

Festuca

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Breeding Evaluation of Accessions from Genus *Festuca* by Seed Productivity

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SUMMARY

The aim of the study is to evaluate seed productivity of accessions from genus *Festuca* and ecological stability. During the period 2017-2019, in Institute of Forage Crops - Pleven, a collection of genus *Festuca* was studied in field non-irrigated conditions on leached black soil, by block method, with a total of 10 accessions, individually arranged plants, by seedlings at a distance of 50/50 cm. Each accession is represented by 25 plants. Individual harvesting of each accession was performed at the time of the technical maturity of the seeds. Seed Productivity per plant (g) and its elements: height of generative stems, cm; number of generative stems (panicles), length of panicles, cm; branches number per panicle, spikelets number per panicle, seed productivity per panicle, g; weight of 1000 seeds, g; and variation coefficient (CV, %) were used as a major criterion in the selection of elite genotypes. Francis and Kannenberg (1978) method with average seed productivity parameters and average variation coefficient were applied for allocation of each accession exceeding the mean values for the collection in the

Ward (1963)

Francis Kannenberg

Merifest T

H – , cm; r=0,850, BN – r=0,769, S N – r=0,744 PL – , cm r=0,785;

SWP – , g r=0,545 TSW – 1000 , g. r=0,677.

three consecutive years. The results of the hierarchical cluster analysis performed by the Ward method showed good consistency of estimates combining productivity and variation with the distribution of genotypes by the Francis and Kannenberg model over the entire study period. It has been established that the seed productivity vary depending on the genotype – species, variety or ecotype, ploidy level and seasonal variations (by years), as well as growing conditions. The highest average annual seed productivity and stability for the three years was taken into account in the fescue accessions: from tall fescue – variety Albena and ecotype IRGR - Sadovo; meadow fescue – breeding population Merifest T and from red fescue – ecotype Ravnogor. Strong positive correlations were found between SP - seed productivity per plant, and H - height, cm; $r = 0,850$, BN - Number of branches per panicle $r = 0,769$, S N - number of spikes in the panicle $r = 0,744$ and PL - Length of the panicle, cm $r = 0,785$; SWP - seed productivity per panicle, g $r = 0,545$ and TSW – weight per 1000 seeds, g. $r = 0,677$. The number of generative stems is weakly positively correlated with plant seed productivity and weakly to moderately negatively correlated with all other structural elements. The observed reliable correlations between the structural elements of seed yield in fescue samples create an opportunity for tandem selection.

Key words: tall, meadow and red fescue accessions, seed productivity, variation coefficient, cluster analyses, correlation analyses

INTRODUCTION

Seed yield is a trait of major interest for forage and turf grass species and has received increasing attention since seed multiplication is economically relevant for novel grass cultivars to compete

commercially.

Although seed yield is a complex trait and affected by agricultural practices as well as environmental factors, traits related to seed production reveal considerable genetic variation, prerequisite for improvement by direct or indirect selection (Boelt and Studer, 2010).

Seed yield is affected by several yield components and reflects the interaction between the seed yield potential (e.g., number of reproductive tillers, number of spikelets/florets per reproductive tiller), the utilization of the potential (e.g., seed set, seed weight), and the realization of the seed yield potential defined as the number of florets forming a saleable seed.

The realization of the seed yield potential is affected by seed retention and other traits associated with yield loss during the harvest and post-harvest processes.

This is in agreement with a more recent study of Yamada et al. (2004), who found a positive correlation between plant height, tiller size, spike length, and the number of spikelets per spike.

These morphological traits have been shown to be highly heritable (Elgersma, 1990; Yamada, 2004; Byrne, 2009).

Marshall and Wilkins (2003) showed that a positive effect on seed yield of two cycles of phenotypic selection on individual plants grown in glasshouse was later confirmed in field plots.

Generally, sustainable breeding for higher seed yield should target efficient utilization and realization of the seed yield potential rather than an increase in size of the reproductive system which may compromise forage and turf quality.

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<p>(Rognli, 2007; Rognli et al., 2010; Boelt and Studer, 2010; Ivanska et al., 2018).</p>	<p>steps in plant breeding since the commercial value of a cultivar is often determined by its seed yield capacity (Rognli, 2007; Rognli et al., 2010; Boelt and Studer, 2010; Ivanska et al., 2018).</p>
<p>(Heide, 1994).</p>	<p>All fescue species have a dual flower induction requirement; they need vernalization and/or short days in the autumn to initiate reproductive development, and long days and moderate temperatures for stem elongation and flowering in the spring (Heide, 1994).</p>
<p>(Rognli, 2007).</p>	<p>In general, little selection has been made with regard to seed yield and seed components in forage grasses. Therefore, genetic variation and heritability of traits are large (Rognli 2007). The selection for seed production must be integrated into breeding programs to create new varieties (Elgersma, 1985, Duller et al., 2010).</p>
<p>(Elgersma, 1985, Duller et al., 2010). (<i>Festuca arundinacea</i> Schreb.)</p>	<p>Tall fescue (<i>Festuca arundinacea</i> Schreb.) is a primary and important cool-season forage grass species. It is grown for livestock production throughout the temperate regions of the world (Majidi et al., 2009). Because the grass thrives on impoverished soils in pastoral environments (under simultaneously occurring multiple stresses) (Belesky et al., 2010), tall fescue plays a significant role in soil conservation in arid and semi-arid regions. Tall fescue is also widely used as a cold-season turfgrass in residential and commercial landscapes. For turf-type tall fescue, previous research has focussed mainly on cultivation. Nevertheless, little research has been conducted regarding the algorithms of seed yield and its key components in grasses. This information is crucial to meet the demands of commercial propagation. Seed yield, a quantitative character, is largely influenced by the environment and thus has a low heritability (Boelt and Gislum, 2010; Wang et al., 2010).</p>
<p>(Majidi et al., 2009). ((Belesky et al., 2010),</p>	<p></p>
<p>(Boelt Gislum,</p>	<p></p>

2010; Wang et al., 2010).

550 1800 kg ha⁻¹.
1210 1765 kg ha⁻¹
,
, 1994 2004 . (Hopkins et al.,
2007). 118 948
70 650 ha
2008
(<http://cropandsoil.oregonstate.edu/seed-ext/FnF.html>, 2009).

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,
2-3
(Casler et al., 2008).

, 1998-2007 .
1500-2500 ha
660 950 kg ha⁻¹
(Schaerff, 2008).
,
,
'Fure' 541 672 kg ha⁻¹,
1989-1996,
'Salten'
906 kg ha⁻¹.
-

Average seed yield of tall fescue in the US varies from 550 to 1,800 kg ha⁻¹. Seed yield jumped from 1,210 to 1,765 kg ha⁻¹ in commercial production fields in Oregon, USA, from 1994 to 2004 (Hopkins et al., 2007). A total of 118,948 tons of forage and turf-type tall fescue seed was produced from 70,650 ha in 2008

(<http://cropandsoil.oregonstate.edu/seed-ext/FnF.html>, 2009). The seed production increases for tall fescue in Europe are less spectacular mainly because cultivars cannot be released commercially before they have been listed on an official variety list that is comparing new cultivars with available ones based on agronomic characteristics.

- Economic seed yield is not (yet) playing any important role in the decision making process to release new cultivars.

- Tall fescue needs one year to establish, and does not produce seed in the first year. After the establishment year, tall fescue will produce seed for 2-3 years depending on the stand (Casler et al., 2008).

- There are few published records of seed yields of meadow fescue in Europe. In general meadow fescue is considered a good seed producer and a quite easy crop to manage. In Saxony, one of the main European production areas, in the period 1998-2007, average saleable seed yields of meadow fescue on a total surface of 1500-2500 ha varied between 660 and 950 kg ha⁻¹ and were very similar to those of perennial ryegrass (Schaerff, 2008). The average seed yields in Norway of cultivars 'Salten' and 'Fure' were 541 and 672 kg ha⁻¹, respectively, in the period 1989-1996, whereas average seed yield in Denmark was 906 kg ha⁻¹.

- This difference is probably due to a higher seed yield potential of the main Danish

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cultivar and not due to a more favourable climate for seed production (Havstad 1998). Generally, little selection has been exerted on seed yield and seed yield components in forage grasses.
	(Havstad, 1998).	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Therefore, genetic variation and heritability for these traits are large (Rognli, 2007). Since panicle fertility is highly correlated with seed weight per panicle, this component trait could be used in selection for seed yield (Fang et al., 2004).
	(Rognli, 2007).	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The seed yield of meadow fescue is determined by the number of panicle-bearing tillers, size of panicles, the number of fertile florets and seed weight. In meadow fescue, the formation of panicle-bearing tillers begins in early autumn prior to the seed harvest year (Havstad et al. 2004).
	(Fang et al., 2004).	
et al., 2004).	(Havstad	
L.)	(<i>Festuca rubra</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Red fescue (<i>Festuca rubra</i> L.) is a valuable perennial grass, suitable for the creation of extensive pastures and decorative purposes. Featuring good yields of fodder in the summer due to drought resistance and poor and dry soils. It has a slow initial development but forms a fine and dense sward (Peeters, 2004, Katova, 2008; 2019). Increasing demand for seeds from turf industry currently is driving to carry out breeding based on higher seed yield (Huyghe, 2010; Katova, 2019).
(Peeters, 2004; Katova, 2008; 2019).		
	(Huyghe, 2010, Katova, 2019).	
2014	347	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The European Union database of registered plant varieties in 2014 included 347 registered cultivars of <i>F. rubra</i>. It is well known that only the genotypes with a high seed production are promising for grass breeding (Stukonis et al., 2015)
	<i>F. rubra</i> .	
	(Stukonis et al., 2015).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The aim of the study is to do breeding evaluation of fescue accessions by seed productivity and its elements and ecological stability and to select the most productive and stable accessions.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

During the period 2017-2019 at the Institute of Forage Crops - Pleven in field experiment a collection of 10 accessions of fescue (*Festuca* ssp.) was studied on soil type of leached chernozem, under no irrigation conditions, by block method, including 4 varieties, 1 breeding population and 5 ecotypes originating in Bulgaria, Romania and Belgium (Table 1). By species composition there are 3 accessions of tall (*Festuca arundinaceae* Schreb. - F.ar.) - hexaploid; 5 - red (*Festuca rubra* L. - F.r.) - hexaploid and 2 - meadow fescue (*Festuca pratensis* Huds. - F.pr.), incl. 1 diploid and 1 tetraploid, with individually arranged plants, by seedlings at a distance of 50/50cm. Each accession is represented by 25 individual plants.

1.

Table 1. Collection nursery with fescue accessions

Species, Accession	Type	Ploidy	Origin
F.ar. Albena	variety	6n	BG
F.ar. Adela	variety	6n	RO
F. ar. IRGR - Sadovo	e ecotype	6n	BG
F.pr. Transilvan	variety	2n	RO
F.pr. Merifest T (F.pr.7)	breeding population	4n	BG-BE
F.r. Capriora	variety	6n	RO
F.r. Ravnogor	e ecotype	6n	BG
F.r. Atoluka	e ecotype	6n	BG
F.r. 8_1	e ecotype	6n	BG
F.r. 8_2	e ecotype	6n	BG

Seed productivity data are characterized by: limit values (min and max), arithmetic mean (\bar{x}), standard deviation (SD) and coefficient of variation (CV,%) by years, and overall average for the collection and by species. The variation is considered to be weak, medium or strong at CV values, respectively: up to 10%; > 10-20%, and > 20% (Dimova and Marinkov, 1999). According to the method of Francis & Kannenberg (1978) with parameters average seed productivity and average variance coefficient, accessions exceeding the average values for the collection in the three consecutive years were selected. As the main criterion for the

CV, %.

