

***Phyllosticta ampellicida* (
bidwellii)**

Guignardia

2015 2016

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**Observations on development and incidence
of black rot disease with causal agent
Phyllosticta ampellicida (asexual phase from *Guignardia
bidwellii*) in organic and conventional agriculture in the
conditions of the years 2015 and 2016**

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SUMMARY

- Two-year observations were held on the development and incidence of black rot disease in the Experimental base of IVE - Pleven.

- Two identical plantations with the same varieties located in immediate vicinity were compared. Products for conventional farming were used in one of the plantations while in the other one – products for organic farming.

- In 2015 in the organic plantation three varieties showed high susceptibility to the disease, namely: Muscat Vrachanski with index of attack (27.5 %), Muscat Ottonel (7.16 %) and Druzhiba (11.5 %).

- The highest resistance demonstrated Cabernet Sauvignon (2.5 %) and Muscat

(1,66).
2016
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2015 (3 %),
2016 (13,3 %).
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1885
Viala L. Ravaz,
(Vanev, 1963).
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(Besselat, 1983).
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(Onesti et al., 2016).
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(,).
Guignardia bidwellii (Elis) Viala and Ravaz
Phyllosticta ampellicida (Engleman) Vander Aa. *Guignardia bidwellii*.
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(Vanev, 1963; Harizanov et al, 2009).
1904
(Raykov and Nachev, 1968; Raykov and Nachev, 1971). 1961

- Kaylashki (1.66 %). For the year 2016, except the three susceptible varieties, Naslada variety (organically grown) also showed higher susceptibility as its index of attack for 2015 was (3 %), while in 2016 - (13.3 %).

Key words: organic, black rot, attack, varieties, susceptibility, plantations, resistance

INTRODUCTION

Black rot originated from North America, from where it was transmitted to Europe. In 1885 the disease was observed in France by P. Viala and L. Ravaz, who reported it for the first time in the US phytopathological literature (Vanev, 1963). Later, the disease was found in Italy, Russia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Ukraine and other countries. According to some authors, black rot could not be related to the regions of Alsace, Champagne and Burgundy, except for Saone and Loire, where the disease was found again. Other areas where the disease did not occur were the regions Languedoc and Roussillon (Besselat, 1983). Black rot was a serious threat to vineyards, particularly in areas with large water sources (Onesti et al., 2016).

In countries where black rot is an economically important disease (USA, Canada, etc.) the pathogen is considered to be the fungus *Guignardia bidwellii* (Elis) Viala and Ravaz with anamorphic *Phyllosticta ampellicida* (Engleman) Vander Aa. *Guignardia bidwellii*. It is an ascomycetes fungus, forming pseudocetes with cylindrical or club-shaped ascus containing 8 unicellular hyaline ascospores (Vanev, 1963; Harizanov, 2009).

For the first time the disease in Bulgaria was reported in 1904 by P. Kozarev in the region of Vidin (Raykov and Nachev, 1968; Raykov and Nachev, 1971). In 1961, limited manifestations of black rot were observed in Pleven, Ruse,

1963). (Vanev, 1963).

- In Bulgaria the disease was not widely spread however in certain years of wet weather and very frequent rainfall it might cause significant losses. It attacked most often the vineyards located along the Black Sea coast and those in lowlands, not well aired (Malenin, 2003).

(Malenin, 2003).

- The disease resembles the symptoms of grey mould on the leaves and downy mildew on the clusters characterized by irregular spots on the leaves, reddish in colour and surrounded by a brown ring. From the leaves it is transmitted to the clusters and infects the petioles, the rachis and the berries. They turn brownish and are covered by pustules as afterwards wither. On the berries the spots grow quickly and cover the whole berries. Concentric circles are formed on them of relatively large pycnidia (Harizanov, 1994). They have a circular ostiole from which an exudate of pycnospores leaks out. In spring, after rain the mature pycnidia release the spores.

et al., 1994). (Harizanov et al., 1994).

(Vanev, 1963; Vanev, 1995; Stancheva, 2006).

(Raykov and Nachev, 1968; Raykov and Nachev, 1971).

- The presence of water droplets is an obligatory condition for their germination (Vanev, 1963; Vanev, 1995; Stancheva, 2006). When dried the spores remain viable for more than one year (Raykov and Nachev, 1968; Raykov and Nachev, 1971). Grapevine is susceptible to black rot throughout the whole vegetation period as when rainfall in the spring is heavy the infestation is massive while in the absence of abundant precipitation vines are infected in summer (Besselat and Tisse, 1983).

(Besselat and Tisse, 1983).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

In 2015 and 2016 at the Experimental base of IVE - Pleven observations were carried out on the development and incidence of black rot disease. The objective of the investigation was to find out if there was any difference referring this disease by comparing the conventional and organic grown vines as well as some varieties to be established suitable for organic production concerning black rot.

The trial variants were: Muscat Kaylashki, Naslada, Muscat Vrachanski, Muscat Ottonel, Druzhba, Cabernet Sauvignon. Two plantations of equal size were included next to each other as products for organic agriculture were applied in one of them and products for conventional agriculture were used in the other one. The trial also comprised a plantation of the varieties Muscat Kaylashki 1, Muscat Ottonel 1 and Rubin 1, remote from the others, also used for conventional agriculture.

A hundred clusters per variety were assessed by seven-score scale:

(Score 0 – no infestation, score 1 up to 5 %, score 2 from 6 to 15 %, score 3 from 16 to 25 %, score 4 from 26 to 50 %, score 5 from 51 to 75 % and score 6 from 76 to 100 % of the cluster was infected).

The index of attack was calculated by **McKinney's** formula.

In 2015 in the conventionally grown plot 6 treatments were performed with the following products: 1st treatment (Drago and Systane), 2nd (Ridomil gold and Systane), 3rd (Ridomil gold and Systane), 4th (Drago and Thiovit jet), 5th (Cabrio top and Topaz) and 6th (Corseit and Topaz). For the organic production 7 treatments were applied with the products (Thiovit jet and Funguran).

In 2016 for the conventional production the following products were applied for the 1st treatment (Ridomil gold

2015 2016

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100

(0 – 1
5 %, 2 6 15 %, 3 16
25 %, 4 26 50 %, 5
51 75 % 6 76 100 %
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McKinney.

2015

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(), II- ()
(), III- ()
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() VI-
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()
)
2016

I- (

), II- (, III- (, IV- (, V- (, VI- ().

iMETOS (Pessl Instruments GmbH).

2015 , - , : (27,5 %), (7,16 %) (11,5 %). (2,5 %) (1,66 %) 1, 1 (1), 2016 (3 %), 2016 (13,3 %). 2015 (0 %), 2016 (2,5 %). 5,8 17,6. 1, 1

and Topaz), 2nd (Ridomil gold and Topaz), 3rd (Ridomil gold and Topaz), 4th (Triomax and Thiovit jet), 5th (Triomax and Thiovit jet) and 6th spraying with (Drago and Systane). For the organic production 7 treatments were applied with the products (Thiovit jet and Funguran). The weather factors: rainfall, temperature and relative humidity were recorded by the electronic weather station iMETOS 000003CA (Pessl Instruments GmbH).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

When accounting the clusters, three varieties from the organic grown plantation were distinguished clearly, showing high sensitivity to the disease, namely: Muscat Vrachanski with an index of attack (27.5 %), Muscat Ottonel (7.16 %) and Druzhba (11.5 %).

Those with the highest resistance were Cabernet Sauvignon (2.5 %) and Muscat Kaylashki (1.66 %). Also the three varieties (Muscat Kaylashki 1, Muscat Ottonel 1 and Rubin 1) were distinguished compared to the rest as no cluster attack and damages were observed in them.

In 2016 during the routing observation of an area in the base of the Institute of Viticulture and Enology spots of black rot on the leaves were found already in mid-May. Higher intensity of attack was observed in the organic grown plantation varieties Muscat Vrachanski, Muscat Ottonel and Druzhba. Naslada from the organic grown varieties could be referred to them. The index of attack in Naslada variety was 3 in 2015, and in 2016 – (13.3 %). For Cabernet Sauvignon the accounted values in 2015 in the conventional production had an index (0 %) and the organic – (2.5 %)

In 2016, it was respectively (5.8 %) for conventional and (17.6 %) for organic. In the plantation of Muscat Kaylashki 1, Muscat Ottonel 1 and Rubin 1 in 2016 it

1 2016 - was observed manifestation of black rot.
 Observations shall be carried out over the next years for determining any change in the aggressiveness of the pathogen (Table 1).

1.

Table 1. Black rot index of attack per clusters

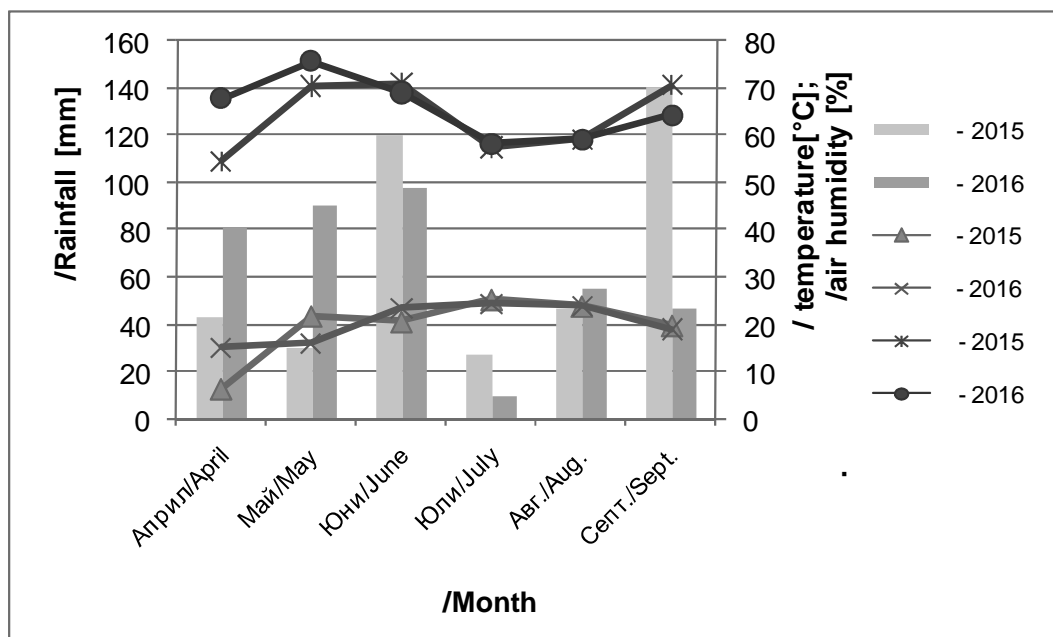
Variant	Total (No.)	Conventional growing				Organic growing			
		Infected (No.)		Index of attack (%)		Infected (No.)		Index of attack (%)	
		2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
Muscat Kaylashki	100	5	18	0,66	5,3	3	16	1,16	6,6
Naslada	100	5	4	1,16	0,6	14	7	3	13,3
Muscat Vrachanski	100	15	23	4,16	9,1	81	20	27,5	10,1
Muscat Ottonel	100	7	11	1,16	2,6	31	19	7,16	6,1
/ Druzha	100	5	29	0,83	17,8	42	35	11,5	22,5
Cabernet Sauvignon	100	0	16	0	5,8	10	38	2,5	17,6
1	100	0	5	0	1,3	-	-	-	-
Muscat Kaylashki 1	100	0	6	0	1,6	-	-	-	-
Muscat Ottonel 1	100	0	4	0	0,8	-	-	-	-
1 / Rubin 1	100	0	4	0	0,8	-	-	-	-

2015 - In 2015 the precipitation in the region during the month of April and May were significantly less compared to the same period in 2016. As shown in (Figure 1) the humidity was proportional to the amount of rainfall.

2016. (1) - The temperature in April of 2016 was higher compared to 2015 while the temperature in May 2016 was lower.

2015 - Generally, referring the black rot disease in both years of the investigation there were conditions for the onset and development of the disease, but better conditions were observed in 2016.

2016 - The monitoring of the disease shall continue for following its development and incidence in different weather conditions.



. 1.
Fig. 1. Meteorological data

CONCLUSIONS

1. The organic grapes production has much higher risk of emergence and spread of black rot compared to the conventional growing. The implementation of all methods and agricultural procedures might have a limiting effect on the disease development.
2. It is expected the intensity of the attack to increase each year to follow, and the disease to be manifested in a greater degree by causing more losses in both types of production.
3. The cost for the disease control will increase as additional measures for black rot control will be applied.
4. Muscat Kaylashki variety is suitable for organic farming concerning black rot disease. The susceptible varieties are suitable for control varieties in testing new active substances against black rot on vine.

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Impact of weather conditions in the region of Pleven on grapevine damage in organic and conventional grapes production

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SUMMARY

2014-2016 .

2014-2016

2015 .) (2014 .) (2016 .),

(2014 .), (2015 .) (2016 .).

2014 .

