the common fungus, caused by the basidiomycete fungus *Ustilago maydis* (Bescman) in an artificial infectious background.

Ustilago maydis (Bescman) is a common disease of maize. Tumours of the main body filled with hlamydospores of the pathogen form on all aboveground organs of the plant. The affected plants have slow growth and the economic losses are large, as the grain cannot be used for seed production and fodder in animal husbandry.

The phytopathological evaluation of the attack by *Ustilago maydis* was performed according to Snetselaar (1993). The analysis of the obtained results shows that out of the 30 gene

Resistant.
: St. 20, Eks.1,
Eks.4, Eks.6, Eks.9, Eks.10, Eks. 12,
Eks.16, Eks.17, Eks.19, Eks.20, Eks.21,
Eks.23, St.26, St.28 St.13.

(*Ustilago maydis* Bescman)

. 14

(Eks. 2, Eks. 3, Eks.5, Eks.8,
Eks.11, Eks. 14, Eks.15, Eks.18, Eks.22,
Eks.24, Eks.25, Eks. 27, Eks.29, St.7)

, *Ustilago maydis* (Bescman)

(Payak et al., 1985; Hristova
and Momchilova, 2002; Wang, et al., 2014).

Ivanova (1985; 1988),
Momchilova and Popov (1995); Hristova et
al. (1997); Hristova and Momchilova (2002);
Momchilova (2002); Mitev et al. (2005).

1500

(Kuznet ova,
2006; Popova and Dimova, 2009).

plasmas under consideration, 16 show
resistance. These are the general
plasmas: St. 20, Eks.1, Eks.4, Eks.6,
Eks.9, Eks.10, Eks. 12, Eks.16, Eks.17,
Eks.19, Eks.20, Eks.21, Eks.23, St. 26,
St.28., St.13. They can be used as
sources of resistance to *Ustilago maydis*
in the future selection process. 14 of the
general plasmas developed tumour
formations on the cob and reacted as
sensitive (Eks. 2, Eks. 3, Eks.5, Eks.8,
Eks.11, Eks. 14, Eks.15, Eks.18, Eks.22,
Eks.24, Eks.25, Eks. 27, Eks.29, St.7).

Key words: Geneplasms, Maize,
Ustilago maydis (Bescman)

INTRODUCTION

The creation of maize geneplasms,
resistant to economically important for the
country diseases is a unique direction in
the research process and in plant
growing. Each selection program of
cultivated plants aims to create varieties
or hybrids with high productivity and
adaptability to soil and climatic conditions
of the country and resistance to
economically important diseases.

Losses in maize production under
the influence of various pathogens are
expressed in reduced yields and
deterioration of production quality (Payak
et al., 1985; Hristova and Momchilova,
2002; Wang, et al., 2014).

In Bulgaria, the selection of maize
for disease resistance was led by Ivanova
(1985; 1988), Momchilova and Popov
(1995); Momchilova (2002), Hristova et al.
(1997); Hristova and Momchilova (2002);
Mitev et al. (2005). They tested the
resistance of about 1,500 native and
synthetic populations, varieties, self-
pollinated lines and maize hybrids.
Disease resistance leads to a reduction in
losses from yields and to a reduction in
pathogen infestation in crops (Kuznet ova,
2006; Popova and Dimova, 2009).

Ustilago maydis (Snetselaar et al., 1993; 1994; Robin, 2010; Tanaka, 2014).

(Banuett, 1995; Brefort, 2009; Robin, 2010; Matei, 2018).

(Martinez et al., 2002; Robin, 2010) 60% (Ivashchenko, 2011).

(Mir t al., 2015) (Popova and Dimova, 2009).

30

(*Ustilago maydis Bescman*)

(Shanin, 1977), 3

5500

/da.

10 m²,

maydis

Ustilago

10 mg

An economically important disease in Bulgaria and in many parts of the world where corn is grown is the common corn borer caused by the basidiomycete fungus *Ustilago maydis* (Snetselaar, 1993, 1994; Robin, 2010; Tanaka, 2014;).

Typical symptoms of the disease are the formation of grayish-white tumours of various shapes and sizes on all aboveground organs of the plant (Banuett, 1995; Brefort, 2009; Robin, 2010; Matei, 2018). Infected plants have slow growth (Martinez et al., 2002; Robin, 2010) and the yield decreases on average to 60% (Ivashchenko, 2011). As a result, the creation of stable genotypes from existing geneplasms is a factor for higher productivity (Mir et al., 2015) of new hybrids (Popova and Dimova, 2009).

The aim of the study was to determine the degree of infestation of 30 maize genplasmas of the common head (*Ustilago maydis Bescman*) in an artificially created infectious background in conditions conducive to the development of the pathogen, with a view to their use in selection.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The study was conducted in the Experimental Field and the Laboratory of hytopathology of the Institute of Agriculture and Seed Science "Obraztsov Chiflik" - Ruse in the period 2017-2019.

The field experiment was performed on an infectious background under non-irrigated conditions. 30 maize geneplasms from preliminary varietal experience were included. The experiment is based on the block method (Shanin, 1977) in 3 replications with a plot size of 10 m², at a density of 5500 plants/da.

Identification of the causative agent, the basidiomycete fungus *Ustilago maydis Bescman* under laboratory conditions was performed by placing 10 mg of spore material from each tumour in

10 ml
2 µL Tween 20.

10^{-1} 10^{-10}

PDA-

20°
48

- 72

PDA

5%
(PDA + AC) (Martínez et al., 1997; Sabbagh et al., 2010).

(*Ustilago maydis*)

(*Ustilago maydis*)

6-8

22°
12

20-25%

1.

(R)

2. 0,1-5,0% (R)

3. 5,1-10% (S)

4. 10 % (S)

0 5, 5

- an ependorf test tube containing 10 ml of distilled water and 2 µL of Tween 20. The spores were then dispersed in solution.

- Each test tube was diluted sequentially from 10^{-1} to 10^{-10} and the material was placed in a petri dish with a thin layer of PDA nutrient medium. Hlamydospores are placed on its surface. The petri dishes are covered with lids and placed in a thermostat at a temperature of 20° for three days 72 hours.

After 48 hours of incubation, colonies and cotton mycelium were observed. The colonies were developed on PDA nutrient medium supplemented with 5% activated carbon powder (PDA + AC) (Martínez et al., 1997; Sabbagh et al., 2010).