(g)

Ward (1963)

60 kg N ha⁻¹ (NH₄NO₃).

, g

cm;

, g;

2

(2017 .), (2018 .)

(2019 .)

P=0,05)

25

(Lefkovich, 1985, 1990).

selection of elite genotypes, the arithmetic mean values of seed productivity (g) and variation coefficient (CV %), were used.

A cluster analysis was performed by the method of Ward (1963) and the unidirectionality of the results was observed by the two evaluation methods.

Annually, in spring and autumn, the plants are individually fertilized with 60 kg N ha⁻¹ in the form of ammonium nitrate (NH₄NO₃).

Seed harvesting was done by hand individually using sickle, each plant per accession, reproductive (generative) stems with panicles were put in labeled bags. After that were counted: seed productivity per plant, g and its elements: height of generative stems, cm; number of generative stems (panicles), panicle length, cm; number of branches per panicle, spikelets number per panicle, seed productivity per panicle, g; weight of 1000 seeds obtained by two samples for each accession, g.

Panicles were threshed, seeds were cleaned and weighted. Measurements were obtained for characteristics for second (2017), third (2018) and fourth (2019) productive year from the collection establishment. Statistical data processing (via Excel, at P=0.05) includes variation, rank and correlation analyzes. A cluster analysis was also performed using the SPSS 25 computer program (Lefkovich, 1985, 1990).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Table 2 presents the lowest ranked degree of distribution of productivity of seeds per plant of fescue accessions for a three-year test period. In 2017, a total of 7 genotypes were found with an average seed productivity of 10.90 g and a variation of 79.42%.

2017 . 7

10,90 g 79,42 %.

IRGR-Sadovo Albena

The IRGR-Sadovo and Albena accessions exceeded the average productivity for the

(10,72 g).
 Transilvan.
 8_2
 2018 .
 10,
 (16,14 g).
 - (64,23%)
 : Albena; IRGR-Sadovo; Adela Merifest T.
 IRGR-Sadovo Transilvan.
 2019 .
 8,
 (21,22 g)
 - (87,07%).
 IRGR - Sadovo, Albena,
 8_1, Adela Merifest T.
 Capriora
 8_2
 2019 .

year, and the Romanian variety Adela approached it (10.72 g). In terms of variation, the Romanian variety Transilvan is the largest. Three accessions of red fescue ecotypes Atoluka, 8_1 and 8_2 do not form generative stems and no seeds were harvested in 2017.

In 2018, the number of reported accessions is 10, taking into account the higher total average productivity of the measured indicator (16.14 g), with relatively less variation (64.23%) compared to the previous year. Accessions with above-average seed productivity are: Albena; IRGR-Sadovo; Adela and Merifest T. The highest values of variation are the IRGR-Sadovo ecotype and the Transilvan variety.

In 2019, the number of reported accessions is 8, taking into account the highest total average productivity on the measured indicator (21.22 g) with relatively the largest variation (87.07%). Five accessions exceed the average seed productivity for the collection - IRGR-Sadovo, Albena, 8_1, Adela and Merifest T. Two specimens of red fescue, Capriora variety and ecotype 8_2 do not form generative stems and no seeds were harvested in 2019.

2.

(, g)

2017-2019 .

CV, %

Table 2. Ranking by seed productivity (SP, g) per plant of fescue accessions for 2017-2019 period and coefficients of variation CV, %

2017			2018			2019		
Accession	SP, g	CV, %	Accession	SP, g	CV, %	Accession	SP, g	CV, %
IRGR - Sadovo	24,67	75,30	Albena	48,91	63,12	IRGR - Sadovo	41,15	75,67
Albena	23,48	79,95	IRGR - Sadovo	29,05	95,29	Albena	38,50	67,29
Adela	10,72	108,33	Adela	24,26	63,61	8_1	34,65	0,43
Transilvan	6,24	114,21	Merifest T	17,14	41,74	Adela	31,18	57,13
Ravnogor	4,13	63,56	8_2	13,80	44,93	Merifest T	27,20	43,13
Merifest T	3,84	79,64	Ravnogor	8,60	62,01	Atoluka	4,44	96,45
Capriora	3,20	77,51	Atoluka	8,17	65,07	Ravnogor	3,21	147,50
Atoluka			Transilvan	5,87	94,70	Transilvan	2,88	122,31
8_1			8_1	4,10	58,68	Capriora		
8_2			Capriora	1,55	53,13	8_2		
average	10,90	79,42	average	16,14	64,23	average	21,22	87,07
min	3,20	63,56	min	1,55	41,74	min	2,88	0,43
max	24,67	114,21	max	48,91	95,29	max	41,15	147,50
STDEV	8,66		STDEV	13,77		STDEV	15,91	
CV, %	79,42		CV, %	85,30		CV, %	75,00	

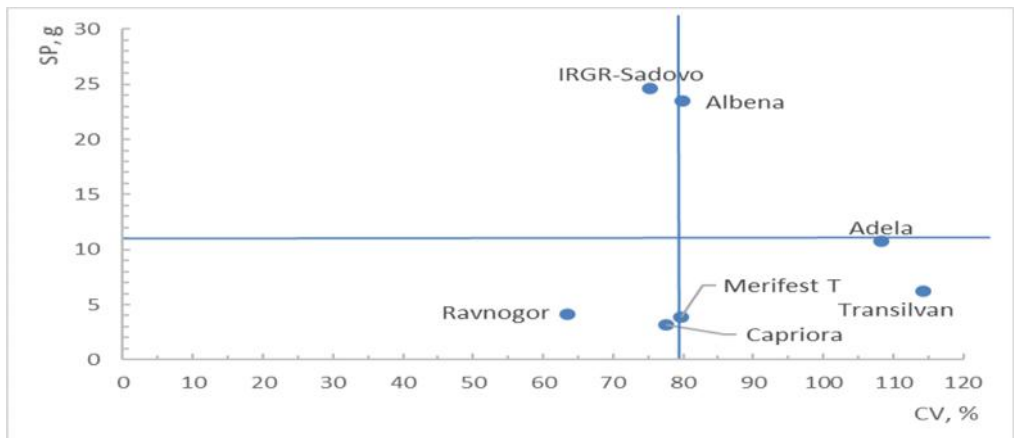
3.

Table 3. Ranking by seed productivity in years, average and total for the period of fescue species and accessions

Accession	/ Seed productivity (g/plant)					/ Rank
	2017	2018	2019	average	total	
F. ar. Albena	23,48	48,91	38,50	36,97	110,90	1
F. ar. Adela	10,72	24,26	31,18	22,05	66,15	3
F. ar. IRGR - Sadovo	24,67	29,05	41,15	31,62	94,86	2
F.ar. average	19,62	34,07	36,94	30,21	90,64	
F. pr. Transilvan	6,24	5,87	2,88	5,00	14,99	7
F. pr. Merifest T	3,84	17,14	27,20	16,06	48,18	4
F.pr. average	5,04	11,51	15,04	10,53	31,58	
F. r. Capriora	3,20	1,55	-	2,38	4,75	10
F. r. Ravnogor	4,13	8,60	3,21	5,31	15,94	6
F. r. Atoluka	-	8,17	4,44	6,31	12,61	9
F. r. 8_1	-	4,10	34,65	12,92	38,75	5
F. r. 8_2	-	13,80	-	13,80	13,80	8
F. r. average	3,67	7,24	14,10	9,01	17,17	
Total average	10,90	16,15	22,90	15,68	42,09	
min	3,20	1,55	2,88	2,38	4,75	
max	24,67	48,91	41,15	36,97	110,90	
STDEV	8,39	13,62	14,79	11,28	35,33	
CV,%	77,03	84,34	64,56	71,94	83,92	
Confidence 0,01	6,84	11,09	12,04	9,19	28,77	

1 Francis
Kannenberg (1978) 7
2017
Albena. Adela
IRGR-Sadovo
CV,
% 63,56 114,56%.

In Figure 1 shows the distribution by the method of Francis and Kannenberg (1978) of 7 fescue accessions for 2017. The quadrants with seed productivity per plant above the average and variability below the average include the accessions IRGR-Sadovo and Albena. The Adela variety is located on the border between the third and second quadrants. The remaining accessions are distributed in the low-yield zones of the third and fourth quadrants. The variation within and between populations is strong CV,% from 63.58 to 114.56%.

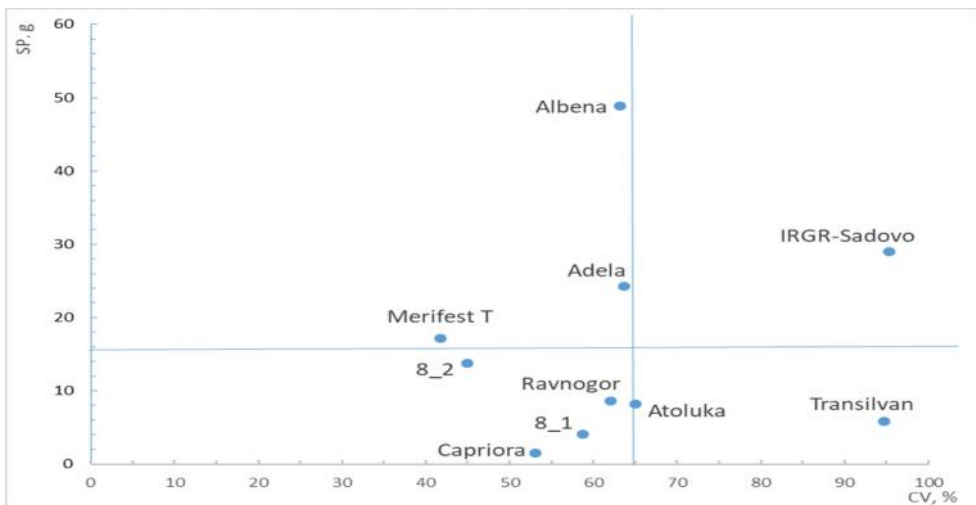


1. / 2017 .

Fig. 1. Distribution / evaluation by seed productivity and ecological stability of fescue accessions in 2017

2 Francis Kannenberg 2018
 Albena, IRGR-Sadovo,
 Adela
 Merifest T
 Atoluka, Transilvan

In Figure 2, 10 accessions of fescue and their distribution according to Francis and Kannenberg for 2018 are shown. Albena, IRGR-Sadovo, as well as the Romanian variety Adela and the breeding population Merifest T in the first and second quadrants fall into the highly productive zone. The lowest productivity and high variation are the Transilvan variety and the Atoluka ecotype, which fall into the third quadrant.

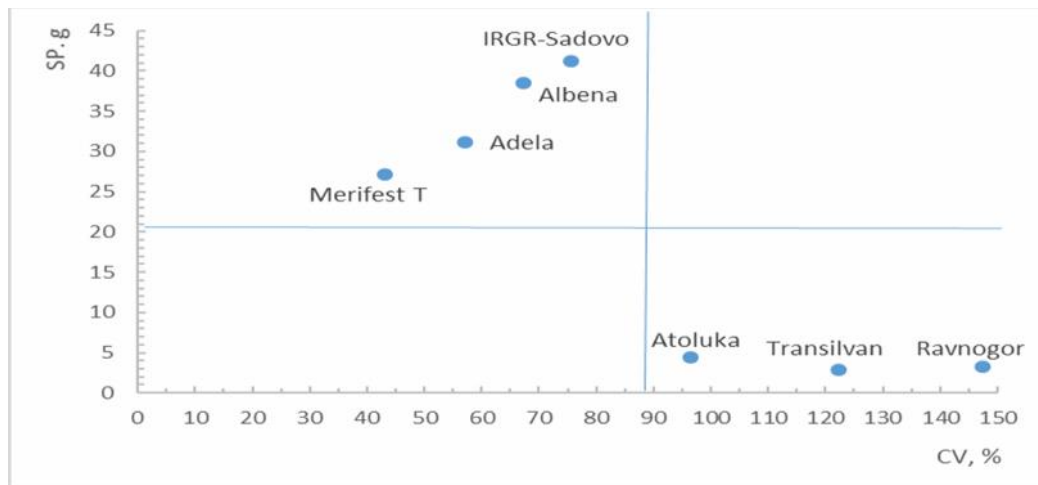


2. / 2018 .