During the period 2014- 2016 in the region of Pleven a study was carried out on the impact of the weather conditions during the winter period on the primary and replacement buds of six wine grapevine varieties. It has been found that the climate features during the period 2014-2016 in terms of rainfall during the growing season defined the years as moist (2014 and 2015) and medium-moist (2016) and in terms of average air temperatures as very cool (2014), hot (2015) and average (2016).

Extremely low air temperatures were not recorded during the winter period of 2014, therefore damages to the primary and replacement buds had not been found.

During the winter period of 2015 air

	2015	-	
(01.01.2015 ..)	-20,0°	-21,9°	0,00 9,00
	24	.	
	-	-	
65,7%		93,3	74,22
43,16%		.	
- 46,0	22,0%		
5,80	1,20%		
2016			
20.01,		-20,1	
-21,3° (4	
2016			
-15,0°			
-			
- 32,28 %		14,35%	
24,22	20,07%		
5,09%		8,36	3,18 0,35%
:			

temperature was registered within the range from -20.0° to -21.9° (January 1st, 2015, 0.00 a.m. to 9.00 a.m.).

In January it was also found significant icing of the vines, longer than 24 hours. In organic production the damages were greater compared to conventional production – the greatest damages to the primary and replacement buds were recorded in Muscat Vrachanski variety, respectively 93.3 and 65.7% in organic and 74.22 and 43.16 % in conventional growing.

The least damages were found in Muscat Kaylashki variety – 46.0 and 22.0% in organic and 5.80 and 1.20% in conventional. In 2016 the maximum low air temperatures were registered on January 20th, ranging from -20.1 to -21.3°C (lasting for 4 hours). In January 2016 it was also recorded a long period with average temperatures about and below -15.0°C. In organic growing the damages were again greater than the conventional production - the most severe was the impact on primary buds (32.28%) and replacement buds (14.35%) in organic grown Muscat Vrachanski variety and 24.22 and 20.07% in the conventional production. The least damages had Muscat Kaylashki variety – respectively 8.36 and 5.09% in organic and 3.18 and 0.35% in conventional production.

Key words: grapevine damage, organic, conventional, grapes production, weather conditions

INTRODUCTION

The effectiveness of the organic and conventional grape and wine production depends on many factors, the most important of which are suitably selected terroirs, varietal structure, cultivation technology, technical equipment, etc. The climatic conditions of the micro-region and the characteristics of

- the specific terrain have a decisive impact
- on vine vitality, growth and fertility as well as on the density and the impact of the economically important diseases.
- However, it is significant, especially for the organic production, to be defined the impact of the micro-regions both on vine biological and economic indicators and the efficiency of this production.
- The repeated negative results from the organic production of grapes and wine in some regions of the country necessitates further thorough research for identifying and suggesting the practice of rational and effective organizational, technological and technical solutions in this respect.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

During the period 2014-2016 in the area of the production-experimental base of the Institute of Viticulture and Enology - Pleven a study was carried out on the impact of the weather conditions during the winter period of these years on the primary and replacement buds and the density and impact of powdery mildew and downy mildew on vines of the varieties Muscat Kaylashki, Naslada, Muscat Vrachanski, Muscat Ottonel, Druzhba and Cabernet Sauvignon.

For the purposes of the study, two separate plots with an area of 0.6 ha each were used (Muscat Kaylashki – 0.2 ha, Naslada – 0.2 ha, Muscat Ottonel – 0.05 ha, Muscat Vrachanski – 0.05 ha, Druzhba – 0.05 ha and Cabernet Sauvignon – 0.05 ha), in a vineyard created in 2006. The planting distances were: 3.20 m between the rows and 1.20 m in the rows, medium-stem training system (2-arm cordon) with a stem height of 1.00 m.

The soil type was slightly leached chernozem formed on clayed loess.

2014-2016

ha (– 0,2 ha, 0.6
0,2 ha, – 0,05 ha, –
0,05 ha – 0,05 ha, –
– 0,05 ha),

2006 . :
3.20 m
1.20 m,
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1,00 m.

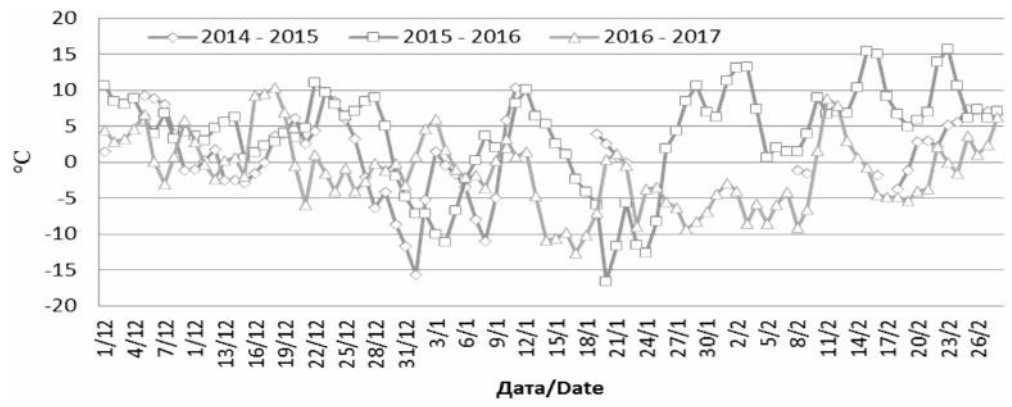
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 Mc Kinney (Kostadinova, 2012).

The following indicators were monitored:
 - average daily air temperature in the area of the production-experimental base of IVE-Pleven, recorded every hour by an automatic stationary electronic station, IMETOS model.
 - damages from low winter temperatures and icing, determined on the basis of the degree of death of the buds (primary and replacement), the tissues (connective tissue and wood), and the organs (canes, arms and cordons – the annual and perennial wood) of the vines. A methodology developed at IVE-Pleven was used for this purpose.
 - damages to the leaves and the clusters caused by powdery mildew and downy mildew - % and damage index, as the accounting was done in accordance with an approved methodology. The damage evaluation was performed on a seven-score scale, and the damage index was calculated using Mc Kinney's formula (Kostadinova, 2012).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Extremely low air temperatures were not recorded during the winter period of 2013/2014 – Figure 1, therefore damages to the buds (primary and replacement) had not been found.

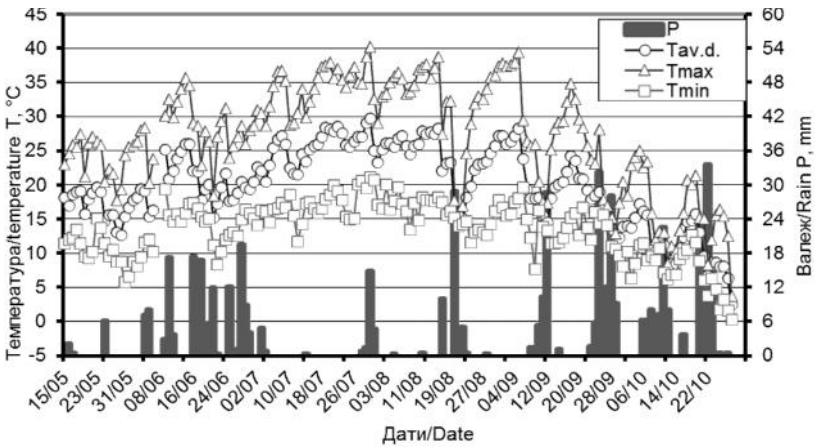
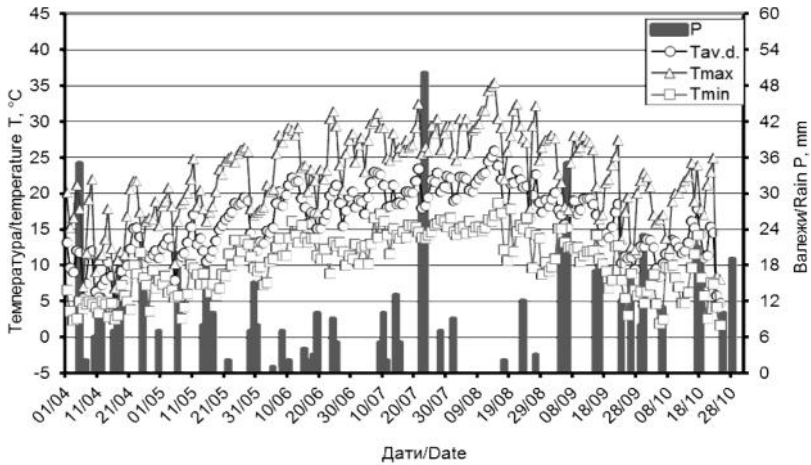
2013/2014
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1.
 , 2014-2017
Fig. 1. Average daily air temperature for the period December-February, 2014-2017

2014
511 mm,
11
17,1 °,
97 %,
23,9 °,
85 %,
(2).

During the May-October 2014 vegetation period, the precipitation sum was 511 mm, ensuring 11% of the water supply that determined the period as wet. The average daily air temperature was 17.1°C, ensuring 97%, characterizing the period as very cool while the maximum air temperature was 23.9°C, ensuring 85%, which determined the period as cool (Figure 2).



/ b

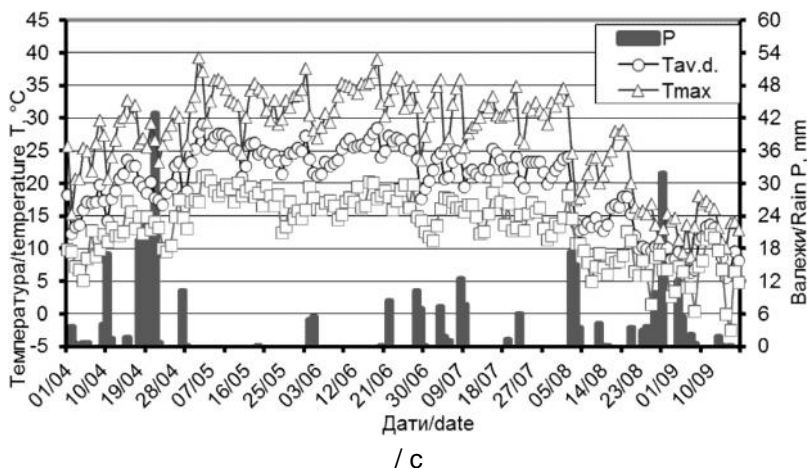


Fig. 2. Rainfall and course of the average daily, minimum and maximum temperatures during the vegetation period: a - 2014; b - 2015; c – 2016

2014 .
 122 mm,
 14.07-23.07
 -
 98 l/m² (
 22 23.07 – 80 l/m²).
 -
 30.06.14 .
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 -
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 ,
 -
 66,0
 (4,0
), 44,0
 (2,0
).

The typical symptoms of the monitored diseases with high density were found in periods immediately after significant precipitation – in 2014, the rainfall in July reached 122 mm, as only in the period 14–23 July the rainfall in the area of the production-experimental base was 98 l/m² (only on 22 and 23 July – 80 l/m²).

The data on leaf and cluster damage by downy mildew confirmed the above statement – the data, reported on 30 June 2014 for both treatment variants were close, with somewhat higher values of the damage index for most varieties in conventional production (except Muscat Kaylashki variety).

When accounting the damage index rates at the beginning of September, it was found that these values were significantly higher in the organic production, reaching 66.0 for Muscat Vrachanski variety (4.0 for the conventional production), 44.0 for Cabernet Sauvignon variety (2.0 for the conventional production).

A similar significant difference in the rate of this index was also recorded for

2014/2015	
01.01.2015	09.01.2015
-21,9 °C	0,00 °C
9	12
-	-
93,3%	65,7%
74,22%	43,16%
-	1.
46,0%	22,0%
5,8%	1,2%

Muscat Ottonel variety.

The data here were not unidirectional either – for Druzhba variety, the damage index on the clusters was higher in the conventional production – 6.0 compared to 1.0 in the case of the organic one. The powdery mildew damage index on the clusters for most varieties was higher for the conventional production, as the difference in the susceptible varieties was significant – Muscat Vrachanski – 82.0 for the conventional and 21.0 for the organic growing. In the rest of the varieties these differences were smaller. For Cabernet Sauvignon and Naslada varieties, the reported damage index rates were higher for the organic production (Table 2).

A period of critically low air temperatures in 2014/2015 was recorded on 1st January, 2015 – from -20.00°C to -21.9°C, with duration of 9 hours – from 0.00 to 09:00 a.m. On 9th January 2015, over a period of more than 12 hours, it was found icing of the vines, mainly on the one-year-old canes. As a result of the above factors, with a major burden of icing, significant damages to the vines were found, mainly on the primary and replacement buds. The damages were greater for the organic production variants.

The biggest damages were found for Muscat Vrachanski variety – 93.3% in the primary and 65.7% in the replacement buds in the organic production and respectively 74.22% and 43.16% in the conventional growing. The damage ratio was also high for the varieties Muscat Ottonel and Cabernet Sauvignon – Table 1. The smallest were the damages to Muscat Kaylashki variety – 46.0% for the primary and 22.0% for the replacement buds for the organic production and 5.8% and 1.2% respectively for the conventional production.

