

1* , 1 , 2
1
" . . . " , 61024 ,
2 , . 1 5800 ,

Micronutrients Consumption in Different Varieties of Winter Wheat in Contrast Weather Conditions First Announcement

Mykola Miroshnychenko^{1*}, Anastasiia Zvonar¹, Ivan Pachev²

¹National Scientific Center "Institute for soil science and agrochemistry research named after O.N. Sokolovsky", 61024 Kharkiv, Ukraine

²Institute Viticulture and Enology, 1, Kala Tepe str. 5800 Pleven, Bulgaria

*E-mail: ecosoil@meta.ua

Original scientific paper

SUMMARY

- The research has focused on the
- comparison micronutrients accumulation
- in the aboveground part of wheat winter
- after spring renewal of vegetation in years
- with contrasting weather conditions.
- Winter wheat was growing on Chernozem
- Haplic Loamic in the Forest-Steppe nature
- zone of Ukraine. In 2018 drought was
- occurred from the end of tillering to
- anthesis, in 2019 – from anthesis to the
- middle of grain ripening stage. Four
- varieties that are recognized as national
- standards of Ukraine and 8 varieties of
- European breeding were studied.

- A very high concentration of Mn,
- Cu, and, especially, Co in plants were
- occur when drought coincided with stem
- elongation-anthesis stages. As a result,
- the content of Cu, Mn in grain in 2018
- were slightly higher than in 2019, and Mn,

2018
2019
Mn, Cu
Co
Cu, Mn
2018

2019, Mn Co -

-

-

-

Zn.

-

-

-

Co (51 %), Mn.

-

(Fe, Mn, Zn, Cu Co)

and Lollato, 2018). Halford (2011),

3.5-4.5 t/ha 1961-71

7.0-8.3 t/ha 2001-2011.

2005 .

24

-

(Mladenov et al., 2011).

1996-2000 2011-2015 .

- Co in straw – substantially higher.

- The most differences in micronutrients consumption between varieties were in periods with stressful weather conditions. Groups of winter wheat varieties of European and Ukrainian breeding have shown differences in micronutrients consumption. European varieties had higher level of manganese uptake during plant development, and in grain and straw. Ukrainian varieties are inherent more high level of Zn consumption. Accumulation of iron in tissues of winter wheat was higher for European varieties at the stem elongation stage, and for Ukrainian varieties – at the anthesis.

The most variety's specificity of grain micronutrient content was occurring for Co (51 %), and the least specificity – for Mn. However, any variety did not have the most accumulation of all micronutrients (Fe, Mn, Zn, Cu, and Co) in grain simultaneously.

Key words: winter wheat, micronutrients, varieties, drought, weather conditions

INTRODUCTION

- Winter wheat holds one of the first places in the crop structure of many countries. Despite many thousands years of wheat cultivating, a yield of modern varieties continue to increase all the time due to progress in breeding and other factors (Maeoka and Lollato, 2018). As Curtis and Halford (2011) have shown the average level of grain yield in UK has increased from 3.5-4.5 t/ha in 1961-71 to 7.0-8.3 t/ha in 2001-2011.

- During 1955-2005 the relative annual genetic yield gains of 24 wheat varieties most common in Serbia, was 0.62% (Mladenov et al., 2011). In the period between 1996-2000 and 2011-2015, yield growth rates in Ukraine and Russia were the biggest in the world and reach to 44%

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>- 41%.</p> | <p>44% and 41 % responsively However, although genetic improvements play the dominant role in the rising of grain yield but cultivar practice and climatic factor affect a productivity of this crop too (Bons and Liefert, 2016).</p> |
| <p>(Bons and Liefert, 2016).</p> | <p>The expected grain shortages in the world providing a powerful incentive for improvement of winter wheat growing technology. Currently, the development of higher yielding, climate resilient, disease- and pest-resistant, and more nutritious crops has never been more urgent (Lozada, 2020). We might to expect that COVID-19 will exacerbate all these challenges.</p> |
| <p>(Lozada, 2020). COVID-19</p> | <p>However, till now fertilizing practice in many countries does not meet the needs of modern high-productive varieties. Particularity, this is explained by the fast progress in the field of genetics and plant breeding, but the key reason is lack of experimental information.</p> |
| <p>(Barracough et al., 2014). Hamner et al. (2017)</p> | <p>Thanks to genetic improvements, the most productivity varieties of winter wheat have a high level of nitrogen uptake and remobilization (Barracough et al., 2014). Hamner et al. (2017) noted that higher concentrations of N in shoots of winter wheat were followed by higher concentrations of several other nutrients.</p> |
| <p>14</p> | <p>Unfortunately, information on the micronutrient composition of shoots, leaves, grain, and straw of winter wheat is too limited. Comparing the microelement composition of 14 varieties of red durum wheat in two experimental fields, Garvin et al. (2006) found that genetic improvements in the United States led to a decrease in the concentration of Fe, Zn Se in grain, although yields are increasing.</p> |
| <p>Fe, Zn Se</p> | <p>Svecnjak et al (2013) note a positive correlation between yield and Mn, Zn, Cu Fe content in the grain of three varieties of wheat grown at different levels of nitrogen</p> |
| <p>Svecnjak et al. (2013)</p> | <p>Mn, Zn, Cu Fe</p> |

nutrition on alluvial soils of north-western Croatia.

Importance of straw as a source of available micronutrients has not been sufficiently appreciated so far. It is well known that accumulation of organic matter in the top soil layer stimulates formation of more stable soil complexes of micronutrient and positively reflects on plant nutrition (Dhaliwal et al., 2019).

In contrast, burning of straw decrease the content of micronutrient in soil and microelement uptake of winter wheat (Shiwakoti et al., 2019). That is why, understanding and quantitate evaluation of genotypic variation in uptake and accumulation of micronutrients in grain and straw are so important for the properly fertilizer system.

More broadly, finding micronutrient-efficient genotypes of winter white should be connected with development of new strategy of crop quality and human health management (Khoshgoftarmanesh et al., 2010).

Taking into account restricted information on the micronutrient composition of winter wheat varieties of Ukrainian and European breeding, as well as in years with drought during vegetation period, the purpose of the research was identification of differences in the micronutrients intake caused by a factor of variety and weather condition.

nutrition on alluvial soils of north-western Croatia.

Importance of straw as a source of available micronutrients has not been sufficiently appreciated so far. It is well known that accumulation of organic matter in the top soil layer stimulates formation of more stable soil complexes of micronutrient and positively reflects on plant nutrition (Dhaliwal et al., 2019).

In contrast, burning of straw decrease the content of micronutrient in soil and microelement uptake of winter wheat (Shiwakoti et al., 2019). That is why, understanding and quantitate evaluation of genotypic variation in uptake and accumulation of micronutrients in grain and straw are so important for the properly fertilizer system.

More broadly, finding micronutrient-efficient genotypes of winter white should be connected with development of new strategy of crop quality and human health management (Khoshgoftarmanesh et al., 2010).

Taking into account restricted information on the micronutrient composition of winter wheat varieties of Ukrainian and European breeding, as well as in years with drought during vegetation period, the purpose of the research was identification of differences in the micronutrients intake caused by a factor of variety and weather condition.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The studies were carried out in 2018 and 2019 at the variety testing site of the experimental field "Elytne" of the Institute of Plant Breeding named after V. Yuriev NAAS of Ukraine, located in the Kharkiv region. The soil is Chernozem Haplic loamic. We have studied four varieties that are recognized as a national

2018 2019 .
 " " .
 " " NAAS .

(Rozkishna (" - ")
), Bunchuk (),
 Smuglyanka Podolyanka (),
 8 -
 (Balitus, Panonicus
 (Saatzucht Donau,), Arctis,
 Matrix (Deutsche Saatveredelung AG,
), Annica, Mandica (Bc
 Bc ,), Bodi ek Daria
 (RAGT Semences,).
 1.25 × 2.4 m.
 13.6 .
 12
 2018 .
 () 8.2 ± 1.4
 mg/kg, Chirikov (-
 0.5 M CH₃COOH) – 126 ± 4 mg/kg
 162±4 mg/kg.
 - -
 4.8.
 Zn
 0.37 ± 0.04 mg/kg, Co - 0.12 ± 0.03
 mg/kg, Fe - 2.4 ± 0.1 mg/kg, Mn -
 13.5 ± 0.5 mg/kg, Cu - 0.16 ± 0.03
 mg/kg.
 - Co, Cu - Zn,
 Mn.
 2.5 t/da

standards of winter wheat (Rozkishna
 (originator – V. Yuriev Institute of Plant
 Breeding), Bunchuk (the National Plant
 Breeding and Genetics Institute),
 Smuglyanka and Podolyanka (Institute of
 Plant Physiology and Genetics)), as well
 as 8 varieties of foreign selection (Balitus,
 Panonicus (Saatzucht Donau, Austria),
 Arctis, Matrix (Deutsche Saatveredelung
 AG, Germany), Annica, Mandica (Zagreb
 Bc Institute, Croatia), Bodi ek and Daria
 (RAGT Semences, Czech Republic).

The size of each of the test plots
 was 1.25 × 2.4 m. Plots were randomly
 placed together with other varieties of
 winter wheat on the variety testing site
 with a total area of 13.6 hectares.

The homogeneity of the soil cover in
 terms of the content of available forms of
 nutrients was determined on the set of 12
 soil samples from the arable layer in April
 2018 in the tillering phase of winter wheat.

The content of mineral nitrogen (nitrate
 and ammonium) in soil was 8.2 ± 1.4
 mg/kg, available phosphorus and
 potassium by the Chirikov method
 (extraction in 0.5 M CH₃COOH) – 126 ± 4
 mg/kg and 162 ± 4 mg/kg, respectively.
 This corresponds to the level of low
 nitrogen supply, high – phosphorus, and
 high – potassium. Available micronutrient
 in soil was determined in acetate-
 ammonium buffer extract with pH 4.8. The
 content of available Zn was 0.37±0.04
 mg/kg, Co – 0.12±0.03 mg/kg, Fe –
 2.4±0.1 mg/kg, Mn – 13.5±0.5 mg/kg,
 Cu – 0.16±0.03 mg/kg. These values
 correspond to very low range of soil
 nutrient status for Zn, medium – for Co,
 Cu, and enhanced – for Mn.

All varieties of winter wheat were
 grown after fallow. The fertilizer system
 combined the after-effect of manure 2.5
 t/ha and the application of ammonium
 nitrate on frozen-thawed soil in March at a
 dose of N30. The system of soil treatment

N30.

5 cm.

3

15-20

(Zn, Cu, Mn, Fe, Co)

AANALYST 400 Perkin-Elmer.

STATISTICA 10.

Pryadkina et al. (2014)

“ ”

“ ”

“ ”

“ ”

2018 2019

(1).

2018 .

and plant protection was the same throughout the test site.

Samples of plants were taken after the resumption of spring vegetation in the phases of stem elongation, anthesis and grain ripening. The aboveground part of the plants was cut at a height of 5 cm. Samples were taken in the same day for all varieties in 3 replications, each sample consisted of 15-20 plants.

The content of micronutrients (Zn, Cu, Mn, Fe, Co) in plant samples was determined after their thermal mineralization by the method of atomic absorption spectrophotometry on the device AANALYST 400 Perkin-Elmer. Statistical processing of experimental data was performed using the program STATISTICA 10.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

It is well-known that water and nutrients supply are closely link each other as well as plant growth and crop productivity. Pryadkina et al. (2014) found the close correlation between parameters of photosynthetic apparatus and grain productivity of different winter wheat genotypes grown in contrast weather conditions.

Chlorophyll photosynthetic potential is more dependent on a combination of factors “variety - weather conditions” then “weather conditions - mineral nutrition level” or “variety - mineral nutrition level”.

That is why comparison of different varieties in terms of their nutritional specific should be carried out in quite contrasting in weather conditions.

The temperature and precipitation regimes after the resumption of winter wheat vegetation in 2018 and 2019 had significant differences (Table 1). Spring period 2018 was much more dry.

2018 . 2.75 - .
 , -
 2019 . , -
 -
 2018 -
 ,
 2019 . -

Precipitation in April-May 2018 was in 2.75 times less than long-term average values. On the contrast, the abnormal high temperatures and insufficient quality of rainfalls occurred in early summer period 2019 when ripening of grain and associated remobilization had started.

Thereby, we can describe 2018 as year with early drought for winter wheat, and 2019 – as year with late heat and drought. Therewith, the both year of research has higher average month's temperatures than long-term values.