Fig. 2. Distribution / evaluation by seed productivity and ecological stability of fescue accessions in 2018

3
 7 *Festuca ssp.*
 Francis Kannenberg
 (2019).
 -
 IRGR-Sadovo, Albena, Adela Merifest T.

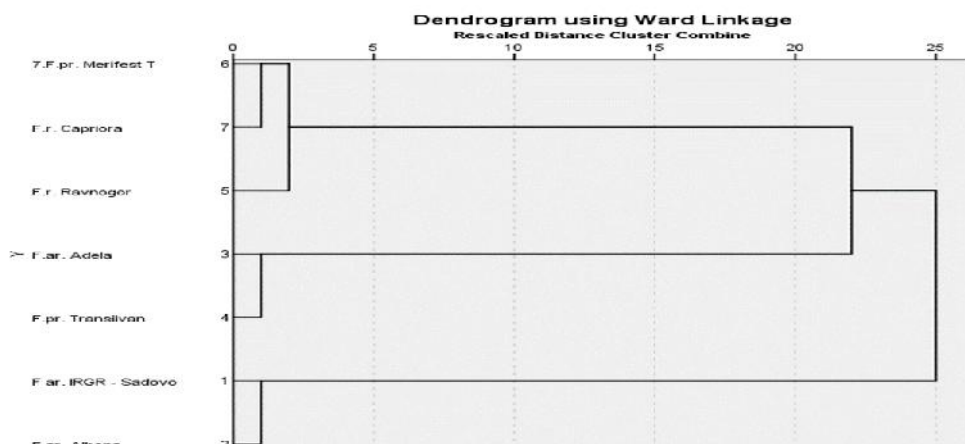
Figure 3 shows the distribution of 7 fescue accessions by the method of Frances and Kannenberg for the last year of the study (2019). The genotypes are arranged diagonally, with IRGR - Sadovo, Albena and Merifest T in the first most desired quadrant.



3.
 /
 2019
Fig. 3. Distribution / evaluation by seed productivity and ecological stability of fescue accessions in 2019

4
 Ward 7
 2017
 IRGR-Sadovo
 Albena
 Francis Kannenberg (1978),
 , Albena
 1.

Figure 4 shows a dendrogram of the Ward cluster analysis of 7 fescue accessions, combining seed productivity per plant and variation for 2017. Tree clearly identified cluster are observed. In the first are IRGR-Sadovo and Albena with close distance to each other and the greatest from the other two. They fall into the first and second quadrants by the method of distribution of Frances and Kannenberg (1978), and it should be born in mind that Albena is on the border between the two quadrants – Figure 1.

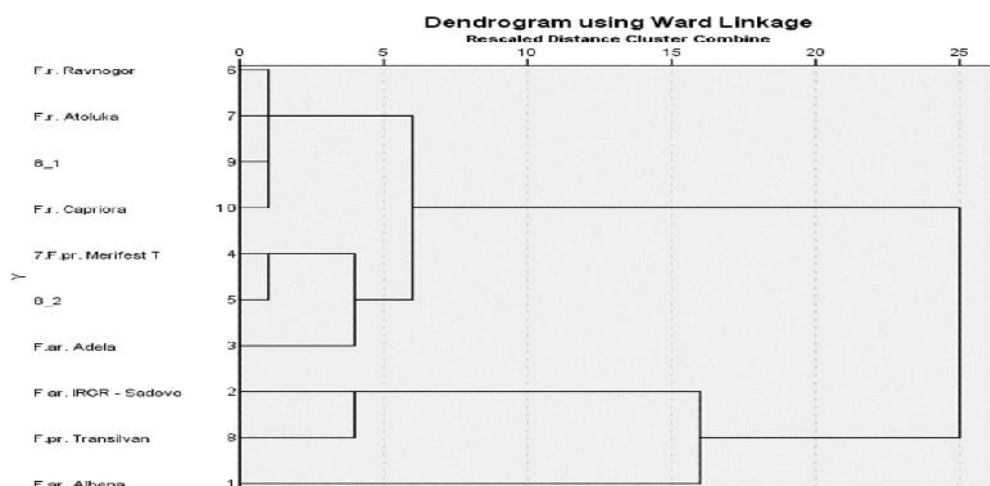


4. 7 (CV, %) 2017 .

Fig. 4. Cluster analysis of 7 fescue accessions according seed productivity and coefficient of variation (CV, %) in 2017

Adela Transilvan.
 -
 Capriora Ravnogor,
 Merifest T,

In the next cluster are the Romanian varieties Adela and Transilvan. They are divided into a third quadrant, which is the most undesirable for selection. The last cluster comprises Marifest T, Capriora and Ravnogor, which are distributed in the low –yield zone of the first and fourth quadrants. There is a relatively good agreement between the two methods in assessing the productivity and stability of genotypes.



5. 10 (CV, %) 2018 .

Fig. 5. Cluster analysis of 10 fescue accessions according seed productivity and coefficient of variation (CV, %) in 2018

10 5 *Festuca ssp.*

-

-

- : *Ravnogor*,

- *Atoluka, 8_1 Capriona.*

2

, *Atoluka*

-

- *Merifest T, 8_2 Adela,*

2

(*Merifest T*

Adela) (*8_2*),

- *Adela.*

- *IRGR-Sadovo,*

Transilvan Albena.

,

-

In Figure 5 shows a cluster analysis of 10 samples of *Festuca ssp.* to group by characteristics the productivity of seeds per plant and their variability. The dendrogram shows three main clusters.

In the first cluster with the closest distance are the genotypes: *Ravnogor*, *Atoluka, 8_1* and *Capriona*. According to the distribution of Figure 2 they fall into the third quadrant, with *Atoluka* on the verge of fourth.

The second cluster is formed by the accessions *Merifest T, 8_2* and *Adela*, as the last accession is at a distance from the first two. Their distribution in Figure 2 is in the first (*Merifest T* and *Adela*) and third quadrants (*8_2*), and again the distance is observed in *Adela*.

The third cluster includes the other three genotypes *IRGR-Sadovo*, *Transilvan* and *Albena*. They are divided in second, fourth and first quadrants, respectively, which explains the large distance between them and the other clusters.

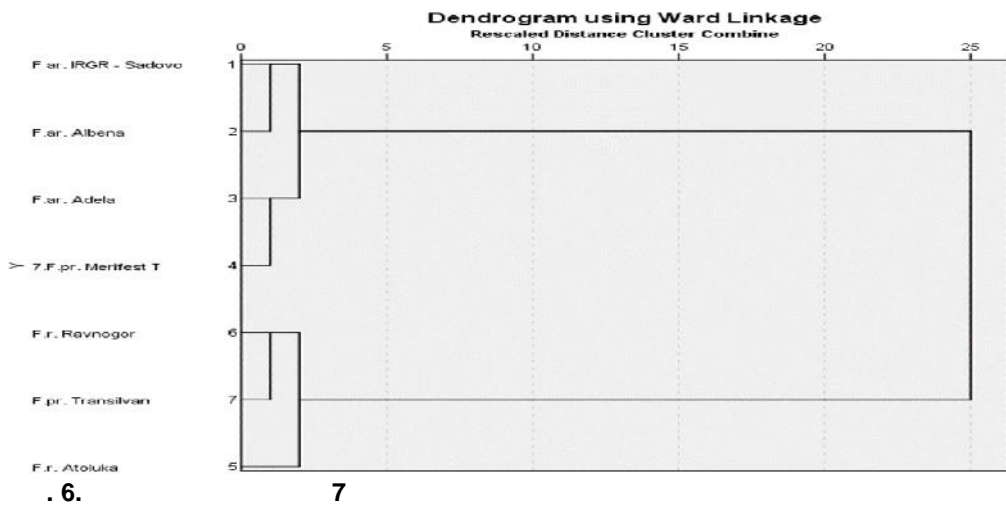


Fig. 6. Cluster analysis of 7 fescue accessions according seed productivity and coefficient of variation (CV, %) in 2019

6

Figure 6 shows a cluster analysis of seven fescue accessions in terms of seed productivity and variation for 2019. The

		2019		dendrogram forms two very clearly separated clusters. The first cluster includes IRGR-Sadovo, Albena, Adela and 7.F.pr. Merifest T. All of them are highly productive with relatively low variation and correspond to the first quadrant in the distribution of Figure 3.
			3.	
			(Ravnogor,	
			Transilvan Atoluka)	The other three accessions (Ravnogor, Transilvan and Atoluka) form a second cluster of low-yielding and highly variable - a third quadrant according to the distribution of Francis and Kannenberg (1978) in Figure 3. The analysis of genotypes in 2019 is an example of good synchrony in their assessments by both methods.
			Francis Kannenberg	
			3.	
			2019	
			Tomov (1981)	Tomov (1981) made short characterizations by species for structural elements of the seed yield of different fescue. Tall fescue is the long-living tall grass.
			18-24	
			30 cm	The panicles are 18-24 to 30 cm long. Draw branches of the panicle with double, shorter than those that carry 5-8, and longer up to 15 spikelets. TSW is 2.0-2.6 g. Average seed yield is 25-44 to 80-100 kg da ⁻¹ . The seeds are resistant to rot. Meadow fescue is tall and forms two types of shoots - truncated - vegetative and generative. The generative ones reach a height of 150 cm, varying between 40 and 115 cm. The inflorescence is a panicle with a length of 15-20 cm. The lower branch is single, and when it is double, the shorter branch is 1-2, and the longer branch is 4-5 grades. TSW is 1.6-1.8 to 2.2g. The seeds ripen evenly, but easily fall. The average seed yield is 35-50 to 80-100 kg da ⁻¹ . Red fescue is a long-lasting grass. The generative stems are erect or sloping, smooth, thin, slightly leafy, 30-40 cm high and up to 60-80 cm high. The inflorescence is a loose, often unilateral 9-12 cm long panicle. TSW is 1.0-1.3 g. The average seed yield is 30-50 to 80-100 kg da ⁻¹ .
			5-8,	15
			1000	2,0-2,6 g.
				25-44 80-100
			kg da ⁻¹ .	
			115 cm,	40 115 cm.
			cm.	15-20
				1-2,
			4-5	1000
			1,6-1,8	2,2g.
				35-50 80-100
			kg da ⁻¹ .	
			30-40	60-80 cm.
			9-12 cm.	1000
			1,0-1,3 g.	
			30-50	80-100 kg da ⁻¹ .

Katova, (2019)

28. 40,17 g

2015 . (14,83 g)

2014 . (3,12 g), 2016 . (4,67 g) 2017 . (1,76 g),

()

4, 5 6

1000

Cougnon (2013)

3,4 19,6 g,

1000 2,36-3,68g.