1.

– 2014-2016 .

Table 1. Damages by low winter temperatures on primary and replacement buds per varieties in organic and conventional production – 2014-2016

Variety	2014 .		2015 .		2016 .	
	Primary buds, %	Replacement buds, %	Primary buds, %	Replacement buds, %	Primary buds, %	Replacement buds, %
/ Organic production						
Muscat Kaylashki	Not found	Not found	46,0	22,0	8,36	5,09
Naslada	Not found	Not found	60,0	36,0	9,93	8,22
/ Muscat Vrachanski	Not found	Not found	93,3	65,7	32,28	14,39
Muscat Ottonel	Not found	Not found	72,3	41,9	15,96	6,03
Druzhba	Not found	Not found	47,4	32,3	21,99	15,96
Cabernet Sauvignon	Not found	Not found	65,0	46,0	24,33	22,64
/ Conventional production						
Muscat Kaylashki	Not found	Not found	5,8	1,2	3,18	0,35
Naslada	Not found	Not found	18,6	10,3	15,3	2,48
/ Muscat Vrachanski	Not found	Not found	74,22	43,16	24,22	20,07
Muscat Ottonel	Not found	Not found	15,22	4,35	9,15	3,17
Druzhba	Not found	Not found	14,2	8,3	7,91	0,79
Cabernet Sauvignon	Not found	Not found	64,29	23,21	12,5	6,67

2.

2014 . – 2016 .

Table 2. Impact of the weather conditions during the vegetation period and the products used for downy mildew and powdery mildew on vines in the period 2014-2016

Variety	Variant	/Leaves		/ Clusters			
		/ Downy mildew damage index		Downy mildew damage index		/ Powdery mildew damageindex	
		Conventional	Organic	Conventional	Organic	Conventional	Organic
2014							
Muscat Kaylashki		0	5	13	0	11	0
Naslada		2	7	4	8	1	2
Druzhba		4	66	100	22	82	21
Muscat Vrachansk		6	25	15	14	13	10
Muscat Ottonel		2	1	25	9	7	3
Cabernet Sauvignon			44	15	23	10	18
2015							
Muscat Kaylashki		0	0,66	7	35	1,5	9,2
Naslada		2	1,16	24	60	6,5	16,5
Druzhba		0,16	1,08	97	100	53,83	77,83
Muscat Vrachansk		0,25	1,16	66	96	26,66	75
Muscat Ottonel		0	0,41	49	74	15,66	34,33
Cabernet Sauvignon		0	0,41	76	100	32,83	52,5
2016							
Muscat Kaylashki		0,3	0,33	0	0	0	0
Naslada		0,3	0,33	0	0	0	0
Druzhba		1,8	1,83	27	31	12	17,3
Muscat Vrachansk		1	1	23	42	12	22,5
Muscat Ottonel		0,3	0,33	10	20	5,6	10,5
Cabernet Sauvignon		1,6	3,66	13	20	5,8	11,8

2015
491 mm
%,
19,9 °
7 %, 27,7 °
(2).

- During the May-October 2015
vegetation period, the precipitation sum
was 491 mm ensuring 14% of the water
supply that determined the period as wet.
The average daily air temperature was
19.9° ensuring 30% characterizing the
period as hot while the maximum air
temperature was 27.7°C, ensuring 7%,
which determined the period as very hot
(Figure 2).

The meteorological conditions in

	2015	June and September 2015 created favorable conditions for the development of the monitored fungal vine diseases and made it difficult part of the technological operations to be performed, mainly the mechanized ones. The observations from previous periods were confirmed - the occurrence of significant infestation occurred in a period immediately after significant precipitation – in June 2015, the rainfall in the area of the experimental base was 120.6 mm (compared to 2014 when such precipitation was observed for the month of July – 122 mm).
	2015	
	2014	
		(23.06.15 .) (27.08.15 .)
		(-
	- 1,16,	- -
	2015	(), (2).
		77,83, - 53,83, 75 26,66, - 52,5 32,83, - 34,33 15,66.
		16,5, - 6,5, 9,2 1,5 (2).
		Regardless of the fact that in the

organic variant it was performed twice passing through and partial binding of the shoots and single mechanized topping that created prerequisites for better penetration of the preparations to the clusters and better air circulation inside the vines, as well as the higher the number of treatments (8 compared to 6 for the conventional variant), the obtained results showed the complex impact of the climatic conditions and the effectiveness of the plant protection products used (Peykov, 2006; 2012).

Periods with critically low air temperature during the winter period 2015/2016 (Figure 1) were recorded on:

- 20 January 2016 – from -20.1° to -21.3° , with 4 hours duration – from 07.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m.
- 21 January 2016 – from -19.00° to -19.5° , with 3 hours duration – from 04.00 a.m. to 06.00 a.m.

The highest rate of bud damages was found again in Muscat Vrachanski variety – 32.28% of the primary and 14.39% of the replacement buds in the organic variant and respectively 24.22% and 20.07% in the conventional variant (Table 1). The lowest rate of bud damages was recorded for Muscat Kaylashki variety – 8.36% of the primary and 5.09% of the replacement buds in the organic variant and respectively 3.18% and 0.35% in the conventional variant.

During the May-October 2016 vegetation period, the precipitation sum was 384.2 mm ensuring 33% of the water supply that determined the period as average wet. The average daily air temperature was 19.5° ensuring 50% characterizing the period as average while the maximum temperature was 26.9°C, ensuring 15%, which determined the period as average hot (Figure 2).

The meteorological conditions at

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The meteorological conditions at

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 - 2016 .
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 (2).

the beginning of the vegetation period of 2016 (Figure 2) created unfavorable conditions for performing part of the technological operations. The occurrence of significant infestation with the monitored diseases was recorded again in a period immediately following significant precipitation – in 2016 the month of May 2016 – 90.8 mm and June - 98 mm. Damages on the leaves and clusters from downy mildew during the first count (4 June 16) for both treatment variants were not found. During the second count (3-5 July 2016) the damage index rates were slightly higher for the organic production variant – 1.8 for Muscat Vrachanski variety (0.66 for the conventional variant), 1.6 for Cabernet Sauvignon variety (0 for the conventional production). The difference in the rate of this index was also insignificant for Muscat Ottonel variety (Table 2).

The damage index by powdery mildew on the clusters was higher for most of the varieties in the organic production variant, as the difference in the susceptible varieties was insignificant – Muscat Ottonel – damage index on clusters 22.5 for the organic and 12.0 for the conventional production, Muscat Vrachanski – damage index 17.3 for the organic and 12.0 for the conventional variant. For the rest of the varieties these differences were smaller. For Cabernet Sauvignon and Druzhba varieties the recorded damage index rates were respectively 11.8 and 10.5 for the organic and 5.8 and 5.6 for the conventional production. For Muscat Kaylashki and Naslada varieties no damages from powdery mildew on the clusters were recorded (Table 2).

CONCLUSIONS

The significant damages to the vines from downy mildew and powdery mildew affected mainly the vine buds during the

subsequent winter period. That referred mostly for the organic production.

In the organic grapes production the influence and impact of the climatic factors on the vine development and fertility was more pronounced.

The combination of variable weather conditions throughout the years and the limited means of vine pest control created serious difficulties for the organic production of grapes in the region of Pleven.

Data for the negative impact of vine icing for over 24 hours from previous periods were confirmed.

The obtained results have again raised the issue of the proper viticulture zoning in the country. That particularly applies to vineyards intended for organic production of grapes.

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Theoretical curves for determining vine leaf surface of Kaylashki rubin variety

Yordanka Belberova*, Emil Tsvetanov

Institute of Viticulture and Enology, 1 "Kala tepe" Str., 5800 Pleven, Bulgaria

SUMMARY

The investigation was carried out in 2016 with Kaylashki rubin variety for plotting the theoretical curves and finding regression equations by which to determine quickly and accurately the leaf area per leaf, a shoot or a vine.

The theoretical curves were obtained by means of regression analysis based on the correlation between the leaf area (S) on the one hand and the length of the central vein (L₁), the sum of the lengths of the two upper (L₂) and two lower (L₃) lateral veins of vine leaf, on the other hand. The equations describing the regression curves for each of the parameters L₁, L₂ and L₃ were respectively: $y_1 = 1,3208x^2 - 1,5861x + 1,0443$; $y_2 = 0,4791x^2 - 0,0968x + 2,789$; $y_3 = 0,8901x^2 - 0,3408x + 6,8914$, where „y” was the leaf area (in cm²), and „x” - the length of the central vein; the sum of the lengths of the two upper lateral veins; the sum of the lengths of the two lower lateral veins of the leaf, respectively (in cm).

In the course of the study it was found that the coefficient values of the definition (R²) for the three parameters were very close, which allowed all three parameters to be used for determining the

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 L₁, L₂
 L₃ : $y_1 = 1,3208x^2 - 1,5861x + 1,0443$;
 $y_2 = 0,4791x^2 - 0,0968x + 2,789$;
 $y_3 = 0,8901x^2 - 0,3408x + 6,8914$,
 ” ” (cm²), ” ” -
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- leaf surface with approximately the same accuracy. Moreover, the deviations from the regression in all three parameters were less than 6%, indicating that the method provided an acceptable accuracy.

Key words: *Vitis vinifera* L., leaf surface, Kaylashki rubin variety

INTRODUCTION

Kaylashki Rubin is medium to late ripening red wine variety obtained by interspecies hybridization by crossing of (Pamid x Hybrid V 2/15) (Gamey noir *Vitis amurensis*) at IVE - Pleven, patented in 2010 (Simeonov, 2015; Ivanov, 2016). Being a relatively new variety it has not been studied for determining the correlation between the leaf surface (S) and the length of the principal vein (L_1), the sum of the lengths of the two top (L_2) or the two underside (L_3) lateral veins of the grapevine leaf.

According to Stoev and Dobрева (1974), all studies on the leaf surface and leaf productivity have been aimed at seeking opportunities to enhance the quality and quantity of grapes yield.

The role of the leaves as the main assimilating organs of vine has been of utmost importance, as over 90 – 95% of the biological yield was accumulated in the process of photosynthesis (Nikolov, 1973). Therefore fast and accurate methods were required for determining the size of the individual leaf and the leaf surface of whole vines.

The objective was to determine the correlation between the leaf surface (S) and the length of the principal vein (L_1), the sum of the lengths of the two top (L_2) or the two underside (L_3) lateral veins of the grapevine leaf of Kaylashki Rubin variety.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The study was carried out in 2016 at the Experimental base of the Institute of Viticulture and Enology - Pleven in a trail

(*Vitis amurensis*) V 2/15) (Gamey noir (Simeonov et al., 2015; Ivanov, 2016).

(L_1), the sum of the lengths of the two top (L_2) or the two underside (L_3) lateral veins of the grapevine leaf. Stoev and Dobрева (1974),

90-95% of the biological yield was accumulated in the process of photosynthesis (Nikolov, 1973).

(S) and the length of the principal vein (L_1), the sum of the lengths of the two top (L_2) or the two underside (L_3) lateral veins of the grapevine leaf of Kaylashki Rubin variety.

2016

Slavcheva (1983),
Carbonneau (1976).

2,5/1,3 m.

(Kerin et al., 2000).

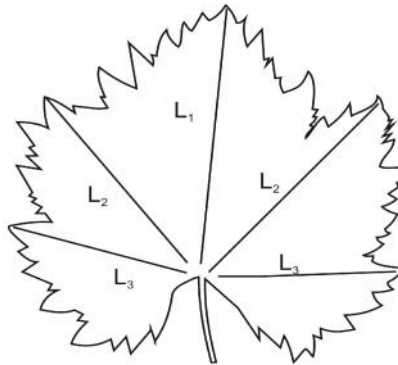
100

(cm).

- plantation of Kaylashki Rubin variety. The vines were grown on two-sided trellis at planting distance 2.5/1.3 m.

The method proposed by Slavcheva (1983), that improved the one of Carbonneau (1976) was used. It could be considered as a non-destructive method for determining leaf surface (the leaves were not separated from the plant) and utilized when the dynamics of the leaf surface growth over time was monitored (Kerin et al., 2000). It was applied for constructing theoretical curves and finding regression equations for determining, as quickly and accurately as possible the leaf surface per leaf, respectively, per vine of Kaylashki Rubin variety.

For this purpose 100 leaves were selected with the most varied sizes, from different points along the shoot length. The lengths of the leaves were pre-measured along the venation – the principal vein and the lateral ones (cm).



1.
Fig. 1. Diagram of a leaf

(cm²).

As seen in Figure 1, these were the distances between the basal notch and the apex of each vein. The leaves were scanned. By means of software the leaf surface (cm²) was determined based on the number of pixels. It was also found the sum of the lengths of the two top veins (L₂) and the two underside lateral veins (L₃).