2018-2019

Table 1. Weather condition during the winter wheat growing after the resumption of spring vegetation in 2018-2019

| Months | /Air temperature, °C | | | /Precipitation, mm | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|------|-------------------|--------------------|-------|-------------------|
| | 2018 | 2019 | long-term average | 2018 | 2019 | long-term average |
| April | 12,4 | 11,5 | 9,6 | 12,9 | 44,5 | 35,5 |
| May | 19,9 | 18,4 | 16,1 | 15,9 | 43,4 | 43,7 |
| June | 21,6 | 24,8 | 20,2 | 43,5 | 15,2 | 63,3 |
| July | 23,0 | 21,4 | 21,4 | 28,7 | 38,8 | 71,7 |
| /Average from April to July | 19,2 | 19,0 | 16,8 | 101,0 | 141,9 | 214,2 |

2018 2019 . -
 Cu, Co (-
) (-
 2).
 Weih et al. (2016),
 -

Differences in weather conditions make clear features of micronutrients accumulation in tissues of winter wheat in 2018 and 2019. The most striking differences were inherent for Cu, Co in stem elongation and anthesis stages (Table 2). This correspond well to Weih et al. (2016) which note the greatest deviation from grain concentrations at the start of stem elongation in spring.

Perhaps, so big differences in micronutrient might be caused by fast development of above ground part of plant at the time when root system does not able to supply enough nutrients.

Supply of iron, manganese, and zinc to plant tissues is more efficient.

(2011) Zhao et al. (2019), N
Kutman et al. (2011) and Zhao et al. (2019), high N application also increased the distribution of Fe and Zn from roots to leaves, and vice versa.

2.

2018-2019

Table 2. Dynamic of average micronutrients content and their ratio in the set of all varieties of winter wheat in 2018-2019

| Stages of growth | Micronutrients | Micronutrient content in plant samples, mg/kg | | | /Ratio Fe:Mn:Zn:Cu:Co |
|------------------|----------------|---|-------|---------|---------------------------|
| | | 2018 | 2019 | average | |
| Stem elongation | Fe | 110,0 | 53,2 | 81,5 | 1:0,48:0,19:0,031:0,0066 |
| | Mn | 45,4 | 32,5 | 38,9 | |
| | Zn | 17,3 | 13,3 | 15,3 | |
| | Cu | 4,10 | 0,90 | 2,50 | |
| | Co | 0,94 | 0,13 | 0,54 | |
| Anthesis | Fe | 30,9 | 35,5 | 33,2 | 1:0,75:0,26:0,019:0,024 |
| | Mn | 30,5 | 19,5 | 25,0 | |
| | Zn | 8,22 | 8,99 | 8,60 | |
| | Cu | 0,87 | 0,38 | 0,62 | |
| | Co | 1,42 | 0,19 | 0,81 | |
| Ripening (grain) | Fe | - | 45,12 | 45,1 | 1:0,53:0,42:0,039:0,0057 |
| | Mn | 24,6 | 23,2 | 23,9 | |
| | Zn | 18,7 | 18,8 | 18,8 | |
| | Cu | 1,95 | 1,62 | 1,78 | |
| | Co | 0,27 | 0,26 | 0,26 | |
| Ripening (straw) | Fe | 63,7 | 24,0 | 43,9 | 1:0,43:0,046:0,010:0,0091 |
| | Mn | 22,5 | 15,4 | 18,9 | |
| | Zn | 2,07 | 1,97 | 2,02 | |
| | Cu | 0,46 | 0,46 | 0,46 | |
| | Co | 0,49 | 0,31 | 0,40 | |

Fe: Mn Fe: Zn
-
-
Fe:Cu Fe:Co
-
-
Fe: Mn Fe: Co
-
-
Fe: Zn Fe: Cu
-
-
Weih et al. (2016),
-
-
seed grain.
-
-
Our research allows to clarify this pattern, since zinc and copper accumulate more

Ratios Fe:Mn and Fe:Zn in the aboveground part of plants increased from stem elongation to anthesis whereas ratio Fe:Cu and Fe:Co decreased. Then, ratios Fe:Mn and Fe:Co in the period from anthesis to grain ripening tend to decreasing but ratios Fe:Zn and Fe:Cu – to increasing. According to Weih et al. (2016), element ratios indicated for nearly all elements significantly higher concentrations in the plants at the start of stem elongation in spring compared to seed grain.

and Beverly, 1981).

NPK (Miroshnychenko et al., 2020).

2018 .,
Mn
44-46 mg/kg
28-32 mg/kg
, Cu - 3.8-4.4 mg/kg
0.8-1.0 mg/kg , Zn - 16.5-18.1 mg/kg
5.6-9.6 mg/kg (1-3).

actively in the grain comparing iron.

It is well known that the concentration of nutrients in tissues decreases due to the dilution effect during intensive growth of vegetative mass of plants (Jarell and Beverly, 1981). A significant dilution effect was found in our study regarding NPK (Miroshnychenko et al., 2020). The same is correct with respect to micronutrients. In 2018 the average content of Mn in tissues decreased from 44-46 mg/kg in the stem elongation phase to 28-32 mg/kg in the anthesis phase, Cu - from 3.8-4.4 mg/kg to 0.8-1.0 mg/kg, Zn - from 16.5-18.1 mg/kg to 5.6-9.6 mg/kg, respectively (Figures 1-3).

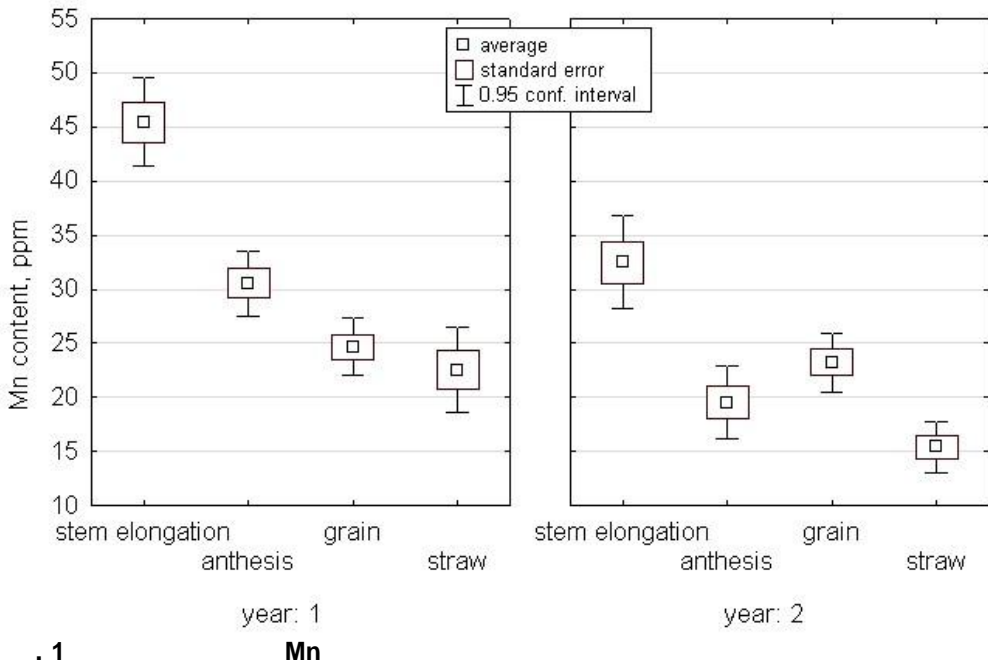
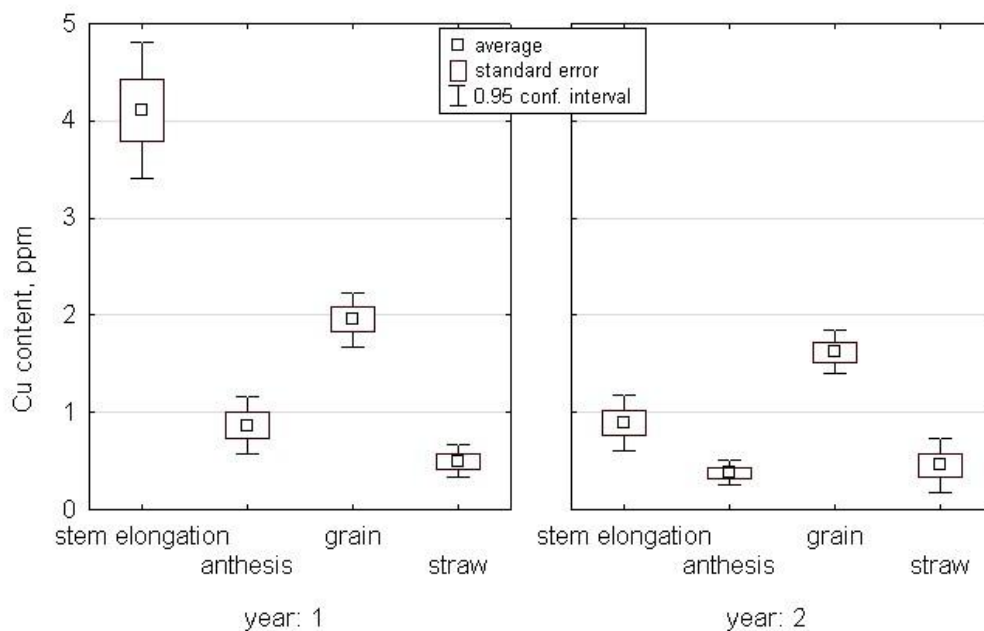
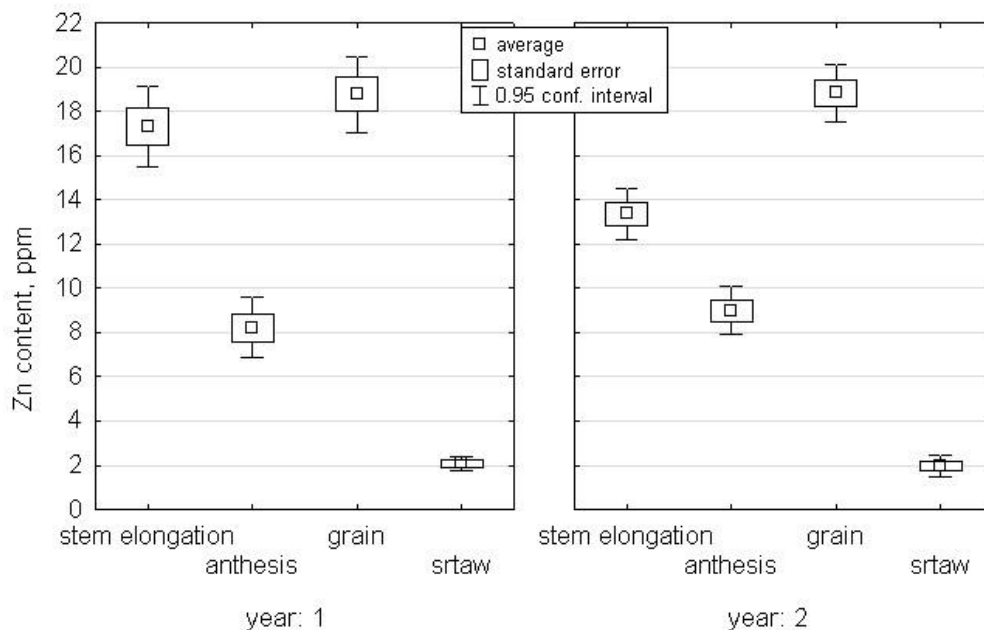


Fig. 1. The content of Mn in plant material on different stages of winter wheat development (year 1 means 2018, year 2 – 2019)



. 2. Cu
(.1 2018, . 2 – 2019)

Fig. 2. The content of Cu in plant material on different stages of winter wheat development (year 1 means 2018, year 2 – 2019)



. 3. Zn
(.1 2018, . 2 – 2019)

Fig. 3. The content of Zn in plant material on different stages of winter wheat development (year 1 means 2018, year 2 – 2019)

Co
0.73-1.15 mg/kg (2018)
1.25-1.60 mg/kg (2019)

4-7

(Kandil and El-Maghraby, 2016; Rak Pukalova, 2016). Co

(Chatzistathis, 2018).

Mn, Feller, 2007).

Co

Zn (Riesen

On the contrast, the content of Co so significantly increased from 0.73-1.15 mg/kg to 1.25-1.60 mg/kg in this period that was enormous high (Figure 4). Analogic tendency was occurred in 2019 but differences between stem elongation and anthesis were not so much. Copper and cobalt concentrations in tissues during the period stem elongation-anthesis in 2019 were in 4-7 times less than in 2018. Although cobalt is not among the most necessary micronutrients due to its very low content but foliar application of cobalt fertilizers shows good results in countries with very contrast climate and soil conditions (Kandil and El-Maghraby, 2016; Rak and Pukalova, 2016). Co is considered as a beneficial element, participating in symbiotic N fixation (Chatzistathis, 2018). Mobility of Co in wheat is higher than Mn but less comparing Zn (Riesen and Feller, 2007). So, high Co concentration in plants during drought might be caused by physiological reasons.