Mäkelä and Kousa (2009) 1,96-2,10g,

Vynke, (1981) – 1,33-2,85 g, Luchinskii and Prijukov (1973) – 1,90-2,40g,

1000 – 0,78-1,42g

4 7

2017 . -

CV=79,42 % e

(g),

(g) 74,16%

52,84%.

21,37% 36,55%.

5

10

2018 .

7 -

:

In the study of Katova, (2019) according red fescue clones, the highest seed productivity per annum is recorded at first polycross red fescue clones in 2015 with a maximum value of 40.17 g for clone 28. The average yields for seed production in 2015 (14.83 g) for red fescue are higher than those of 2014 (3.12 g), 2016 (4.67 g) and 2017 (1.76 g), respectively. Red fescue genotypes (clones) were selected with a higher seed yield than the average annual polycross value.

Tables 4, 5 and 6 show the results of the structural elements of seed productivity of the three species of fescue, as the plant heights, the length of the panicles and the weight of 1000 seeds are in unison with the above values. Cougnon (2013) in a study of tall fescue, individual plants - clones in polycross, reported that the productivity of seeds is from 3.4 to 19.6 g, and the weight per 1000 seeds is 2.36-3.68 g.

For meadow fescue Mäkelä and Kousa (2009) reported values per 1000 seeds of 1.96-2.10 g, Vynke, (1981) - 1.33-2.85 g, Luchinskii and Prijukov (1973) - very close to these 1.90-2.40g, and for red fescue - weight per 1000 seeds - 0.78-1.42g

On the Table 4 shows 7 structural elements of seed productivity in fescue accessions for 2017. With the highest variation of CV = 79.42% is the seed productivity per plant (g), followed by the productivity of seeds per panicle (g) by 74.16% and the number of generative stems by 52.84%. The other structural elements vary from 21.37% to 36.55%.

On the Table 5 presents 8 structural elements of seed productivity in 10 accessions of fescue for 2018. The values of variation for 7 indicators are higher compared to the previous year, and it is the highest in: seed productivity per panicle (g) – 97.22%, followed by the

(g) – 97,22%,
 (g) – 85,30%
 (g) – 68,71 %.
 (cm)
 2017 .

productivity per plant (g) - 85.30% and the weight of 1000 seeds (g) - 68.71%.
 The length of the panicle (cm) and the number of spikelets show relatively less variation compared to 2017.

4.

2017 .

Table 4. Structural elements of the seed productivity of fescue accessions in 2017

Accession	Height, cm	Panicle number	Seed productivity g/plant	Panicle branches	Panicle length, cm	spikelets number/panicle	Seeds / panicle, g
Albena	113,83	36,58	23,48	16,36	21,68	58,84	0,43
Adela	122,29	18,24	10,72	21,40	27,76	113,80	0,62
IRGR-Sadovo	119,94	51,06	24,67	21,32	25,32	61,56	0,57
Transilvan	94,62	28,52	6,24	17,08	20,43	44,04	0,18
Capriora	81,25	25,50	3,20	17,24	21,13	44,76	0,13
Ravnogor	59,09	66,64	4,13	12,84	9,64	36,60	0,06
Atoluka	-	-	-	30,00	7,80	79,00	0,01
Merifest T	103,72	10,88	3,84	14,92	20,05	66,12	0,37
average	99,25	33,92	10,90	18,90	19,23	63,09	0,30
min	59,09	10,88	3,20	12,84	7,80	36,60	0,01
max	122,29	66,64	24,67	30,00	27,76	113,80	0,62
STDEV	21,21	17,92	8,66	5,00	6,56	23,06	0,22
CV,%	21,37	52,84	79,42	26,49	34,11	36,55	74,16

(2015-2017 .)
 :
 (cm),
 (g)
 -
 - CV 13.84%
 77.74%.
 - CV
 2.14% 24.03%
 - CV
 3.67% 21.93%
 2017 .
 - CV

The productivity of seeds and its elements has been studied for tall and meadow fescue: number of generative stems, height (cm), number of spikelets in the panicle, weight of seeds (g). Most important for seed productivity is the number of generative stems, respectively panicles at crosses of both types. Medium to strong variations were found on the number of generative stems, respectively panicles for all years - CV from 13.84% to 77.74. The height of the plants varies from weak to strong - CV from 2.14% to 24.03% and does not affect seed productivity. The number of spikelets in the panicle varies from weak to strong - CV from 3.67% to 21.93% depending on the year, with the highest values for 2017. The length of the panicle varies from weak to strong - CV from 3.50% to 24.79% in depending on the genotype and the year, as the higher values for the coefficients of variation are for 2017.

3.50% 24.79%
(Katova, 2018).

6 8
2019 . -
1000 (g) CV=74,99%;
(g) - 72,60%;
- 71,52%
67,84%. (g)
23,64% 38,56%.

(Katova, 2018).

In the table 6 presents 8 structural elements of seed productivity in 8 accessions of fescue for 2019. The most varied are the productivity of seeds per panicle (g) with CV=74.99%; the weight of 1000 seeds (g) – 72.60%; the number of stems – 71.52% and the productivity of seeds per plant (g) by 67.84%. The other traits vary from 23.64% to 38.56%.

5.

2018 .

Table 5. Structural elements of the seed productivity of fescue accessions in 2018

Accession	Height, cm	Panicle number	g/ - Seed productivity g/plant	Panicle branches	Panicle length, cm	spiklets number / panicle	Seeds / panicle, g	1000 TSW, g
Albena	113,92	155,62	48,91	18,28	20,56	46,76	0,04	2,90
Adela	114,71	112,00	24,26	21,72	24,41	63,92	0,07	1,85
IRGR - Sadovo	111,50	146,63	29,05	19,72	20,04	47,56	0,03	2,25
Transilvan	75,50	30,33	5,87	21,16	21,86	41,56	0,14	2,10
Capriora	58,20	39,60	1,55	13,48	15,37	49,12	0,02	1,00
Ravnogor	48,82	263,64	8,60	11,56	9,94	34,04	0,00	0,40
Atoluka	55,00	308,80	8,17	12,04	10,02	26,60	0,00	0,25
Merifest T	108,44	87,24	17,14	18,60	21,07	53,68	0,09	2,65
8_1	57,75	97,00	4,10	13,88	13,36	34,92	0,01	0,87
8_2	44,00	155,00	13,80	41,68	14,89	76,04	0,02	0,08
average	78,78	139,59	16,14	19,21	17,15	47,42	0,04	1,44
min	44,00	30,33	1,55	11,56	9,94	26,60	0,00	0,08
max	114,71	308,80	48,91	41,68	24,41	76,04	0,14	2,90
STDEV	28,33	84,74	13,77	8,29	4,86	13,92	0,04	0,99
CV,%	35,96	60,71	85,30	43,16	28,31	29,35	97,22	68,71

(cm)

- For the period of the whole study, the traits of plant height (cm) and the number of branches of the panicle have a relatively lowest variation compared to all other elements. It can be safely assumed that they react less to changes in environmental conditions over the years.

(g);
1000 (g),
(g)

- For the three years of study the traits of seed productivity per plant (g); seed productivity per panicle (g), as well as the weight of 1000 seeds (g) for the last two years (2018 and 2019) have the

(2018 2019) - greatest variation.

6.

2019 .

Table 6. Structural elements of the seed productivity of fescue accessions in 2019

Accession	Height, cm	Panicle number	g/ - Seed productivity g/plant	Panicle branches	Panicle length, cm	/ spiklets number/ panicle	Seeds/ panicle, g	1000 TSW, g
Albena	119,77	88,00	38,50	20,52	23,31	52,76	0,18	2,84
Adela	130,75	66,94	31,18	23,40	28,46	71,24	0,19	2,12
IRGR - Sadovo	130,50	95,81	41,15	21,40	24,52	60,20	0,11	2,24
Transilvan	76,00	16,75	2,88	20,44	20,84	38,22	0,13	1,16
Ravnogor	46,86	63,14	3,21	11,56	10,00	29,32	0,01	0,28
Atoluka	44,00	100,00	4,44	10,88	8,43	26,28	0,01	0,32
Merifest T	121,24	61,80	27,20	21,24	23,07	60,60	0,20	2,20
8_1	75,50	259,50	34,65	19,32	15,78	39,16	0,01	0,04
average	93,08	93,99	22,90	18,60	19,30	47,22	0,11	1,40
min	44,00	16,75	2,88	10,88	8,43	26,28	0,01	0,04
max	130,75	259,50	41,15	23,40	28,46	71,24	0,20	2,84
STDEV	34,41	67,23	15,54	4,40	6,72	15,25	0,08	1,02
CV,%	36,97	71,52	67,84	23,64	34,80	32,29	74,99	72,60

7, 8 9.

2017

: SP –

: H –

cm; r= 0,673; BN – r=0,517,

SWP –

, g r=0,674.

(7).

. R = 0,65

(1992),

r=0,279.

Hare,

The results of the correlation analysis are presented by years and structural elements for the fescue accessions in Tables 7, 8 and 9.

A strong positive correlation in the first reporting year 2017 was found between: SP – productivity of seeds per plant: and H- height, cm r=0,673; BN – number of branches per panicle r=0,517, as well as SWP – productivity of seeds per panicle r=0,674.

- The number of generative stems is weakly positively correlated with plant seed productivity and weakly to strongly negative correlation with all other structural element (Table 7). Seed yields for the first year are highly dependent on the number of reproductive stems – r=0,650 according to Hare (1992), but the calculated correlation coefficient in our study is r=0,279.

7.

2017 .

Table 7. Correlations between structural elements of the seed productivity of fescue accessions in 2017

	H, cm	StN	SP, g	BN	SpN	PL, cm	SWP, g
H, cm	1						
StN	-0,454	1					
SP, g	0,673	0,279	1				
BN	0,773	-0,239	0,517	1			
SpN	0,903	-0,571	0,476	0,905	1		
PL, cm	0,727	-0,506	0,211	0,663	0,725	1	
SWP, g	0,943	-0,292	0,674	0,776	0,822	0,823	1

H – , cm; StN – ; SP – , g; BN – , cm;
 S N – ; PL – , g;
 SWP – , g.

2018 .

– 1000
 SP – ,
 H – , cm; r=0,784, S N –
 r=0,594 TSW – 1000
 , g. r=0,699.

(8).

In 2018, an important structural element is included – weight per 1000 seeds. Strong positive correlations were found between SP - seed productivity per plant, and H - height, cm; $r = 0.784$, S N - number of spikes $r = 0.594$ and TSW – weight per 1000 seeds, g. $r = 0.699$. The number of generative stems is weakly to strongly negatively correlated with all structural elements (Table 8).

8.

(Festuca ssp.) 2018 .

Table 8. Correlations between structural elements of the seed productivity of fescue accessions in 2018

	H, cm	StN	SP, g	BN	SpN	PL, cm	SWP, g	TSW, g
H, cm	1							
StN	-0,373	1						
SP, g	0,784	-0,099	1					
BN	0,013	-0,255	0,216	1				
SpN	0,844	-0,728	0,594	0,327	1			
PL, cm	0,177	-0,243	0,195	0,792	0,369	1		
SWP, g	0,518	-0,670	0,165	0,228	0,795	0,173	1	
TSW, g	0,916	-0,558	0,699	-0,025	0,854	0,057	0,679	1

H – , cm; StN – ; SP – , g; BN – , cm; SWP – , g; TSW – 1000 , g.

2019 .