Excel.

(L₂)
(L₃).
Microsoft

The theoretical curves were obtained by regression analysis using the software Microsoft Excel.

2, 3 4
()
- L₁, L₂ L₃,
L₁ -
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:
; y₁ = 1,3208 x² - 1,5861 x + 1,0443 (L₁);
y₂ = 0,4791x² - 0,0968x + 2,789 (L₂);
y₃ = 0,8901x² - 0,3408x + 6,8914 (L₃),
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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

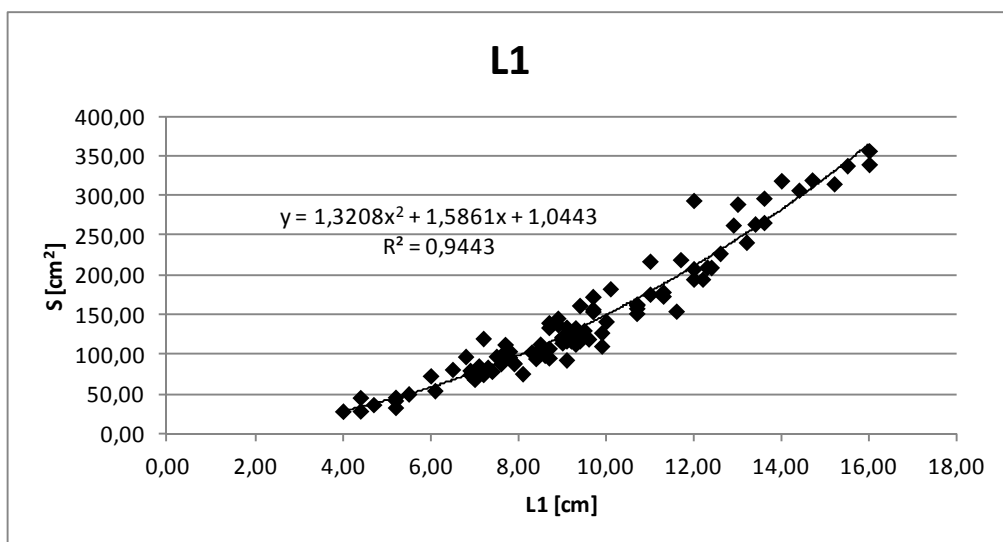
Figures 2, 3 and 4 represented the theoretical curves obtained by non-linear regression (a second order polynomial) for the selected indicators of Kaylashki Rubin variety – L₁, L₂ and L₃, where:

L₁ – the leaf principal vein length;

L₂ – the sum of the two top lateral veins;

L₃ – the sum of the two underside lateral veins;

The equations describing the regression curves were respectively: $y_1 = 1.3208 x^2 - 1.5861 x + 1.0443$ (L₁); $y_2 = 0.4791x^2 - 0.0968x + 2.789$ (L₂); $y_3 = 0.8901x^2 - 0.3408x + 6.8914$ (L₃), where “y” was the leaf surface (in cm²), “x” – the principal vein length; the sum of the two top lateral veins; the sum of the two underside lateral veins, in cm.



. 2.

L1

Fig. 2. Theoretical curve for determining leaf surface in accordance with L1

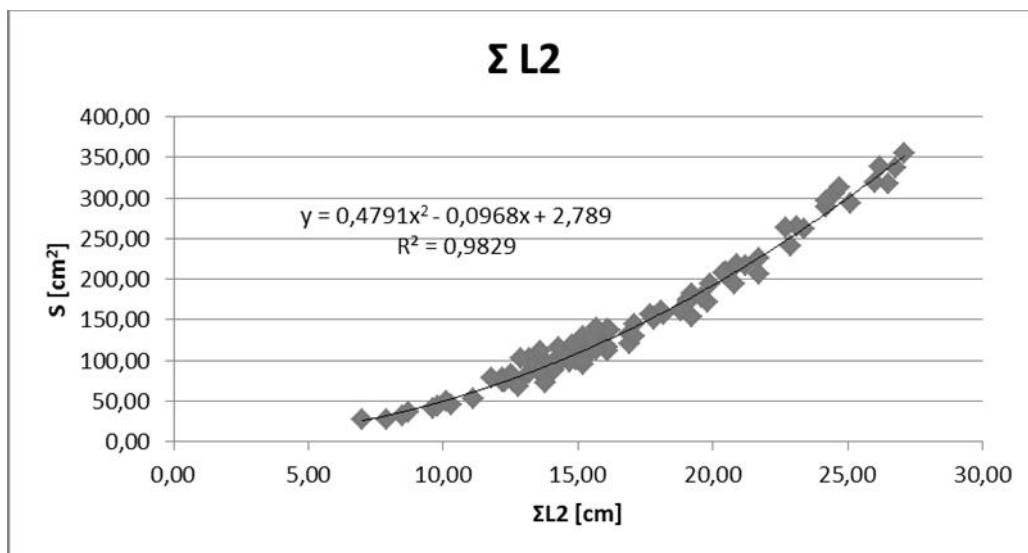


Fig. 3. Theoretical curve for determining leaf surface in accordance with L_2

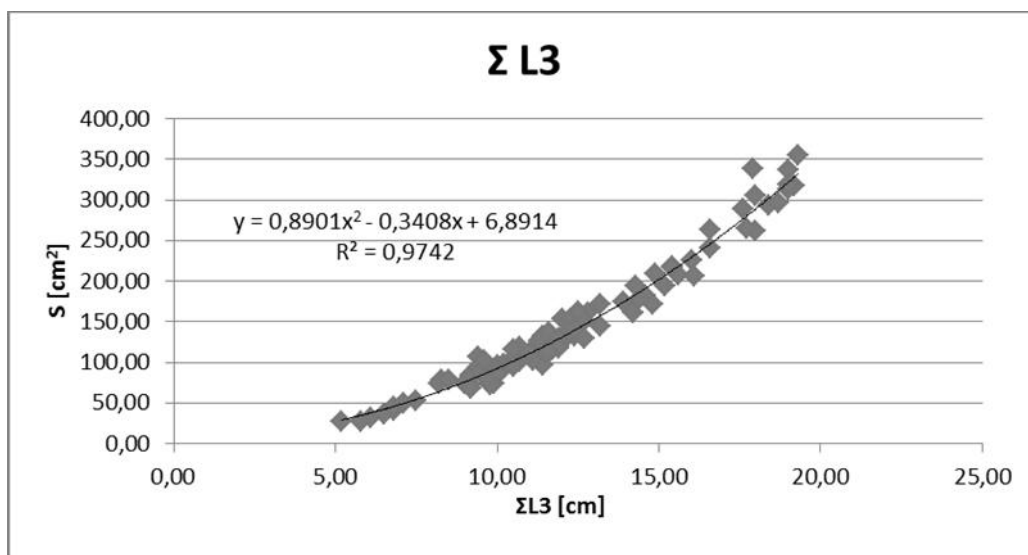


Fig. 4. Theoretical curve for determining leaf surface in accordance with L_3

(S),	-	There was non-linear correlation between the leaf surface (S) and the principal vein length (L_1), the sum of the length of the two top (L_2) or the two underside (L_3) lateral veins of the vine leaf. Since the correlation ratio could not give an accurate picture of the existing
(L_1),	-	
(L_2)	-	
(L_3)	-	
,	-	

and Marinkov, 1999).
 (R^2) (Dimova

relationship between the two variables, it was used the determination ratio (R^2) (Dimova and Marinkov, 1999). It represented the square of the correlation ratio and justified the assumption that there was a causal relation between the two signs.

$R^2 = 0,9443,$

L_1 :
 94,43 %

The determination ratio value for the indicator L_1 was: $R^2 = 0.9443$, meaning that 94.43% of the variation in the leaf surface under the impact of this indicator could be explained by the calculated nonlinear regression. The deviation from the regression ($1 - R^2$) was 5.57 %, indicating the impact rate of the random factors.

$(1 - R^2)$ e 5,57 %,

L_2

$R^2 = 0,9829$ 98,29

%

For the indicator L_2 the determination ratio value was slightly higher $R^2 = 0.9829$ or 98.29 % of the variation under the impact of this indicator was explained by the curvilinear regression. The deviation from the regression was 1.71 %.

1,71 %.

L_3 e $R^2 = 0,9742,$
 97,42 %

2,58 %

The determination ratio for the indicator L_3 was $R^2 = 0.9742$, therefore 97.42 % of the leaf surface variation was explained by the regression and 2.58 % was under the impact of random factors.

It could be observed that the determination ratio values for the three indicators were very close. The deviations from the regression for the three indicators were less than 6%, demonstrating that the method ensured reasonable accuracy.

%,

6

CONCLUSIONS

1. (S),
 (L_1),
 (L_2)
 L_3)

1. It exists correlation between the leaf surface (S) on the one hand and the principal vein length (L_1), the sum of the lengths of the two top lateral (L_2) or the two underside (L_3) lateral veins of the vine leaf, on the other hand.

2.

2. The deviations from the regression for the three indicators were 6

- %,
3. (R²)
- 4.
- less than 6%, demonstrating that the method ensured the determination both of the size of the individual leaves and the leaf surface of whole vines accurately enough.
 - 3. The determination ratios (R²) were very close in value allowing the leaf surface to be determined with approximately equal accuracy by the three indicators.
 - 4. The advantage of this method was that for determining the leaf surface it was not necessary defoliation of the vine, which affected adversely its strength and productive capacity.

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Colour parameters of blackberry cultivars after application of fertilizers

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SUMMARY

The study was conducted in 2013 in the collection plantation of the Research Institute of Mountain Stockbreeding and Agriculture, Troyan. The objects of study are three cultivars of thornless blackberries - 'Hull Thornless', 'Black Satin' and 'Dirksen'. The influence of some fertilizers was followed with conventional and organic application over colour parameters of fresh fruits.

The indicators were given according to the system CIE Lab. At the measurement were taken chromaticity coordinates L, a and b: L – colour brightness; +a – red colour; -a – green colour; +b – yellow; -b – blue.

For all samples, the yellow colour tone was dominant in samples treated by 'Tekamin Brix' 0.2%, 'Tekamin Brix' 0.3% and the control, while in samples with ammonium nitrate the colour indicator got into the blue colour tone. Data are

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CIE Lab.
L, a b: L –
; + – ; - –
; +b – ; -b –
.
0.2 % ,
0.3 % ,

statistically differentiable and the fertilization method had an influence over that quantitative indicator ($p < 0.05$).

Key words: blackberries, cultivars, fertilizing, colour parameters

INTRODUCTION

Blackberries belong to the group of berry crops, characterized by the attractiveness of taste, aroma and rich biochemical composition of their fruits (Halvorsen et al., 2002; De Souza et al., 2014; Skrovankova et al., 2015).

Blackberries, including fruit from a number of berry crops, are appealing both for fresh consumption and different products (Yoo et al., 2010; Slatnar et al., 2012).

At present, the interest in them is constantly increasing and requires the introduction of new varieties that are of good economic quality and adaptable to the conditions of cultivation for the respective region (Domozetova, 2012; Stoyanova et al., 2015).

Blackberries have relatively good distributional plasticity, but they need certain agro-cultivation activities to realize their reproductive potential.

Fertilization is one of the major factors with a direct impact on the vegetative and reproductive effects of plants. It is essential to observe the impact of fertilizers on the quality of the fruits and the plants respectively.

The purpose of the present study is to investigate the influence of fertilizers with conventional and biological application on the colour parameters of fresh fruit of three thornless cultivars of blackberries, such as 'Hull Thornless', 'Black Satin' and 'Dirksen'.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The experiment was set in 2013 in the Research Institute of Mountain Stockbreeding and Agriculture - Troyan.

The subject of the study is three cultivars

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INTRODUCTION

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MATERIAL AND METHODS

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The subject of the study is three cultivars

- I - () - 0.2 %;
- II - () - 0.3 %;
- III - 0.200 kg/l
- IV -

“GOLORGRAD2000”,
BYK-GARDNER INC. USA.

MPI –2
4 mm.

0,85 kPa 10 min.

CIE Lab.

L, a b: L –

; + - ; - -
; +b - - b-

/b.

ANOVA.

of thornless blackberries - 'Hull Thornless', 'Black Satin' and 'Dirksen'. The planting is maintained with grassed interrow spacings and black fallow in the intra row spacing. Tekamin Brix, a foliar fertilizer with biological application was used, as it was applied twice in two concentrations during vegetation. Ammonium nitrate was introduced once at the beginning of the vegetation.

The experiment was set in the following variants of fertilization:

- I - Tekamin Brix (foliar application) - in concentration of 0.2%;
- II - Tekamin Brix (foliar application) - in concentration of 0.3%.
- III - Ammonium nitrate at a dose of 0.200 kg/l linear meter.
- IV - Control

Method of testing

The colour characteristics of fresh fruits from the three blackberry cultivars from the variants in the laboratory of Food Research and Development Institute - Plovdiv were reported.