Tumour formations filled with chlamydospores collected from natural populations of *Ustilago maydis Bescman* in the Ruse region were used to create an infectious background in the field. The infectious background of the field was created by the dispersal of tumours from the head (*Ustilago maydis*) in the experiment and artificial infection of plants. The artificial infestation was carried out with hlamydospores twice during the vegetation in phase 6-8 leaves and the second time in the phenophase sweeping at a temperature of 22°C, humidity 20-25% and a photoperiod of 12 hours.

Phytopathological assessment of maize geneplasms was made in July-August in the phase of sweeping and milk-wax maturity of maize, by listing the main plants on the following scale:

- 1. There are no diseased plants – resistance (R)
 - 2. 0.1-5.0% of plants with tumours – moderate resistance (MR)
 - 3. 5.1-10% plants with tumours – moderate (MS);
 - 4. over 10% of diseased plants – sensitivity (S)
- Each of them is given a corresponding score depending on the degree of damage from 0 to 5, on a 5-point scale

Popov (1982).
 .
 Josifovits (1956).

Mc Kinney,

according to Popov (1982). From each number are listed sick and healthy plants. The attack index is calculated according to the formula of Mc Kinney, according to Josifovits (1956), Data on precipitation and average monthly air temperatures from the meteorological station of the Institute were used to characterize the meteorological conditions.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

(*Ustilago maydis*)

During the three-year study period, the weather conditions were favourable for the growth and development of maize. Although the inoculum is artificially scattered in maize fields, the degree of infection with (*Ustilago maydis* Bescman) and the development of the disease also depend on the climatic factors of the environment – precipitation and temperature.

63.6 mm

2017

The data for the three years indicated on the climatogram in Figure 1 show that in June 2017 the precipitation was 63.6 mm below the norm and the average daily temperatures were 3° above the norm. In July the average daily temperatures are higher than the norm by 4.7° and the precipitation is only 0.9 mm. The rainfall in August, in combination with the artificially created infectious background, had a favourable effect on the development of the mainland.

4.7°

0.9 mm.

2018

28°

32°

37,1 mm

51,6 mm.

34.9

mm

22.2°

95.0 mm.

The meteorological conditions in May 2018 were characterized by relatively dry weather and temperatures above the norm for this period. The temperature has maximum values in the range of 28° to 32°. The precipitation in May 37.1 mm is close to the average for the month 51.6 mm. In June the precipitation was 34.9 mm above the norm and the average daily temperatures were close to the norm. The month of July is characterized by average daily temperatures of 22.2° and precipitation exceeding the norm by 95.0 mm. These conditions proved to be favourable for the development of the main in maize geneplasms.

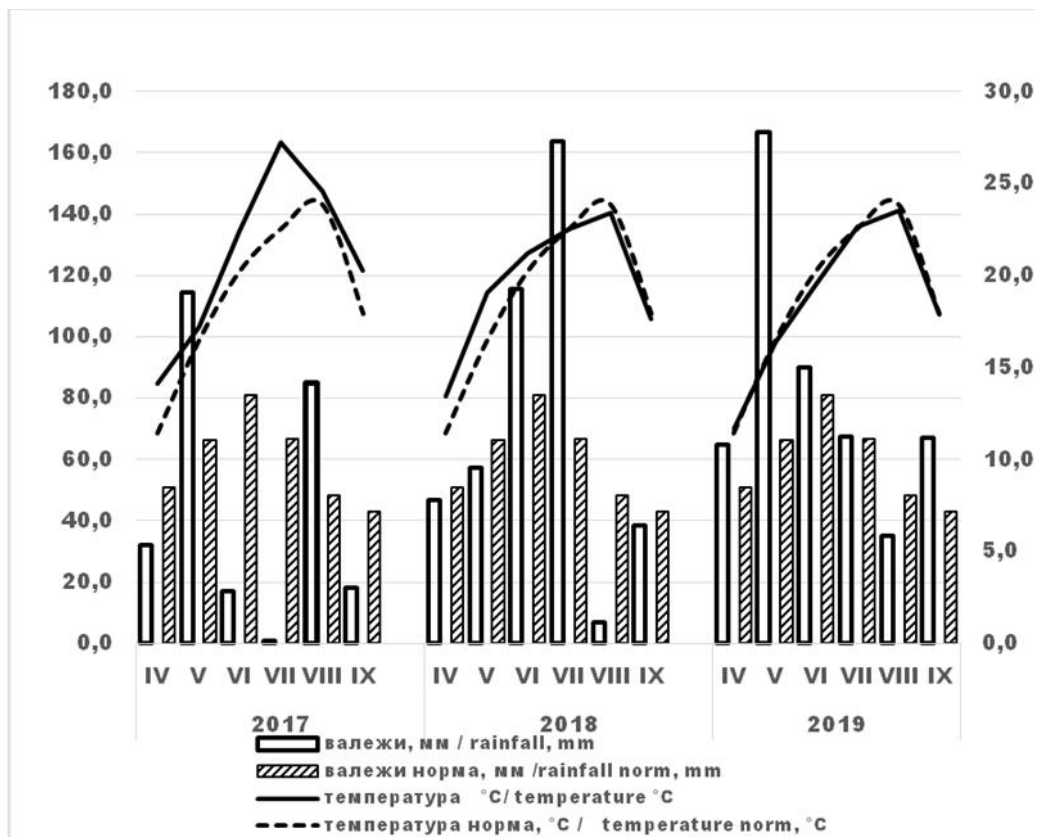


Fig. 1. limatogram for 2017-2019

Precipitation, mm
 Precipitation norm
 Temperature
 Temperature norm

2019 .
 100 mm
 - , ,
 22-26° ,
Ustilago maydis

In 2019 May was characterized by precipitation that was 100 mm above normal. Frequent rainfall during the months of active vegetation of corn – May, June and July, created conditions for the development of the pathogen. During these months, temperature values in the range of 22-26°C are observed, favourable for the development of *Ustilago maydis* (Bescman) and for the germination of teliospores.

The analysis of the results for the three-year period of the experiment shows that as a result of the meteorological conditions and the artificial infection in each year the development of the main is observed. From Table 1 shows that the

9,8% 2019 .
2017 2018 ..

index of attack or development of the disease is the highest and with a value of 9.8% in 2019, compared to 2017 and 2018, which is explained by the combination of climatic conditions and the created infectious background during the year.

During the phytopathological assessment performed on a scale accepted for the country, it was found that the main symptoms obtained by artificial inoculation of plants from 7 to 14 days are chlorotic lesions on the leaf sheaths and cobs of the cob. In chlorotic lesions, the cells were shrunken and irregularly shaped and hyphae of the pathogen were observed. Later, the formation of tumours on the cob began (Figure 2).