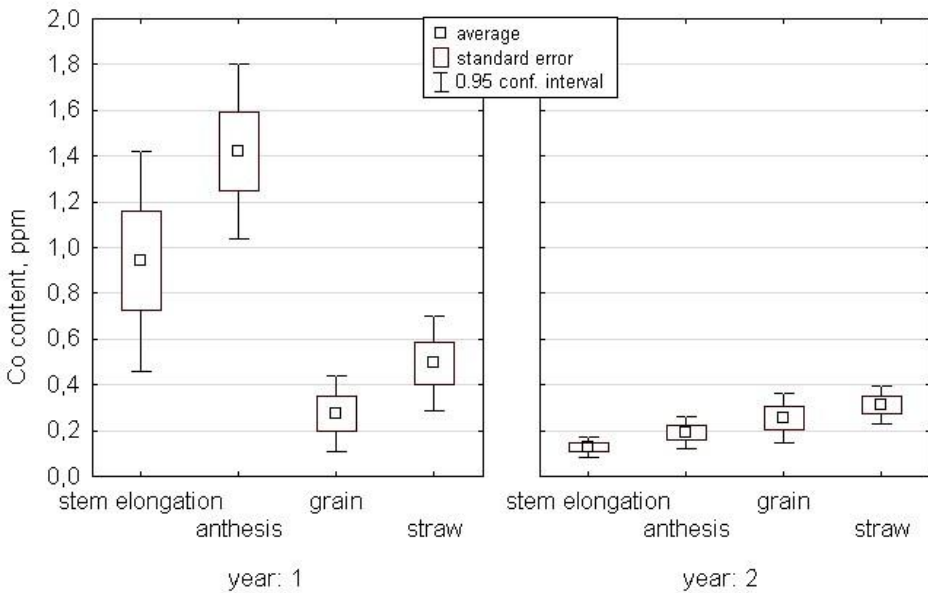


Fig. 4. The content of Co in plant material on different stages of winter wheat development (year 1 means 2018, year 2 – 2019)

| | | | |
|---------|------------------------|------------|--|
| | | | Unfavourable environmental conditions might change crop nutrient demand and the soil micronutrient supply to plant roots, too. |
| Cu, Zn | Rahman et al. (2020) | | Rahman et al. (2020) note that soil supplies of Cu and Zn are most negatively impacted by drought stress due to reduced mobility of these diffusion limited nutrients. |
| (2012) | Mikhalska and Shvartau | | Mikhalska and Shvartau (2012) consider that mobility and availability of iron is affected by high soil moisture; manganese – dry weather, low soil temperature; zinc – low temperature, high soil density, low organic matter content; copper – high air temperatures. |
| | | | Thus, micronutrients uptake in winter wheat during vegetation is determined on complicated interaction of environmental, soil and plant physiology factors. |
| | | 2019, 2018 | Ultimately, this affects a micronutrient composition of yield. The content of Cu, Mn in grain in 2019 were somewhat lower than in 2018, and Mn, Co in straw – substantially lower. |
| | | Mn, Co | |
| | | | The most differences in micronutrients consumption between varieties were in periods with stressful weather conditions. Coefficient of variation Co and Fe content in the set of all varieties reached 80 % and 36 % at the stage of stem elongation in 2018, and 57 % and 29 % at the anthesis stage in 2019, respectively. |
| Fe | | 80% 36% | |
| 57% 29% | | 2018, 2019 | |
| | | Zn | Group of varieties of Ukrainian breeding had intensively accumulated Zn at the anthesis stage that positively affected on the its content in grain and straw (Table 3). |
| | | (3). | |
| | | | On the contrary, European varieties showed higher level of manganese uptake at the both stage of development, and, as result, in grain and straw. Accumulation of |

- iron in tissues of winter wheat was higher
 - for European varieties at the stem elongation stage, and for Ukrainian varieties – at the anthesis.
 2018 . 2019 .
 Co Cu
 Unfortunately, too big variability and differences between 2018 and 2019 does not allow evidence link uptake of Co, Cu and varieties breeding.

3.

(Eu) (Ua) 2018-2019

Table 3. Dynamic of micronutrients content in winter wheat varieties of European (Eu) and Ukrainian (Ua) breeding in 2018-2019

| Elements | Breeding | 2018-2019 Micronutrients content (average and standard error) in air-dry plant material in 2018-2019, mg/kg | | | | | | | |
|----------|----------|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | | Stem elongation | | /Anthesis | | /Grain | | /Straw | |
| | | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 | 2018 | 2019 |
| Zn | Eu | 17.5±0.8 | 13.4±0.6 | 7.67±0.83 | 8.44±0.45 | 18.4±1.0 | 18.4±0.85 | 2.04±0.20 | 1.89±0.27 |
| | Ua | 16.9±2.1 | 13.1±1.1 | 9.32±0.67 | 10.1±1.0 | 19.6±1.1 | 19.5±0.55 | 2.13±0.26 | 2.11±0.35 |
| Co | Eu | 0.84±0.24 | 0.15±0.03 | 1.32±0.21 | 0.18±0.03 | 0.31±0.09 | 0.26±0.07 | 0.43±0.08 | 0.33±0.05 |
| | Ua | 1.14±0.48 | 0.08±0.01 | 1.61±0.30 | 0.20±0.07 | 0.21±0.11 | 0.24±0.05 | 0.62±0.23 | 0.27±0.06 |
| Fe | Eu | 112±16 | 56.9±2.6 | 29.7±0.9 | 33.4±3.0 | - | 47.9±0.94 | 59.8±21.2 | 24.0±2.1 |
| | Ua | 105±14 | 45.6±4.5 | 33.3±1.4 | 39.7±6.9 | - | 39.4±1.7 | 71.7±21.3 | 24.1±6.4 |
| Mn | Eu | 47.7±2.3 | 33.6±2.7 | 31.1±1.8 | 20.4±2.1 | 25.4±1.7 | 23.9±1.4 | 25.1±2.0 | 17.1±1.0 |
| | Ua | 40.7±1.4 | 30.3±2.1 | 29.2±1.8 | 17.6±1.7 | 23.1±1.3 | 21.7±2.5 | 17.4±1.5 | 11.9±1.4 |
| Cu | Eu | 4.1±0.4 | 0.99±0.18 | 0.90±0.11 | 0.32±0.06 | 2.14±0.12 | 1.55±0.11 | 0.39±0.07 | 0.48±0.19 |
| | Ua | 4.1±0.3 | 0.70±0.10 | 0.79±0.36 | 0.48±0.11 | 1.57±0.18 | 1.76±0.20 | 0.68±0.13 | 0.40±0.05 |

Daria, Podolyanka, Panonicus, Mandica, Smuglyanka, Daria, Balitus, Mandica, Arctis
 Zn
 (4).
 2019).
 Co
 (51%),
 (5.3%).
 Zn, Fe Cu
 10-12%.

Summarizing results of two-year studies, a grain of variety Daria was a leader in terms of Zn content among winter wheat of European breeding, and Podolyanka – among Ukrainian varieties (Table 4). Panonicus, Mandica, Smuglyanka, and Daria accumulate cobalt very well. Balitus, Mandica, and Arctis show slightly higher level of copper then other varieties.
 All European varieties provide higher accumulation than Ukrainian varieties (only in 2019). Generally, relative variety's specificity is the most obvious for Co due to higher coefficient of variation its content in grain (51 %), and the least – for Mn (5.3 %).
 Coefficient of variation of Zn, Fe, and Cu content in grain were around 10-12 %.
 Perhaps, so great differences in Co

(Borill et al., 2014; Velu et al., 2014).

4.

Zn Fe,

concentration in grain worth into account in research on biofortification, not only Zn and Fe as it often done (Borill et al., 2014; Velu et al., 2014).

Table 4. Average micronutrients content in the grain of winter wheat on different varieties

| /Varieties | /Micronutrients content in grain, mg/kg | | | | |
|------------|---|------|------|------|------|
| | Zn | Co | Fe | Mn | Cu |
| Annica | 17,6 | 0,13 | 49,0 | 38,1 | 1,69 |
| Arctis | 17,9 | 0,16 | 51,3 | 36,0 | 1,98 |
| Balitus | 16,7 | 0,21 | 44,3 | 38,0 | 2,06 |
| Bodichek | 17,6 | 0,17 | 44,9 | 35,5 | 1,87 |
| Daria | 23,6 | 0,32 | 45,3 | 39,8 | 1,92 |
| Mandica | 18,0 | 0,36 | 49,5 | 35,0 | 2,02 |
| Panonicus | 19,2 | 0,57 | 49,2 | 34,9 | 1,34 |
| Matrix | 17,0 | 0,21 | 50,1 | 32,2 | 1,92 |
| Smuglyanka | 18,8 | 0,36 | 35,4 | 34,5 | 1,69 |
| Rozkishna | 18,3 | 0,21 | 39,7 | 34,3 | 1,50 |
| Bunchuk | 19,6 | 0,12 | 39,3 | 37,1 | 1,63 |
| Podolyanka | 21,5 | 0,21 | 43,5 | 34,5 | 1,85 |

CONCLUSIONS

2018-2019 .

Thus, research in 2018-2019 allowed to compare micronutrients uptake in year with drought during stem elongation-anthesis stages of winter wheat development and in year with heat and drought during grain ripening.

- Co , Mn, Cu

Particularly, very high concentration of Mn, Cu, and, especially, Co in plants were occur when drought coincided with stem elongation-anthesis stages.

2018 Cu, Mn - ,
2019 ,
Mn Co - .

As a result, the content of Cu, Mn in grain in 2018 were slightly higher than in 2019, and Mn, Co in straw – substantially higher.

Zn.

Group of winter wheat varieties of European and Ukrainian breeding have shown differences in micronutrients consumption. European varieties had higher level of manganese uptake during plant development, and in grain and straw. Ukrainian varieties are inherent more high level of Zn consumption.

- Accumulation of iron in tissues of winter wheat was higher for European varieties

Co (51 %),
Mn.

(Fe, Mn, Zn, Cu
Co)

at the stem elongation stage, and for Ukrainian varieties – at the anthesis.

The most variety's specificity of grain micronutrient content was occurring for Co (51 %), and the least specificity – for Mn. However, any variety did not have the most accumulation of all micronutrients (Fe, Mn, Zn, Cu, and Co) in grain simultaneously.

/ REFERENCES

1. **Bond, J. and O. Liefert**, 2016. Wheat Outlook. U.S. Production and Domestic Use Lowered, Netting Increase for 2016/17 Carryout. Economic Research Service, USDA, WHS-16j, Oct. 14, 2016. <https://www.ers.usda.gov/webdocs/publications/80243/whs-16j.pdf?v=0>
2. **Barraclough, P. B., R. Lopez-Bellido and M. J. Hawkesford**, 2014. Genotypic Variation in the Uptake, Portioning and Remobilization of Nitrogen during Grain-Filling in Wheat. *Field Crops Research*, 156: 242-248. doi:10.1016/j.fcr.2013.10.004
3. **Borill, P., J.M.Connorton, J. Balk, A.J. Muller, D. Sanders and C. Uauy**, 2014. Biofortification of Wheat Grain with Iron and Zinc: Integrating Novel Genomic Resources and Knowledge from Model Crops. *Frontiers in Plant Science*. 5: 53. doi:10.3389/fpls.2014.00053
4. **Chatzistathis, T.**, 2018. Physiological Importance of Manganese, Cobalt and Nickel and the Improvement of Their Uptake and Utilization by Plants. In: *Plant Micronutrient Use Efficiency. Molecular and Genomic Perspectives in Crop Plants*. Academic Press, 2018. 123-135. Doi: 10.1016/B978-0-12-812104-7.00008-3
5. **Curtis, T. and N.G. Halford**, 2011. Food Security: the Challenge of Increasing Wheat Yield and the Importance of Not Compromising Food Safety. *Annals of Applied Biology*, 164. 354-372. doi:10.1111/aab.12108. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4240735/pdf/aab0164-0354.pdf>
6. **Dhaliwal, S.S., R.K. Naresh, A. Mandal, R. Singh and M.K. Dhaliwal**, 2019. Dynamics and Transformations of Micronutrients in Agricultural Soils as Influenced by Organic Matter Build-up: A review. *Environmental and Sustainability Indicators*, 1-2: 1-14. doi:10.1016/j.indic.2019.100007
7. **Garvin, D.F., R.M. Welch and J.W. Finley**, 2006 Historical Shift in the Seed Mineral Micronutrient Concentration of US Hard Red Winter Wheat Germplasm. *Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture*, 86: 2213-2220 doi:10.1002/isfa.2601
8. **Hamner, K., M. Weih, J. Eriksson and H. Kirchmann**, 2017. Influence of Nitrogen Supply on Macro- and Micronutrient Accumulation during Growth of Winter Wheat. *Field Crops Research*, 213: 118-129. doi: 10.1016/j.fcr.2017.08.002
9. **Jarell, W.M. and R.B. Beverly**, 1981. The Dilution Effect in Plant Nutrition Studies. *Advances in Agronomy*, 34: 197-224
10. **Kandil, H. and A. El-Maghraby**, 2016. Impact of Cobalt Form and Level Addition on Wheat Plants (*Triticum aestivum L.*): I. Growth Parameters and Nutrients Status. *International Journal of ChemTech Research*, 9(7):111-118.
11. **Khoshgoftarmansh, A.H., R. Schulin, R.L. Chaney, B. Daneshbakhsh and M. Afyuni**, 2010. Micronutrient-Efficient Genotypes for Crop Yield and Nutritional Quality in Sustainable Agriculture. A review. *Agronomy for Sustainable Development, Springer Verlag/EDP Sciences/INRA*, 30 (1). Doi:10.1051/agro/2009017
12. **Kutman, U. B., B. Yildiz and I. Cakmak**, 2011. Effect of Nitrogen on Uptake,