➤ **The colour was determined** according to Gardner Colour Scale – using the laboratory apparatus 'GOLORGRAD2000' of BYK-GARDNER INC. USA. The blackberry samples were grounded in laboratory apparatus MPI –2 with diameter of the holes of 4 mm The sample was deaerated in a vacuum chamber at vacuum of 0,85 kPa for 10 min.

The indicators were given according to the system CIE Lab. At the measurement were taken chromaticity coordinates L, a and b: L – colour brightness; + a - red colour; -a green colour; +b - yellow, -b - blue.

The value of the colour tone or the dominant wavelength is represented by the ratio a/b.

➤ **Statistical processing** of the samples was carried out in threefold repetitions, data are presented as average values and processed with the ANOVA program.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The data from the conducted tests are presented in Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4 and Figures 1-9.

The highest value in terms of brightness is found in fruit of 'Dirksen' cultivar from the group of control blackberry plants ('Hull Thornless', 'Black Satin' and 'Dirksen'). Data are statistically distinct, with cultivar diversity influencing the measured value ($p < 0.05$).

Table 1. Colour characteristics of fresh fruit (controls) of 'Hull Thornless', 'Black Satin' and 'Dirksen' cultivars

/ Blackberry cultivars	L	a	b	a/b
/ Hull Thornless	10,36±0,32	1,65	0,16±0,03	10,31
/ Black Satin	3,79±0,53	9,97±0,06	1,2±0,32	8,3
/ Dirksen	12,48	9,21	4,57	2,01

The red and yellow colours have the lowest values in 'Hull Thornless' cultivar compared to the other two samples ($p < 0.05$). In the red colour component for the other two cultivars of 'Black Satin' and 'Dirksen', data are statistically indistinguishable and cultivar difference does not affect the measured indicator ($p > 0.05$).

The highest statistically significant value for the measured yellow colour tone is found in fruit of 'Dirksen' cultivar ($p < 0.05$).

The quality indicator of colour tone has the highest value in fruit of 'Hull Thornless' cultivar.

In the experiments on blackberry cultivars treated with 0.2% of Tekamin Brix, it was found that fertilization manner had an effect on colour characteristics, as the brightness of all cultivars had increased and the highest value was found in 'Black Satin' ($p < 0.05$).

2.

() -

0.2 %

Table 2. Colour characteristics of fresh fruit of 'Hull Thornless', 'Black Satin' and 'Dirksen' fertilized by 'Tekamin Brix' (foliar application) – at a concentration of 0.2%

/ Blackberry cultivars	L	a	b	a/b
/ Hull Thornless	7,62±0,44	8,74±0,49	0,92±0,12	9,60
/ Black Satin	16,33±2,32	9,31±1,32	1,17±0,15	7,96
/ Dirksen	8,14±1,79	12,77±2,53	1,83±0,31	6,75

According red colour tone indicator, the fertilizer 'Tekamin Brix' with this concentration affects the fruits of 'Dirksen' and 'Hull Thornless' cultivars, as it increases its quantitative value compared to the controls ($p < 0,05$). The red colour tone has the highest value for fruits of 'Dirksen' cultivar.

For the indicator of yellow colour tone, 'Tekamin Brix' with a concentration of 0.2% acts by increasing the amount of the value in fruit of 'Hull Thornless' and decreasing it in fruits of 'Black Satin' and 'Dirksen' compared to the controls ($p < 0,05$).

The highest quality evaluation of the colour has 'Hull Thornless' cultivar.

In the experimental experiments of the varieties of blackberries treated with 0.3% tecamine briquite it was found that the fertilization effect had an effect on the color characteristics, the brightness increased in the Black Satin variety and decreased with the other two tested varieties compared to the controls ($p < 0,05$).

3.

()-

0.3 %

Table 3. Colour characteristics of fresh fruit of 'Hull Thornless', 'Black Satin' and 'Dirksen' treated with 'Tekamin Brix' (foliar application) at a concentration of 0.3%

/ Blackberry cultivars	L	a	b	a/b
/ Hull Thornless	10,11±0,56	2,86±0,46	0,08±0,13	35,75
/ Black Satin	11,13±1,08	9,93±0,83	2,67±0,73	3,71
/ Dirksen	5,19±0,30	7,3±0,40	-0,25±0,13	28,85

In the measurement of red colour tone, the fertilizer 'Tekamin Brix' with a concentration of 0.3%, influences by increasing the quantitative value on all fruit cultivars studied here ($p < 0,05$). The

- red colour tone has the highest value in 'Black Satin'.
 In the measurement of yellow colour tone, 'Tekamin Brix' with a concentration of 0.3% acts as it quantitatively increases the value of 'Black Satin' fruits and decreases it in 'Hull Thornless' as compared to the control (p<0.05).
 In fruit of 'Dirksen', the treatment with 'Tekamin Brix' 0.3% is most effective as the yellow component of the colour changes to a blue colour component.
 'Hull Thornless' cultivar has the highest quality evaluation of colour in the application of 'Tekamin Brix' 0.3%.
 As a result of fertilizing with ammonium nitrate, the colour brightness indicator increases in fruits of 'Hull Thornless' and 'Black Satin', and decreases in 'Dirksen' cultivar compared to the controls. Data are statistically identifiable, as the fertilizer treatment and the selected concentration, have an impact on the measured parameter (p<0.05).

4.

Table 4. Colour characteristics of fresh fruit of 'Hull Thornless', 'Black Satin' and 'Dirksen' treated with ammonium nitrate

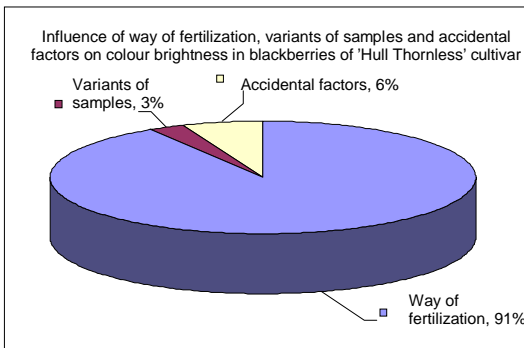
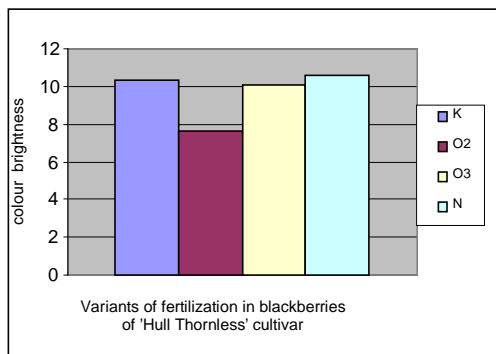
/ Blackberry cultivars	L	a	b	a/b
/ Hull Thornless	10,6±0,32	2,01±0,61	-0,93±0,11	2,16
/ Black Satin	6,91±2,91	7,23±1,34	-0,16±0,15	45,19
/ Dirksen	8,94±0,61	7,88±0,36	1,24±0,32	6,35

- In the case of red colour component, the quantitative value is increased only in fruits of 'Hull Thornless' cultivar, as for the other two cultivars of 'Black Satin' and 'Dirksen', the value decreases compared to the controls (p<0.05).
 The yellow colour tone in fruit decreases after the treatment with ammonium nitrate of 'Dirksen' cultivar compared to the control, and for the other two cultivars, such as 'Hull Thornless' and

(<0,05).

'Black Satin' it converts into blue colour tone. The manner of treatment with the applied concentration of the solution has a significant influence on the measured values for this parameter ($p < 0.05$).

'Black Satin' fruit has the highest value of the colour tone in the experiment.

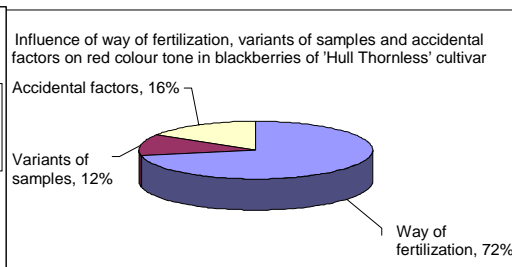
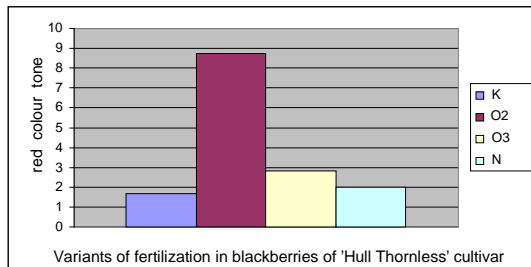


. 1.

Fig.1. Colour brightness in blackberries of 'Hull Thornless' cultivar treated by fertilizers with conventional and biological application

91%,
6%
3%
0,2%.

With regard to the colour brightness in the studied variants of 'Hull Thornless', the highest percentage impact on the measured values shows the way of treatment with fertilizers 91%, followed by the random factors 6% and the selected variants of the experiment 3%. The lowest colour brightness value was measured for fruit treated with 'Tekamin Brix' 0.2%.

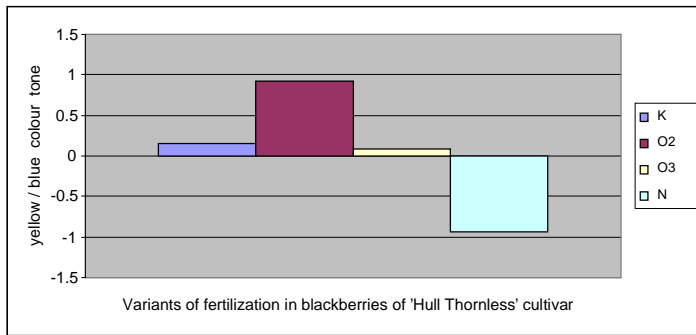


. 2.

Fig. 2 Red colour tone in 'Hull Thornless' cultivar, treated with fertilizers of conventional and biological application

0,2%
72%,
16%
12%.

- Red colour tone has the highest value for fruit treated with Tekamin Brix 0.2% compared to the control and the other selected variants. The highest percentage on the measured values shows the fertilization method 72%, followed by the random factors 16% and the selected variants of the experiment 12%.

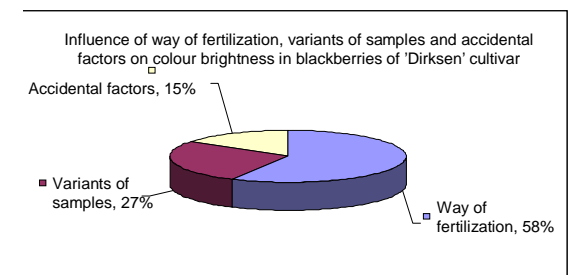
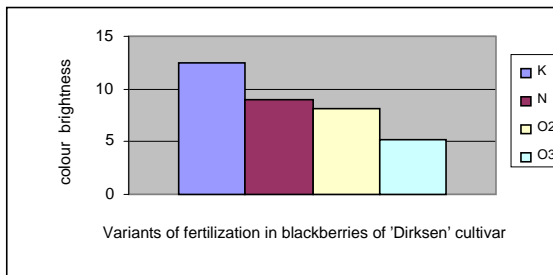


. 3. /

Fig. 3. Yellow/blue colour tone in 'Hull Thornless' cultivar treated with fertilizers of conventional and biological application

0,2%

- The yellow colour tone has the highest value in blackberries treated with Tekamine brix 0.2% compared to the control and the other selected variants. Ammonium nitrate treatment has a significant impact on the measured indicator of fruit as it changes its colour to a blue colour tone.

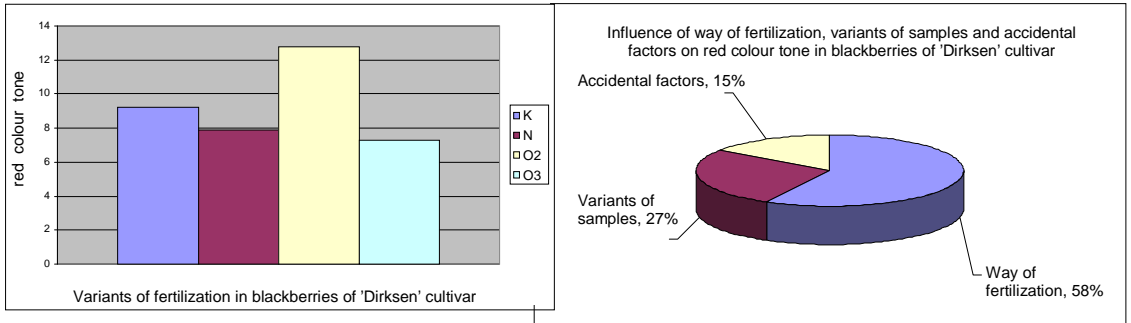


. 4.

Fig. 4. Colour brightness in 'Dirksen' cultivar treated with fertilizers with conventional and biological application

58%,
27%

The brightness of fruit colour in 'Dirksen' decreases in all selected variants compared to the control, as the highest percentage of influence being the fertilization variants of 58%, followed by the selected raw material 27% and the random factors.