(2).



2. *Ustilago maydis* (Bescman)
Fig. 2. Tumours of *Ustilago maydis* (Bescman)

(%)
1-4,
1
1
(R). 4 10 %
- (S).

After calculating the attack index (%) of each geneplasm, a score of 1-4 is set, determining the degree of attack and the corresponding category in which it falls. The results obtained from the phytopathological evaluation of the experimental geneplasms are reflected in Table 1.

In Table 1 with score 1 are marked healthy plants without symptoms of the main R. With score 4 over 10% of diseased plants – sensitivity S.

1.

”
” -
***Ustilago maydis* (Bescman)**

Table 1. Characteristics of experimental maize genplasm from the collection of the Institute of Agriculture and Seed Science "Obraztsov Chiflik" - Ruse depending on the degree of attack by *Ustilago maydis* (Bescman)

N	Genplasm ^a	<i>Ustilago maydis</i>					Characteristics
		/ Score					
		% 2017 Index of attack	% 2018 Index of attack	% 2019 Index of attack	% 2017-2019 Index of attack	2017-2019 Average score for 2017-2019	
1	St. 20	0	0	0	0	1	/ Resistant
2	Ekc. 1 - I	0	5	5	5	1	/ Resistant
3	Ekc.2 - I	10	10	10	10	4	/ Sensitive
4	Ekc.3-I	1	10	10	7	4	/ Sensitive
5	Ekc.4- I	0	0	0	0	1	/ Resistant
6	Ekc.5-I	15	10	10	11,66	4	/ Sensitive
7	Ekc.6- I	1	0	0	0	1	/ Resistant
8	St.7	5	5	10	6,66	4	/ Sensitive
9	Ekc.8- I	10	15	25	16,66	4	/ Sensitive
10	Ekc.9- I	0	0	0	0	1	/ Resistant
11	Ekc.10- I	0	0	0	0	1	/ Resistant
12	Ekc.11- I	5	10	10	8,33	4	/ Sensitive
13	Ekc.12- I	0	0	0	0	1	/ Resistant
14	St.13	0	0	5	1,66	1	/ Resistant
15	Ekc.14- I	10	15	5	10	4	/ Sensitive
16	Ekc.15- I	15	15	15	15	4	/ Sensitive
17	Ekc.16- I	0	0	0	0	1	/ Resistant
18	Ekc.17- I	0	0	0	0	1	/ Resistant
19	Ekc.18- I	10	0	10	6,66	4	/ Sensitive
20	Ekc.19- I	0	0	0	0	1	/ Resistant
21	Ekc.20- I	0	0	0	0	1	/ Resistant
22	Ekc.21- I	0	0	0	0	1	/ Resistant
23	Ekc.22- I	10	10	10	10	4	/ Sensitive
24	Ekc.23- I	1	2	0	1	1	/ Resistant
25	Ekc.24- I	10	15	15	13,3	4	/ Sensitive
26	Ekc.25- I	10	15	10	13,3	4	/ Sensitive
27	St.26	0	0	1	0	1	/ Resistant
28	Ekc.27- I	15	15	10	13,3	4	/ Sensitive
29	Ekc.28- I	0	0	0	0	1	/ Resistant
30	Ekc.29- I	15	10	5	10	4	/ Sensitive
		9	9,1	9,8	9,4	-	
		0	0	0	0	1	
		15	15	25	16,6	4	

4 10 %

S.

R

Legend: Healthy plants without symptoms of the main R are marked with score 1, With a score of 4 over 10% of diseased plants - sensitivity S.

5,0% . . . 2 0,1
/ (R)
- 3 5,1 10%
(S).
- 30
,
- 16
: St. 20, Eks.1, Eks.4,
Eks.6, Eks.9, Eks.10, Eks. 12, Eks.16,
Eks.17, Eks.19, Eks.20, Eks.21, Eks.23,
St. 26, St.28., St.13.

(*Ustilago maydis* (Bescman))

14
Eks. 2, Eks. 3, Eks.5, Eks.8, Eks.11,
Eks. 14, Eks.15, Eks.18, Eks.22, Eks.24,
Eks.25, Eks. 27, Eks.29, St.7.

Ustilago maydis.

Ustilago maydis (Bescman)

- No intermediate forms were found, ie. plants with a score of 2 from 0.1 to 5.0% of affected plants/plants with tumours – moderate resistance MR and plants with a score of 3 from 5.1 to 10% of affected plants with tumours – moderate sensitivity MS.

- The analysis of the obtained results in the studied 30 experimental geneplasms shows that this feature remains constant during the years of the experiment as 16 of them have not developed tumours and fall into the category of resistant. These are: St. 20, Eks.1, Eks.4, Eks.6, Eks.9, Eks.10, Eks. 12, Eks.16, Eks.17, Eks.19, Eks.20, Eks.21, Eks.23, St. 26, St.28, St.13. They can be used as sources of resistance to *Ustilago maydis* in the future selection process.

- Fourteen of geneplasmas developed different in shape and size grayish-white tumours filled with chlamydo spores and reacted as sensitive. Eks. 2, Eks. 3, Eks.5, Eks.8, Eks.11, Eks. 14, Eks.15, Eks.18, Eks.22, Eks.24, Eks.25, Eks. 27, Eks.29, St.7.

- In them, the seeds cannot be used as sowing material for the next sowing and must be removed from the selection process. These genes should be used to address the risks of possible disease losses.

- The reasons for this are due to the fact that from a genetic point of view each geneplasm is a complex heterozygous material and on the other hand, the favourable climate of the region creating conditions for preservation and development of the pathogen. Geneplasmas susceptible to the phytopathogen *Ustilago maydis* (Bescman) must be eliminated during the selection process.

CONCLUSIONS

The studies performed on *Ustilago maydis* (Bescman) are the basis for the following conclusions:

30
 16 -
Ustilago maydis (Bescman).
 : St. 20, Eks. 12, Eks.10, Eks.23,
 Eks.16, Eks.2, Eks.3, Eks.4, Eks.6, Eks.9,
 Eks.13, Eks.17, Eks.19, Eks.20, Eks.2,
 Eks. 6.

14
 Eks .15, Eks.
 11, Eks.8, Eks.24, Eks.1, Eks.5, St.7, Eks.
 14, Eks.18, Eks.22, Eks.25, Eks. 27, Eks.
 29 Eks.30

Sixteen of the 30 promising genes studied, were resistant to *Ustilago maydis* (Bescman). These are: St. 20, Eks.1, Eks.4, Eks.6, Eks.9, Eks.10, Eks. 12, Eks.16, Eks.17, Eks.19, Eks.20, Eks.21, Eks.23, St. 26, St.28, St.13. They can be used as sources of resistance in selection to create resistant to the common main self-pollinated lines and hybrids of maize.