Remobilization and Partitioning of Zinc and Iron throughout the Development of Durum Wheat. *Plant Soil*, 342: 149-164. doi:10.1007/s11104-010-0679-5

13. **Lozada, D. N., B. P. Ward and A. H. Carter**, 2020. Gains through Selection for Grain Yield in a Winter Wheat Breeding Program. *PLoS ONE*, 15(4): e0221603. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0221603>

14. **Maeoka, R. E. and R. P. Lollato**, 2018 Wheat Development and Yield as Affected by Era of Variety Release and In-Furrow Fertilizer. *Kansas Agricultural Experiment Station Research Reports*, 4(7). <https://doi.org/10.4148/2378-5977.7615>

15. **Miroshnychenko, M.M., A.M. Zvonar, Ye.V. Panasenko and O.Yu. Leonov**, 2020. Inputs of Nutrients to Winter Wheat Plants of Different Varieties in Years, Contrasting in Weather. *Agrochemistry and Soil Science, Collected papers*, Kharkiv: NSC ISSAR, 89: 51-62. (Ukr) doi:10.31073/acss89-06.

16. **Mladenov, N., N. Hristov, A. Kondic-Spika, V. Djuric, R. Jevtic and V. Mladenov**, 2011 Breeding Progress in Grain Yield of Winter Wheat Cultivars Grown at Different Nitrogen Levels in Semiarid Condition. *Breeding Science*, 61, 260-268. doi:10.1270/jsbbs.61.260

17. **Mykhalska, L.M. and V.V. Shvartau**, 2012. Influence of Herbicides and Axial on the Accumulation of Nutrient Elements by Winter Wheat. *Visnyk of Dnipropetrovsk University. Biology. Ecology.* 20(2), 38-45 (Ukr). http://www.dnu.dp.ua/docs/visnik/fbem/program_5e56996a8efb4.pdf

18. **Priadkina, G.A., O.O. Stasik, L.N. Mikhalskaya and V.V. Shvartau**, 2014. A Relationship between Chlorophyll Photosynthetic Potential and Yield of Winter Wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.) at Elevated Temperatures. *Agricultural biology*, 5: 88-95. doi:10.15389/agrobiol.2014.5.88eng

19. **Rahman, M.N., R. Hang and J. Schoenau**, 2020. Influence of soil temperature and moisture on micronutrient supply, plant uptake, and biomass yield of wheat, pea, and canola. *Journal of Plant Nutrition*, 43(6), 823-833, doi:10.1080/01904167.2020.1711941

20. **Rak, M.V., and E.N. Pukalova**, 2016. Cobalt in soil and crop production in Belarus and the efficiency of cobalt fertilizer application. *Soil Science and Agrochemistry*, 2(57), 90-99 (Ru) Available at: http://aw.belal.by/russian/science/soilandagro_pdf/57/57-8.pdf

21. **Riesen, O. and U. Feller**, 2005. Redistribution of Nickel, Cobalt, Manganese, Zinc, and Cadmium via the Phloem in Young and Maturing Wheat. *Journal of Plant Nutrition*. 28(3):421-430. doi:10.1081/PLN-200049153

22. **Shiwakoti, S., V.D. Zheljazkov, H.T. Gollany, M. Kleber and B. Xing**, 2019 Micronutrients Decline under Long-term Tillage and Nitrogen Fertilization. *Scientific reports*, 9:12020 doi:10.1030/s41590-019-48408-6

23. **Sve njak Z., M. Jenel, M. Bujan, D. Vitali and I.V. Dragojevic**, 2013 Trace Element Concentration in the Grain of Wheat Cultivars as Affected by Nitrogen Fertilization. *Agricultural and Food Science*, 22: 445-451

24. **Velu, G., I. Ortiz-Monasterio, I. Carmak, Y. Hao and R.P. Singh**, 2014. Biofortification Strategies to Increase Grain Zinc and Iron Concentration in Wheat. *Journal of Cereal Science*, 59:365-372. doi:10.1016/j.jcs.2013.09.001

25. **Weih, M., F. Pourazari and G. Vico**, 2016. Nutrient Stoichiometry in Winter Wheat: Element Concentration Pattern Reflects Developmental Stage and Weather. *Scientific reports*, 6:35958. doi: 10.1038/srep35958

26. **Zhao, R.R., B.Yu. Qu, Yi. P. Nong and C.Q. Zou**, 2019. Iron and Zinc Accumulation in Winter Wheat Regulated by Nicotinamide Synthase Responded to Increasing Nitrogen Levels. *Journal of Plant Nutrition*, 42(14),1624-2636. doi:10.1080/01904167.2019.1630427

A Study on the Effects of Agrometeorological Conditions on the Productivity of Narrow-Leaved Vetch

Svetlana Stoyanova*, Diana Marinova, Gergana Ivanova-Kovacheva

Institute of Agriculture and Seed Science "Obraztsov chiflik", 7007 Ruse, Bulgaria

**E-mail: sv_stoianova@mail.bg*

Original scientific paper

SUMMARY

The effects of the meteorological conditions on the average seed yield of narrow-leaved vetch, "Obrazets 666" variety, grown under conditions of strongly leached chernozem were determined via field experiment, conducted during 2012-2016.

The precipitation sums during the vegetation showed higher variability (VC=68.35%) than the precipitation in March (VC=49.73%). Stable and low was the variability of the temperature sums during the vegetation (VC=8.96%).

The quantitative expression of the variation of average yield, depending on the precipitation sums during winter and vegetation periods, in compliance with the calculated determination coefficient was 2.5%, and hydrothermal coefficient (HTC) - 8.8%.

The productive possibilities of the spring vetch crops are a function of the action between the rain and temperatures of the months from April to July (the vegetation period of the crop), shown with the value of the hydrothermic coefficient

() .

(VC=43.23%),
(VC =49.73%;
VC_v=35.36%; VC_v= 63.35%; VC_{VI}= 49.42%;
VC_v =125.08%).

- 68%.

0.4%.

(r=0.297).

666”

15,

7-8%.

30%,

et al., 1969).

(Milkovski

(HTC). The result of HTC differs with high variability for the vegetation period (VC=43.23%) and for the different months as well (VC =49.73%; VC_v= 35.36%; VC_v=63.35%; VC_{VI}=49.42%; VC_v =125.08%).

As a result of the reported fluctuations of the weather conditions during the time of testing, the yields differ by years.

During the test period is concluded that the changes of the productive possibilities of the vetch crops is influenced more by the winter rains, the coefficient of determination is 68%.

The shown temperatures during the vegetation period of the crop have not effected positively the size of the average yield 0.4%.

The combined effect of vegetation precipitation and the temperature sum, expressed by the hydrothermic coefficient (HTC), had a small effect on the average yields (r = 0.297).

Key words: narrow-leaved vetch, productivity, “Obrazets 666” variety, hydrothermal coefficient

INTRODUCTION

Vetch is a rich source of protein grain and grass forage. It is also valuable because it enriches the soil with nitrogen and is an excellent predecessor for winter cereals. The protein content in the seed is about 30%, in the hay - 15, and in the straw 7-8%. The green mass, hay and straw of the vetch are rich in calcium and the seed – in phosphorus. It is also a valuable component of the green conveyor. Vetch suppresses the development of weeds and releases the areas early, which allows their timely and quality cultivation for the following winter crops. The common (spring) vetch is most often grown as a cultivated plant in Bulgaria (Milkovski et al., 1969).

Spring vetch is not very demanding to climatic conditions. It grows and develops very well in the northern regions,

(Ilieva, 1951; Kirchev, 2012).
 Mousa (1997) Jimenez (1999)
 (Yankov et al., 1994; Kertikov, 2000; Orak, 2000; Kertikov, 2003; Kertikov and Kertikova, 2017).
 Zhongliang Zhaode (2001)

but requires more heat to ripen the seed.

At the beginning of its development it does not tolerate excess soil moisture or drought. It grows best in chernozem and meadow-cinnamon soils, which are rich in nutrients and lime. In acidic soils, the vital activity of tuberous bacteria is greatly reduced and therefore the yield is low. Vetch is usually sown after cereals or root crops.

For its normal development it needs sufficient moisture in the soil and properly distributed rainfalls during the growing season (Ilieva, 1951; Kirchev, 2012).

Mousa (1997) and Jimenez (1999) found the influence of some biotic and abiotic factors on seed productivity, grain yield and forage in single and mixed crops. The norms of sowing and fertilization, nitrogen-fixing ability of vetch and its influence on soil nutrition occupy an important part of the studies on the determination of quantitative and qualitative parameters of yield (Yankov et al., 1994, Kertikov, 2000, Orak, 2000; Kertikov, 2003, Kertikov and Kertikova, 2017).

Zhongliang and Zhaode (2001) investigated the relationship between growth and agrometeorological conditions using a parallel observation method. By simulating the correlation, they created mathematical models between leaf growth, plant height and stem range, agrometeorological conditions, and appropriate agrometeorological growth indices correlated with the actual field growth.

The changes in the meteorological conditions during the last decade, characterized with high temperatures and strong fluctuations in the regime of precipitation in years, pose serious challenges to the cultivation of all crops, including and spring vetch. This requires

in-depth research on the productivity of the crop.

The objective of the study was to determine seed yield of spring vetch under conditions of IASS "Obraztsov Chiflik" - Ruse.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The study was conducted in the period 2012-2016 in the experimental field of the Institute of Agriculture and Seed Science "Obraztsov chiflik", Ruse on highly leached chernozem, with low humus content (1.98%), poorly stocked with N and P₂O₅ and well stocked with K₂O. The object of research is the spring vetch variety "Obrazets 666". The same one is done in non-irrigated conditions in the method of fractional plots, repeated 4 times with harvest by plot being 10m². The agrotechnical measures for growing vetch were conducted in accordance with the generally-accepted for the region technology (Popov et al., 1966).

To determine the productivity of the spring vetch "Obrazets 666" variety, depending on the meteorological conditions, data about the average yield from the experiment were used. The indicators – amount of precipitation (mm) and monthly temperature (°C) during the vegetation period of the spring vetch are monitored. To assessment moisture supply of the crop the hydrothermal coefficient was also measured by Selyaninov (1958).

A correlation analysis is made and the variation coefficient (VC) of seed yield is measured. The data is processed with the program SPSS 19.0.

in-depth research on the productivity of the crop.

The objective of the study was to determine seed yield of spring vetch under conditions of IASS "Obraztsov Chiflik" - Ruse.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The study was conducted in the period 2012-2016 in the experimental field of the Institute of Agriculture and Seed Science "Obraztsov chiflik", Ruse on highly leached chernozem, with low humus content (1.98%), poorly stocked with N and P₂O₅ and well stocked with K₂O. The object of research is the spring vetch variety "Obrazets 666". The same one is done in non-irrigated conditions in the method of fractional plots, repeated 4 times with harvest by plot being 10m². The agrotechnical measures for growing vetch were conducted in accordance with the generally-accepted for the region technology (Popov et al., 1966).

To determine the productivity of the spring vetch "Obrazets 666" variety, depending on the meteorological conditions, data about the average yield from the experiment were used. The indicators – amount of precipitation (mm) and monthly temperature (°C) during the vegetation period of the spring vetch are monitored. To assessment moisture supply of the crop the hydrothermal coefficient was also measured by Selyaninov (1958).