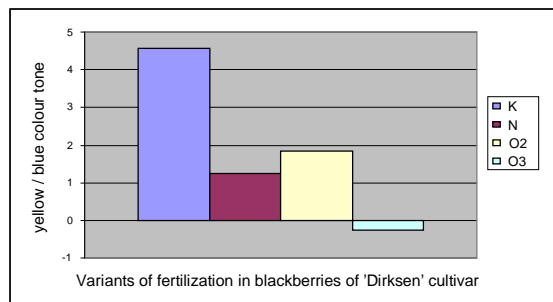


. 5.

Fig. 5. Red colour tone of 'Dirksen' cultivar treated with fertilizers of conventional and biological application

0,2%

For selected variants of treatment of fruit of this cultivar, only in fruit treated with Tekamine brix 0.2%, the red colour value increases relative to the control and the other selected variants. The fertilization method has the highest percent influence on the measured values for this indicator, followed by the selected variants and the random factors.

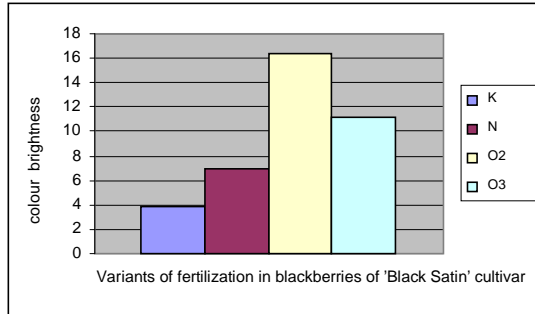


. 6. /

Fig. 6. Yellow/blue colour tone of 'Dirksen' blackberry cultivar treated with fertilizers with conventional and biological application

0,3%

For selected fertilization variants, the yellow colour component decreases compared to the control, and for fruit treated with Tekamine Brix 0.3%, the colour tone changes to blue colour.

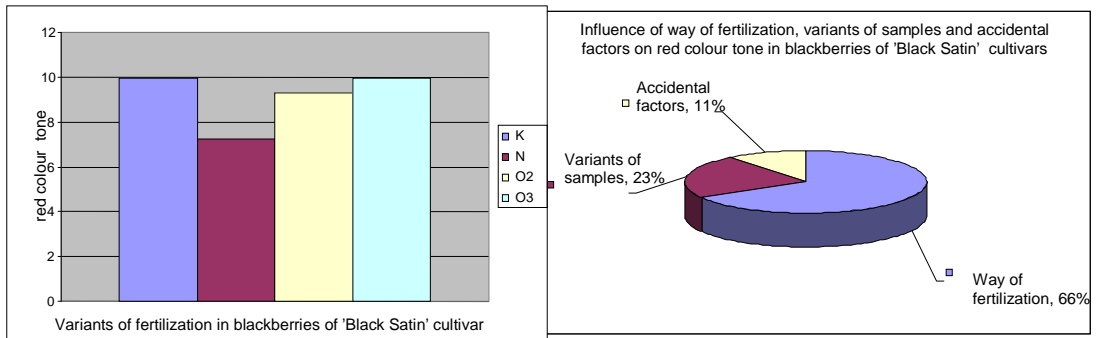


. 7.

Fig. 7. Colour brightness of 'Black Satin' cultivar treated with fertilizers with conventional and biological application

0,2%.

For all the selected variants of the experiment for this cultivar, the colour brightness increases as a result of applied concentrations and fertilizer selection compared to the control. Fruit treated with Tekamine brix 0.2% has the highest value for this indicator.

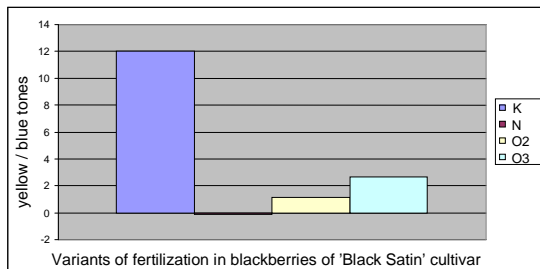


. 8.

Fig. 8. Red colour tone of 'Black Satin' cultivars treated with fertilizers with conventional and biological application

The value of the red colour decreases in fruit treated with ammonium

nitrate compared to the control and the other two variants. The manner of fertilization has an impact on the measured values, followed by the selected variants and the random factors in descending order.



. 9. /

Fig. 9. Yellow/blue tones of 'Black Satin' blackberry cultivars treated with fertilizers of conventional and biological application

0,3%

0,2%

Fruits treated with Tekamin Brix in concentrations of 0.2% and 0.3% reduce the values of the yellow colour tone, and the fruits treated with ammonium nitrate change the colour towards the blue colour tone.

CONCLUSIONS

The influence of some fertilizers with conventional and biological application on the colour parameters of fresh fruit of three cultivars of thornless blackberries was observed, such as 'Hull Thornless', 'Black Satin' and 'Dirksen'.

It was found that fruits of 'Dirksen' and 'Hull Thornless' that were fertilized with 0.2% Tekamin Brix increased their quantitative value in terms of colour brightness, red colour and yellow colour compared to the control.

For fruits of 'Hull Thornless' and 'Black Satin' that were fertilized with ammonium nitrate, the yellow component of the colour changes to blue colour tone compared to the control.

Fruits of 'Hull Thornless' have the highest quality grade for all cultivars of blackberries, treated with 0.2% Tekamin

0,2% 0,3% | Brix and 0.3% in comparison with the control.

The fertilization method has an impact on the measured values for all studied colour indicators in 'Hull Thornless', 'Black Satin' and 'Dirksen'.

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Irrigation scheduling of apple in drip irrigation

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SUMMARY

Establishing irrigation scheduling of apples grown in soil and weather conditions of the Sofia region in the period 2001-2005 research with drip irrigation was conducted. Different regimes of watering to full satisfaction of daily needs of the culture of water to irrigation reduced by 20% and 40% irrigation norms were tested.

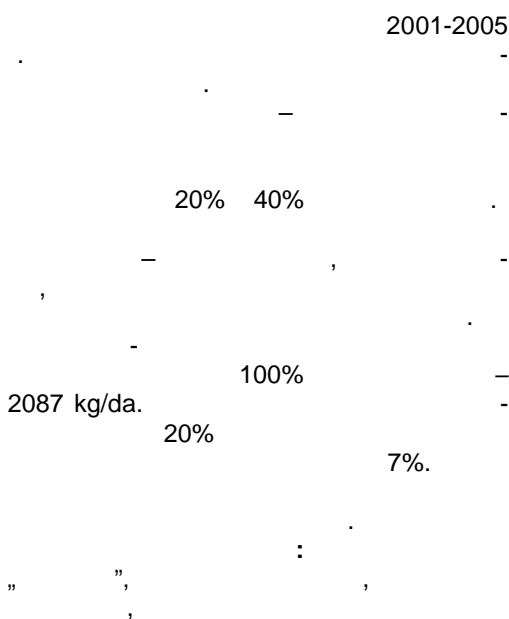
Established irrigation schedulings of apples – number irrigations, irrigations depths, irrigation rate and yields of apples of the Sofia plant.

The highest yields are obtained at 100% irrigation rate – 2087 kg/da. The reduced irrigation depths with 20% resulted in rather small drops in yields by 7%. This irrigation scheduling can be applied in conditions of water deficit.

Key words: apple, variety "Florina", drip irrigation, apple crop, productivity irrigation.

INTRODUCTION

Apple ranks first in the country in area and fruit production compared to other fruit crops. Agricultural and economic efficiency of apple production in our climatic conditions largely be



(Dochev, 1983), a
 (Lazarov and Mehandzhieva, 1982).
 1983) (Dochev,
 and Karmelli, 1980).
 140 mm 300,0 mm (Dochev and
 Gospodinova, 1987).
 Doychev (1994)
 106
 100%
 60%
 e e
 e

- determined by application of rational irrigation regimes and appropriate irrigation techniques.

- Microirrigation is one of the most perspective ways for irrigation of fruit crops, mainly due to big water savings and opportunities for full automation of the irrigation process.

- Along with all the advantages of drip irrigation in physiological and technological plan, the most significant of which is the preparation of a biologically optimum yield of high quality of the fruits with a considerable saving of water compared to traditional methods of irrigation (Dochev, 1983), it provided best prerequisites for the implementation of the so-called broken irrigation regime by reducing the amount of irrigation norms (Lazarov and Mehandzhieva, 1982).

- Referred to in the literature optimal irrigation and irrigation rates vary within a wide range (Dochev, 1983) due to the dependence of these parameters from the soil and climatic conditions, the age period, the vegetative growth of the trees, the applied technology of growing (Keeler and Karmelli, 1980).

- Studies in Bulgaria on irrigation regime of apple fruit-bearing palmetto plantation near the town. Plovdiv indicate that irrigation with drip irrigation rates ranging from 140 mm to 300,0 mm (Dochev and Gospodinova, 1987).

- Doychev (1994) states that intensive apple trees irrigated by dropwise manner must be created by high-yielding and high-quality fruit varieties. It recommends the rootstock MM 106 and applied irrigation regime with irrigation rate of 100% ET, and low water, reduced to 60% of ET.

- Applying this method of irrigation at growing apples, which has great economic importance, requires detailed parameters, establishment of irrigation regime in particular conditions in the

« »
 106
 2001-2005 .

1. ;
 2. 100% m;
 3. 80% m;
 4. 60% m.
 4,5 m
 2,5 m
 125

- 4,6,
 0,60 m.
 30
 67,5 m² (2,5 m 4,5 m).
 m = 11,25 m²

0-60 cm
 = 22,1%,
 12,3%
 1,47 g/cm³.
 0-100 cm
 - 21,8%,
 12,3% - 1,50 cm³.

country.

The aim of the study is to establish the basic parameters of the irrigation regime of apples grown under drip irrigation.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The studies for the establishment of the irrigation system of fruit-bearing apple variety "Florina" on a rootstock MM 106 in drip irrigation were carried out on an experimental field Chelopechene, during the period 2001-2005.

The following options were tested:

1. Irrigated option;
 2. Irrigation with irrigation rate of 100% m;
 3. Irrigation with irrigation rate 80% m;
 4. Impregnation with irrigation rate 60% m.
- The trees were planted approximately 4,5 m spacing and 2,5 m interrow distance or 125 trees per da.

Irrigation is done by superficially dropwise manner with drippers CP - 4.6, a perforated tube through 0,60 m.

Each row of the orchard, consisting of 30 trees represents a variant in four replicates of six trees in the repeat area of each repetition of 67,5 m² (2,5 m x 4,5 m = 11,25 m² area of a tree).

The soil was leached cinnamon forest, slightly sandy loam in the plow layer, formed on a substrate of an old talus cone of alluvial material. It is poorly stocked with nitrogen, an average of phosphorous, and potassium. On average in layers 0-60 cm soil has the following water-physical properties: PPW = 22.1%, humidity reduction – 12.3% by weight of absolutely dry soil, a bulk density in PPW – 1,47 g/cm³. For soil layer 0-100 cm same parameters have the values: PPW – 21.8%, humidity reduction – 12.3% and bulk density – 1,50 cm³.

The soil is suitable for growing apples.

Weather conditions under which the experiments were conducted

Research on irrigation norms suited to water physical properties of soil type and weather conditions over the years, make it possible to establish such an amount of irrigations in which most fully to meet the biological needs of crops without allowing large water losses.

1.

Table 1. Rainfall during apples vegetation period

/ Periods	/ Total rainfall, (mm)				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
/ Years	358	418	329	258	765
. V -	75	158	104	73	400

5
 (-)
 2002 ., 2003 .,
 - 2004 .
 VII-VIII,
 (258 mm),
 mm),
 IV-IX (329 418 mm
 1).

Over the years of experiments the rainfall availability in a sequence of 5 years a series characterize the vegetation period of development of culture (April-September) as average – 2001, 2002 and 2003, a damp – 2005 and one – 2004 very dry, as dry 2002 in terms of rainfall for the period VII-VIII, during which culture is the most demanding on the soil moisture. At least rainfall fell in 2004 (258 mm), and most in 2005. (765 mm), while in the remaining three years rainfall of 329 to 418 mm for the period IV-IX (Table 1). Precipitation in the vegetation of culture unevenly distributed, which led to the realization of irrigation in the years of experiments.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the five studies show that the number of irrigations and the amount of irrigation norms are determined by weather conditions (rainfall) over the years.

The number of irrigations per year ranged from 14 to 20, and the amount of irrigation norm of 190 to 360 mm.

On average over the study period (Table 2) during the vegetation period of

14 20
 190 360 mm.
 (2)

19 mm - 323 mm, 17 irrigations were performed
 - medium irrigation rate 19 mm and 323
 - mm irrigation rate, the largest number of
 (2004), irrigations were realized in the dry year
 20, (2004), where the number of irrigations
 360 mm. - reached 20, and the amount of irrigation
 of 360 mm.