Fourteen of the gene plasmas reacted as sensitive. These are Eks.15, Eks.11, Eks.8, Eks.24, Eks.1, Eks.5, St.7, Eks.14, Eks .18, Eks.22, Eks.25, Eks. 27, Eks.29 Eks.30 and in the process of the team should be gradually eliminated.

- The phytopathological characteristic made in this way can be used to enrich
 - the assortment of sources of resistance to
 - ordinary principal.

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Influence of the Fertilization on the Productivity and Some Agrochemical Indicators of Barley Varieties

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Original scientific paper

SUMMARY

2017-2019 .

: ,

10 6.

10 6.

N₁₂ (522.5 kg/da).

(7 15 kg/da).

, 30 kg/da (N₉) 50

During the period 2017-2019 in the conditions of field fertilization experiment in the region of Pleven was studied the influence of fertilization on important agrochemical indicators and the yields of three varieties of winter barley: Emon, Ahil and Kuber. The influence of the nitrogen fertilization factor in the following variants was studied: The nitrogen fertilizer was applied once (early spring feeding) on the back-ground of autumn fertilization with 10 6. Barley was grown after its predecessor maize according to the technology adopted for the country. It was found that in the flowering stage the dry biomass of the vegetative parts was with higher values compared to that of the developing class. On average for the experimental period, the Ahil variety formed the largest amount of total biomass at a fertilizer rate of N₁₂ – 522.5 kg/da. The inclusion of fertilization in the cultivation of barley had a positive effect on the accumulation of total biomass in the range of 7-15 kg/da. Increasing the nitrogen fertilizer rate to N₉ and N₁₂

kg/da (N₁₂).

220-250 kg/da
N₁₂.

N₆,

130-140 kg/da
N₉

N₉ N₁₂

- significantly increased the values of the indicator by 30-50 kg/da, respectively. The concentration of the main macronutrients in the plant mass increased with increasing fertilizer rate. Comparing the studied varieties with each other, it was found that with higher concentrations of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium in the grain and straw were distinguished varieties Ahil and Kuber, compared to the variety Emon. The increase in the nitrogen fertilizer rate leads to an increase in the uptake of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium with the barley grain and had a significantly smaller effect on the uptake of nutrients with the barley straw. The differences in the nitrogen uptake at fertilizer rates N₉ and N₁₂ were insignificant. The productivity of barley varieties has been proven to increase with increasing nitrogen fertilizer rate. The realized higher yield at fertilizer rate N₆, compared to the non-fertilized variant, was in the range of 130-140 kg/da and 220-250 kg/da at fertilization rates N₉ and N₁₂. During the study period, the Ahil and Kuber varieties formed higher grain and straw yields compared to the Emon variety at all levels of nitrogen fertilization.

Key words: barley, dry biomass, fertilization, productivity

INTRODUCTION

Barley is a crop with a number of agronomic advantages compared to other winter cereals. Its short vegetation period allows for earlier harvesting and creation of conditions for growing secondary crops, which uses crop rotation and more rational use of the land.

Regular use of barley grain promotes cleansing of the body of toxins. The corn and the germs are dietary and healthy food supplements. Despite the benefits of this crop, in recent years, the areas and yields of barley in our country have decreased.

The study of the responsiveness of barley varieties to the diet under specific soil and

- climatic conditions and quality agricultural techniques is a current problem and its study would lead to higher and stable yields and possibly to an increase in the area with this crop.

- The most significant impact on the productivity of field crops (maize, barley, rapeseed) has fertilization with nitrogen and phosphorus (Ivanov and Dimitrov, 2018). The main nutrients that determine the quantity and quality of the plant production are nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. They directly or indirectly affect donor-acceptor relations. Nitrogen affects the development and maintenance of the leaf area, the efficiency of photosynthesis (Arduini et al., 2006) and the distribution of dry mass to the reproductive organs (Vouillot and Devienne-Barret, 1999; Prystupa et al., 2004). Phosphorus affects the number of grains and grain yield (Elliot et al., 1997).

- In the full maturity stage, more than 80% of nitrogen and phosphorus are localized in the grain and less than 20% of potassium. From 51% to 89% of the phosphorus in the grain comes from the flag leaf. In the deficiency of phosphorus, the flag leaf dries quickly and stops photosynthesizing when the grains have accumulated only 60% of their potential dry mass (Gonzalez and Trejo-Tellez, 2007). The dry mass of the vegetative parts in barley usually decreases after flowering (Austin et al., 1980). Grain growth occurs at the expense of assimilates accumulated before flowering and temporarily stored in leaves, stems and spikes (Austin et al., 1980; Van Sanford & MacKown, 1987). According to some authors (Spiertz and Ellen, 1978; Bell and Incoll, 1990), the accumulated biomass until flowering remains unchanged for about three weeks after flowering, although the grain continues to accumulate dry substance. In this case, the increase in weight is mainly due to the accumulation of water-soluble carbohydrates (Bonnett

(Ivanov and Dimitrov, 2018).

(Arduini et al., 2006)

(Vouillot and Devienne-Barret, 1999; Prystupa et al., 2004).

(Elliot et al., 1997).

80%

51% 89%

60%

(Gonzalez and Trejo-Tellez, 2007).

(Austin et al., 1980).

(Austin et al., 1980; Van Sanford and MacKown, 1987).

(Spiertz and Ellen, 1978; Bell and Incoll, 1990)

1992). (Bonnert and Incoll, -
 -
 -
 -
 (Bazitov et al., 2011).

and Incoll, 1992). It was found that higher productivity of winter barley was realized with an optimal combination of agro-technical factors – tillage, fertilization, plant protection measures and others (Bazitov et al., 2011).

The aim of the study was to investigate the effect of the fertilization on the uptake and expense of the nutrients and the productivity of winter barley varieties.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Three varieties of winter barley were studied: Emon, Ahil and Kuber, and the influence of the nitrogen fertilization factor was investigated in the following variants: 1. Control; 2. $N_{6\ 10\ 6}$; 3. $N_{9\ 10\ 6}$ and 4. $N_{12\ 10\ 6}$ kg/da active substance. The experiment was set in 4 repetitions with plot size of 20 m². Soil in the experimental plot is Eutric Fluvisols, characterized by a moderately developed humus horizon, very low stocked of mineral nitrogen (36.2 mg/kg soil), poorly stocked with mobile phosphorus (5.7 mg/100 g soil) and well stocked with absorbable potassium (41.5 mg/100 g soil). According to Valcheva et al. (2015) most soils contain significant amounts of organic nitrogen, but a very large part of it is chemically and/or physically bound and resistant to decomposition. Only a small part of this nitrogen is more active and plays a role as a source of substrate for nitrogen mineralization.