SP – ,
 H – , cm; r=0,850, BN –
 r=0,769, S N –
 r=0,744 PL –
 , cm r=0,785;
 SWP –

In 2019, strong positive correlations were found between SP - seed productivity per plant, and H - height, cm; $r = 0,850$, BN - Number of branches per panicle $r = 0,769$, N - number of spikes in the panicle $r = 0,744$ and PL - Length of the panicle, cm $r = 0,785$; SWP - seed productivity per panicle, g $r = 0,545$ and

1000 , g $r=0,545$ TSW –
 , g $r=0,677$.
 (9).
 Yamada et al. (2004),
 ,
 .
 (Thomas, 1965)
 , Wang et al., (2010, 2011)

TSW – weight per 1000 seeds, g. $r = 0.677$. The number of generative stems is weakly positively correlated with plant seed productivity and weakly to moderately negatively correlated with all other structural elements (Table 9).
 Our results are in line with the studies of Yamada et al. (2004) who found a positive relationship between plant height, stem size, panicle length and number of panicle spikelets.
 A study of offspring of reed fescue for seeds (Thomas, 1965) also found strong positive correlations between seed productivity per plant and plant height, number of panicles and weight per 1000 seeds, Wang et al., (2010, 2011) in a study of reed fescue for decorative purposes found medium to strong positive correlations between seed productivity per plant and the number of generative stems, the number of spikelets in the panicle.

9.

2019 .

Table 9. Correlations between structural elements of the seed productivity of fescue accessions in 2019

	<i>H, cm</i>	<i>StN</i>	<i>SP, g</i>	<i>BN</i>	<i>SpN</i>	<i>PL, cm</i>	<i>SWP, g</i>	<i>TSW, g</i>
<i>H, cm</i>	1							
<i>StN</i>	-0,129	1						
<i>SP, g</i>	0,850	0,375	1					
<i>BN</i>	0,905	-0,037	0,769	1				
<i>SpN</i>	0,955	-0,214	0,744	0,968	1			
<i>PL, cm</i>	0,973	-0,154	0,785	0,880	0,942	1		
<i>SWP, g</i>	0,874	-0,463	0,545	0,829	0,903	0,862	1	
<i>TSW, g</i>	0,915	-0,400	0,677	0,755	0,865	0,853	0,921	1

H – , *cm*; *StN* – ; *S N* – ; *SP* – , *g*; *BN* – , *cm*; *SWP* – , *g*; *TSW* – 1000 , *g*.

Wojtowicz et al. (2009)

Wojtowicz et al. (2009) in Poland, in a study of meadow fescue for seed production of individual plants over a three-year period, found medium to strong positive correlations between plant seed productivity and number of panicle per plant and seed weight per panicle, with

the highest values being obtained in the second year of the study.

CONCLUSIONS

1. It has been established that the seed productivity of the fescue accessions vary depending on the genotype – species, variety or ecotype, ploidy level and seasonal variations (by years), as well as growing conditions.
2. There are presented the average values of seed productivity by years, average and total for the three years of collection accessions of fescue. The ranking is based on the total seed productivity for the study period. There is an increase in seed productivity in each subsequent year from the second (2017) to the fourth (2019).

	(2017 .)				
3.	(90,64 g	-		
)				
	110,90 g,				
	- 94,86 g.				
3. Regarding the species: tall fescue has the highest seed productivity - a total of 90.64 g per plant for the three years, as the variety Albena is the most productive 110.90 g, followed by the ecotype IRGR - Sadovo - 94.86 g
4. Meadow fescue occupies an intermediate position – with a total average of 31.58 g per plant, as the tetraploid breeding population Merifest T exceeds this value and is three times more productive in seeds than the Romanian variety Transilvan, which is diploid. The effective positive effect of induced polyploidy on seed productivity has been observed.
5. In red fescue, the total average seed productivity for the three years is 17.17 g per plant, with ecotype 8-1 and Ravnogor being the most productive, but 8-1, not forming seeds in the second productive year. The cultivation of red fescue for seeds has an impact on its longevity and the importance of the way the grassland is used is emerging, as the Atoluka, 8-1 and 8-2 ecotypes have no

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DOI: 10.5897/AJB11.1220, SSN 1684–5315 © 2011 Academic Journals

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<p>(Aznar-Fernandez et al., 2017)</p>	<p>tolerant genotypes, integrate these genotypes in breeding programs (Aznar-Fernandez et al., 2017), and to identify the genes involved in the tolerance mechanisms.</p>
<p>(Bruce et al., 2011; Ceballos et al., 2015; Stoycheva et al., 2016).</p>	<p>In addition, antixenosis mechanisms of resistance could be associated with a decreased preference of bruchids to feed on flowers or egg-laying on pods as the result of morphological or chemical plant factors that adversely affect the insect behaviour (Bruce et al., 2011; Ceballos et al., 2015; Stoycheva et al., 2016).</p>
<p>(Bruce et al., 2011; Ceballos et al., 2015; Stoycheva et al., 2016). <i>B. rufimanus</i></p>	<p>For example, Szafirowska (2012) found that cultivars and their phenological development affect the activity of <i>B. rufimanus</i> and the quantity of damage.</p>
<p>Roubinet (2016) <i>B. rufimanus</i></p>	<p>Roubinet (2016) observed differences in susceptibility between several cultivars to <i>B. rufimanus</i> and the timing of flowering or pod formation turned out to be important factors influencing on the bruchid attack.</p>
<p><i>Pisum sativum</i> (Teshome et al., 2015),</p>	<p>Moderate resistance has been described in <i>Pisum sativum</i> germplasm (Teshome et al., 2015) recently, but there is still a long way to go to supply commercial needs because there are no cultivars that combine good agronomic traits and useful resistance.</p>
<p><i>P. fulvum</i> (Pesho et al., 1977; Clement et al., 2002), <i>P. sativum</i> (Byrne et al., 2008; Aryamanesh et al., 2012).</p>	<p>This limited availability of resistance prompted the search for genetic resistance in wild relatives of the pea. Resistance has been identified at this stage in <i>P. fulvum</i> (Pesho et al., 1977; Clement et al., 2002), and its introgression into <i>P. sativum</i> has been attempted (Byrne et al., 2008; Aryamanesh et al., 2012).</p>
<p><i>Pisum sativum</i> L.,</p>	<p>In this regard, the study aimed to evaluate the response and stability of pea varieties to attack by pea weevil in field tests.</p>

MATERIAL AND METHODS

During the 2012-2014 period in the experimental field of the Institute of Forage Crops, Pleven, Bulgaria, a study was conducted on the resistance of 5 spring pea cultivars to *Bruchus pisorum* L. (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae): Glyans, Modus; Kamerton and Svit (Ukrainian cultivars) and Pleven 4 (Bulgarian cultivar).

The field trial was conducted using a long-plot design with a sowing rate of 120 germinating seeds m^{-2} in three replications, plot size of 4 m^2 and natural background of soil supply with the major nutrients. The method was applied because the soil fertility was equalized. No pesticides were applied.

After pea harvesting, bulk samples, containing 1500-2000 seeds were taken for each cultivar to determine the degree of *Bruchus pisorum* damaged seeds.

o eliminates interactions between variables and to include genotype and genotype x environment (GGE) interactions, a HA-GGE biplot analysis was carried out (Yan and Holland 2010). In this way, the best genotype will have the lowest values for the evaluated trait and stability through all the environments, and low G x E interactions.

Data on the meteorological variables: rainfall, min and max air temperature, as well as average relative humidity were obtained from Pleven meteorological station for each environment. In order to focus on the occurrence of bruchids in the field, the climatic parameters used in the analysis ranged from March to June. To determine the relative impact of the selected climatic variables on the performance of damaged seeds and proportion of undeveloped larvae, canonical correspondence analysis (CCA) was carried out. The analysis was performed using the Paleontological Statistics Software Package (PAST) (Hammer et al., 2001).

2012-2014 .
 , , 5
Bruchus pisorum L.
 (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae): ,
 ;) 4 () .
 m⁻² 120
 4 m² -
 . -
 , -
 .
 1500-2000
Bruchus pisorum .
 -
 x (GGE),
 HA-GGE (Yan and
 Holland 2010). -
 -
 G x E .
 : -
 , -
 , -
 ,
 .
 ,
 .
 (CCA).
 (PAST) (Hammer et al, 2001).

Statgraphics Plus.

The statistical processing of experimental data was conducted using the Statgraphics Plus software program.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

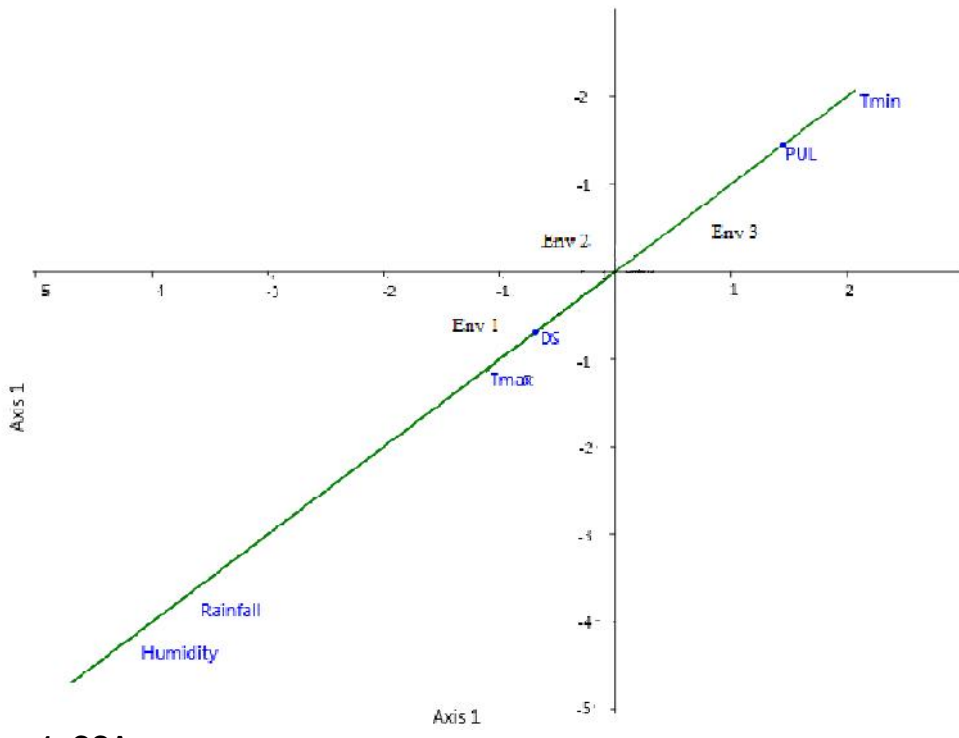
(DR) (PUL)
1). DS
Tmax,
Tmin,
Tmax.
DS Tmax ($r = + 0.812, p = 0.0001$)
1 2,
3 (2014).
(Roubinet,
2016).
PUL
Tmin

- A canonical correlation analysis helped to visualize the distinct relations of DS (seed damaged, %) and PUL (proportion of undeveloped larvae) components to climate variables (Figure 1). Whereas DS was positively related to Tmax, bulk precipitation and humidity and inversely to Tmin, the proportion of undeveloped larvae was positively related to Tmin but negatively to rain, humidity and Tmax. Moreover, Pearson correlations between DS and Tmax ($r = + 0.839, p = 0.0001$) revealed a significantly high positive coefficient value, which suggests a strong association between both parameters, while the environment components rainfall amount and humidity affected very weakly positively on the damage.

- Tmax was stronger associated with the environmental 1 and 2 droughts (2012 and 2013) and opposed to the environmental 3 wet period (2014). Because of the weak effect of rainfall on DS, the seed damage decreasing at rainy seasons as could be seen in the driest environments.

