

of microorganisms is determined by content of organic matter, pH and other physical and chemical properties of the soil.

Key words: microorganisms, soil, production

INTRODUCTION

Priority of contemporary study of agro-ecological systems includes monitoring the dynamics of microbial activity in soil because most biological processes are the result of microbial involvement. Soil microorganisms play an essential role in decomposing organic matter, cycling nutrients and fertilising the soil (Stajkovi -Srbinovi et al., 2017) and forming mutualistic associations with plants, all of these activities resulting in greater plant growth (Sylvia et al., 2005).

Soil microorganisms are found in large numbers near plant roots, because there is a greater content of organic compounds secreted by the root are available (Massenssini et al., 2014).

Chemical and physical properties of soils, like quality and amount of soil organic matter, pH, etc., have a pronounced influence on the dynamics of the microbial community in soils (Lombard et al., 2011).

There are justifications for use of bacteria and fungi as indicators of soil quality: they have key functions in degradation and recirculation of organic matter and nutrients and respond quickly to soil changes (Stenberg, 1999).

A large number of fungi and bacteria are crucial for the development of plant thanks to the important mechanism of soil nutrient cycling (Poole et al., 2001). These two groups of microbes are the most important with reference to energy flow and nutrient transfer in terrestrial ecosystems (Richards, 1987). The total number of microorganisms, where bacteria were the most abundant is part of

(Stajkovi -Srbinovi et al., 2017)

(Sylvia et al., 2005).

(Massenssini et al., 2014).

(Lombard et al., 2011).

1999).

(Poole et al., 2001).

(Richards, 1987).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - biological component of soil and is - extremely important for the creation and - maintenance of soil fertility.
<p>(Žifáková et al., 2016).</p>	<p>Fungi are responsible for process of decomposition in terrestrial ecosystems, they produce extracellular enzymes, decompose all kinds of organic matter, soil components and thereby regulating the balance of carbon and nutrients (Žifáková et al., 2016).</p> <p>Certain bacteria known for their ability to fix atmospheric nitrogen are also important for the development of healthy soil structure. Nitrogen-fixing microorganisms are adapted to different environmental conditions and considered to be important for the nitrogen input to soil (Zhan and Sun, 2012).</p>
<p>and Sun, 2012).</p>	<p>(Zhan and Sun, 2012).</p>
<p>(Milošević et al., 2007).</p>	<p>Microbial abundance and biodiversity populations or activities may detect changes in physico-chemical properties soil and have intimate relationships with their surroundings due to their high surface to volume ratio (Milošević et al., 2007). By applying agrotechnical measures one is able to utilize favourable soil properties and production potential of plants but also enhance their soil productivity.</p> <p>This study aimed to evaluate microbiological and basic agrochemical properties of agricultural soil of the southeastern part of the Republic of Serbia.</p>

MATERIAL AND METHODS

During the realization of the set aims research was done in September of 2019. Soil samples from 72 localities of agricultural soil were taken aseptically for microbiological analyses from a depth of 0-25 cm. All sites are located in the territory on the southeastern part of the Republic of Serbia at altitudes between 160 m and 1809 m. Sampling soil was carried out in three sites from different

parts of one location, they are mixed and present as one sample to obtain a more realistic picture of properties of the tested soil.

The parameters of soil fertility were determined on the collected soil samples:

- active acidity in H₂O and substitution acidity in 1 M KCl - potentiometric method
- humus - volumetric method by Turin
- total nitrogen – method by Kjeldahl
- phosphorus and potassium (easily available - mg/100 g soil) - Al-method

In the lab, each of the samples was analyzed in three repetitions. The plate count method was used to enumerate the total number of microorganisms on the agarised soil extract, the number of fungi on the Chapek medium and ologonitrophiles on the medium according to Fyodorov in soil samples. Microorganisms were cultured at the temperature of 28 °C. Colonies of fungi and ologonitrophiles were counted after 5 days and the total number of microorganisms, after 7 days. The number of grown colonies was calculated per 1g of absolutely dry soil (Jarak and Djuri , 2006).

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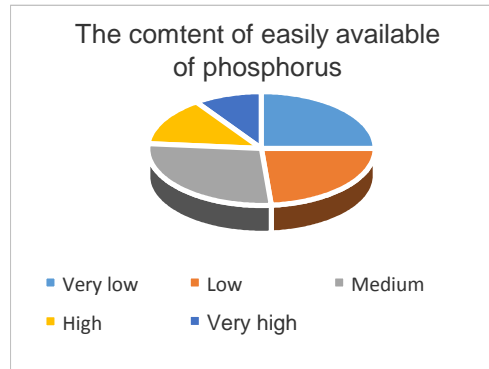
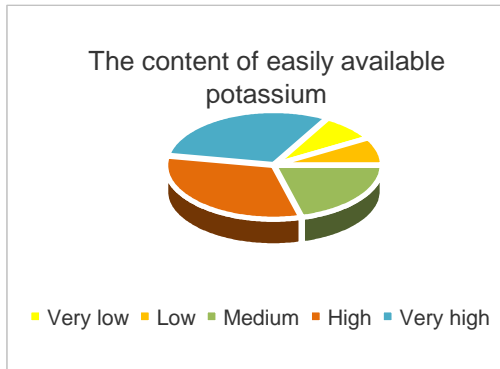
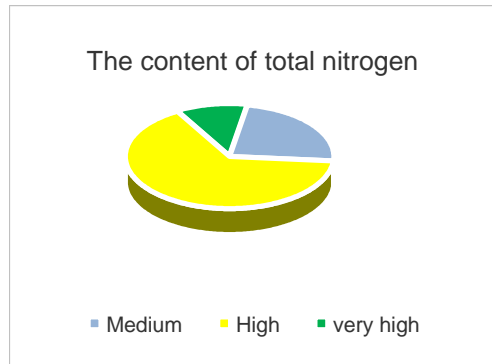
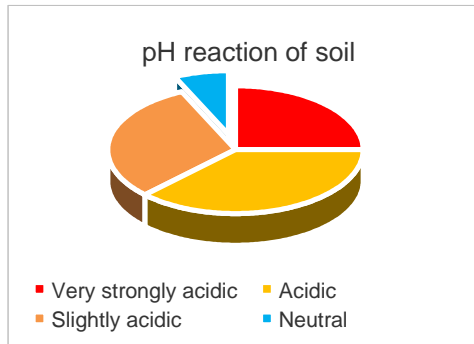
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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The research area is located in southeastern Serbia and covers the territories of 8 local governments. One of the characteristics of agricultural production, especially in the lowland and partly mountainous regions of the studied area, is the locally high intensity of utilization of agricultural soil, especially intensive arable, vegetable and fruit production

Based on the pH value, most of the tested soils are acidic and only 5 (6,9%) of a total of 72 samples analyzed had a neutral reaction (Figure 1).