The reaction of soil is slightly acidic (pH = 6.5).

The methods used for soil analysis include:

- ✓ Mineral nitrogen (ammonium + nitrate) in extract with 1% KCl;
- ✓ Mobile phosphates according to Egner-Reim;
- ✓ Absorbable potassium in the extract with 2N HCl;
- ✓ Soil reaction (pH) – potentiometrically in water extract.

: , ,
 : 1.
 ; 2. $N_{6\ 10\ 6}$; 3. $N_{9\ 10\ 6}$ 4.
 $N_{12\ 10\ 6}$ kg/da
 4
 20 m².
 -
 -
 -
 (36.2
 mg/kg),
 (5.7 mg/100 g)
 (41.5
 mg/100 g). Valcheva et al.
 (2015)
 ,
 /
 .
 -
 .
 (= 6.5).
 :
 (✓ +) 1% KCl;
 ✓ -
 ; ✓ 2N
 HCl; ✓ () -
 .

Plant analyses:
 Meters were taken from plant samples in the flowering stage of barley – the aboveground part of the plants. They were divided into leaf-stem mass and flowering class. After drying and grinding, the plant samples were analyzed for nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium content. At physiological maturity, meters were taken from the aboveground part of the plants. They were weighed, dried to a constant weight and then divided into grain and straw. An aliquot part of the dry plant samples was mineralized with concentrated H_2SO_4 under an H_2O_2 catalyst and the total amount of nitrogen was determined (by distillation in a Parnassus-Wagner apparatus); total phosphorus (colorimetric on a spectrophotometer, model Camspec M105) and total potassium (on a flame photometer, model PFP-7).

Plant analyses include the following test indicators:

- ✓ accumulated dry aboveground biomass (kg/da) in the flowering stage;
- ✓ content (%) of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium in the aboveground parts of the plants in the stages of flowering and maturity;
- ✓ uptake (kg/da) and expense (kg/100 kg of grain) of N, P and K;
- ✓ yields of main and additional production (kg/da).

Mathematical data processing is done on SPSS program.

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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Accumulation of dry biomass

In the flowering stage (Table 1) the dry biomass of the vegetative parts was higher than that of the developing class. On average for the experimental period, the Ahil variety formed the largest amount of total biomass at fertilizer rate N_{12} – 522.5 kg/da, followed by the varieties Kuber – 509.6 kg/da and Emon – 487.5 kg/da. Despite fertilization, the share of the growing class of the dry mass was higher in the varieties Ahil and Kuber,

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(7.3 kg/da), (11.3 kg/da)
 (15.2 kg/da).
 N₉ N₁₂
 27-28 kg/da
 33-38 kg/da 49-53 kg/da
 (31.0%)
 N₁₂.

compared to the variety Emon. The inclusion of fertilization had a positive effect on the accumulation of total biomass by 7.3 kg/da in the cultivar Emon, by 11.3 kg/da in the cultivar Kuber and by 15.2 kg/da in cultivar Ahil. Increasing the nitrogen fertilizer rate to N₉ and N₁₂ significantly increased the amount of formed biomass with values in the range of 27-28 kg/da for the variety Emon, 33-38 kg/da for the variety Kuber and 49-53 kg/da for the variety Ahil. The Ahil variety is characterized by the largest share of the class of the total dry mass when fertilized with N₁₂ – 31.0%. Without fertilization, the percentage of the total biomass class had approximately the same values for the tested genotypes.

1. (kg/da)

Table 1. Dry aboveground biomass (kg/da) and share of the flowering class of barley biomass in flowering average for the study period

Variety	Nitrogen rate	Growing class	Leaves and stems	Total biomass	/ Class / Biomass	% % of the total biomass class
Emon	N ₀	105.6	338.2	443.8	0.238	23.8
	N ₆	112.9	341.5	454.4	0.248	24.8
	N ₉	132.4	355.1	487.5	0.272	27.2
	N ₁₂	133.5	349.7	483.2	0.276	27.6
Ahil	N ₀	109.3	341.1	450.4	0.243	24.3
	N ₆	124.5	355.3	479.8	0.259	25.9
	N ₉	158.7	362.6	521.3	0.304	30.4
	N ₁₂	162.0	360.5	522.5	0.310	31.0
Kuber	N ₀	111.6	340.3	451.9	0.247	24.7
	N ₆	122.9	349.0	471.9	0.260	26.0
	N ₉	149.5	357.8	507.3	0.295	29.5
	N ₁₂	144.2	365.4	509.6	0.283	28.3

Content of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium in plant biomass

In flowering stage, the content of nitrogen and phosphorus was higher in the developing class than in the leaf-stem mass in all tested varieties (for all levels of nitrogen nutrition), while in potassium the content was higher in the vegetative mass (Table 2). The increase of the nitrogen fertilizer rate leads to an increase of the concentration of the main macronutrients in the plant biomass. In the varieties Ahil

(1.95%) (1.69%),
 N₉.
 (1.88%)
 N₁₂.
 (0,87%)
 1.03% 0.96%.
 N₉ N₁₂.

(1.95%) and Emon (1.69%), the amount of nitrogen in the growing class was the highest in the variants with fertilizer rate N₉. Variety Kuber registered a maximum value (1.88%) of the element at fertilizer rate N₁₂. Regarding the amount of phosphorus in the growing class, no significant differences between the varieties were found. The results regarding the amount of potassium in the developing class were similar, despite the tendency for higher values of the indicator in the varieties Ahil and Kuber, compared to the variety Emon. The lowest percentage of potassium in the growing class, without fertilization, was reported for the variety Emon (0.87%) and higher for the varieties Ahil and Kuber, with values of 1.03% and 0.96%, respectively. The content of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium in the leaf-stem mass (regardless of fertilization) was higher in the varieties Ahil and Kuber, compared to the variety Emon. The amount of macronutrients in the aboveground parts of barley was without significant differences in fertilization with N₉ N₁₂.