A correlation analysis is made and the variation coefficient (VC) of seed yield is measured. The data is processed with the program SPSS 19.0.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The years of the study in the period 2012-2016 differ both in the amount of precipitation and in their distribution during the vegetation (Figure 1).

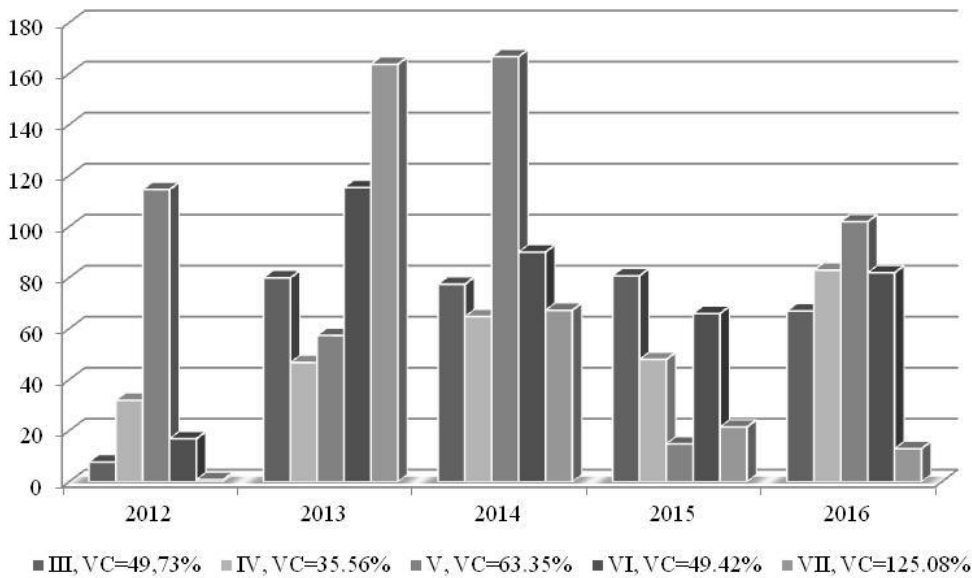


Fig. 1. Precipitation sums by month during the period 2012-2016, %

8 mm m⁻² 2012
 81 mm m⁻² 2015
 167 mm m⁻² 2014
 (VC) 49.73%
 68,35%
 1.4
 (V)
 - (2).

In March the precipitation varied in the range from 8 mm m⁻² in 2012 to 81 mm m⁻² in 2015, and those during the vegetation period (IV to VII) between 1 to 167 mm m⁻² in 2014. The coefficients of variation on average for the periods (VC) were 49.73% and 68.35%, respectively. There was 1.4 higher variability of vegetation precipitation compared to that in March, which would define them as unstable and above all uncertain over time.

In contrast to the precipitation during the months of the vegetation period (IV to VII), the temperature sums fluctuated less (Figure 2).

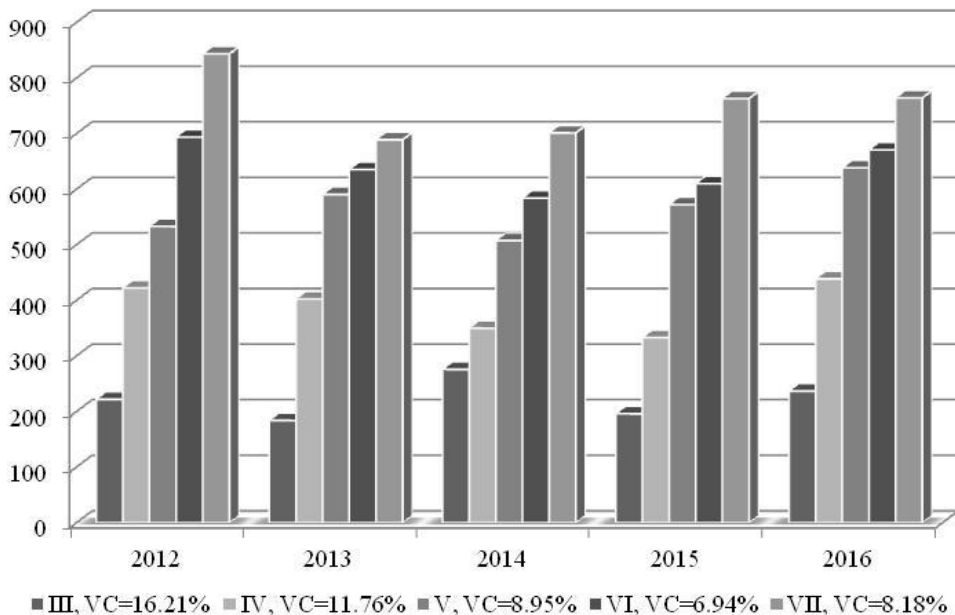


Fig. 2. Temperature sums by month during the period 2012-2016, %

The lower values of the coefficients of variation were indicative. They varied from 11.76% in April to 8.18% in July and an average of 8.96% for the period.

They were characterized with greater stability and were not of dominant importance for the obtained seed yield of spring vetch.

The productive possibilities of the crops, including spring vetch were a function of the interaction between precipitation and temperatures from April to July (the growing season of the crop), expressed by the values of the hydrothermal coefficient (HTC). The obtained values of HTC were characterized with high variability, both for the growing season (VC=43.23%) and by month (VC_{III}=49.73%; VC_{IV}=35.36%; VC_V=63.35%; VC_{VI}=49.42%; VC_{VII}=125.08% (Figure 3)).

The lower values of the coefficients of variation were indicative. They varied from 11.76% in April to 8.18% in July and an average of 8.96% for the period.

They were characterized with greater stability and were not of dominant importance for the obtained seed yield of spring vetch.

The productive possibilities of the crops, including spring vetch were a function of the interaction between precipitation and temperatures from April to July (the growing season of the crop), expressed by the values of the hydrothermal coefficient (HTC). The obtained values of HTC were characterized with high variability, both for the growing season (VC=43.23%) and by month (VC_{III}=49.73%; VC_{IV}=35.36%; VC_V=63.35%; VC_{VI}=49.42%; VC_{VII}=125.08% (Figure 3)).

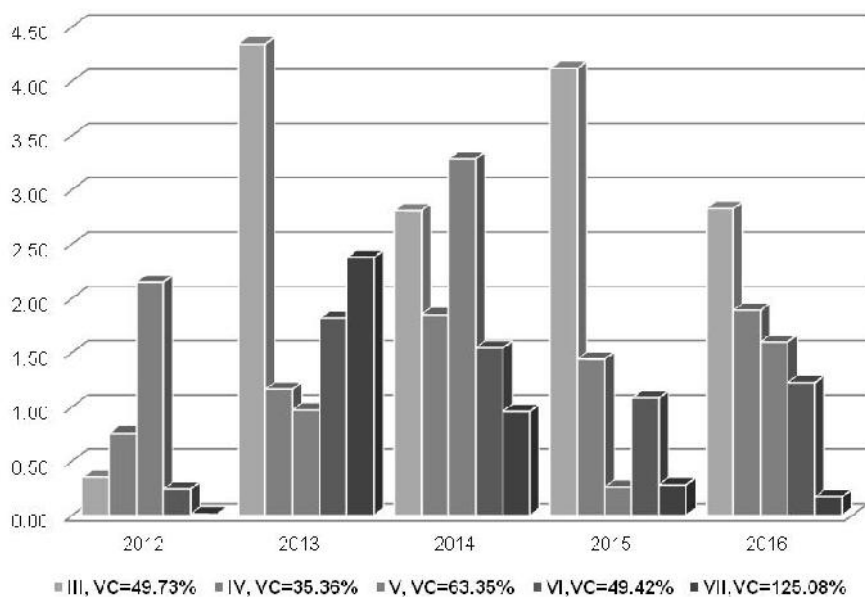


Fig. 3. HTC by month during the period 2012-2016, %

As a result of the reported fluctuations of the meteorological conditions during the period of study, the obtained yield was different by year (Figure 4).

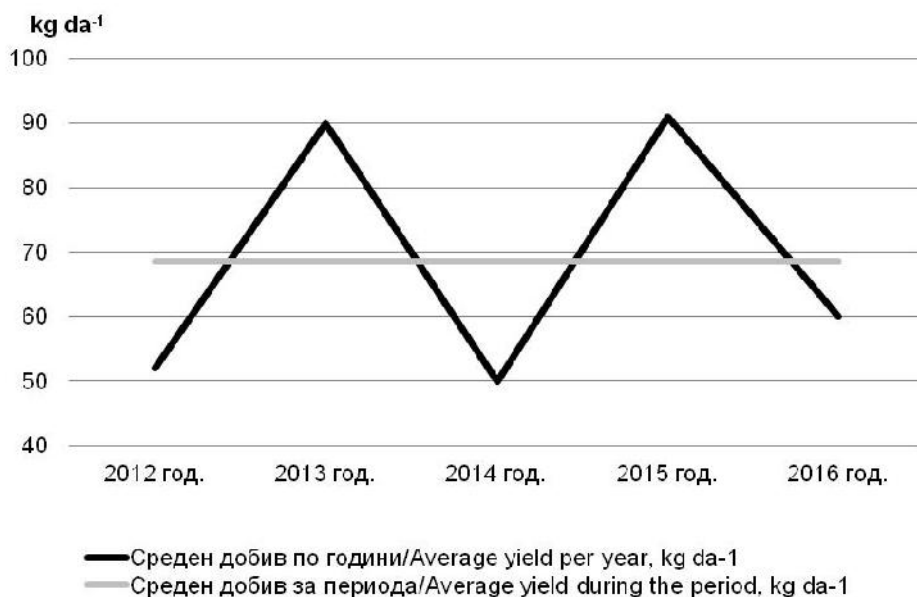


Fig. 4. Average yield per year and average yield during the period 2012-2016, kg da⁻¹

68.6 kg da⁻¹ (40%), (60%)

(68.6 kg da⁻¹)
 2012 . - 52 kg da⁻¹, 2014 . -
 50 kg da⁻¹ 2016 . - 60 kg da⁻¹.

2014 2016 .,

=3.28>2.0,

2012 .

0.01 0.76.

=2.15,

During the five-year study period, the number of years with yield higher than the average for the period - 68.6 kg da⁻¹ were two (40%) and the remaining three years (60%), were lower, which means that years with less favorable weather conditions and more economic losses of seed predominated. It should be noted that relatively low yield below the average for the period (68.6 kg da⁻¹) were obtained in 2012 - 52 kg da⁻¹, in 2014 - 50 kg da⁻¹ and in 2016 - 60 kg da⁻¹.

Characteristic of the meteorological conditions during those years was that the precipitation was insufficient and unevenly distributed.

In 2014 and 2016, when the lowest yield was obtained, there was overwetting in May, as the high HTC = 3.28 > 2.0 was indicative, which contributed to the development of lush vegetative mass, lodging, rot of stems, prolonged flowering and poor insemination.

The reason for the low yield in 2012 was the drought in March, April, June and July, the period of which coincided with the period of formation of the reproductive organs and grain filling, the low HTC, which varied from 0.01 to 0.76, was indicative.

That led to uneven sprouting and abnormal plant development. Precipitation in May with HTC = 2.15, slowed the flowering of vetch plants.

The application of the comparative analysis for comparison of the meteorological conditions with the obtained yield by year did not allow to estimate exactly the degree and strength of the relation between them. Therefore, the analytical dependences of the average yield as a function of the individual elements of the meteorological conditions - precipitation, average daily temperatures and the combination between them, expressed via HTC, were traced. The

1. | values obtained were shown in Table 1.

1.

P=95%

Table 1. Values of multiple correlation coefficients and coefficients of determination between seed yield of vetch and some meteorological factors, P = 95%

| | Meteorological factors | Coefficients of correlation, r | Error (±SE) | Coefficients of determination ($r^2 \times 100$) |
|---|---|--------------------------------|-------------|--|
| 1 | (-) (V-V) Sums of monthly precipitation during the winter (II-III) and vegetation (IV-VII) periods | 0.157 | 23.19 | 2.5 |
| 2 | (-) Sums of monthly precipitation during the winter period (II-III) | 0.824 | 13.28 | 68 |
| 3 | (V-V) Sums of monthly precipitation during the vegetation period (IV-VII) | -0.085 | 23.4 | 0.7 |
| 4 | (V-V) Temperature sums during the vegetation period (IV-VII) | -0.067 | 23.43 | 0.4 |
| 5 | (V-V) HTC during the whole vegetation period (IV-VII) | 0,297 | 22.43 | 8.8 |

(-)
(V-V)
(r=0.157).
2.5%,
($r^2 \times 100$).
(-)
(V-V)
-
68 0.7%.