Humus content, as a very important component of fertility, is satisfactory, since the vast majority of the soil sampled showed a medium content.



. 1.
Fig. 1. The chemical composition of studied soils

(Reicosky and Wilts, 2005).

28.6% , 24,3%

- This condition of humus in the analyzed soils is probably due to the fact that almost all the samples were taken from arable soil which is fertilized by manure and plant residues are plowed. Crop residues of common agricultural crops are important resources, not only as sources of nutrients for succeeding crops and hence agricultural productivity, but also for improved soil (Reicosky and Wilts, 2005).

- The largest number of samples soil has enough nitrogen and potassium. Analysis of easily available phosphorus in soil shows that half of the samples have a low, 28.6% has medium and 24.3% has high and very high content. Phosphorus plays role in virtually all major metabolic processes in plant including photosynthesis, energy transfer, biosynthesis macro-molecula, respiration (Khan et al., 2010)

(Khan et al., 2010)

(Saber et al., 2005).

(Hofman and Van Cleemput, 2004).

(Hellal and Abdelhamid, 2013).

and nitrogen fixation in legumes (Saber et al., 2005).

- The majority of tested soils is supplied with nitrogen and potassium sufficient content which can be considered favourable for agricultural production.
- Nitrogen is the most important plant nutrient for crop production. It occupies a unique position as a plant nutrient because rather high amounts are required compared to the other essential nutrients (Hofman and Van Cleemput, 2004).
- Most plants take nitrogen from the soil continuously throughout their lives, and nitrogen demand usually increases as plant size increases.
- Adequate content potassium improves disease resistance, water stress tolerance, winter hardiness, tolerance to many plant pests, and uptake of other nutrients (Hellal and Abdelhamid, 2013).

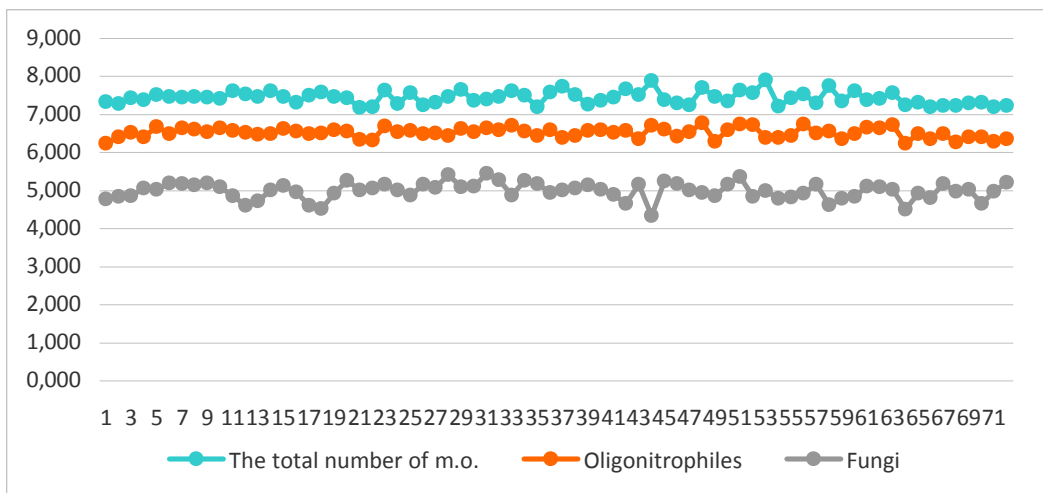


Fig. 2. The number of microorganisms (log of number) in studied soils

- The abundance of all microbes studied varied in different soil and was affected by soil nutrient content (Figure 2).

(2). The results of the performed microbiological analyzes showed that the number of total microflora ranged from 7.176-7.906 (log of the number). The total number of microorganisms in soil samples varied from, the presence of microorganisms in soil is influenced by numerous factors and that each soil provides different conditions for the life of the microbe (An elkovi et al., 2019).

7.176-7.906 (). The microorganisms increase the nutrient bioavailability through nitrogen fixation and mobilization of key nutrients (phosphorus, potassium and iron) to the crop plants while remediate soil structure by improving its aggregation and stability (Rashid et al., 2016). Free-living nitrogen-fixers are important for the nitrogen input to soil of agroecosystem.

(An elkovi et al., 2019). These microorganisms are fixation factors of the atmospheric nitrogen for meeting their own needs and suppliers of plants with accessible forms of nitrogen (Bogdanovic, 1990). In our study the number of free-living nitrogen-fixers varied from 6.233 to 6.775. Rasuli et al. (2013) presented that the number of oligonitrofiles in the hilly-mountainous region of western Serbia in tested plough-fields varied from 3.00 to $233.00 \cdot 10^5 g^{-1}$, in orchards $7.33-108.00 \cdot 10^5 g^{-1}$, in meadows $25.67-90.00 \cdot 10^5 g^{-1}$ and in the forest soil $12.00-70.33 \cdot 10^5 g^{-1}$.

(Rashid et al., 2016). Fungi are involved in major soil processes, such as humification and mineralization of organic residues, leading to the plant availability of nutrient.

(Bogdanovic, 1990). Our research shows that the number of fungi ranged from 4.342 to 5.449 (log of number) per one gram of absolutely dry soil. They represent an important link in the soil – plant system and contribute to the enhancement of soil fertility (Emmerling et al., 2002) and fungal diversity had an important influence on plant and soil properties (Rousk et al., 2010).

Rasuli et al. (2013)

6.233 6.775.

3.00 $233.00 \cdot 10^5 g^{-1}$,

$7.33-108.00 \cdot 10^5 g^{-1}$,

$25.67-90.00 \cdot 10^5 g^{-1}$

$12.00-70.33 \cdot 10^5 g^{-1}$.

4.342 5.449 ()

(Emmerling et al., 2002),

2010). (Rousk et al., Literature data showed the number of fungi in soils south and southeast Serbia varied 2,00-33,67.10⁴.g⁻¹ (Rasuli et al., 2016) and 4,950-5,440 (log of number) in soil on the location Pešter (Miloševi et al., 2007). Fungi can be found in almost every environment and can live in wide range of pH and temperature (Fr c et al., 2018).

(Rasuli et al., 2016) 2,00-33,67,10⁴.g⁻¹ 4950-5,440 (Pešter) (Miloševi et al., 2007).

(Fr c et al., 2018).

CONCLUSIONS

- Soil management is important to all agricultural systems, and the reduction of soil degradation is a base to sustain future production. In agriculture, should be soil managed to maximise production without adverse environmental effects.

- Regarding chemical structure soils of this region by applying appropriate measures, primarily phosphatization and calcification, it is possible to use the favourable properties of soil.