2. (%)

Table 2. Nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium content (%) in the flowering stage average for the study period

Variety	Nitrogen rate	/ Growing class			/ Leaves and stems		
		N	2 5	2	N	2 5	2
Emon	N ₀	1.36	0.52	0.87	0.93	0.31	2.12
	N ₆	1.48	0.68	1.11	1.05	0.44	2.39
	N ₉	1.69	0.77	1.15	1.21	0.53	2.57
	N ₁₂	1.65	0.77	1.19	1.34	0.61	2.41
Ahil	N ₀	1.43	0.61	1.03	1.10	0.33	2.28
	N ₆	1.56	0.73	1.14	1.23	0.48	2.41
	N ₉	1.95	0.81	1.24	1.33	0.55	2.62
	N ₁₂	1.82	0.89	1.31	1.38	0.52	2.59
Kuber	N ₀	1.39	0.59	0.96	1.07	0.30	2.26
	N ₆	1.57	0.70	1.15	1.22	0.45	2.44
	N ₉	1.73	0.78	1.29	1.34	0.49	2.76
	N ₁₂	1.88	0.82	1.35	1.31	0.51	2.65

The concentration of nitrogen and phosphorus in barley grain was higher than that of straw, while the amount of potassium was higher in barley straw than in grain (Table 3). In the variant without

(3).

- fertilization, the tested genotypes were characterized by close values of the
- percentage of nitrogen in the grain.
- Increasing the fertilizer rate leads to an increase in the concentration of the element in the grain. The results of the analysis show that significant differences in the amount of nitrogen in the barley grain at fertilizer rates N₉ and N₁₂ were not found. Regarding the percentage of phosphorus and potassium in the grain, the results were similar to those for nitrogen. Comparing the studied varieties, it was found that the varieties Ahil and Kuber had a higher concentration of phosphorus and potassium in the grain compared to the variety Emon. Regarding the content of macronutrients in barley straw, the trend was similar.

N₉ N₁₂

3.

(%)

Table 3. Nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium content (%) in the maturity stage average for the study period

Variety	Nitrogen rate	/ Grain			/ Straw		
		N	2 5	2	N	2 5	2
Emon	N ₀	1.95	0.49	1.05	0.98	0.28	1.23
	N ₆	2.11	0.67	1.24	1.05	0.32	1.49
	N ₉	2.30	0.77	1.48	1.33	0.47	1.62
	N ₁₂	2.29	0.81	1.56	1.28	0.55	1.69
Ahil	N ₀	2.07	0.59	1.19	1.13	0.20	1.30
	N ₆	2.32	0.73	1.37	1.20	0.32	1.58
	N ₉	2.68	0.89	1.62	1.41	0.61	1.79
	N ₁₂	2.55	0.83	1.66	1.45	0.68	1.77
Kuber	N ₀	2.03	0.52	1.12	1.04	0.25	1.34
	N ₆	2.39	0.67	1.31	1.36	0.35	1.51
	N ₉	2.54	0.93	1.67	1.40	0.59	1.76
	N ₁₂	2.60	0.85	1.74	1.48	0.63	1.82

- Uptake and expense of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium with plant biomass

The macronutrients uptake from barley vary depending on the concentration of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium in the plant biomass and on the dry matter formed (Figures 1, 2 and 3). The content of macronutrients in the plant mass and the accumulation of dry matter

(1, 2 3).

are influenced by the genotype, climatic conditions, fertilization and the stage of the crop growth. The variation of one indicator, as a result of the listed factors, was not always parallel to the variation of the other. On average for the experimental period, it was found that the increase in the nitrogen fertilizer rate leads to an increase in nitrogen uptake with the plant mass (Figure 1).

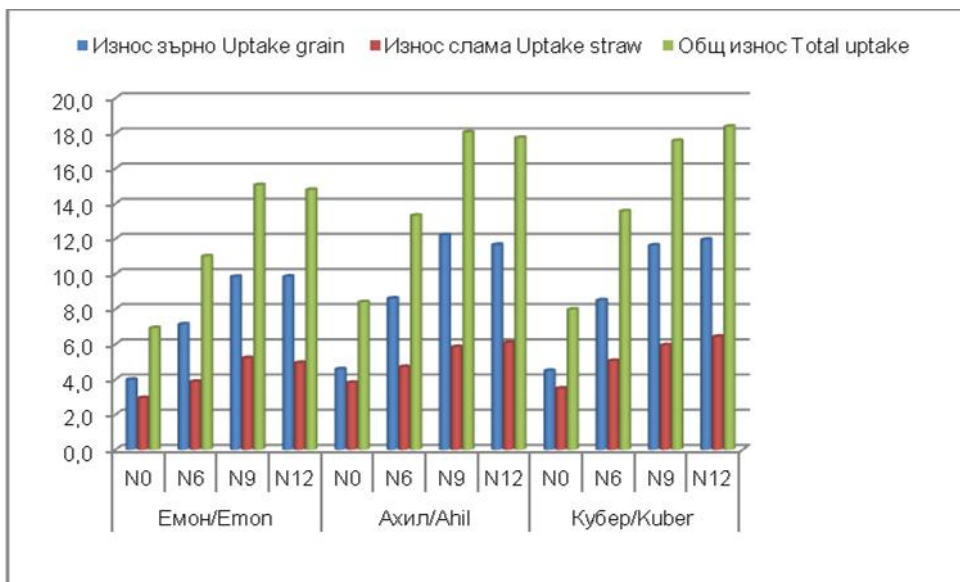


Fig. 1. Nitrogen uptake with grain and straw (kg/da)

kg/da).
 N₉ (12.2
 N₉ N₁₂
 6.9; 8.0 8.4 kg/da
 N₆
 4.1 kg/da
 4.9 kg/da
 kg/da
 N₁₂

Larger amounts of nitrogen with grain and straw, at all levels of fertilization, were uptake by the varieties Ahil and Kuber, compared to the variety Emon. The largest amount of nitrogen with the grain was uptake by the Ahil variety when fertilized with N₉ (12.2 kg/da). The differences in the uptake quantities of nitrogen at fertilizer rates N₉ N₁₂ were insignificant for the studied varieties. The total nitrogen uptake in the control variant was 6.9; 8.0 8.4 kg/da for the varieties as follows: Emon, Kuber and Ahil. Increasing the fertilizer rate to N₆ leads to an increase in nitrogen uptake by 4.1 kg/da in Emon variety, by 4.9 kg/da in Ahil variety and by 5.6 kg/da in Kuber variety. Fertilization with N₉ and N₁₂ increases the

kg/da,
 1.0 kg/da (
) 4.0 kg/da (
) –
 kg/da)
 N₉.

uptake amounts of nitrogen with plant biomass in the range of 8-12 kg/da, compared to the control variant. Nitrogen fertilization also had a positive effect on phosphorus uptake with the grain, which varies from 1.0 kg/da (for the control variant) to 4.0 kg/da for the higher rates of nitrogen nutrition (Figure 2). Unlike phosphorus uptake with barley grain, the increase in the nitrogen fertilizer rate had a lesser effect on its straw uptake. The total uptake of phosphorus had the highest values (6.8 kg/da) for variety Kuber when fertilizing with N₉.