The results of the correlation and regression analysis showed that the precipitation amounts for the winter (II-III) and vegetation (IV-VII) periods had small effects on the average yield ($r = 0.157$). The quantitative expression of the variation in yield regarding that factor was 2.5%, according to the coefficient of determination ($r^2 \times 100$).

When considering the influence of precipitation amounts on the yield separately during the winter (II-III) and vegetation (IV-VII) periods, it was found that the variation of vetch yield was more strongly influenced by the precipitation during the winter period. The obtained coefficients of determination were indicative - 68 and 0.7%, respectively. That showed that precipitation during the winter had dominant positive influence on the formation of yield. From the calculated correlation coefficient is stated that their

(r=0.824).
 -
 68%.
 -
 0.4%.
 -
 (r=0.297).

behavior is positive and strongly visible (r=0.824). According to the determination coefficient, the change in the average yields from this factor is 68%.

The recorded temperature sums during the vegetation period of the crop did not have positive effects on the average yield, 0.4%.

The combined effect of the vegetation rains and temperature numbers, shown by the hydro thermal coefficient, have made little difference on the average yields (r=0.297).

CONCLUSIONS

2012-2016
 -
 (VC=68.35%)
 (VC=49.73%).
 (VC=8.96%)
 -
 2.5%
 8.8%.
 ()
 ()
 (VC=43.23%),
 (VC =49.73%;
 VC_v=35.36%; VC_v=63.35%; VC_{vi}=49.42%;
 VC_v =125.08%).

During the period of study 2012-2016, the productivity of vetch was directly dependent on the meteorological conditions.

The precipitation during the vegetation period was characterized with greater variability (VC=68.35%) compared to the precipitation in March (VC=49.73%). The temperature sum during the growing season was stable and with low variability (VC = 8.96%).

The quantitative expression of the variation in the average yield depending on the precipitation amounts during the winter and the vegetation period according to the calculated coefficient of determination was 2.5% and by HTC during the vegetation period was 8.8%.

The productive possibilities of the spring vetch are a function from the effects from rains and temperatures from April to July (vegetation period), shown by the hydro thermal coefficient (HTC).

The received results from HTC differ with high variability for the vegetation period (VC=43.23%) and for per month as well (VC =49.73%; VC_v=35.36%; VC_v=63.35%; VC_{vi}=49.42%; VC_v =125.08%).

The shown temperatures during the vegetation period of the crop have not

0.4%.

($r=0.297$).

effected positively the size of the average yield 0.4%.

The combined effect of the vegetation rains and temperature numbers, shown by the hydro thermal coefficient, have made little difference on the average yields ($r=0.297$).

/ REFERENCES

1. **Ilieva, A.**, 1951. Vetch. Zemizdat, Sofia (Bg).
2. **Jimenez, M.**, 1999. Herbage and Seed Yield of Common Vetch (*V. sativa*). In: Proceedings of the XVI International Grassland Congress, Nice, France, pp. 571-572.
3. **Kertikov, T. and D. Kertikova**, 2017. Study on Grain Yield in Spring Vetch Variety "Tempo" Depending on the Technology of Cultivation. *Journal of Mountain Agriculture on the Balkans*, 20 (6), 104-112 (Bg).
4. **Kertikov, .**, 2000. Establishing Optimal Seed and Fertilizer Norms of Spring Vetch for Grain Production. *Rastenievadni nauki*, 37(8), 625-628 (Bg).
5. **Kertikov, .**, 2003. Quantitative and Qualitative Parameters of the Yield of Spring Vetch (*Vicia sativa* L.) Depending on Harvesting Phenophase. *Rastenievadni nauki*, 40(6), 525-531 (Bg).
6. **Kirchev, D.**, 2012. Technologies in Crop Production. Science and Economics, Varna, pp. 195-196 (Bg).
7. **Milkovski, J., K. Enikov and E. Hershkovich**, 1969. Soil-Climatic Zoning of the Main Field Crops. BAS, Sofia, pp. 313-324 (Bg).
8. **Mousa, M., M. Ahmed and A. Mohamed**, 1997. Effect of Phosphorus Fertilizer and Seeding Rates of Forage Yield of *V. sativa*. *Egyptian Journal of Agricultural Research*, 70, 861-872.
9. **Orak, A.**, 2000. An Investigation on Yield and Yield Components of Some Common Vetch (*V. sativa*) Genotypes. *Acta Agronomica Hungarica*, 48, 295-299.
10. **Popov, ., . Pavlov and P. Popov**, 1966. Plant growing: Cereals and fodder crops, Zemizdat, vol. II, Sofia, pp. 148-164 (Bg).
11. **Selyaninov, G.**, 1958. On the Agricultural Assessment of Climate. *Labor on Agricultural Meteorology*, vol. XX (Bg).
12. **Zhongliang, T., and Zhou Z.**, 2001. Influence of Agrometeorological Conditions on the Growth and Yield of *Ilex Latifolia* Thunb. *Chinese Journal of Tropical Crops*, 02. ISSN: 1000-2561.
13. **Yankov, B., I. Dimitrov and T. Kertikov**, 1995. Productivity of Some Vetch Species and Forms and Their Effect on the Soil Nutritive Regime. *Rastenievadni nauki*, 32(6), 123-125 (Bg).

(*Vicia sativa* L.)

12, 4000

Effect of Foliar Applied Growth Regulators on the Yield of Common Vetch (*Vicia sativa* L.)

Nikolay Minev

Agricultural University, 12 Mendeleev Blvd., 4000 Plovdiv, Bulgaria

* -mail: nikiminev@abv.bg

Original scientific paper

SUMMARY

The aim of the present study was to determine the effect of foliar applied growth regulators on the yield of common vetch (*Vicia sativa* L.). For achieving it, a three-year field trial was carried out in the period 2008-2010 in the Training-and-Experimental Fields of the Agricultural University - Plovdiv with two common vetch cultivars – Dobrudzha and Obrazets 666. Split-plot design in four replications was used, the size of the experimental plot being 10 m². The results obtained show that the growth regulators applied at the stage of budding – beginning of flowering had a significant effect on the grain yield (Bormax, RENI D and RENI), the dry biomass (Bormax, RENI D and Mn chelate) and the harvest index (Bormax) in both common vetch cultivars.

Key words: common vetch, growth regulators, grain and leguminous crops

INTRODUCTION

Treatment of pea and vetch plants with growth regulators is a complex phenomenon, depending not only on the

(Chandra et al., 1989; Skrobakova, 1995; Awasthi et al., 1998; Abd-El-Hamied et al., 1999; Prusinski and Borowska, 2001; Elkoca and Kantar, 2006).
 (Chandra et al., 1989; Kholodar et al., 2002; Kertikov, 2005).
 0,001%.
 4
 0,01%
 13,6% () 14,6%
 4
 ()
 8,6%,
 (, 1998).
 Sarikova (1995)
 6%
 Radtseva et al. (1993)
 Stakhova et al.
 (2000)
 25 mg/l
 26-29%.
 TIBA (300 ppm), NAA

nature and rates of the active substances applied, but also on the specific combinations of external factors with the crop growing technology. A number of authors established that the effect of the growth regulators applied was also determined by the development stage of the crop (Chandra et al., 1989; Skrobakova, 1995; Awasthi et al., 1998; Abd-El-Hamied et al., 1999; Prusinski and Borowska, 2001; Elkoca and Kantar, 2006). Some authors also found varietal response to the applied growth regulators (Chandra et al., 1989; Kholodar et al., 2002; Kertikov, 2005).

In experiments carried out at the Institute of Forage Crops - Pleven, a decrease in the seed germination rate was found after treatment of the seeds with steroid glycosides (products Molstim and Ecostim) in concentrations of 0,01 and 0,001%, at both studied rates. When treating the seeds for 4 hours and spraying the plants at the growth stage with a rate of 0,01%, the yield increased by 13,6% (Ecostim) and 14,6% (Molstim), respectively. Seed treatment for 4 hours plus double spraying (stages of growth and budding) caused a decrease in yield by 8,6%, which proved the effect of the phenological stage at the time of applying the growth regulators (Kertikov, 1998).

In a three-year trial with peas of Bogatir cultivar, Sarikova (1995) reported an average grain yield increase of 6% after treatment with Rastim and Atonik during vegetation, while Radtseva et al. (1993) found that the treatment of pea plants with a ketosulfide concentrate at the budding stage led to an increase both in grain yield and in crude protein content. Stakhova et al. (2000) established a positive effect of the application of folic acid in peas and after treatment with 25 mg/l at the flowering stage, the increase in grain yield reached up to 26-29%.

Foliar application of the growth regulators TIBA (300 ppm), NAA (20 ppm), GA3 (30 ppm) and CCC (500 ppm)

(20 ppm), GA3 (30 ppm)
ppm)
(*Cajanus cajan* L.)

NAA
7,9 7,7% -
1,9 2,7%
(Kadam and Pol, 2007).
Kertikov and Radeva (1998)

666
-
-
0,5%.
21,8 18,1%
()

666
-
(0,01%)
11,6 6%
()

-
0,5 1
136 kg/ha 122 kg/ha

(0.01%)
-

666.

in three pigeon pea cultivars (*Cajanus cajan* L.) led to an increase in the grain yield and the protein content. The most obvious results were recorded after treatment with NAA and CCC, with an average of 7,9 and 7,7% higher grain yield and 1,9 and 2,7% higher crude protein content compared to the control (Kadam and Pol, 2007).

Kertikov and Radeva (1998), after treatment of common vetch *Obrazets* 666 with the products Molstim and Ecostim, found the highest effect when applying the stimulators at the stage of budding – beginning of flowering, at a concentration of the spray solution of 0,5%. Grain yield increased by 21,8 and 18,1% on average compared to the control (treated with water). Treatment of common vetch *Obrazets* 666 with the biostimulators Molstim and Ekostim (0.01%) applied at the stage of growth, increased the grain yield by 11.6 and 6% compared to the control (treated with water) and the percentage of crude protein increased by 0,5 to 1. The highest crude protein yield – by 13,6 kg/da and 12,2 kg/da higher compared to the control, was obtained after treatment of vetch at the stage of budding – beginning of flowering with the biostimulators Molstim and Ecostim (0,01%).

The aim of the present study was to determine the effect of foliar applied growth regulators on the grain yield, the dry biomass and the harvest index in both common vetch cultivars - Dobrudzha and *Obrazets* 666.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

A field trial was carried out to establish the effect of RENI, applied separately and in a combination with boron, as well as the commercial products Bormax, Manganese Chelate and Molybdenite, on the productivity of common vetch cultivars. The experiment was based on the split-plot method in four replications, the size of the experimental plot being 10 m².

The cultivars were treated at the

-
 -
 - 0,5%;
 - 0,4%;
 0,2%; - 0,4%.
 25-30 cm.
 99% 98%
 666.
 1,5 m,
 12 cm, 6-10 cm
 180 kg/ha.
 960 1,5 l/ha
 500 ml/ha
 (*Bruchus rufimanus*)
 (*p. Aphis*).
 1,30
 l/ha (*Sorghum*
halepense), (*Cynodon dactylon*),
 (*Setaria viridis*, *Setaria glauca*)

stage of budding – beginning of flowering with the following concentrations: RENI – 0,5%; RENI D – 0,5%; Manganese chelate – 0,4%; Molybdenite – 0,2%; Bormax – 0,4%.

The predecessor in that field trial was wheat and deep soil tillage was performed at a depth of 25-30 cm after its harvesting. After the soil cultivation, the areas were disked. Two pre-sowing cultivations were carried out at the depth of sowing.

The laboratory germination rate of the seeds was determined before sowing, reporting the rate of 98% in Dobrudzha and 99% in Obrazets 666 cultuvars, respectively. Due to the high values of the laboratory germination rate of the seeds, a serious correction in the previously planned sowing rates was not necessary.

Sowing was carried out in the optimal agrotechnical term, in the middle of March, with a plot seed drill with a width of 1,5 m, at a row spacing of 12 cm, a depth of 6-10 cm and a sowing rate of 180 kg/ha. Immediately after sowing, the area was rolled with toothed rollers for a better contact of the seeds with soil and uniform plant emergence.

After rolling, the soil was treated with Dual Gold 960EC – 1,5 l/ha against annual grassy weeds, including Johnson grass from seeds and some broadleaf weeds.

During the flowering stage, Nurelle Dursban insecticide was applied at the rate of 500 ml/ha, four times in peas and three times in common vetch, against broad bean weevil (*Bruchus rufimanus*) and aphids (*P. Aphis*).

During vegetation, the systemic herbicide Fusilad Forte was applied at the rate of 1,3 l/ha against rhizome Johnson grass (*Sorghum halepense*), Bermuda grass (*Cynodon dactylon*), Green Foxtail (*Setaria viridis*, *Setaria glauca*) and wild

(*Avena fatua*).