2.

Table 2. Irrigation scheduling of apple drip irrigation

/Years	2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		/ Average 2001-2005		
Variant	Num. irrigations	Irrigation rate mm	Num. irrigations	Irrigation rate mm	Num. irrigations	Irrigation rate mm	Num. irrigations	Irrigation rate mm	Num. irrigations	Irrigation rate mm	Num. irrigations	Irrigation rate mm	Irrigation rate total (mm)
Noirrigation	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	-
100%	17	20	15	19	18	19	20	18	14	17	17	19	323
80%	17	16	15	15	18	15	20	14	14	15	17	15	255
60%	17	13	15	12	18	13	20	12	14	13	17	12	204

80-85 % - Irrigation norms were implemented
 for the period from early May to late
 September. Irrigation vegetation periods
 in culture are different and depend on the
 amount and distribution of rainfall, and
 the phases of development of culture. It
 was found that the requirements of
 apples to moisture in the soil are larger at
 the beginning of flowering, fruit formation
 to harvest the fruit, so that moisture in the
 soil during this period is necessary to
 maintain 80-85% of PPW. At the
 beginning of vegetation of culture, and at
 the end the irrigations are implemented in
 14-15 days and during the active growing
 season, flowering and fruit formation in
 5-6 days (Table 2).

(2). - The results yield of apples in
 different humidity in respect of years
 demonstrate the influence of drip
 irrigation on its size. The greatest
 increase in yield was obtained in 2004
 and 2002 (dry), which is a 55%-60%
 more than the non-irrigated variant (Table
 3). At least an increase by 667 kg/ha
 (25%) was received in the wet in 2005,
 with the average for the five years studied
 the increase in yield is 821 kg/ha
 compared to non-irrigated option.

2087 kg/da, 100%
 1266 kg/da. 20 40% 7%
 14%.
 (3).
 3.

Realized irrigation regimes over the years have also affected the yields obtained. The highest yields were obtained at variants which are irrigated with 100% irrigation rate 2087 kg/ha, and the lowest in irrigated variants 1266 kg/ha. The decrease of the irrigation rate by 20 and 40% led to a decrease in yields of 7% and 14%. Average for the period reduction in yield is not drastic and irrigation regimes can be used in the case of water deficit (Table 3).

Table 3. Yield of the apples of drip-irrigation in the region near to Sofia, Chelopechene

Years	2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		/ Average 2001-2005	
	Yeild kg/da	Relative yield %	Yeild kg/da	Relative yield %	Yeild kg/da	Relative yield %	Yeild kg/da	Relative yield %	Yeild kg/da	Relative yield %	Yeild kg/da	Relative yield %
noirrigation	1567	100	704	100	1135	100	855	100	2070	100	1266	100
100%	2122	135	1769	251	1945	171	1866	218	2737	132	2087	164
80%	2053	131	1603	228	1828	161	1681	196	2592	125	1952	154
60%	2004	128	1421	202	1712	150	1459	170	2444	118	1808	142

g (4). 7,6 9,8
 60% 6,6
 13,4 g
 100%

The test irrigation regime had no effect on the productivity of irrigation water. It is highest in the variants irrigated with a lower size irrigation rate. The analysis of the results showed that each cubic meter irrigation water on average in the period of the study were obtained from 7.6 to 9.8 kg of apples (Table 4). The highest productivity of irrigation water in the three experimental years was obtained under the variant of realizing the 60% of the irrigation rate and amounts to 6.6 to 13.4 kg for each cubic meter of water.

The results obtained for the efficiency of irrigation water have shown that with increasing water availability to the plants lowers the productivity of irrigation water, the most pronounced in the variants irrigated with 100% irrigation rate.

4.

Table 4. Irrigation water productivity of apples

Variant	2001 average year		2004 dry year		2005 wet year		Average for three years	
	Irrigation rate mm	Water efficiency g/m ³	Irrigation rate mm	Water efficiency Kg/m	Irrigation rate mm	Water efficiency g/m ³	Irrigation rate mm	Water efficiency g/m
100%	340	6,1	360	5,2	238	11,5	313	7,6
80%	275	7,5	300	6,1	216	12,1	255	8,6
60%	217	9,3	220	6,6	182	13,4	218	9,8

CONCLUSIONS

For the period of active vegetation of culture (April-June) realized 17 the number of irrigations medium irrigation rate – 19,0 mm and total irrigation rate for the period – 323,0 mm.

Test irrigation regimes biologically most appropriate irrigation mode realization of 100% irrigation rate, which is recommended under good water availability.

The highest yields were obtained at variants which are irrigated with 100% irrigation rate 2087 kg/ha, and the lowest in irrigated variants 1266 kg/ha. The decrease of the irrigation rate by 20 and 40% led to a decrease in yields of 7% and 14%. Average for the period reduction in yield is not drastic and irrigation regimes can be used in the case of water deficit.

The greatest increase in yield was obtained in 2004 and 2002 (dry), which is 55%-60% more than the non-irrigated variant. At least increase by 667 kg/ha (25%) was received in the wet in 2005, with the average for the five years studied the increase in yield is 821 kg/ha compared to non-irrigated option.

The productivity of irrigation water in the drip irrigation of apples is increased by reducing the irrigation norm. The highest values achieved in 40% reduction in irrigation rate.

(-)
17
– 19,0 mm
– 323,0 mm.
-
100
%
,
.
-
,
100%
2087 kg/da -
1266 kg/da.
20 40%
7% 14%.
.
-
2004 2002 . (),
55%-60% ,
-
667
kg/da (25%) e
2005 .,
821
kg/da .
-
.
40%

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Paulownia tomentosa,

1

1* , 1 , 1 ,
2 , 3 ,
1 " ,
2 " " , 4000 ,
3 4000 ,
4000 ,

*E-mail: valkova@plantgene.eu

Ethyl methane sulfonate induced mutation phenotype in M₁ generation of *Paulownia tomentosa*

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SUMMARY

Paulownia is a deciduous, fast-growing, hardwood and multipurpose tree species that is native to China. It exhibits a number of desirable characteristics, such as rot resistance, dimensional stability and a high ignition point. It is a beautiful ornamental tree, which is also suitable for the bioethanol industry and as a source of secondary metabolites. As an economically important species over the past several decades, research on Paulownia has been conducted to develop biotechnological approaches for plant propagation and genetic improvement.

Paulownia tomentosa,

0.6% v/v, EMS 100
Paulownia tomentosa (PT),
 12 .,
 (1).
 (DWL) –
 (GA₃),
 acid (IAA) 1-Naphthaleneacetic acid
 (NAA) Indole-3-acetic acid
 . DWL *in vivo*
 (EBR),
in vitro EBR DWL

: Ethyl methane
 sulphonate (EMS), *Paulownia tomentosa*,
 (GA₃), Indole-3-acetic acid (IAA), 1-
 Naphthaleneacetic acid (NAA),
 Epibrassinosteroids (EBR)

Paulownia
 17
Paulowniaceae.
 e

Mutagenesis has been used to increase genetic variability in crop plants through chemical mutagens or irradiation. Mutagen such as ethyl methane sulphonate (EMS) has been widely used to induce a large number of functional variations.

A study has been conducted to enhance genetic variability in *Paulownia tomentosa* using ethyl methane sulphonate. Exposure to an EMS concentration of 0.6%, v/v for 12h was used to mutagenize 100 seeds for the first generation (M₁). It was observed one phenotypic mutation with alter growth behaviors than in wild type (WT) plants. Produced plant had dwarflike phenotype with broken apical dominance; increased number of branches; smaller leaves and short internodes.

In respond to gibberellins (GA₃) treatment they grow as tall as normal tall varieties but with multiple branched stems and small leaves. Treatment with auxins Indole-3-acetic acid (IAA) and 1-Naphthaleneacetic acid (NAA) had no result on the dwarflike phenotype either. *In vitro* DWL plants grown on media supplemented with Epibrassinosteroids (EBR) had bigger leaves and unbranched stems but *in vivo* DWL plants treated with EBR didn't change their phenotypes. Dwarf phenotypes could be the result of reduced BR biosynthesis or trough up- or down- regulation of other genes.

Key words: Ethyl methane sulphonate (EMS) *Paulownia tomentosa*, dwarf phenotype, gibberellins (GA₃), Indole-3-acetic acid (IAA), 1-Naphthaleneacetic acid (NAA), Epibrassinosteroids (EBR)

INTRODUCTION

6 *Paulownia* is a genus comprised of between 6-17 species in the family *Paulowniaceae*. They are native to China and have been naturalized in other parts of the world such as Europe and USA

(Newman et al., 1998; Ipekci and Gozukirmizi, 2004).

Paulownia

(Zhang et al., 2007).

(Šmejkal et al., 2007; Si et al., 2013). *Paulownia*

Paulownia

ú

(Newman et al., 1998) (Ipekci and Gozukirmizi, 2004). These deciduous trees are fast growing, and can grow just as quickly on a wide variety of soils and wide range of climatic conditions.

It has been examined the ability of *Paulownia* to take up nitrates, heavy metals and land contaminants, that make it a useful source for land reclamation and reforestation(Zhang et al., 2007). The leaves and flowers could be used as fodder because of their contents of fats, sugars and proteins. The high level of nitrogen in leaves made them also a good fertilizer.

Paulownia species are rich in antioxidants and secondary metabolites, connected with theirs medicinal properties (Šmejkal et al., 2007; Si et al., 2013).

Paulownia trees become a popular source for cellulosic ethanol as alternative fuels. A risen popularity of *Paulownia* is due to its many desirable features that determined it as a multipurpose tree with grate economical and practical value.

With the growth of human population, large-scale production systems were developed. This leads to the creation of new plant species, different techniques of cultivation and selection. Conventional selection and breeding has been successful program for genetic improvement but with some limits about woody plants. Reducing the induction time and the subsequent selection of genetic changes could be useful tool for overcoming the problems with selection and species modification of important crops. In Nature, genetic variations are result of keeping of mutations that gave advantages to the plants, for example, greater yield or resistance to adverse factors.

There are three types of mutagenesis – irradiation; treatment with chemical mutagens or site-directed mutagenesis due to DNA insertions, genetic

	(Oladosu et al., 2015).		transformation or activation of transposable elements (Oladosu et al., 2015). Chemical mutagenesis has several benefits, and has been widely used to induce a large number of functional variations in crops. Among chemical mutagens, the alkylating agent, ethyl methane sulfonate (EMS) is the most commonly used in plants as it causes a high frequency of nucleotide substitutions (Talebi et al., 2012).
	(EMS)		
et al., 2012).		(Talebi	
(EMS)			EMS induces mispairing and base changes, because of guanine alkylation, which cannot pair with cytosine anymore and pairing with thymine (Greene, et al., 2003).
		(Greene	
et al., 2003).			The induced point mutations could lead to loss-of-function or gain-of-function phenotypes with important features to the agriculture. The proper mutations selection is important and after EMS treatment most mutant lines in the M1 generation are removed (Oladosu et al., 2015).
	EMS	1	
	(Oladosu et al., 2015).		
	EMS		We have used the chemical mutagen EMS to modify the genome and inducing new features in the popular woody species <i>Paulownia tomentosa</i> . In the M ₁ generation of treated seeds, an altered phenotype was identified whose morphology was compared to that of the parent plants. Visible effect will be produced when the mutagenic factor affects genes associated with plant growth regulators. Here we analyze the responses of produced dwarflike plants to exogenic plant growth regulators as gibberellins (GA ₃); naphthyl acetic acid (NAA); indolyl acetic acid (IAA) and epibrassinosteroid (EBR), to trace whether the newly acquired phenotype is due to a quantitative shortage or lack of function of some of the listed plant hormones.
<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i> .		1	
	(GA ₃);		
(NAA);	-	(IAA)	
	-24 (EBR),		

Paulownia tomentosa
 (Faculty of Biology; BIOSS Centre for Biological Signaling Studies; ZBSA Centre for Biological Systems Analysis, University of Freiburg).

EMS (Kim et al., 2006)

100 *Paulownia tomentosa* 100 mM (7.5) 40 °C

0.6% 12

20

in vitro

(1962) (20 g/l) (8 g/l), pH

5,8.

in vitro

.

.

16/8 30 μ m⁻²s⁻¹. 22°C - 25°C;

in vivo

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Plant material

The *in vitro* raised shoots from *Paulownia tomentosa* and dwarflike plants were kindly provided by prof. Alisher Touraev, Faculty of Biology; BIOSS Centre for Biological Signaling Studies; ZBSA Centre for Biological Systems Analysis, University of Freiburg.

EMS mutagenesis (Kim et al., 2006)

100 seeds from *Paulownia tomentosa* were soaked in 100mM phosphate buffer (pH 7.5) overnight at 40 °C. The excess buffer was decanted and fresh buffer was added with EMS to a final concentration 0.6%. Mixture was incubated 12h at room temperature and then seeds were washed 20 times with water.