- This might be due to the fact that rainfall might disturb bruchid oviposition and reduce egg viability (Roubinet, 2016).

- The opposite, rainfall, and humidity had a negative effect on PUL and its values increasing at a smaller amount of rain. Tmin correlated strongly positive with PUL.



1. CCA (DR) (PUL) *Bruchus pisorum*
 , Tmax = ; Tmin = , T =

Fig. 1. CCA graph based on the correlation of DS (Seed damaged, %) and PUL (Proportion of undeveloped larvae) of *Bruchus pisorum* for five pea cultivars according to several climatic parameters. The period analyzed was from April to June, Tmax = maximum temperature; Tmin = minimum temperature, T = average temperature

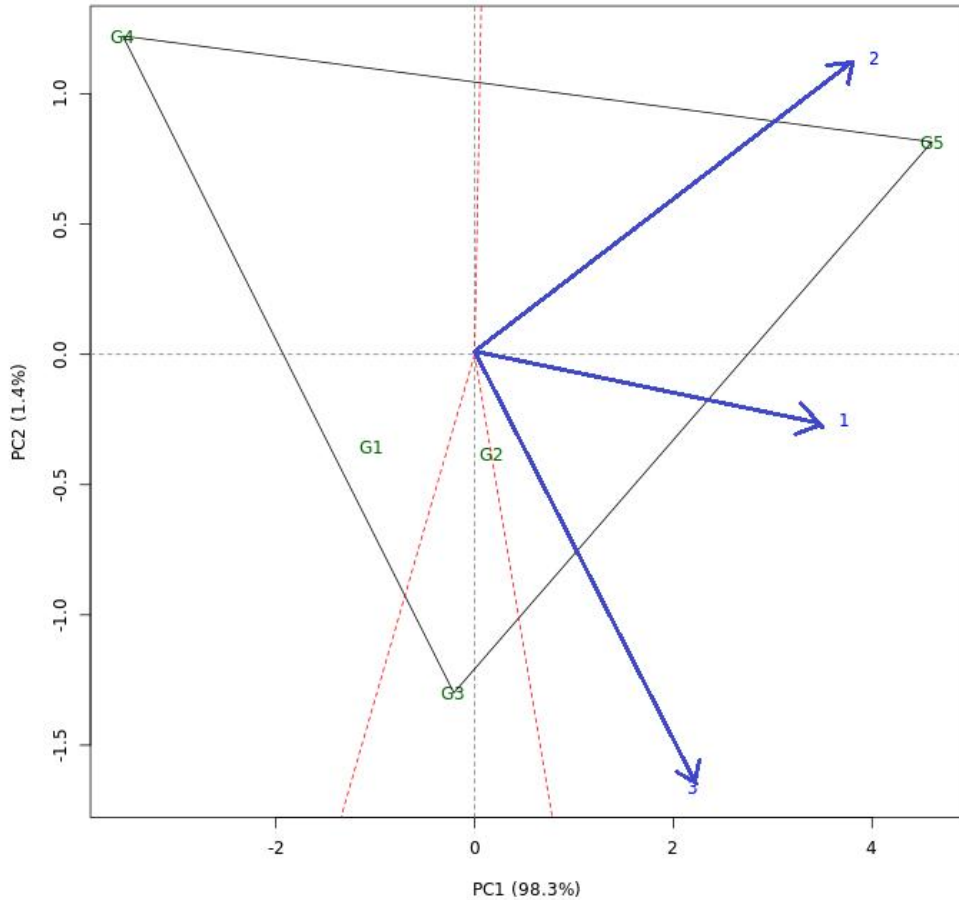
	DS	PUL
ANOVA (G), (E) (G × E),	1)	(G),

A wide range of values for DS and PUL were noted for the five pea cultivars studied in the three environments.

ANOVA (Table 1) revealed a significant effect of genotype (G), environment (E) and G × E in both variables, being the highest mean of a square for E, followed by G × E and environment (E)

E2 E3

correlation is different. In that aspect, the environments were more or less positively correlated. An exception was found between E2 and E3 environments which were not correlated.



2. GGE

(2012-2014).

"G" 1 5, E : G1- , G2- , G3- , G4- , G5- 4. E 1; 2; 3 2012, 2013 2014 .

Fig. 2. The GGE biplot based on damaged seeds (2012-2014). The genotypes are designated with the symbol "G" and the respective number from 1 to 5, as follow: G1-Glyans, G2- Svit, G3-Kamerton, G4- Modus, G5-Pleven 4. The years are designated with the letter E and number 1; 2; and 3 for 2012, 2013 and 2014, respectively

G4 (17.1%),

G1 (25.9%) G2 (29.8%),

The analysis showed that, in the case of damaged seeds, the genotype with the lowest DS was G4 (17.1%) despite exhibiting environmental interactions, followed by the genotypes G1 (25.9%) and G2 (29.8%), whose responses were

G1 G2
 G5
 PC2
 99.7%
 GGE
 97.8%
 a,
 5
 PUL)
 G3, G2, G1 G4 (10.8; 12.3; 13.4;
 13.3 19.4%
 , G2
 G1.
 G3.
 G4,
 G4
 E3
 Pearson
 DR SI
 P = 0,0001)

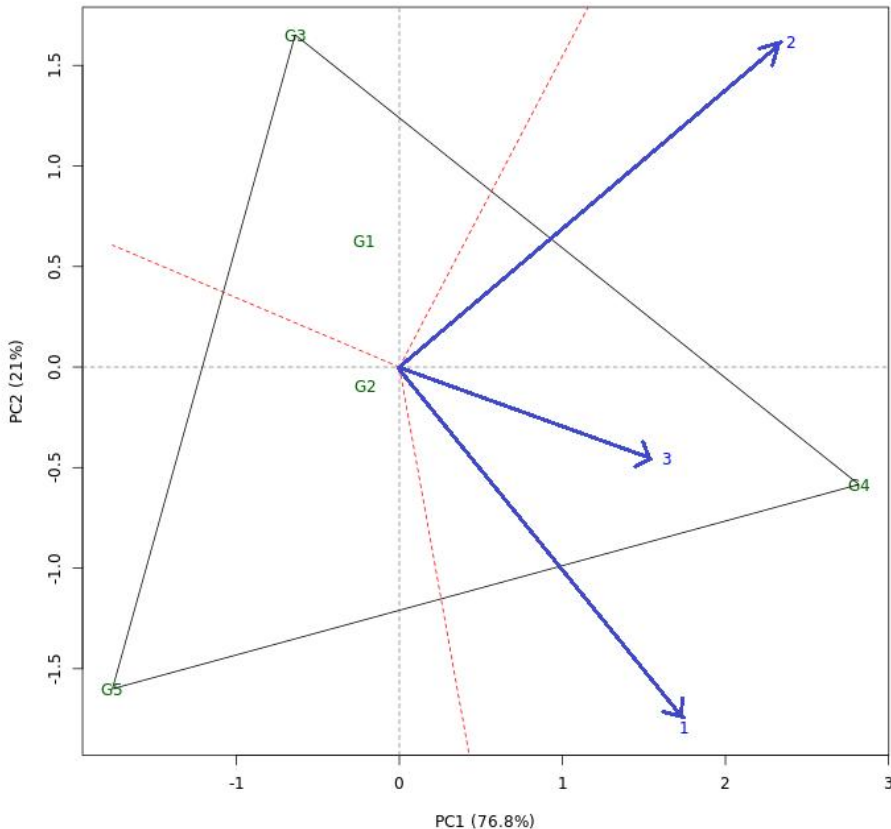
- more stable, as indicated by their location
 - close to the axis 1. The results showed
 - that genotypes G1 and G2 were
 - considered as the most stable being the
 - ones closest to the midpoint of the boxplot
 - and less preferred from *B. pisorum*. The
 - most susceptible genotypes (high DS,
 - represented on the opposite side of the
 - biplot) was G5 (44.2%). According to the
 - GGE biplot analysis, values of G4 and G5
 - to PC2 are distantly situated to zero. It
 - pointed to greater variability (poorer
 - stability). The variables of the above two
 - genotypes were best expressed in E2
 - environments. The intermediate position
 - was occupied by G3.

The two principal components determined 99.7% of the dispersion.

- The GGE biplot based on the
 - proportion of undeveloped larvae (Figure
 - 3), analysis represented 97.8% of the total
 - trait variation between two principal
 - components. In this case, the most
 - discriminative environment was E1 in
 - which less rainfall was registered.
 - Genotype 5 was the most responsive to
 - that trait (the lowest value of PUL, 10.8%),
 - and it was followed by G3, G2, G1 and G4
 - (12.3; 13.4; 13.3 and 19.4%, respectively).
 - According to the ordinate, G2 was the
 - most stable, followed by G1 within the
 - group of the lower undeveloped larvae.
 - Lower variability had G3.

- The genotype presenting the
 - highest value in that trait and identified
 - like strong sensitive was G4, followed by
 - G5. Also, G4 had the highest value in E3,
 - which had the strongest influence on its
 - susceptibility.

- Pearson correlations between DS
 - and PUL with genotype as a weighting
 - variable ($r = - 0.861$, $p = 0.001$) revealed a
 - significantly high coefficient value, which
 - suggests a strong negative association
 - between both parameters.



3. GGE

(2012-2014).

G1- Glyans, G2- Svit, G3-Kamerton, G4- Modus, G5-Pleven 4. E 1; 2; 3 2012, 2013 2014 .

Fig. 3. The GGE biplot based on proportion of undeveloped larvae (2012-2014).

The genotypes are designated with the symbol "G" and the respective number from 1 to 5, as follow: G1- Glyans, G2- Svit, G3-Kamerton, G4- Modus, G5-Pleven 4. The years are designated with the letter E and number 1; 2; and 3 for 2012, 2013 and 2014, respectively

-
,
(Makanurn,
(G4)

The number of seed damaged is a better indicator of seed resistance depending on the number of eggs laid on the pods (Makanurn, 2010). It, therefore, was calculated the ratio of damaged seed to healthy seeds. On the other hand, although Modus (G4) was distinguished with the lowest seed damage and the highest proportion of undeveloped larvae, it was unstable and showed great susceptibility in the three environments.

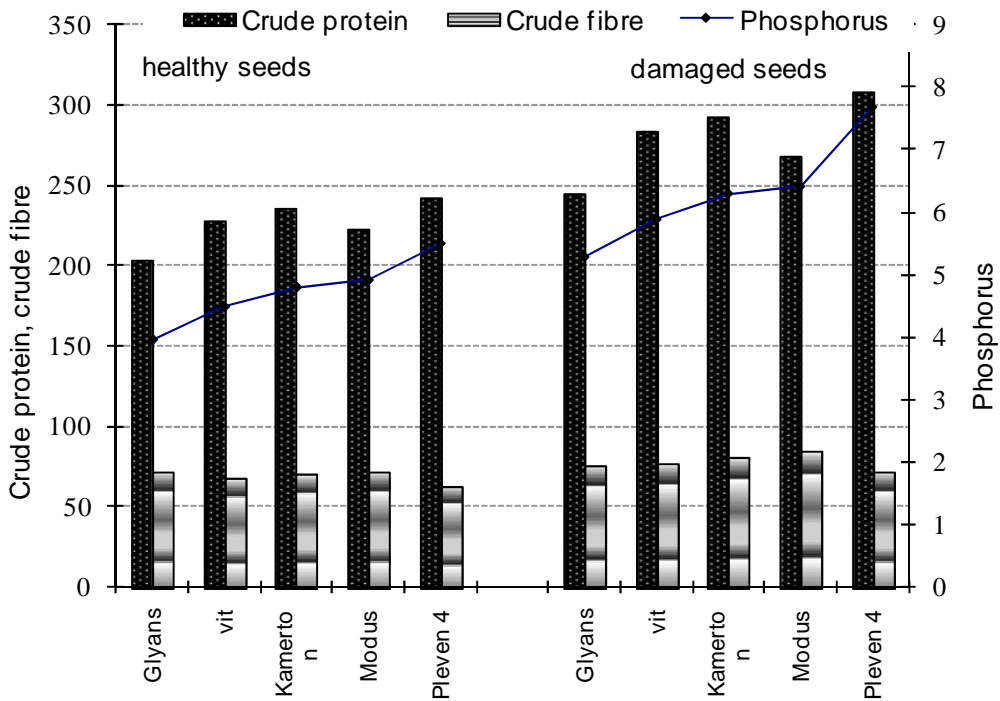
(DS PUL).
4,

In regards to both variable parameters (DS and PUL) like stable genotypes through studied years were Glyans, followed by Svit. In the most sensitive cultivar, Pleven 4, was observed a reverse trend.