- Microorganisms respond quickly to changes in the soil ecosystem and abundance of examined groups of microorganisms in soil is a dynamic state that is correlated with physico-chemical indicators soil and with the current level of soil fertility.

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37000 ,
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3 19,
32000 ,

Mycopopulation of Lavender in Serbia

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Original scientific paper

Lavandula L.
48 .
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L. angustifolia (
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)
L. latifolia (
,)
L. intermedia
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SUMMARY

The genus *Lavandula* L. is comprised of about 48 species. Only three species of this genus have greater economic importance. The most famous and the most cultivated species of this genus is true lavender (also known as medicinal, fragrant, green or French lavender), *L. angustifolia*. The second most cultivated is broadleaved lavender (also known as male or spike lavender), *L. latifolia* and the third is the hybrid lavender (English, lavandin) *L. intermedia*. All three species originated from the Mediterranean, southern Europe. Lavender is a perennial half-shrub. It has a wood-like and densely branched root system that penetrates 3 to 4 m deep. The characteristic appearance of lavender is due to its blue flowers that contain the

390

: *Alternaria, Fusarium, Phythophthora, Mucor, Sclerotinia, Phomopsis, Phoma Rhizoctonia.*

: *Lavandula,*

(*Lavandula hybrida*).

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essential oil, which is the most important component of the plant as a whole.

Increased demand for medicinal and aromatic plants has led to the introduction of a large number of medicinal species in plantation production. By cultivating those plants, larger quantities of raw materials of uniform quality can be obtained, while, also, significantly reducing the pressure on natural resources.

In recent years, it has been noted that lavender, as a crop, has gained increasing economic importance in Serbia. Due to the intensive cultivation of lavender, it has been found that plants are parasitized by a large number of phytopathogenic fungi, which significantly reduce the quality, yield and life span of the plants. This research aims to present the results of preliminary research of mycopopulation of 10 samples of lavender plant from different localities from Serbia. A total of 390 plant parts were examined and 8 genera of fungi were isolated: *Alternaria, Fusarium, Phytophthora, Mucor, Sclerotinia, Phomopsis, Phoma,* and *Rhizoctonia*. Macroscopically visible symptoms of the infection were found on the plants from which the fungi were isolated.

Key words: *Lavandula,* mycopopulation

INTRODUCTION

Lavender is one of the most famous aromatic and medicinal herbs. In recent years, lavender cultivation has expanded significantly in Serbia and so there are significant areas under plantations. Most often it is the cultivation of lavandin (*Lavandula hybrida*). Recently, lavender is increasingly used as a raw material in the pharmaceutical, cosmetic and food industries. Its utilization is on the rise, increasing the frequency and intensity of plantation production.

The success and profitability of this

production depends, among other, on the health of the crop. These plants, like all others, are exposed to attack by numerous parasites under conditions of intensive production and cultivation in monoculture. It can often be found in the literature that lavender is resistant to diseases and pests, which is not correct.

The intensification of plantation production of medicinal plants and the limitation of the use of fungicides led to severe outbreaks, as was the case with fusarium wilting and black spots on basil in Italy (Garibaldi et al., 1997).

Plantation production of medicinal plants is inevitably accompanied by the emergence of new pathogens, and also, by more intense emergence of existing pathogens, especially those with a wide range of hosts, such as *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*, *Botrytis cinerea*, and *Rhizoctonia solani* (Pavlovi et al., 2012). In many cases, the presence of fungi directly affects photosynthesis by reducing the productivity, formation and the quality of the secondary metabolites.

Pathogenic microorganisms can also produce different types of toxins during pathogenesis, which alter the nature of the active substances of the secondary metabolites and inhibit the expression of their medicinal properties (Singh and Dubey, 2012). Fungal infections severely damage secretory tissue and stomas, resulting in a decrease of essential oils amount and in the altered composition of volatile metabolite fractions in diseased plants (Pavlovi et al., 2012).

Since there was no systematic study of the microflora of lavender cultivated in Serbia, due to its pharmacological and economic importance, the aim of this paper is to present preliminary results of mycopopulation on lavender originating from Serbia.

390
8
: *Alternaria*, *Fusarium*,
Phytophthora, *Mucor*, *Sclerotinia*, *Phoma*,
Phomopsis *Rhizoctonia*.

A total of 390 plant parts were examined and 8 genera of phytopathogenic fungi were isolated: *Alternaria*, *Fusarium*, *Phytophthora*, *Mucor*, *Sclerotinia*, *Phoma*, *Phomopsis* and *Rhizoctonia*. The results obtained indicate that lavender plants are sensitive to a large number of phytopathogenic fungi, which can have a significant effect on reducing the yield and quality of lavender.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

10
2017
1, 2, 3
1, 2 ()
1, 2, 3 ()

For the study of mycopopulations, samples of 10 lavender plant were taken from different localities in Serbia. The samples were collected between May and Jul 2017 at the localities Tamnjanica1, 2, Glogovac 1, 2, 3 and Kaparica 1, 2 (Pirot district) and Ka arevo 1, 2, 3 (South Banat District).

cm.
10
(NaOCl)
1%
96%

Parts of plants are carefully washed under running water. After washing, the parts of stem and roots are cut to piece of 0.5-1 cm in size. Prepared samples of roots and stems were disinfected with 96% ethanol for 10 seconds and with 1% sodium hypochlorite (NaOCl) for 1 minute and then washed three times in sterile distilled water.

(PDA)
)
/12
25°C
12
3
14
PDA

They were then dried on sterile filter paper and placed on potato dextrose agar medium (PDA) with streptomycin. Five pieces of the plant parts (roots and stem) were placed each in Petri dishes in four replications. They were kept in a thermostat at 25°C in 12 h light/12 h night regime. The observations were performed every 3 days, and the majority of mycelium samples were developed up to 14 days. Developed mycelia were screened to a new PDA substrate and, after an initial grow, the peak part of the mycelium was reseeded on PDA again.

Olympus CX31.

Microscopic examination was performed using microscopes Olympus CX31. Morphological identification of fungi to the genus was carried out using a standard key.

et al. (2011): % Vrande i

Calculated by the frequency of isolation in % according to the formula Vrande i et al. (2011):

$$(\%) = \frac{\text{Number of segments containing the fungal species}}{\text{Total number of segments used in the isolation}} \times 100$$

(%) Isolation frequency =

RESULTS

390
(1).
Alternaria Mucor.
Sclerotinia
Phomopsis Phoma.
Fusarium (1), Phytophthora Rhizoctonia.
1, 2, 3 (*Phomopsis, Phytophthora Fusarium*
1, 2, 3 1, 2 (*Alternaria, Rhizoctonia, Fusarium Phoma.*
ú.