Wintersteiger.

)

2N HCl
(pH) –

(kg/ha) -

(

kg/ha.
(HI) –

,

,

:

666.

1970-1973 .
2001-2002 .

,

g

e 232,6 kg/da.

oats (*Avena fatua*).

The grain was harvested at the stage of full maturity with Wintersteiger plot combine harvester for experimental purposes.

Soil Analyses:

- Mineral nitrogen (ammonium and nitrate) by extraction with 1% KCl; -
- Egner-Reim; -
- 2N HCl acid. Soil reaction (pH) was measured potentiometrically in aqueous extract.

Plant Analyses:

- Grain yield (kg/ha) was reported at full maturity stage of common vetch after pre-mowing of each plot for drying and subsequent threshing with a combine harvester and weighing the amount of grain of each variant separately.

- Yield of the dry biomass (kg/ha) was reported by pre-weighing the total mass (grain and dry vegetative mass). After deducting the amount of seeds, the amount of dry mass was obtained in kg/ha for each of the experimental variants.

- Harvest index (HI) - an indicator that reflects the ratio of seeds to total biomass, i.e. the ratio of the generative to the vegetative parts of the plants.

Common vetch cultivars used:

Common vetch, cultivar Obrazets

666. The cultivar was developed by Prof. M. Pehlivanov and tested by the State Varietal Testing system for biological and economic qualities in 1970-1973 and for distinctness, uniformity and stability – in 2001-2002. The cultivar has a rapid development rate, early flowering and matures before summer droughts. The absolute seed weight is 80-100 g and the hectolitre weight – 80-85 kg. The average yield is 232,6 kg/da.

2001-2002
 2002-2003
 81
 33 cm.
 1000
 62,99 g.
 76,9
 85 kg.
 31,37%
 0,2-0,4%
 Mn
 (EDTA),
 0,1 – 0,2%.

Common vetch, cultivar Dobrudzha. Established at Dobrudzha Agricultural Institute in General Toshevo. Tested by the State Varietal Testing system for biological and economic qualities in 2001-2002 and for distinctness, uniformity and stability – in 2002-2003. The vegetation period is 81 days on average. The height of the first pod is 33 cm. The cultivar is susceptible to lodging, as is the standard cultivar. The weight of 1000 seeds is 62,99 g. The hectoliter weight varies from 76,9 to 85 kg. The protein content is 31,37% of the absolute dry matter on average. It is moderately resistant to ascochitosis and resistant to powdery mildew and rust.

Growth regulators used:

RENI – RENI products are combinations of molybdenum, manganese and magnesium ions in different concentrations and ratios, which are additionally and purposefully combined with agents with a biochemical and physiological action, such as trace elements, synthetic regulators of cytokinin type, basic metabolites and others. RENI is a combination of molybdenum, manganese and magnesium ions and RENI-D contains the main elements of RENI products with B (boron) added.

Manganese chelate – a foliar fertilizer for fertigation, hydroponics and foliar application in manganese deficiency. It is applied at a concentration of 0,2-0,4% solution. Its application can be combined with foliar nutrition with an aqueous solution of urea. In the present study Mn is in a chelated form (EDTA), which is easily absorbed by plants.

Molybdenite – a foliar fertilizer for fertigation, hydroponics and foliar application in crops with high molybdenum requirements: potatoes, cabbage, broccoli, beans, peas, tomatoes. Leaf application is at a concentration of 0,1-0,2%.

Bormax – a foliar fertilizer for different crops with high requirements for boron – corn, beets, fruits, potatoes,

0,3 – 0,4%.
- 1 l/ha.

100 m)

- -G.

- NH_4^+ – 14,00, mg/1000g
- NO_3^- - 16,80, mg/1000g
- – 30,80 mg/1000g
- P_{25} – 22,0, mg/100g
- K_2 – 36,0, mg/100g
- CaO – 20,63 mgeq/100g
- Mg – 5,18 mgeq/100g
- Mn 4 – 210,0 mg/1000g
- (2) – 7,83

N

K_2 (Mg)

(CaO)

P_{25}

Mn 4,

(2008)

2007

legumes, vegetables and flowers. Foliar application is at a concentration 0,3 – 0,4% and the application rate is 0,1 l/da.

Soil and Climatic Characteristics

The soil in the experimental fields of the Agricultural University - Plovdiv is alluvial-meadow. In terms of geographical location, the area belongs to the Thracian-Strandzha region, the first sub-region. Alluvial-meadow soils are developed on sandy-clayey and sandy-gravel Quaternary sediments. According to FAO international classification, they refer to Mollic Fluvisols. They are formed on alluvial deposits and have a well-formed humus-accumulative horizon, which gradually passes into the C horizon and deep in the soil-forming materials (below 100 cm), a charred layer is found – profile A-C-G. The humus content is usually not high – no more than 1-2%.

- NH_4^+ – 14,00, mg/1000g
- NO_3^- - 16,80, mg/1000g
- – 30,80 mg/1000g
- P_{25} – 22,0, mg/100g
- K_2 – 36,0, mg/100g
- CaO – 20,63 mgeq/100g
- Mg – 5,18 mgeq/100g
- Mn 4 – 210,0 mg/1000g
- (2) – 7,83

Those data show that the soil has a weak alkaline reaction, poorly stocked with N and well-stocked with P_{25} and K_2 . Exchangeable calcium (CaO) and magnesium (MgO) are in amounts, typical of the soil type. The total amount of MnO_4 was also determined, defining the soil as well-stocked with that element.

However, due to the alkaline soil type, its mobility and accessibility to plants is poor.

In the first year of the field trial with common vetch (2008), thanks to the moisture accumulated in the soil during the rainy year 2007, there were favorable conditions for the normal germination and

(1).

242,9 mm
237,0 mm, 2,5%

30-

86,3% (35,8mm) 50,1% (23,0mm)

30- 1971-
2000 . -

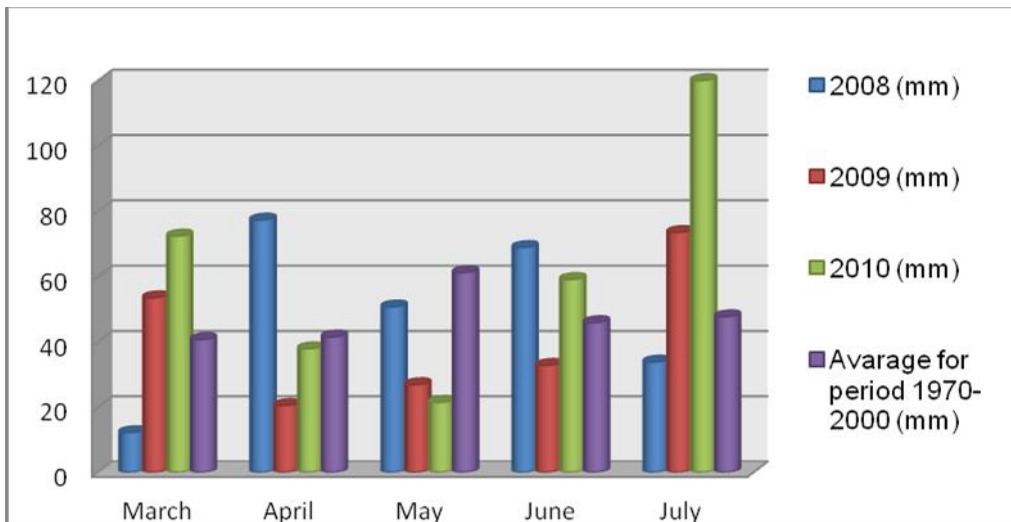
2).

2632,9
6,3% (155,2)
(2477,7).

timely emergence of the vetch plants of both studied cultivars (Figure 1).

During the first vegetation of common vetch, the precipitation amount was of 242,9 mm, the climatic norm being 237,0 mm, i.e. 2,5% higher. The amount of precipitation during the first vegetation of the common vetch did not significantly exceed the norms for the long-term 30-year period, but the distribution of rainfalls during vegetation was quite favourable for the optimal growth and development of the crop. The months of March and June were characterized by precipitation above the climatic norm, with values of 86.3% (35,8 mm) and 50,1% (23.0 mm) above the average for the 30-year period (1971-2000). In July, the month of harvesting the crop, there was a deficit of moisture, favouring the normal ripening of vetch grain (Table 2).

- The sum of the daily air temperatures was
- 2632.9 , which exceeded the climatic
- norm (2477,7) by 6.3% (or 155,2).



1. (mm)
Fig. 1. Amount of monthly precipitation (mm) during the study period

- The favourable combination of the climatic factors – abundant initial moisture, precipitation in the critical

2008
(2009)
30 mm
1).
2604,4
5,1%
(2477,7).
2).

stages of vetch development and optimal conditions for ripening and harvesting of the grain – contributed to obtaining almost record grain yields in the first year (2008), approaching the productive potential of the crop.

In the second experimental year (2009), the common vetch vegetation season was characterized by precipitation below the climatic norm with a moisture deficit of almost 30 mm (Figure 1). Drought during the critical months of common vetch vegetation led to a significant reduction in grain yields.

The temperature sum for the period was 2604,4 C, which is 5.1% higher than the long-term average (2477,7 C). The highest average temperatures were measured in May, which had a significant impact on pod formation and grain filling in both vetch cultivars (Figure 2).

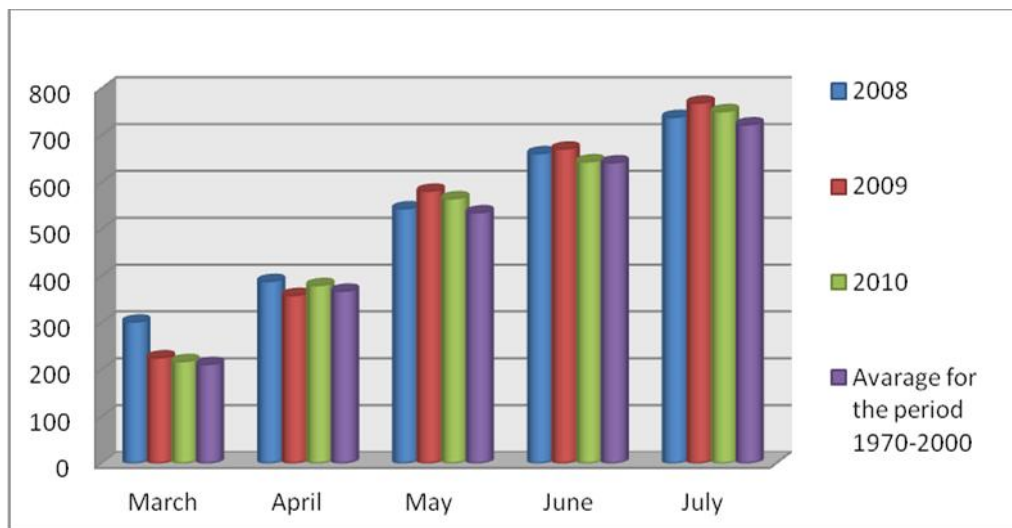


Fig.2. Average monthly air temperatures () during vetch growing season

2010
310,9 mm,
31,2% (73,9 mm)

The amount of precipitation in the last experimental year (2010) was 310,9 mm, which is 31,2% (73,9 mm) above the values of the climatic norm (Figure 1),

(1)
 30-
 31,2% (73,9 mm).
 (72,3 mm)
 151,6%
 8,7% 64,9%
 30-
 2000 . 1971-
 2010 .
 - 3,2%
 (2).
 30
 (ANOVA),
 SPSS.

characterizing the year as wet. The amount of precipitation during vegetation exceeded the average for the 30-year period by 31,2% (73,9 mm). However, their distribution by months was quite unfavourable. The last vegetation was characterized by humid March, June and July and in the last month the amount of precipitation was 151,6% (72,3 mm) above the climatic norm. That hampered ripening and harvesting of vetch grain.

The months of April and May, when the most active vegetation processes take place, were relatively dry – with a moisture deficit of 8,% and 64,9% below the average values for the 30-year period (1971-2000). The temperature sum for 2010 was close to the values of the climatic norm, slightly exceeding it – by 3,2% (Figure 2). A more significant increase compared to the average temperatures was observed only in April, when they were 30 C above the long term average.

The obtained data were subjected to analysis of variance (ANOVA), using the SPSS package.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Grain Yield

Data in Table 1 show the strong influence of the climatic factors on the grain yield of both studied cultivars.

In the first experimental year (2008), grain yields of both vetch cultivars were the highest compared to the other two seasons. That was due to the fact that during the period from April to July 2008, the monthly amounts of precipitation were around and above the normal for the 30-year period (1971-2000), which facilitated the optimal development of pod formation and grain filling in common vetch.