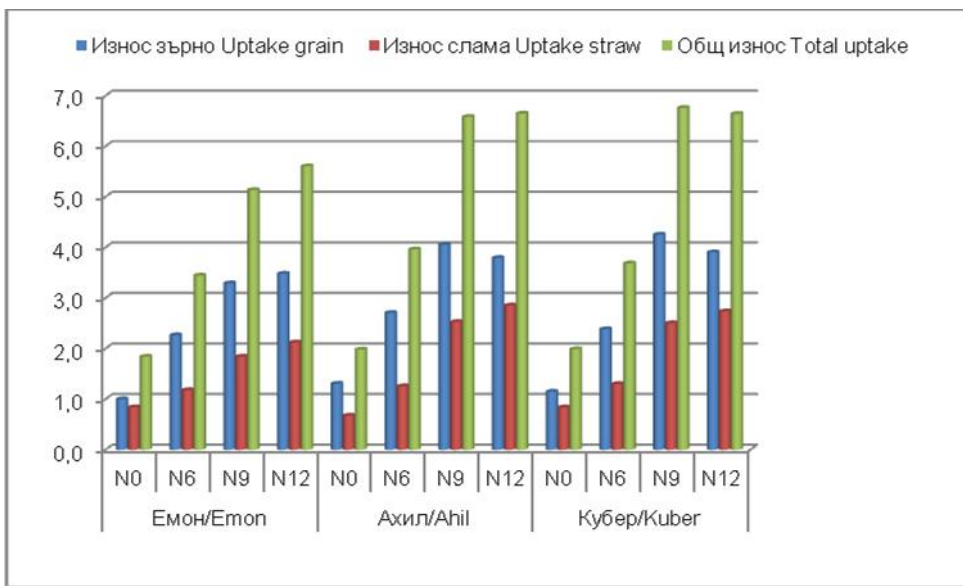


Fig. 2. Phosphorus uptake with grain and straw (kg/da)

2.0 2.5 kg/da
 (3).
 2.0-2.5 kg/da
 N₉ N₁₂,
 5.0 kg/da.

Without fertilization, the tested varieties uptake potassium with the grain from 2.0 to 2.5 kg/da (Figure 3). The inclusion of fertilization increases the values of the indicator by 2.0-2.5 kg/da for individual varieties, and feeding with N₉ and N₁₂, respectively by about 5.0 kg/da. Similar results were the results reported for the uptake of potassium in the straw.

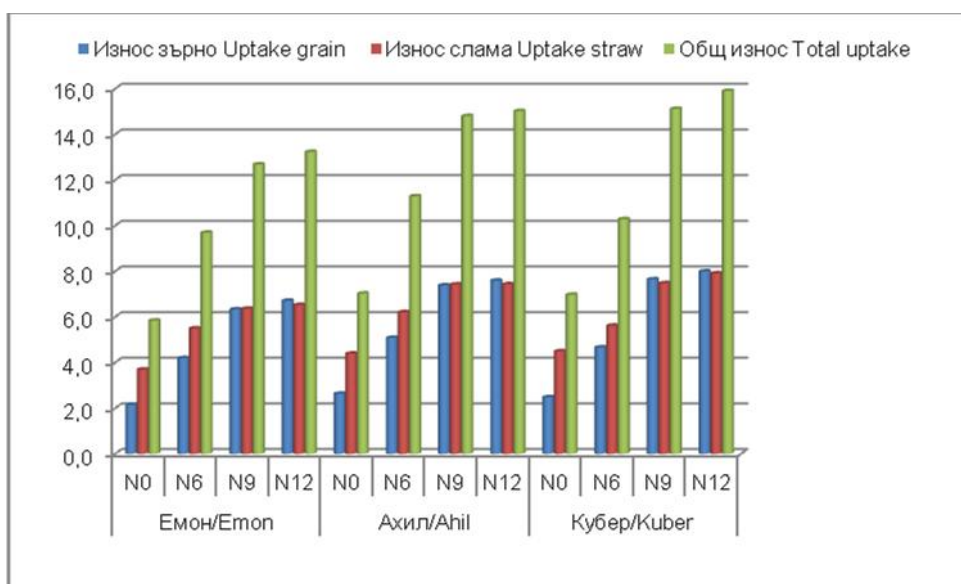


Fig. 3. Potassium uptake with grain and straw (kg/da)

(4).

- The expense of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium depends on the content of macronutrients in the formed plant biomass and the realized grain yield (Table 4). Comparing the reaction of the tested varieties on this indicator, it was found that there were no significant differences in the values between the tested genotypes at the different levels of nitrogen fertilization.

4. (kg/da)

Table 4. Expense of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium (kg/da) with plant biomass on average for the study period

/ Variety	/ Nitrogen rate	N	2 5	2
Emon	N ₀	3.4	0.9	2.9
	N ₆	3.3	1.0	2.9
	N ₉	3.5	1.2	3.0
	N ₁₂	3.4	1.3	3.1
Ahil	N ₀	3.8	0.9	3.2
	N ₆	3.6	1.1	3.0
	N ₉	4.0	1.4	3.2
	N ₁₂	3.9	1.5	3.3
Kuber	N ₀	3.6	0.9	3.2
	N ₆	3.8	1.0	2.9
	N ₉	3.8	1.5	3.3
	N ₁₂	4.0	1.4	3.5

Productivity of the tested varieties of barley

For the three-year study period, it was found that the productivity of barley varieties has been shown to increase with increasing nitrogen fertilizer rate (Figures 4 and 5). The realized higher grain yield at fertilizer rate N₆, compared to the control variant, was in the range of 130-140 kg/da and 220-250 kg/da for fertilization rates N₉ and N₁₂. The varieties Ahil and Kuber formed higher grain and straw yields compared to those of the variety Emon (at all rates of nitrogen fertilization) and were characterized by approximately the same productivity. The average grain yields for the control variant were 204-221 kg/da, for fertilizer rate N₆ – 338-371 kg/da, for N₉ – 428-458 kg/da and for N₁₂ – 430-459 kg/da. No significant differences in grain yield were found between the third and fourth levels of nitrogen fertilization. For the entire experimental period, the largest amount of straw formed the variety Kuber – 435 kg/da at fertilizer rate N₁₂, and the least – variety Emon – 300 kg/da (in the control variant).