A total of 390 plant parts were inspected in this study of mycopopulation of lavender plants (Table 1). On all plants from which the fungi were isolated, the symptoms on the stems were clearly expressed in the form of necrotic spots and lesions. Fungi from the genera *Alternaria* and *Mucor* were isolated from these plants. Similarly, in a large number of plants, necrosis was observed on the root neck with the presence of a white airy mycelium in the lower third of the stem. Fungi of the genus *Sclerotinia* were isolated from those plants. A large number of plants displayed black fruiting bodies-pycnids on leaves and stems, which have been identified as fungi from genera *Phomopsis* and *Phoma*.

Symptoms of light to dark brown necrosis were present on the root system of the plants and fungi from the genera *Fusarium* (Figure 1), *Phytophthora* and *Rhizoctonia* were isolated from those plants. There was, also, a difference in the frequency of isolation of fungi between the site Kacharevo 1, 2, 3 (South Banat District), where *Phomopsis*, *Phytophthora* and *Fusarium* fungi were isolated in a very high percentage compared to the sites of Tamnjanica 1, 2, Glogovac 1, 2, 3 and Kaparica 1, 2 (Pirot district), where fungi from the genera *Alternaria*, *Rhizoctonia*, *Fusarium* and *Phoma* were more frequently isolated. The obtained results indicate that lavender is susceptible to attack by a large number of phytopathogenic fungi which can significantly reduce its yield and quality.

1.

Table 1. Frequency of fungal isolation on lavender diseases in Serbia

/Region	Number of samples		Fungi species - stem	Isolation frequency (%)	Fungi species - root	Isolation frequency (%)
	Plant part - stem	Plant part - root				
/Tamnjanica 1	20	20	<i>Phoma</i> sp. <i>Phomopsis</i> sp. <i>Alternaria</i> sp.	25 35 40	<i>Rhizoctonia</i> sp. <i>Fusarium</i> sp.	45 55
/Tamnjanica 2	20	20	<i>Phoma</i> sp. <i>Phomopsis</i> sp. <i>Alternaria</i> sp. <i>Mucor</i> sp.	35 25 25 10	<i>Fusarium</i> sp. <i>Phytophthora</i> sp.	65 35
/Glogovac 1	20	20	<i>Sclerotinia</i> sp. <i>Alternaria</i> sp. <i>Phoma</i> sp.	35 45 20	<i>Rhizoctonia</i> sp.	90
/Glogovac 2	20	20	<i>Sclerotinia</i> sp. <i>Phoma</i> sp. <i>Mucor</i> sp.	20 75 5	<i>Rhizoctonia</i> sp.	80
/Glogovac 3	20	20	<i>Sclerotinia</i> sp. <i>Phoma</i> sp.	30 70	<i>Fusarium</i> sp.	80
/Kaparica 1	20	20	<i>Alternaria</i> sp. <i>Sclerotinia</i> sp.	75 25	<i>Phytophthora</i> sp.	80
/Kaparica 2	20	20	<i>Alternaria</i> sp. <i>Phoma</i> sp.	60 40	<i>Phytophthora</i> sp.	90
/Ka arevo 1	20	20	<i>Phomopsis</i> sp. <i>Alternaria</i> sp.	60 40	<i>Phytophthora</i> sp.	85
/Ka arevo 2	20	20	<i>Phomopsis</i> sp. <i>Alternaria</i> sp.	65 35	<i>Fusarium</i> sp. <i>Phytophthora</i> sp.	65 35
/Ka arevo 3	20	20	<i>Phomopsis</i> sp.	100	<i>Fusarium</i> sp.	100



1. *Fusarium*

Fig. 1. Symptoms from *Fusarium* on lavender plants

DISCUSSION

(2017 .) ,

During June 2017, two areas where lavender was cultivated (Pirotdistrict and South Banat District), symptoms of wilting and complete plant decay were noted in

Fusarium, Rhizoctonia
Phytophthora

Phoma
Phomopsis
Alternaria

Phytophthora
Phoma, Rhizoctonia
Fusarium
Mucor

(2-5% 2-10%).

Pavlovi et al. (2012)

alternata, Alternaria
60%.
5% 69%.

two-year-old *Lavandula x intermedia* plants. Fungi from genera *Fusarium*, *Rhizoctonia* and *Phytophthora* were isolated from root tissue.

A large number of lavender plants were, also, found to change the colour of their stems and lateral branches. On the bleached parts, black fruiting bodies - pycnidia, were observed, which were found to belong to the genera *Phomopsis* and *Phoma*. Symptoms in the form of necrotic spots were, also, observed in a number of plants from which fungi of the genus *Alternaria* were isolated. In these studies, a difference in the frequency of isolation of certain genera of phytopathogenic fungi was observed in both isolates from the Pirot district and isolates originating in the South Banat District.

It has been observed that in plants originating in the South Banat District, fungi of the genus *Phomopsis* and *Phytophthora* were isolated more frequently. Also, genera *Alternaria*, *Sclerotinia*, *Phoma*, *Rhizoctonia* were more frequently isolated from plants from the Pirot district. As for the remaining two genera, isolated phytopathogenic fungi of the genus *Fusarium* were present in all analyzed samples, and fungi of the genus *Mucor* were represented in a smaller percentage in two samples (Glogovac 2-5% and Tamnjanica 2-10%). Although phytopathological fungi were not significant in the phytopathological sense, it is important to take into account their presence, as they can impair the quality of products made from lavender plants if lavender plants are used before technological processing.

Pavlovi et al. (2012) stated that the most common species of phytopathogenic fungus on the seed of medicinal plants of marsh-mallow, echinacea, St John's wort and sage was *Alternaria alternata*, which is always present in the seed in high percentage, in some years even over 60%.

The percentage of contaminated seeds ranged from 5% to 69%. On

17.2% *Fusarium* 2.5%

29%

Fusarium (*F. graminearum*, *F. oxysporum*, *F. proliferatum*, *F. semitectum*, *F. solani*, *F. subglutinans*, *F. verticillioides*)

Sclerotinia (*S. sclerotiorum*) (Pavlovi et al., 2012).

(*Gentiana lutea* L.), 2008

2009 (Pavlovi et al., 2011).

Alternaria alternata (72-74%).

Fusarium (*F. oxysporum*, *F. solani*, *F. equiseti*) (2-6%).

F. verticillioides, *Fusarium* sp., *Alternaria alternata*, *Epicoccum purpurescens*, *Phoma* sp., *Alternaria* sp. (Pavlovi et al., 2011). Pavlovi et al. (2009)

(*Althea officinalis*), (*Echinacea purpurea*, *Echinacea angustifolia*), (*Hypericum perforatum*) (2009).