Culture media and culture conditions

Basal MS (Murashige and Scoog, 1962) media was supplemented with 20 g/l sucrose and 8 g/l agar, the pH of media was adjusted to 5.8.

The cultures for seed germination were incubated at 24 °C in dark for 4 weeks. Aseptic seedlings were used as a source material for micropropagation.

Micropropagated *in vitro* plants were incubated under 16/8h photoperiod in a growing-room under light intensity 30 μMm⁻²s⁻¹ from cool-white fluorescent lamps at 22°C - 25°C.

The cultures were sub-cultured at four-week intervals. Observation was recorded over 7 days of inoculation and subculture. All experiments were repeated three times with at least ten cultures per treatment.

Acclimatization of plants under *in vivo* conditions

Two months old *in vitro* plants were adapted to *in vivo* conditions after

(2:1v/v).
 95% 98%.
 16/8
 $30 \mu \text{ m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$
 22°C - 25°C.
in vitro
Paulownia.
 (1).
 96%
 8 g/l),
 (NAA)
 (IAA)
 1N NaOH
 24-
 96%
 16/8
 $30 \mu \text{ m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$
 22°C - 25°C.
in vivo
Paulownia.
 2 ml
 7
 5 8
 3

cleaning up gently the roots from media
 oddments. Plantlets were put into pots
 containing mixture of peat and perlite
 (2:1v/v), covered with transparent foil, that
 would keep 95% - 98% relative humidity.
 Acclimatized plants were incubated under
 16/8h photoperiod in a growing-room
 under light intensity $30 \mu \text{Mm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ from
 cool-white fluorescent lamps at
 22°C - 25°C.

The effect of growth regulators to
 dwarflike *Paulownia* plants tested by *in*
vitro culture.

The effect was tested on
 regenerating media supplemented with
 different concentrations of growth
 regulators (able 1).

Gibberellic acid (also called
 Gibberellin and GA₃) was dissolved in
 96% ethanol, sterilized trough bactericidal
 filter and added to the autoclaved basal
 media (MS, 20 g/l sucrose and 8 g/l agar).

2-(1-Naphthyl) acetic acid (NAA)
 and 2-(1*H*-indol-3-yl) acetic acid (IAA)
 were dissolved in 1N NaOH and added to
 the basal media before autoclaving.

24-epibrassinolide (EBR) was
 dissolved in 96% ethanol, sterilized trough
 bactericidal filter and added to the
 autoclaved basal media.

All cultures were incubated under
 16/8 h photoperiod in plant growth room
 under cool-white fluorescent lamps at
 22 °C to 25 °C with 65% – 70% humidity.

The effect of growth regulators to *in*
vivo cultured dwarflike *Paulownia* plants.

The *in vivo* adapted plants were
 sprayed with 2ml solutions of plant growth
 regulators in different concentration. The
 control plants were sprayed with 2ml
 distilled water. Treatment was repeated
 after 7 days. The experiment prolongs 5
 to 8 weeks and each experiment was
 repeated 3 times.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Paulownia tomentosa EMS
1

in vitro

MS

2%

in vivo

24°C, 16/8
30

$\mu \text{ m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$.

Paulownia tomentosa ()
(DWL)

DWL,

DWL

DWL

(1).

DW

(1).

Paulownia tomentosa seeds were EMS treated and produced M₁ generation was screened for phenotypic changes. One of the regenerated plants developed bushy phenotype and turns the subject of present study.

The aseptic seedlings were source for micropropagation, using the segments from nodal sections and shoot tips. They were micropropagated on MS media containing 2% sucrose, without any growth regulators, that can affect the phenotype.

Two months old *in vitro* plants were used for *in vivo* propagation and were incubated at 24°C under 16/8 h photoperiod and light intensity 30 $\mu \text{ m}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$. The growth pattern and development; height; number of nodes; number and the size of leaves were traced. These criteria were used to compared dwarflike *Paulownia* (DWL) with the control plants *Paulownia tomentosa* (PT). The compared two groups of plant propagated and cultivated at the same conditions started with the similar phenotype. The two months old DWL plant could be equal or even slightly taller than PT plant, but generally the whole DWL group is more variable in height.

In their further development DWs get branched, developing all the side buds, while PTs retained their apical dominance (Figure 1). The leaves size followed the same trend; initially plants from both groups had a similar vision. In their further development DWLs leaves were far behind the original size, but numerically get ahead of PTs (Figure 1).

Both analyzed groups were different in their growth and development patterns. PT plants have grown gradually and increased their biomass, gaining each week a new node and two or three new

DWL

leaves. DWL plants have grown intensively in the first two weeks, then the rate slowed, and after the third week the height stop elevate, but many branches and new leaves appeared.

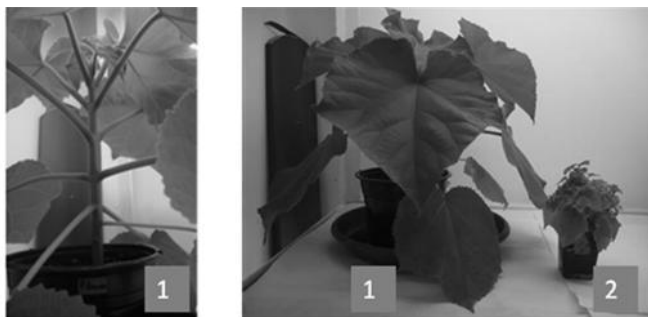


Fig. 1. The four months old PT (1) and DWL (2) plants

(Hutchings et al., 1994), (Okamoto at al., 2008) (Scholthof et al., 1995).

(Zhang and Turner, 2008).

DWL

in vitro

(1). *in vivo*

The Dwarflike plant phenotype could be the result of genetic manipulations, but also could be result of natural changes during acclimatization to stress factors such as soil composition, light (Hutchings et al., 1994), cold (Okamoto at al., 2008) or infection (Scholthof et al., 1995).

Dwarfing in natural condition is obtained not as a result of damage caused by stress factors, but as a result of plant growth regulators produced under stress conditions (Zhang and Turner, 2008).

Searching the connection between dwarflike phenotype and altered levels of growth regulators in analyzed DWL plants we investigated the effect of various concentrations of the major groups of plant growth regulators: gibberellins, auxins and brasinosteroids.

For this purpose were cultured *in vitro* PT and DWL plants on nutrition media supplemented with growth regulators in various concentrations (Table 1). Simultaneously *in vivo* cultured PT and DWL plants were sprayed with solutions of the same plant growth regulators in various concentrations.

1.

*in vitro*Table1. Composition of *in vitro* culture media

Media	/ Growth regulators			
	GA ₃ (mg/l)	IAA (mg/l)	NAA (mg/l)	EBR (μM)
MS0 ^a	-	-	-	-
MSG1	0,1	-	-	-
MSG2	0,5	-	-	-
MSG3	1	-	-	-
MSG4	5	-	-	-
MSA	-	1	-	-
MSN	-	-	1	-
MSE1	-	-	-	1
MSE2	-	-	-	5

MS
MSG2, MSG3 MSG4. MS a
- MSN. MS
-MS0^a. MS
- MSA. MS
EBR - MSE1 MSE2

MS media without any regulators -MS0 . Basal MS media supplemented with gibberellins - MSG1; MSG2; MSG3 and MSG4. MS media supplemented with indole 3-acetic acid – MSA. MS media supplemented with 1-Naphthaleneacetic acid acetic acid – MSN. MS media supplemented with Epibrassinosteroids (EBR) - MSE1and MSE2

	DWL	-	The gibberellins (GA _s) are class of plant hormones that affect several important plant processes, including stem elongation, seed development, and seed germination. Besides GA could stop or reverse the effect of physiological dwarfism and it is one of the specific applications of gibberellins. In this study experiments were conducted with GA ₃ , which is known to be the most abounded in the plant kingdom.
GA ₃ ,		-	
2 ml 10 mg/l.	GA ₃	-	Acclimatized plants under <i>in vivo</i> conditions were sprayed with 2 ml solution of GA ₃ (10 mg/l). The treatment was repeated every seven days for eight weeks. The control plants were sprayed with 2 ml of distilled water. Treatment with GA ₃ induced elongation by an average of 12 cm that was 4 times more compared to controls.
2 ml GA ₃ 12 cm,	4	-	
	GA ₃	-	DWLs sprayed with GA ₃ kept their “bushy” (branched) phenotype and the small size of the leaf lamina, although there was a prolongation of the petiole (Figure 2).
(2).		-	



2. DWL
 GA₃ (2)
 Fig. 2. DWLs sprayed with distilled water (1) and DWLs sprayed with 10 mg/l GA₃ (2)

in vitro

GA₃

(1).

(5mg/l)

”

al., 2006).

(Dun et

The effect of GA₃ was tested by shoot regeneration on media supplemented with different concentration of this hormone (Table 1). After two-months cultivation, under constant regulated conditions, there is no disappearance of the dwarf phenotype. The highest experimental concentration (5mg/l) had inhibitory effect to the tested tissue cultures.

Apical dominance is phenomenon when one meristem prevents or inhibits the growth of other meristems.

During the formation of leaves and elongation of stem some cells are left behind from shoot apical meristem and constitute axillary bud.

If the dominant meristem is cut off, one or more branch tips will assume dominance.

The mechanism of apical dominance is based on the plant hormone auxin (Dun et al., 2006). The absence of apical dominance in DWL plants provoked the experiments with exogenous administration of auxins.

in vivo

2

1 mg/l NAA 1 mg/l IAA,

1 mg/l IAA

The two-months old *in vivo* adapted plants were sprayed with solutions of NAA (1mg/l) and IAA (1mg/l) but it didn't turn dwarf phenotype back to the original morphology. Negative effect was observed when plants were treated with 1mg/l IAA. The sprayed plants show signs of stress associated with yellowing, the leaves curling and necrotic stains.

in vitro Paulownia (NAA IAA)

(Nakamura et al., 2003).

24-epibrassinolide (EBR) *in vivo* DWL

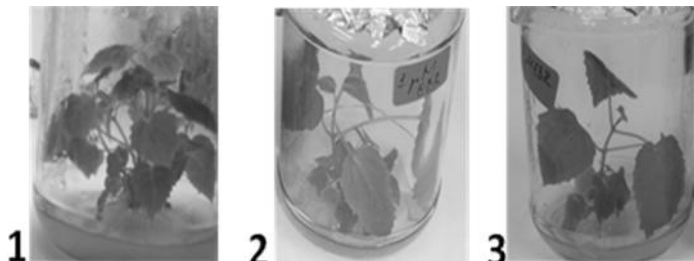
in vitro 1 5 μ M EBR

(3).

The shoot regenerates were cultivated on media supplemented with NAA (1mg/l) and IAA (1mg/l). The applied concentration had inhibitory effect to the *in vitro* cultured DWL plants (Table 1).

Plant steroid hormones called brassinosteroids (BRs) control cell expansion and division, senescence, vascular development, photomorphogenesis and stress responses. BR biosynthesis or perception defective mutants display dwarf phenotypes due to reduced cell elongation. When BR were applied exogenously at nanomolar to micromolar levels, they exhibit a wide spectrum of physiological effects, including promotion of cell elongation and division, enhancement of tracheary element differentiation, enhancement of gravitropic induced bending, promotion of ethylene biosynthesis, and enhancement of stress resistance (Nakamura et al., 2003).

In this study, we were interested in the effect of a brassinosteroid hormone 24-epibrassinolide (EBR) on DWL plants applied by spraying or added into the culture media. The *in vivo* cultivated plants were sprayed with 1ml solutions of EBR (5 μ M and 10 μ M). No positive effects, even slightly inhibitory effect were observed. But *in vitro* cultured DWL plants overcome the branched phenotype and the regenerants had larger leaves and elongated stems (Figure 3).



3. (1) DWL MSE1. (3) DWL MSE2 MS0^a. (2) DWL
 Fig. 3. (1) Control DWL plant cultured on MS0^a. (2) DWL plant cultured on MSE1. (3) DWL plant cultured on MSE2

CONCLUSIONS

EMS.	<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>	,			
		,			
DWL		,			
	DWL	,			
NAA,		,	IAA		
		,			
		,			
<i>tomentosa</i> ,		,	<i>Paulownia</i>		
		,			
EBR	<i>in vitro</i> DW	,			
		,			

Dwarflike plants were produced from *Paulownia tomentosa* seeds using EMS. Morphological characteristic exhibit altered growth behavior than original plants and the conducted hormonal analysis revealed that DWL plants are sensitive to gibberellins, auxins and brassinosteroids.

The lack of apical dominance in DWL plants was not a result of IAA or NAA deficiency because the exogenic allayed hormones didn't change the bush phenotype.

The changes that were provoked by gibberellins and auxins could not returned the original phenotype, therefore dwarfing was not due to shortage of these plant growth regulators.

Only EBR applied to *in vitro* culture resulted in overwarf dwarflike look. Therefore the dwarf phenotypes could be the result of reduced BR biosynthesis or trough up- or down- regulation of genes linked to these hormones.

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