Several antibiosis mechanisms could have been triggered in response to the pea weevil attack. The reduced values of seed damaged or higher proportion of undeveloped larvae in these cultivars could be related to the presence of chemical traits that hinder the penetration of the larvae.

In a comparative analysis, concerning the contents of chemical components in pea cultivars was found that cultivars with lower protein and phosphorus content had lower levels of damaged seeds (for example, Glyans and Modus) (Figure 4).

) (4).



4. a
Fig. 4. Chemical traits of seeds in pea cultivars

Marzo et al. (1997),
B. pisorum ($r^2 = 0.735$),
Bruchus
 Odagiu Porca (2002),
 (Nikolova et al., 2009).
 Lawrence and Koundal (2002)

The preference of the pea weevil concerning to crude protein and phosphorus content in seeds was related to a higher concentration.

This resulted in a higher rate of damaged seeds. Pleven 4 had the highest protein and phosphorus content, which resulted in the highest damaged seed percent. On the contrary, Glyans had the lowest crude protein and phosphorus content in the healthy seeds, followed by Cvit and Modus. The opposite trend was observed concerning crude fibre content as Pleven 4 had the lowest value.

A similar trend observed Marzo et al. (1997), which found a linear correlation between both protein and phytic acid content and *B. pisorum* infestation ($r^2 = 0.735$ and 0.732 , respectively).

However, the authors suggest that greater phytate and protein contents reduce the risk of *Bruchus* infestation in pea seeds. The opposite opinion had Odagiu and Porca (2002), according to which the chemical components had no direct influence on the tolerance against bruchids so that grains must be deeply studied in order to determine the influence of both pigments, and amino acids on tolerance of pods.

Else, the results in Figure 4 indicated that the crude protein, crude fibre and phosphorus content in damaged seeds as compared with the healthy seeds were increased.

The increase in the protein concentration may be due to the generation of defence-related proteins after insect infestation, which resulted in higher protein content in damaged seeds. Similar results were reported in an earlier study (Nikolova et al., 2009).

Lawrence and Koundal (2002) was found that plants defend themselves by producing these defence-related proteins

Pratyusha (2013),
 (2012)
 (2006)
 ()
 Tmin,
 Tmax.
 B. pisorum,

Rani
 War et al.

at high concentrations. Our results are similar to Rani and Pratyusha (2013) who found that infested cotton plant expressed higher levels of proteins than a normal plant.

Zubareva

The protein content was increased in insect-damaged groundnut genotypes as compared to uninfested control plants according to War et al. (2012). Zubareva (2006) added that the pea weevil damage led to an increase of total protein content at the expense of albumin fraction and induced increase of trypsin inhibitor activity almost double.

The present data suggest that two pea cultivars (Glyns and Svit) could be tolerant to weevil damage and can be used through breeding programs.

CONCLUSIONS

Among spring pea varieties studied, it was found that damaged seeds were positively related to Tmax, bulk precipitation and humidity and inversely to Tmin. The proportion of undeveloped larvae was positively related to Tmin but negatively to rain, humidity and Tmax.

Modus had the lowest damaged seed degree and a high proportion of underdeveloped larvae, but its response was unstable under changing environments. The Glyns variety, followed by Svit, had a low damage rate and a considerably higher percentage of undeveloped larvae and the varieties occupied the most stable positions over the years.

Varieties Glyns and Svit had a lower protein and phosphorus content in seeds, which correlated with a lower level of damaged seeds. The matching of several chemical traits in cultivars could be used as markers for tolerance against pea weevil, and like an effective method for plant defence.

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50
(- 500 g/l) (Glycine max [L.] Merr.)

- 1* , 2
 1
 2 " . , 5800 , , ,

Selectivity of the Herbicide Pledge 50 WP (Flumioxazin - 500 G/KG) in Soybean (*Glycine max* [L.] Merr.)

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Original scientific paper

SUMMARY

<p>500 g/kg (50) " "</p> <p style="text-align: center;">: V₁ – - 500 g/kg (50) ; V₂ – 80 120 g/ha</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- 700 g/kg () 70) - - 500 g/ha; V₃ – - 500 g/kg (50) 80 120 g/ha BBCH 13 - 40 g/l (40) - - 0.5 l/ha + 1.0 l/ha.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- 500 g/kg (50) 80 120 g/ha</p>	<p>In order to establish the selectivity of the herbicide Flumioxazin - 500 g/kg (Pledge 50 WP) in the experimental field of Experimental Station on Soybean - Pavlikeni, field experiment with soybean variety "Srebrina" was conducted. The study was conducted on average leached chernozem, and includes variants: V₁ - Control - untreated; V₂ - Flumioxazin - 500 g/kg (Pledge 50 WP) at doses of 80 and 120 g/ha applied pre-emergence and standard - Metribuzin - 700 g/kg (Zino 70 WP) - in the dose - 500 g/ha; V₃ - Flumioxazin - 500 g/kg (Pledge 50 WP) at doses of 80 and 120 g/ha applied in growth stage BBCH 13 of the culture and standard - Imazamox 40 g/l (Pulsar 40) - in the dose – 0.5 l/ha + Dach adjuvant at a dose of 1.0 l/ha.</p> <p>Based on the deduced trial and the analysis of the obtained results can draw the following conclusions: Flumioxazin - 500 g/kg (Pledge 50 WP) at the tested</p>
--	--

(=0.05),
 - 700 g/kg (70)
 - 500 g/kg (50)
 ; 50 80 g/ha,
 BBCH 13
 (3-4)
 ,
 ú.
 -
 120 g/ha
 - 5;
 - 500 g/kg
 (50)
 BBCH 13
 ,
 (-2.5 +9.5%)
 40 - 0.5 l/ha +
 1.0 l/ha.
 : , ,
 ,

doses of 80 and 120 g/ha has high selectivity (score 1) and did not adversely affect the structural elements of the yield of the tested soybean variety "Srebrina", the differences are being statistically insignificant (P=0.05), compared to Metribuzin - 700 g/kg (Zino 70 WP). Flumioxazin - 500 g/kg (Pledge 50 WP) can be used to treatment soybean after sowing before emergence of the crop; Pledge 50 WP applied at a dose of 80 g/ha, in soybean in growth stage BBCH 13, had from weak to medium-strong phytotoxic effect (score 3-4) resulting in shortening and thickening of the nerve, pleating and dorsal twisting at the base of the leaves with a chlorotic crown at its periphery.

A slight lag in plant growth is found - the stem is short and slightly thickened. By increasing the dose of herbicide 120 g/ha observed symptomatic damage intensify - score 5; The limited selectivity of Pledge 50 WP applied in growth stage BBCH 13 degrades the viability of soybean plants, while the structural elements of yield are practically close (from -2.5 to +9.5%) compared to those reported for Pulsar 40 in the dose – 0.5 l/ha + Dach adjuvant 1.0 l/ha used as standard.

Key words: soybean, selectivity, phytotoxicity, weeds, herbicides, productivity

INTRODUCTION

Weed species, along with diseases and pests, are one of the main factors limiting the ability to obtain stable and high-quality soybean yields Abdelhamid and El-Metwally (2008); Bali et al. (2016). A characteristic biological feature of soybean is the slow rate of growth in the initial stages of its development, which determines its strong sensitivity to the competitive impact of weeds (Hartzler, 2007; Rich and Renner, 2007; Abdelhami and El-Metwally, 2008; Keramati et al., 2008; Fickett et al., 2013).

Abdelhamid and El-Metwally (2008); Bali et al. (2016).
 ú,
 (Hartzler, 2007;
 Rich and Renner, 2007; Abdelhami and El-Metwally, 2008; Keramati et al., 2008;

Fickett et al., 2013).

(Alexieva and Stoimenova, 2004; Marinov-Serafimov, 2005; Chirila and Chirila, 2008; Nagaraju and Kumar, 2009).

(Tzi-Bun, 2011; Silva et al., 2013).

Hatton et al. (1996)
Negrisoli (2014)

al. (1993)

500 g/kg (50)

A number of studies show that the decrease in soybean grain yield depends on the degree and duration of weed infestation, and on the amount and the distribution of precipitation by phenophases from the development of culture (Alexieva and Stoimenova, 2004; Marinov-Serafimov, 2005; Chirila and Chirila, 2008; Nagaraju and Kumar, 2009). Effective control of weed species in soybean crops is central to its cultivation technology, which is why herbicides (proven by their efficacy, easy applicability and quick initial action) have the highest share of pesticides used (Tzi-Bun, 2011; Silva et al., 2013).

The limited supply of herbicides in our country to control weeds in soybean crops is a result of the EU's restrictive requirements for the use of herbicides and the market situation in which certain herbicides are not offered and/or replace some herbicides/ or marketed those with "new" active substances.

All this necessitates systematic studies to search for "new" herbicides on the market with high selectivity for soybeans.

According to Hatton et al. (1996) and Negrisoli (2014) selectivity refers to the ability of herbicides to destroy weeds in different crops, but without having a phytotoxic effect on the growth and reproductive effects of cultivated species and plant varieties.

In their studies, Devine et al. (1993) found that plant species and varieties have different susceptibility to herbicides.

The purpose of the study was to determine the selectivity of the herbicide Flumioxazine 500 g/kg (Pledge 50 WP) applied after sowing, before the emergence of the crop and vegetatively in soybean growth stages three trifoliolate leaves at variety Srebrina.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The studies were performed in the experimental field of Experimental Station on Soybean - Pavlikeni on medium-leached chernozem under non-irrigated conditions. The experiment was set up using the perpendicular method in three replicates and the size of the harvested plot of 5 m² with the soybean variety Srebrina and includes the following variants: V₁ - Control untreated; V₂ - Flumioxazin - 500 g/kg (Pledge 50 WP) at doses of 8 g/da (80 g/ha) and 12 g/da (80 g/ha) and standard - Metribuzin - 700 g/kg (Zino 70 WP) - at a dose of 50 g/da (500 g/ha), applied after sowing, before emergence of the crop (pre-emergence); V₃ - Flumioxazin - 500 g/kg (Pledge 50 WP) at doses of 8 g/da (80 g/ha) and 12 g/da (80 g/ha) and standard - Imazamox 40 g/l (Pulsar 40) - in dose - 50 ml/da (0.5 l/ha) + Desh adjuvant at a dose of 100 ml/da (1.0 l/ha), applied to the three trifoliolate leaves (BBCH 13) (post-emergence) (Hess et al., 1997).