Fusarium (*F. oxysporum*, *F. proliferatum*, *F. semitectum*, *F. verticillioides*, *F. equiseti*, *F. arthrosporoides*, *F. avenaceum*, *F. graminearum*, *E. angustifolia*, *F. solani*, *F. sporotrichioides*, *F. subglutinans*) *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* (Pavlovi et al., 2009).

Vrande i et al. (2011),

average, the percentage of infected seeds with *Fusarium* species was 17.2% and ranged from 2.5% to 29% depending on the host and year. Likewise, seven species of fungi of the genus *Fusarium* (*F. graminearum*, *F. oxysporum*, *F. proliferatum*, *F. semitectum*, *F. solani*, *F. subglutinans* and *F. verticillioides*) and one of the genus *Sclerotinia* (isolated) were isolated on roots of the investigated medicinal plants. *S. sclerotiorum*) (Pavlovi et al., 2012).

Mycopopulation of yellow gentian (*Gentiana lutea* L.) growing in plantations was studied in 2008 and 2009 in Serbia (Pavlovi et al., 2011). Fourteen species of fungi were registered at seed, out of which five were pathogenic. The most common species was *Alternaria alternata* (72-74 %). Species of the genus *Fusarium* (*F. oxysporum*, *F. solani* and *F. equiseti*) were present in a small percentage (2-6 %). These species, as well as *F. verticillioides*, were isolated from root, and *Fusarium* sp. was isolated from the flowers. *Alternaria alternata*, *Epicoccum purpurescens*, *Phoma* sp. and *Alternaria* sp. were regularly present on the leaves and stems (Pavlovi et al., 2011). Pavlovi et al. (2009) investigates the mycopopulation of the following species: marshmallow (*Althea officinalis*), coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea* and *Echinacea angustifolia*), St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) and garden sage (*Salvia officinalis*). From plants with different symptoms of diseases over 200 isolates of phytopathogens was obtained. Mycopopulation of tested plants consists of a number of parasitic and saprophytic pathogens. It was concluded that the biggest number of isolates belongs to the pathogenic genera *Fusarium* (*F. oxysporum*, *F. proliferatum*, *F. semitectum*, *F. verticillioides*, *F. equiseti*, *F. arthrosporoides*, *F. avenaceum*, *F. graminearum*, *E. angustifolia*, *F. solani*, *F. sporotrichioides* and *F. subglutinans*) and *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* (Pavlovi et al., 2009).

In Croatia, Vrande i et al. (2011), two-year-old *Lavandula x intermedia*

Lavandula x intermedia.	plants showed symptoms of wilting and complete decay of the plants. <i>Fusarium</i> sp. was isolated from the root system of those plants. While some lavender plants have shown a change in the colour of stems and the lateral branches in the form of bleaching and black fruiting forms (pycnids) have been observed on those parts, which have been found to belong to the genus <i>Phomopsis</i> .
<i>Fusarium</i> sp.	-
(),	-
<i>Phomopsis</i> .	Also, Vrande i et al. (2010) have isolated <i>Phomopsis</i> sp. from plants of <i>A. millefolium</i> on which there were no visible symptoms of infection. The same authors state that fungi of the genus <i>Phomopsis</i> were also isolated from <i>A. millefolium</i> plants that showed typical symptoms for <i>Phomopsis</i> .
, Vrande i et al. (2010)	-
<i>Phomopsis</i> sp.	-
<i>A. millefolium</i> ,	-
<i>Phomopsis</i>	
<i>A. millefolium</i> ,	
<i>Phomopsis</i> .	
Nakova (2011) 2008	Nakova (2011) in Bulgaria from 2008 to 2009 isolated the fungi of genera <i>Phomopsis</i> , <i>Phoma</i> , <i>Septoria</i> , <i>Phytophthora</i> , <i>Alternaria</i> , <i>Fusarium</i> and <i>Botrytis</i> on stems, base of branches and leaves from diseased lavender plant parts (<i>Lavandula officinalis</i>). Based on the morphological traits, the following species were identified: <i>Phoma lavandulae</i> , <i>Septoria lavandulae</i> , <i>Phomopsis lavandulae</i> (Gabotto) Cif. & Vegni and <i>Phytophthora nicotianae</i> Breda de Haan, son. <i>Phytophthora parasitica</i> (Dastur, 1913). <i>Phomopsis lavandulae</i> was isolated from stems and leaves that were grayish in colour. Nakova (2011) stated that the disease was more harmful in cases of joint infection with <i>Phoma lavandulae</i> and <i>Septoria lavandulae</i> . Also, Nakova (2011) notes that lavender plants infected with blight had normal growth, but also stated that infected plants had symptoms in the form of oily spots in the lower third of the stem. <i>Fusarium</i> and <i>Botrytis</i> fungi were, also, isolated from infected lavender roots (Nakova, 2011).
2009 .	
<i>Phomopsis</i> , <i>Phoma</i> , <i>Septoria</i> , <i>Phytophthora</i> ,	
<i>Alternaria</i> , <i>Fusarium</i> <i>Botrytis</i>	
,	
(<i>Lavandula officinalis</i>).	
-	
: <i>Phoma</i>	
<i>lavandulae</i> , <i>Septoria lavandulae</i> , <i>Phomopsis</i>	
<i>lavandulae</i> (Gabotto) Cif. & Vegni	
<i>Phytophthora nicotianae</i> Breda de Haan	
. <i>Phytophthora parasitica</i> (Dastur,	
1913). <i>Phomopsis lavandulae</i>	
.	
Nakova (2011)	
<i>Phoma lavandulae</i> <i>Septoria lavandulae</i>	
-	
, Nakova (2011)	
,	
,	
,	
.	
<i>Fusarium</i>	
<i>Botrytis</i>	
(Nakova, 2011).	
Orlikowski and Valjuskaite (2007)	Orlikowski and Valjuskaite (2007) found <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> in Poland as a pathogen in lavender and, in addition to blight, they also noted species <i>Botrytis cinerea</i> , <i>Fusarium</i> spp. and <i>Sclerotinia sclerotiorum</i> .
<i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i>	
,	
<i>Botrytis cinerea</i> ,	

Fusarium spp. *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*.
Phytophthora sp.

100%

Alvares et al. (2007)

10

Alternaria, *Fusarium*, *Phytophthora*,
Mucor, *Sclerotinia*, *Phoma*, *Phomopsis*
Rhizoctonia.

Phytophthora sp. was isolated from roots and basal stem lesions on 100% of the affected plants Alvares et al. (2007) in Spain.

This paper presents the preliminary results of a study of lavender mycopopulation from 10 localities from Serbia. Lavender is gaining increasing importance in our country as a cultivated crop. This paper is the beginning of a more comprehensive study of phytopatogenic fungi on lavender. The aim of this paper is to determine the phytopathogenic fungi on lavender for a clearer understanding of the problems (plant extinction, diminished yields, deterioration of quality, etc.) that arise from the presence of phytopathogenic fungi on lavender.