Productivity of the tested varieties of barley

For the three-year study period, it was found that the productivity of barley varieties has been shown to increase with increasing nitrogen fertilizer rate (Figures 4 and 5). The realized higher grain yield at fertilizer rate N₆, compared to the control variant, was in the range of 130-140 kg/da and 220-250 kg/da for fertilization rates N₉ and N₁₂. The varieties Ahil and Kuber formed higher grain and straw yields compared to those of the variety Emon (at all rates of nitrogen fertilization) and were characterized by approximately the same productivity. The average grain yields for the control variant were 204-221 kg/da, for fertilizer rate N₆ – 338-371 kg/da, for N₉ – 428-458 kg/da and for N₁₂ – 430-459 kg/da. No significant differences in grain yield were found between the third and fourth levels of nitrogen fertilization. For the entire experimental period, the largest amount of straw formed the variety Kuber – 435 kg/da at fertilizer rate N₁₂, and the least – variety Emon – 300 kg/da (in the control variant).

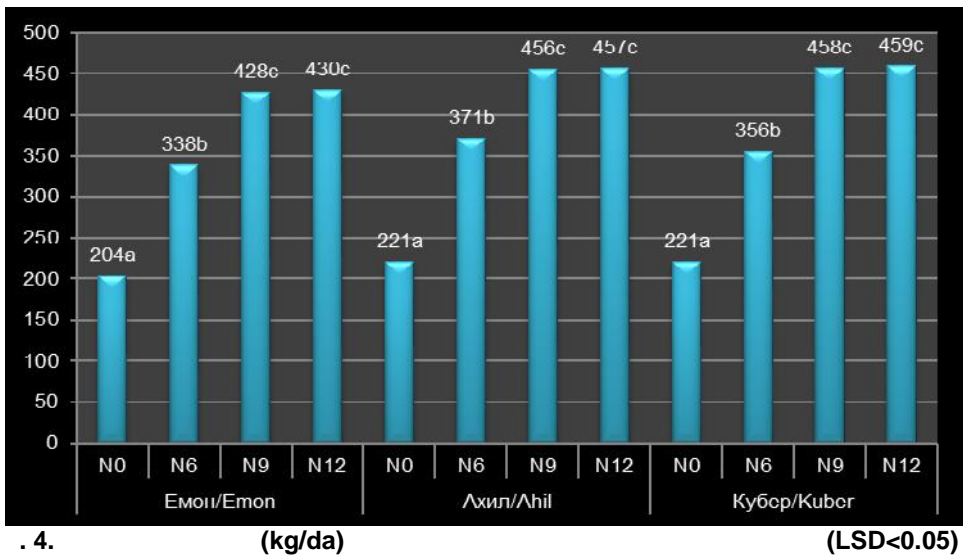


Fig. 4. Grain yield (kg/da) on average for the experimental period

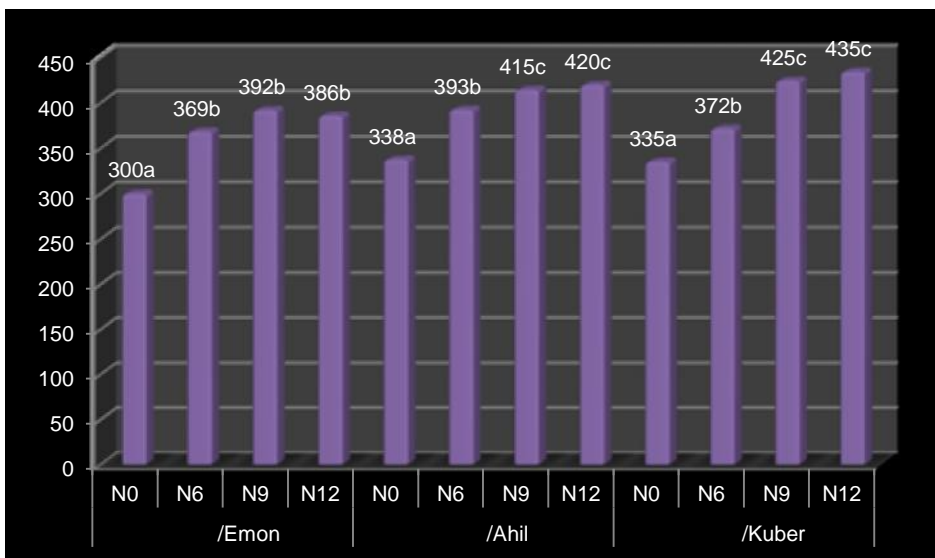


Fig. 5. Straw yield (kg/da) on average for the experimental period (LSD<0.05)

CONCLUSIONS

1. In the flowering stage, the dry biomass of the vegetative parts had higher values than that of the developing class. On average for the experimental period, Ahil variety formed the largest amount of total biomass (522.5 kg/da) at fertilizer rate N₁₂.
2. The inclusion of fertilization in the cultivation of barley had a positive effect on the accumulation of total biomass – in the range of 7-15 kg/da. Increasing the nitrogen fertilizer rate to (N₉ and N₁₂) significantly increased the values of the indicator, respectively by 30-50 kg/da.
3. The increase of the nitrogen fertilizer rate leads to an increase of the concentration of the main macronutrients in the plant biomass. The varieties Ahil and Kuber were distinguished by a higher concentration of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium in the grain, compared to the variety Emon (at all levels of fertilization). Regarding the content of macronutrients in barley straw, the results were similar.
4. The increase in the nitrogen

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 N₉ N₁₂
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 N₉ N₁₂.
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fertilizer rate leads to an increase in the uptake of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium with the barley grain and had a significantly smaller effect on the uptake of nutrients with the barley straw. Larger amounts of nitrogen with grain and straw, at all levels of fertilization, were uptake by the varieties Ahil and Kuber, compared to the variety Emon. The differences in the exported quantities of nitrogen at fertilizer rates N₉ and N₁₂ were insignificant.

5. The productivity of barley varieties has been proven to increase with increasing nitrogen fertilizer rate. The realized higher grain yield at fertilizer rate N₆, compared to the control variant was 130-140 kg/da and 220-250 kg/da at fertilization rates N₉ and N₁₂. During the study period, Ahil and Kuber varieties formed higher grain and straw yields compared to the Emon variety (at all levels of nitrogen fertilization). No significant differences in grain yield were found at the higher levels of nitrogen fertilization.

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