The application of herbicides was carried out with a back spraying machine "PTP 18" with conic nozzle, pressure P max 3 bar, V max 1.64 l, and Q max 0.64 l/min at the working solution - 50 l/da (500 l/ha) for the herbicides applied after sowing, before emergence (pre-emergence) of the crop and 40 l/da (400 l/ha) for the herbicides applied in the three trifoliolate leaves (BBCH 13) (post-emergence) of soybean.

The following characteristics were assessed according to the factors studied at 7, 14, 20, 30 and 45 days after emergence or after treatment of the culture. Visual scores in scores for the phytotoxicity of herbicides on the EWRS (European Weed Research Society) scale (score 1 - no damage, score 9 - completely destroyed plants) OEPP/EPPO (2014); Vitality (Vi) (score 0 - completely destroyed plants, score 10 plants without damage) (Shinggu et al., 2009).

The plant survival was calculated after preliminary arcsin - transformation

5 m²

“ ”

: V₁ - - ;

V₂ - - 500 g/kg (50)
8 g/da (80 g/ha) 12 g/da (80 g/ha)

- 700 g/kg
(70) - - 50 g/da (500 g/ha),

(); V₃ -
- 500 g/kg (50)
8 g/da (80 g/ha) 12 g/da (80 g/ha) - 40 g/l
(40) - - 50 ml/da (0.5 l/ha) +
100 ml/da
(1.0 l/ha),
(BBCH 13) (Hess et al., 1997).

„PTP 18“ , P max 3 bar, V max 1.64 l Q max 0.64 l/min - 50 l/da (500 l/ha)

()
40 l/da (400 l/ha)
(BBCH 13)

7, 14, 20, 30 45

EWRS (European Weed Research Society) (1 - , 9 -)

OEPP/EPPO (2014); (V_i) (0 - , 10) (Shinggu et al., 2009).

arcsin -

: | following the formula:

$$Y = \arcsin \sqrt{(x_{\%} / 100)} \text{ (Anant, 1996)}$$

(),
 , g
 , g
 King et al. (2001).
 Statgraphics Plus for Windows
 Ver. 2.1 Statistica Ver. 10.

- | Structural elements of production -
 number of pods per plant, number of
 seeds per plant and number of seeds per
 pods (pcs.), weight of seeds per plant, g
 and weight per seed, g.

- | In the experimental areas
 throughout the vegetation of the crop, the
 available weed species were removed by
 hand by King et al. (2001).

- | Experimental data was calculated
 using the softwares Statgraphics Plus for
 Windows Ver. 2.1 and Statistica Ver. 10.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

- | In agrometeorological attitude, the
 soybean vegetation period (IV-IX) during
 the study years (2008-2010) differs from
 compared to the same of the
 multiannual period (1961-2000) (Table 1).

(IV-IX)
 (2008-2010 .)
 (1961-2000 .) (1).
 1.

Table 1. Agrometeorological conditions during the growing period of soybean

Period	/ Vegetation period						IV – IX
	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	Average for IV – IX
, t° C / Temperature of the air, t° C							t° C
2008	13.3	18.1	22.6	23.8	26.3	18.1	20.4
2009	13.0	18.5	22.4	24.2	24.6	19.0	20.3
2010	12.7	17.8	21.1	23.1	25.3	18.8	19.8
1961-2000	12.1	16.9	20.7	22.5	21.8	17.8	18.6
, mm / Monthly precipitation amounts, mm							mm
2008	59.8	37.1	27.3	38.2	0.2	65.0	227.6
2009	27.4	26.1	56.7	41.1	1.8	77.5	230.6
2010	79.6	104.9	95.8	88.5	11.3	33.9	414.0
1961-2000	52.2	66.6	59.4	53.0	51.2	40.0	322.4
De Martonne / De Martonne aridity index, I _{ar} -DM							I _{ar} -DM
2008	30.7	15.8	10.0	13.6	0.1	27.8	16.3
2009	14.3	11.0	21.0	14.4	0.6	32	15.6
2010	42.1	45.3	37.0	32.1	3.8	14.1	29.1
1961-2000	28.3	29.7	23.2	19.6	19.3	17.3	22.9

- | The results of visual readings in the
 - | phytotoxicity scores on the EWRS scale
 EWRS indicate that the herbicide Pledge 50 WP
 50 imported after sowing before the
 emergence of the crop had very good

(1).
 – 80 g/ha ()
 – 120 g/ha,
 (1)
 ” “
 (2).
 Nádasy et al. (2000); Niekamp
 and Johnson (2001); Beres et al. (2002),

- selectivity (score 1). Applied at a standard
 - dose of 80 g/ha (registered for use by
 - maize and sunflower growers) and at an
 - increased dose of 120 g/ha, does not
 - cause visible phytotoxic changes (score
 - 1) in the tested soybean variety „Srebrina“
 - and does not cause impact on the vitality
 of the culture (Table 2).

The experimental results obtained
 are in accordance with those established
 by Nádasy et al. (2000); Niekamp and
 Johnson (2001); Beres et al. (2002),
 which report a high selectivity of Pledge
 50 WP herbicide in soybean and maize
 applied after sowing, before emergence of
 the crop and high product efficiency
 against invasive broad-leaved weeds.

Rankova and Popov (2011)
 50 e

The results obtained in the
 experimental work of Rankova and Popov
 (2011) are similar, according to which
 Pledge 50 WP has very good herbicidal
 effectiveness against weed species in
 young plum plantations, with a long
 herbicidal effect (up to 5 months) after
 treatment and with very good selectivity to
 the trees.

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**Table 2. Phytotoxicity of the herbicide Pledge 50 WP at the soybean variety
 "Srebrina"**

	Herbicide	Rate, g (l) ha	/ Phytotoxicity and vigor										Application
			7 DAE		14 DAE		20 DAE		30 DAE		45 DAE		
/Coefficients			EWRS	Vi	EWRS	Vi	EWRS	Vi	EWRS	Vi	EWRS	Vi	
	Control - untreated	-	-	10	-	10	-	10	-	10	-	10	-
1	50 Pledge 50 WP	80.0	1	10	1	10	1	10	1	10	1	10	/ Pre - emergence
	70 Zino 70 WP	0.5	1	10	1	10	1	10	1	10	1	10	
2	50 Pledge 50 WP	80.0	3.7	6	3.7	6	2.7	7	1	10	1	10	BBCH 13 Post - emergence
	40+ Pulsar 40+Dach	0.5+1.0	1.7	10	0	10	0	10	0	10	0	10	

: DAE –

;*-

EWRS; Vi –

;

-

Legend: DAE - days after emergence; * -phytotoxicity in the scale of EWRS; Vi –crop vigor; ASBE - after sowing, before emergence.

80 g/ha, 50 BBCH 13 (3-4) , ú. (120 g/ha) - 5. 30 (1), (Marks, 2003). - - - - - (r -0.976 0.999) 30 (3) , 50 80 120 g/ha , (=0.05), 70 50 BBCH 13 (-2.5 +9.5%) , 40 - 0.5 l/ha + 1.0 l/ha..

After application of Pledge 50 WP herbicide at a dose of 80 g/ha, in soybean in growth stage BBCH 13, had from weak to medium-strong phytotoxic effect (score 3-4) resulting in shortening and thickening of the nerve, pleating and dorsal twisting at the base of the leaves with a chlorotic crown at its periphery. A slight lag in plant growth is found - the stem is short and slightly thickened.

With increasing dose of the herbicide (120 g/ha), the observed plant phytotoxic damage increased - score 5. By extending the growing season 30 days after emergence, newly emerged leaves are free of visible changes in the effects of the herbicide (score 1), which can be explained by the contact action of the product (Marks, 2003).

Until the end of the growing season of the crop, differentiation with the relevant standard is maintained in the experimental areas treated with the higher dose of the herbicide. The selectivity of the applied herbicides, depending on the sensitivity of the soybean, with respect to the application dose is negatively correlated (r is in the range -0.976 to 0.999) of the viability of the crop, but only up to 30 days after treatment.

The analysis of the results (Table 3) showed that the herbicide Pledge 50 WP applied after sowing, before emergence of the crop at doses 80 and 120 g/ha did not adversely affect the structural elements of the yield, with differences being statistically insignificant ($P=0.05$), compared to the accepted Zino 70 WP as standard. The limited selectivity of Pledge 50 WP applied in growth stage BBCH 13 degrades the viability of soybean plants, while the structural elements of yield are practically close (from -2.5 to + 9.5%) compared to those reported for Pulsar 40 in the dose - 0.5 l/ha + Dach adjuvant 1.0 l/ha used as standard.

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Table 3. Structural components of the yield at the soybean depending on the application of the herbicide Pledge 50 WP

	Herbicide	Rate, g (l) ha	Phytotoxicity and vigor days after germination										Application
			NBP	%	NSP	%	NSB	%	WSP	%	WSS	%	
-untreated	Control	-	40.5 ^a		77.8 ^a		2.2 ^{ab}		10.0 ^b		0.11 ^a		-
1	50 Pledge 50 WP	80.0	99.3 ^a	99.3	62.1 ^a	99.8	2.2 ^a	95.7	7.4 ^a	95.7	0.10 ^a	95.7	ASBE / Pre-emergence
		120.0	106.2 ^a	106.2	65.9 ^a	105.9	2.3 ^a	100.0	7.8 ^a	100.0	0.10 ^a	100.0	
	70 Zino 70 WP	500.0	100.0 ^a	100.0	62.2 ^a	100.0	2.3 ^a	100.0	7.3 ^a	100.0	0.11 ^a	100.0	
2	50 Pledge 50 WP	80.0	97.5 ^a	97.5	72.8 ^a	101.7	2.3 ^b	109.5	8.7 ^a	109.5	0.11 ^a	109.5	BBCH 13 Post-emergence
		120.0	97.5 ^a	97.5	71.5 ^a	99.9	2.2 ^{ab}	104.8	8.7 ^a	104.8	0.11 ^a	104.8	
	40 + Pulsar 40 + Dach	0.5+1.0	100.0 ^a	100.0	71.6 ^a	100.0	2.1 ^a	100.0	8.4 ^a	100.0	0.12 ^a	100.0	

: NBP - , ; NSP - , ; NSB - , ; WSP - , g; WSS - , g; % -

Legend: NBP - Number of beans per plant, num.; NSP - Number of seeds per plant, num.; NSB - Number seeds in one beans, num.; WSP - Weight of seeds of a plant, g; WSS - Weight of a single seed, g; % - Percentage of the standard.

CONCLUSIONS

50) - 500 g/kg (80 120 g/ha (1))

- “ ”,

(=0.05),

- 700 g/kg (70) .

- 500 g/kg (50))

50 80 g/ha,

BBCH 13

(3-4)

120 g/ha

Flumioxazin - 500 g/kg (Pledge 50 WP) at the tested doses of 80 and 120 g/ha has high selectivity (score 1) and did not adversely affect the structural elements of the yield of the tested soybean variety "Srebrina", the differences are being statistically insignificant (P=0.05), compared to Metribuzin - 700 g/kg (Zino 70 WP). Flumioxazin - 500 g/kg (Pledge 50 WP) can be used to treatment soybean after sowing before emergence of the crop.

Pledge 50 WP applied at a dose of 80 g/ha, in soybean in growth stage BBCH 13, had a from weak to medium-strong phytotoxic effect (score 3-4) - resulting in shortening and thickening of the nerve, pleating and dorsal twisting at the base of the leaves with a chlorotic crown at its periphery. A slight lag in plant growth is found - the stem is short and slightly thickened. By increasing the dose of herbicide 120 g/ha observed

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