CONCLUSIONS

Health control of the lavender plant should be carried out systematically, since it is expected that by increasing the areas on which lavender is grown, the problem of the presence of fungal species in the field and during storage will become greater.

In mycopopulation study of lavender plants, a total of 390 plant parts were examined, from which 8 genera of fungi were isolated: *Alternaria*, *Fusarium*, *Phytophthora*, *Mucor*, *Sclerotinia*, *Phoma*, *Phomopsis* and *Rhizoctonia*.

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(*Rosa damascena* Mill)

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**Study of the Effect of Foliar Fertilizer Containing
Macro and Micronutrients „PANACEA SPACE" on
Productivity of Oil Bearing Rose (*Rosa damascena* Mill)**

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Original scientific paper

SUMMARY

The aim of this study was to determine the effect of „PANACEA SPACE“ fertilizer on the productivity of the oil bearing rose (*Rosa damascena* Mill) and the quality of the rose oil obtained. The experiment was performed on the experimental field of IREMK, Kazanlak in the period 2015-2017. The object of the study is a plantation of oil bearing rose with varieties „Yanina“ and „Eleina“, grown on leached forest soils. The application of „PANACEA SPACE“ fertilizer leads to an increase in the mass and diameter of the blossom of the oil bearing rose. After treatment with PANACEA SPACE, the yield of blossom of oil bearing rose increased by 17.5% for the „Yanina“ variety and by 18.5% for the „Eleina“ variety. The amount of rose oil obtained after the application of foliar fertilizer increased by 58% for the variety „Yanina“ and by 34.7% for the variety „Eleina“.

Key words: oil bearing rose, foliar fertilizer

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damascena Mill)
2015-2017
„
17,5%
„
34,7%
:

INTRODUCTION

The production of oil bearing rose is traditional for Bulgaria. The oil bearing rose (*Rosa damascena* Mill.) is a crop of priority economic importance for the country. The climatic conditions in Bulgaria are favourable for obtaining high yields and quality rose oil. In addition, oil rose plantations (*Rosa damascena* Mill.) could also have anti-erosion functions (Kovacheva et al., 2010).

Lambev (2011) points out in his study that supplementary nutrition affects the formation of shrubs and the strength of vegetative growth. The use of Humus Life Universal at a dose of 300 ml/da contributes to 7% to 11% increase in rose yields.

The oil bearing rose responds very well to organic-mineral fertilization (Mineva and Nedkov, 2016). The use of Siapton organic fertilizer at a dose of 350 ml / da increases the yield of rose blossom by 27.7% under irrigation conditions and by 23.8% under non-irrigated conditions. Applied at this dose, the preparation affects the synthesis of a larger amount of rose oil in the blossom of the oil bearing rose. The increase is 28.2%.

The efficiency of production is related to the application of appropriate modern agrotechnical approaches in the cultivation of oil bearing rose (*Rosa damascena* Mill.). The correct agrotechnology is a guarantee for obtaining a specific composition of rose oil and authentic rose aroma. All this includes tillage, pesticide treatment and mechanization of the technological process, which is of particular importance (Bozhkov et al., 2017; Mihov et al., 2017).

The application of crop nutrition during the growing season is a problem that is being studied by a number of researchers working on different crops. The use of foliar fertilizers has a positive

(*Rosa damascena* Mill.)
 (Kovacheva et al., 2010).
 Lambev (2011)
 Humus Life Universal
 300 ml/da 7%
 11%
 (Mineva and Nedkov, 2016).
 Siapton
 350 ml/da,
 27,7%
 23,8%
 28,2%.
 (*Rosa damascena* Mill.).
 (Bozhkov et al., 2017; Mihov et al., 2017).

(Dobрева and Kovacheva, 2007; Lambev, 2011; Badzhelova et al., 2016; Stoyanova and Kuneva, 2018; Pashev and Badzhelova, 2019; Stoyanova et al., 2019).

effect on the productivity and quality of production in different crops (Dobрева and Kovacheva, 2007; Lambev, 2011; Badzhelova et al., 2016; Stoyanova and Kuneva, 2018; Pashev and Badzhelova, 2019; Stoyanova et al., 2019).

The aim of the present study was to investigate the effect of the „PANACEA SPACE“ product on the productivity of the oil bearing rose.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

To establish the influence of the liquid fertilizer for foliar feeding „PANACEA SPACE“, field experiments were carried out in the field of the Institute of roses and essential oils in Kazanlak in the period 2015-2017, on leached forest soils. „Yanina“ and „Eleina“ varieties were used as experimental varieties. The plantation was created by technology of NIRELK, Kazanlak.

Content of foliar fertilizer „PANACEA SPACE“ in weight%: Nitrogen (N) 5,00; Boron (B) 0.10; Phosphorus (P) 0.05; Potassium (K) 0.05; Sulfur (S) 0.50; Sodium (Na) 0.04; Molybdenum (Mo) 0.10; Calcium (Ca) 0.24 chelated by IDHA; Cobalt (Co) 0.01 chelated by IDHA; Magnesium (Mg) 0.11 chelated by IDHA; Copper (Cu) 0.12 chelated by IDHA; Iron (Fe) 0.15 chelated by IDHA; Manganese (Mn) 0.10 chelated by IDHA; Zinc (Zn) 0.15 chelated by IDHA; chelating agent - imino-succinic acid IDHA 18.00; surfactant - polyethanolamines 60.00

The treatments with „PANACEA SPACE“ are 4 from the beginning of the vegetation to the harvest and 1 at the end of August. The treatments were performed in sheets:

1 - in case of mass entry into vegetation - second ten days of March in a dose of 30 ml/da;
2 - during the period of active vegetation - the first ten days of April in a dose of 50

“ , ”
“ ” ,
2015-2017 .,
-
“ ” “ ” . -
“ %:
(N) 5,00; (B) 0,10; (P) 0,05;
(K) 0,05; (S) 0,50;
(Na) 0,04; (Mo) 0,10;
(Ca) 0,24 IDHA;
(Co) 0,01 IDHA;
(Mg) 0,11 IDHA; (Cu)
0,12 IDHA; (Fe)
0,15 IDHA; (Mn)
0,10 IDHA; (Zn) 0,15
IDHA; -
IDHA 18,00; -
60,00.
“ 4 ”
1
:
1 -
-
30 ml/da;
2 - -
50

ml/da;
3 -
ml/da;
4 -
5 -
30 ml/da.

Zade ()
5
30 m².
;
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ml/da;
3 - in the period of mass budding - the second ten days of April in a dose of 50 ml/da;
4 - before flowering - the third ten days of April at a dose of 50 ml/da;
5 - treatment at the end of August in a dose of 30 ml/da.

The experiment is based on the Zade method (long plots) in four variants with 5 repetitions, each with a size of 30 m². Option I - untreated variety „Yannina“ - control area; Option II - treated with „PANACEA SPACE“ variety „Yannina“; Option III - untreated variety „Eleina“ - control area; IV variant - treated with „PANACEA SPACE“ variety „Eleina“.

The blossom of oil bearing rose is harvested by hand throughout the flowering phenophase period.
The yield of rose oil was reported by a micro-distillation apparatus - Clevinger.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The climatic conditions during the study period are suitable for the growth and development of the crop. After treatment with „PANACEA SPACE“ there was a visual difference in the colour of the stems and leaves, the treated plants were greener, with a more powerful habit.

In the biometric measurements made during the flowering of the oil bearing rose, an increase in the weight of the flower was observed in both studied varieties treated with „PANACEA SPACE“. In the variety „Eleina“ it is 33% compared to the control, in the variety „Yannina“ 24%. The average diameter of the flower in the variety „Yannina“ has an increase of 12% compared to that of the control area. In the variety „Eleina“ the increase is 12% compared to the control (Table 1).

“
“ 33%
” 24%.
” 12%
” “ 12%
(1).

1.

Table 1. Mass and diameter of the flower of an oil-bearing rose

Variant	2015				2016				2017				Average			
	Mass	%	dm	%	Mass	%	dm	%	Mass	%	dm	%	Mass	%	dm	%
Control variety „Yanina” „	2,0	100	5,6	100	2,3	100	6,0	100	2,1	100	5,9	100	2,1	100	5,8	100
Treated variety „Yanina” „	2,6	130	6,6	118	2,7	117	6,7	112	2,5	119	6,1	103	2,6	124	6,5	112
Control variety „Eleina” „	2,0	100	5,7	100	2,2	100	6,3	100	2,2	100	6,0	100	2,1	100	6,0	100
Treated variety „Eleina” „	2,9	145	6,6	116	2,8	127	7,2	114	2,6	118	6,3	105	2,8	133	6,7	112

(1 %).

(mm)

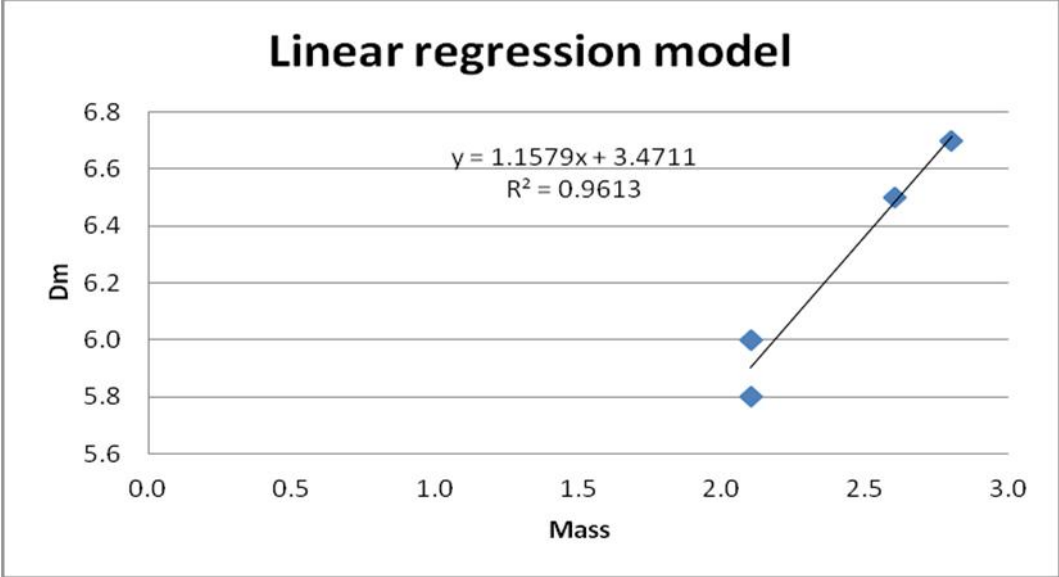
0,80

0,96

r = 0,9613 (1).

The results are statistically proven with a high degree of reliability (p 1%).

The correlation coefficient gives a general idea of the degree and direction of dependence between the studied features. In parallel with the correlation analysis, a quantitative regression was performed. The regression dependences show that it is linear, which means that by increasing some of the traits by one this will lead to a constant change (decrease or increase) in the yield. The analysis of the data shows that there is a strong positive linear relationship between the mass (g) and the diameter of the flower (mm) of the oil-bearing rose. The values of the coefficient vary in a narrow range from 0.80 to 0.96 per year. On average for the period the correlation coefficient is r = 0.9613 (Figure 1).



. 1.

(g)

(mm)

Fig. 1. Linear regression model establishing the strong correlation between mass (g) and blossom diameter (mm)

2015 . 24
 (18 10), 2016 .
 29 (9 8) 2017 .
 23 (22 13).
 -
 (2).
 ,
 " 17,5% - "
 " 18,5%.

The duration of flowering of the oil bearing rose in 2015 is 24 days (from May 18 to June 10), in 2016 is 29 days (from May 9 to June 8) and in 2017 is 23 days (from May 22 to June 13). In all three years of the study, a higher yield of rose flower was observed in the treated areas (Figure 2). On average for the period, the growth in the variant variety „Yanina“ treated with „PANACEA SPACE“ was 17.5% higher than the control, and in the variety „Eleina“ by 18.5%.

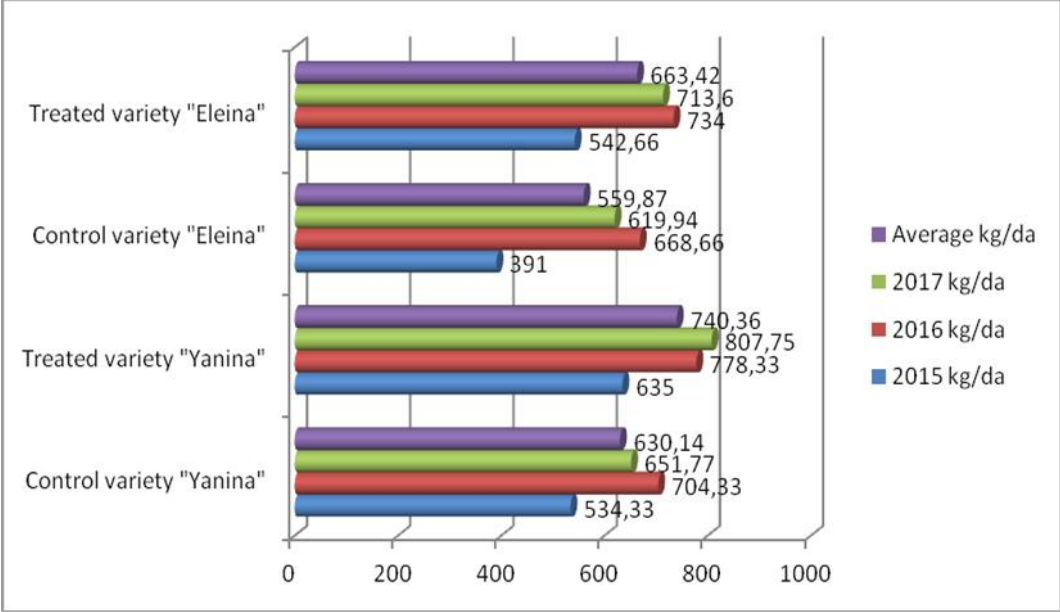


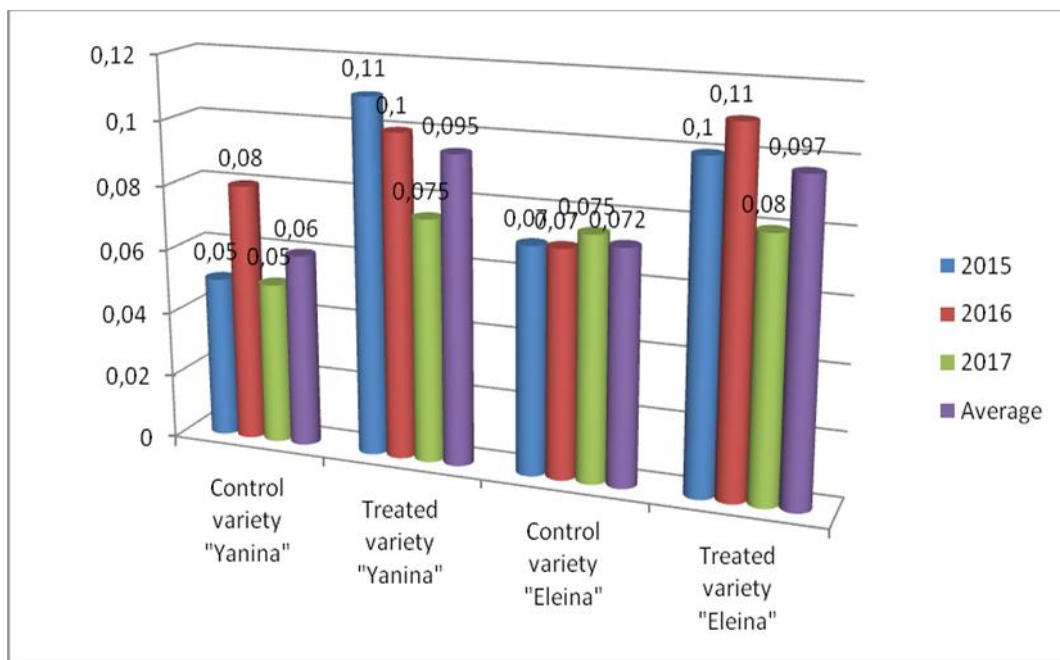
Fig. 2. Yield of oil-bearing rose

34,7% ,
 ” ”

58,3%

(3).

- The tendency for higher results in the treated variants is maintained in the amount of rose oil obtained. The treated variant variety „Eleina“ has an increase of 34.7%, and the treated variant variety „Yanina“ by 58.3% during the study period compared with the control areas (Figure 3).



3.
Fig. 3. Yield rose oil

In the analysis of the blossom of the oil bearing rose for the macro and microelements contained in them, it was found that in the control zones higher values of macro and microelements were observed in comparison with the variants treated with „PANACEA SPACE”. The results obtained confirm the characteristics of the preparation, namely: accelerating plant metabolism, enhancing plant growth and development - photosynthesis, metabolism and nutrition.

The treated plants have a lower content of macro and microelements (Table 2), because with the processes taking place in the plants they consume them in larger quantities to form a larger diameter and greater weight of the flowers, which from in turn causes an increase in the yield of rose blossom and rose oil.

2.

Table 2. Analysis of the content of macro and micro elements in the flowers of oil-bearing rose

Year	Variant	N %	P %	Ca %	K mg/kg	Mg mg/kg	Fe mg/kg	Mn mg/kg	Cu mg/kg
2015	Control variety „Yanina“	2.04	0.21	0.46	1124.35	1590.78	76.87	46.17	6.47
	” “ Treated variety „Yanina“	1.96	0.20	0.41	1095.30	1729.23	58.90	50.20	5.07
	” “ Control variety „Eleina“	2.00	0.24	0.43	1099.63	1550.33	70.54	44.38	5.31
	” “ Treated variety „Eleina“	1.91	0.20	0.43	1103.02	1610.43	64.30	51.05	4.92
2016	Control variety „Yanina“	2.16	0.16	0.57	960.47	2019.97	143.99	31.74	5.44
	” “ Treated variety „Yanina“	1.92	0.15	0.51	911.11	2007.06	143.36	30.96	5.01
	” “ Control variety „Eleina“	2.18	0.16	0.53	1010.50	2042.08	97.91	30.51	5.60
	” “ Treated variety „Eleina“	2.10	0.15	0.50	924.54	2010.30	989.78	29.74	5.16
2017	Control variety „Yanina“	2,30	0,28	0,52	1204,28	1528,99	74,98	42,43	9,02
	” “ Treated variety „Yanina“	1,93	0,24	0,47	1065,05	1469,73	71,29	37,93	8,13
	” “ Control variety „Eleina“	2,24	0,26	0,52	1217,95	1495,33	76,56	38,91	8,64
	” “ Treated variety „Eleina“	2,01	0,25	0,49	1158,04	1389,96	74,60	35,79	8,29

CONCLUSIONS

The following conclusions can be drawn from the study:

The application of foliar fertilizer „PANACEA SPACE“ leads to an increase in the mass and diameter of the colour of the oil bearing rose. According to the biometric measurements made during the flowering of the oil bearing rose, an increase in the weight of the flower was found in both studied varieties treated with „PANACEA SPACE“. In the variety „Eleina“, it is 33% more than in the control and in the variety „Yanina“ by 24%.

The average diameter of the flower of both varieties increased by 12% compared to those of the control area.

After treatment with foliar fertilizer „PANACEA SPACE“, the productivity of the oil bearing rose (*Rosa damascena* Mill) increases. The yield of blossom of oil-bearing rose increased by 17.5% for the variety „Yanina“ and by 18.5% for the variety „Eleina“.

The yield of rose blossom and the amount of rose oil are higher compared to the control areas. The amount of rose oil obtained after the application of foliar fertilizer increased by 58% for the variety „Yanina“ and by 34.7% for the variety „Eleina“.

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