The best results in Dobrudzha cultivar were obtained after treatment with

– 2088 kg/ha – 1938 kg/ha,
344 kg/ha 194 kg/ha

666,

Bormax (2088 kg/ha) and RENI (1938 kg/ha), i.e. the grain yields were 344 kg/ha and 194 kg/ha higher, the differences to the untreated variant being statistically significant.

In Obrazets 666 cultivar, which appears to be higher yielding than Dobrudzha, similar results were reported for the grain production performance.

1. **2008-2010** ., kg/ha
Table 1. Grain yield by years and average for the period 2008-2010, kg/ha

| Variants | 2008 | | 2009 | | 2010 | | Average | |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| | kg/ha | % | kg/ha | % | kg/ha | % | kg/ha | % |
| Dobrudzha | | | | | | | | |
| Control | 1744 ^b | 100,0 | 808 ^b | 100,0 | 945 ^c | 100,0 | 1167 | 100,0 |
| RENI | 1938 ^a | 111,1 | 826 ^b | 102,2 | 953 ^c | 100,8 | 1239 | 106,2 |
| RENI D | 1777 ^b | 101,9 | 990 ^a | 122,5 | 1140 ^a | 120,6 | 1302 | 111,6 |
| Bormax | 2088 ^a | 119,7 | 898 ^{ab} | 111,1 | 1157 ^a | 122,4 | 1381 | 118,3 |
| Mn Chelate | 1838 ^b | 105,4 | 913 ^{ab} | 113,0 | 1109 ^{ab} | 117,4 | 1287 | 110,3 |
| Molybdenite | 1694 ^b | 97,1 | 685 ^c | 84,8 | 1051 ^b | 111,2 | 1143 | 97,9 |
| LSD5% | 186,24 | | 130,53 | | 88,88 | | | |
| Obrazets 666 | | | | | | | | |
| Control | 1905 ^{bc} | 100,0 | 1045 ^{abc} | 100,0 | 1271 ^a | 100,0 | 1407 | 100,0 |
| RENI | 2083 ^{ab} | 109,3 | 1120 ^a | 107,2 | 1307 ^a | 102,8 | 1503 | 106,8 |
| RENI D | 2007 ^b | 105,4 | 1157 ^a | 110,7 | 1301 ^a | 102,4 | 1488 | 105,8 |
| Bormax | 2213 ^a | 116,2 | 1099 ^{ab} | 105,2 | 1282 ^a | 100,9 | 1531 | 108,8 |
| Mn Chelate | 1913 ^{bc} | 100,4 | 976 ^{bc} | 93,4 | 1279 ^a | 100,6 | 1389 | 98,7 |
| Molybdenite | 1738 ^c | 91,2 | 928 ^c | 88,8 | 1278 ^a | 100,6 | 1315 | 93,5 |
| LSD5% | 226,22 | | 151,64 | | 73,20 | | | |

(2213 kg/ha)

The highest grain yield (2213 kg/ha) was obtained after treatment with Bormax, the difference to the control variant being statistically significant. Relatively high yields, although insignificant, were reported in the variants treated with RENI – 2083 kg/ha, i.e. 178 kg/ha higher than the grain yield harvested in the control variant.

– 2083 kg/ha,
178 kg/ha

The second year of the experiment (2009) was characterized by dry April, May and June, when the shortage of precipitation was 49,6% (-21.0 mm), 46,1% (-34.3 mm) and 79,5% (-79.5 mm). That had a negative impact on the grain production values in both common vetch cultivars, the yields being twice lower than

49,6% (- 21,0 mm), 46,1% (- 34,3 mm) 79,5% (-79.5mm).

-

- 990 kg/ha.
(666)

kg/ha ()
1157 kg/ha (),

- 928

(945 kg/ha)

(1157 kg/ha)

Mn

-

666

666.

in the previous year.

- In Dobrudzha cultivar the highest yields were obtained after treatment with RENI D – 990 kg/ha. In the second studied cultivar Obrazets 666, the results also varied greatly – from 928 kg/ha (treatment with Molybdenite) to 1157 kg/ha (treatment with RENI D), but the differences were statistically insignificant.

- The results of the grain yields, obtained during the third experimental season, occupied an intermediate position compared to the previous two. Concerning the climatic characteristics, the year was humid, but the rainfalls were unevenly distributed by months. March 2010 was extremely humid, April was characterized by normal rainfall, while May and June were dry. The lowest grain yield (945 kg/ha) was obtained from the untreated variant and the highest (1157 kg/ha) – in the variant treated with Bormax, the differences being statistically significant. There was a slight yield increase in the variant with Mn chelate.

- The tendency of a better production performance of Obrazets 666 was also observed in the third experimental year, but the grain yield was not significantly influenced by the treatment with the studied preparations.

- The application of growth regulators at the stage of budding – beginning of flowering of common vetch had a distinct effect in the two studied cultivars, Dobrudzha showing a better response to treatment with growth regulators than the higher-yielding cultivar Obrazets 666.

- The analysis of the results of the three experimental years showed the pronounced effect of the Bormax-containing preparations Bormax and RENI D on the grain yield of both cultivars, as the highest average grain yield values of Dobrudzha cultivar were obtained after treatment with Bormax (1381 kg/ha) and

(1302 kg/ha),
214 kg/ha

(1381 kg/ha)
135 kg/ha.

-

666

1503 kg/ha
124 kg/ha

9,6 kg/ha.

1531 kg/ha

-

-

-

-

(2008)

-

(2).

RENI D (1302 kg/ha), exceeding the control by 214 kg/ha and 135 kg/ha, respectively.

Bormax and RENI showed the most pronounced stimulating effect on grain yield of Obrazets 666. The yields obtained after treatment with those products were 1531 kg/ha and 1503 kg/ha, respectively, exceeding the control by 124 kg/ha and 9.6 kg/ha. According to the data obtained for that cultivar, it can be assumed that the higher yielding the cultivar, the weaker the influence of exogenously applied stimulants.

Dry Biomass Yield

The dry biomass yield for the experimental period varied both by years and by variants. In the first experimental year (2008), the yield of dry mass in both studied cultivars was the highest in comparison with the other two years in response to the favourable climatic conditions in the spring (Table 2).

2.

2008-2010 ., kg/ha

Table 2. Yield of dry vegetative mass by years and on average for the period 2008-2010, kg/ha

| Variants | 2008 | | 2009 | | 2010 | | Average | |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|---------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| | kg/da | % | kg/da | % | kg/da | % | kg/da | % |
| Dobrudzha | | | | | | | | |
| Control | 8820 ^b | 100,0 | 4250 ^b | 100,0 | 3930 ^{abc} | 100,0 | 5667 | 100,0 |
| RENI | 9003 ^c | 102,1 | 3936 ^c | 92,6 | 3489 ^d | 88,8 | 5476 | 96,6 |
| RENI D | 8921 ^b | 101,1 | 4285 ^b | 100,8 | 3835 ^{bc} | 97,6 | 5680 | 100,2 |
| Bormax | 9121 ^a | 103,4 | 4977 ^a | 117,1 | 3678 ^{cd} | 93,6 | 5925 | 104,6 |
| Mn Chelate | 9279 ^a | 105,2 | 4420 ^a | 104,0 | 4117 ^{ab} | 104,8 | 5939 | 104,8 |
| Molybdenite | 8557 ^b | 97,0 | 4337 ^b | 102,0 | 4186 ^a | 106,5 | 5693 | 100,5 |
| LSD5% | 375,80 | | 384,24 | | 339,50 | | | |
| Obrazets 666 | | | | | | | | |
| Control | 7566 ^{cd} | 100,0 | 4157 ^d | 100,0 | 3379 ^a | 100,0 | 5034 | 100,0 |
| RENI | 7834 ^b | 103,5 | 4632 ^{ab} | 111,4 | 3362 ^{ab} | 99,5 | 5276 | 104,8 |
| RENI D | 8327 ^a | 110,1 | 4508 ^{bc} | 108,4 | 3499 ^a | 103,6 | 5445 | 108,2 |
| Bormax | 7975 ^{ab} | 105,4 | 4829 ^a | 116,2 | 3458 ^a | 102,3 | 5421 | 107,7 |
| Mn Chelate | 8059 ^{ab} | 106,5 | 4261 ^{cd} | 102,5 | 3122 ^b | 92,4 | 5147 | 102,2 |
| Molybdenite | 742,9 ^d | 98,2 | 4593 ^b | 110,5 | 3393 ^a | 100,4 | 5138 | 102,1 |
| LSD5% | 273,81 | | 458,33 | | 299,42 | | | |

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------|------------|------|
| 666. | - | | |
| 9121 kg/ha | 5,2% | 9279 kg/ha | 3,4% |
| | (| 666) | |
| 10,1% | | 8327 kg/ha | |
| Mn | | | |
| 8059 kg/ha | 7975 kg/ha, | | |
| | | 2009 | |
| | (| 1). | |
| Mn | | | |
| - 4977 kg/ha | 4420 kg/ha. | | |
| | | 666 | |
| | | 4829 kg/ha | |
| 16,2%. | | | |

In the first year, the yield of air-dry biomass from Dobrudzha cultivar was higher compared to Obrazets 666. The analysis of the results showed that in all the variants of the experiment, the values increased in both cultivars, although slightly.

In Dobrudzha cultivar the growth regulators Mn chelate and Bormax had the greatest effect – after their application the yield of dry biomass was 9279 kg/ha and 9121 kg/ha, respectively, or by 5,2% and 3,4% more, the differences being statistically significant.

The other cultivar (Obrazets 666) showed the best response to treatment with RENI D, the dry mass yield being 8327 kg/ha or 10,1% above the values of the untreated control. Mn chelate and Bormax applied in the stage of budding – beginning of flowering, had a weak effect – the yield of dry biomass was 8059 kg/ha and 7975 kg/ha, respectively, but the differences were insignificant.

The experimental year 2009 was characterized by wet March with precipitation around and above the climatic norm and dry April, May and June (Figure 1). The yields of air-dry biomass were twice lower than in the previous year in the two studied common vetch cultivars, but the effect of the growth regulators was stronger. Dobrudzha cultivar responded best to the treatment with Bormax and Mn chelate, resulting in significantly higher yields of dry biomass – 4977 kg/ha and 4420 kg/ha, respectively.

In cv. Obrazets 666 the application of Bormax had the greatest statistically significant effect in that experimental year, the yield of dry mass being 4829 kg/ha, which exceeded the control by 16,2%. In the other variants, the increase was small and statistically insignificant.

In the last year the yield of dry biomass was the lowest in comparison with the previous two and the foliar treatment with the studied products did

not have a significant effect on the values of that characteristic.

The results of the dry biomass yield on average for the three experimental years show that treatment with Mn chelate and Bormax led to a certain increase in straw yield in Dobrudzha cultivar and with RENI D and Bormax – in Obrazets 666 (Table 2).

Harvest Index

The introduction of growth regulators in common vetch had a positive effect on the values of the harvest index (HI), which shows the efficiency of distribution of photosynthetic assimilates between grain and biomass.

The results show that the application of the regulators is an effective agro-technical measure for improving the morphological structure of the vetch plants concerning the share of grain in the total biomass.

3.

666

2008-2010

Table 3. Harvest index for common vetch varieties Dobrudzha and Obrazec 666 by years and average for the period 2008-2010

| Variants | Harvest Index, Dobrudzha cultivar | | | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|---------|-------|
| | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | Average | % |
| Control | 0,158 | 0,172 | 0,194 | 0,175 | 100,0 |
| RENI | 0,170 | 0,175 | 0,214 | 0,186 | 106,3 |
| RENI D | 0,168 | 0,187 | 0,230 | 0,195 | 111,4 |
| Bormax | 0,186 | 0,175 | 0,231 | 0,197 | 112,6 |
| Mn Chelate | 0,153 | 0,156 | 0,213 | 0,174 | 99,4 |
| Molybdenite | 0,164 | 0,159 | 0,199 | 0,174 | 99,4 |
| - | Harvest Index, Obrazets 666 cultivar | | | | |
| Control | 0,192 | 0,190 | 0,236 | 0,206 | 100,0 |
| RENI | 0,210 | 0,186 | 0,248 | 0,215 | 104,4 |
| RENI D | 0,195 | 0,186 | 0,272 | 0,218 | 105,8 |
| Bormax | 0,220 | 0,197 | 0,261 | 0,226 | 109,7 |
| Mn Chelate | 0,191 | 0,187 | 0,280 | 0,219 | 106,3 |
| Molybdenite | 0,189 | 0,176 | 0,274 | 0,213 | 103,4 |

The data for the three-year period (Table 3) show that the harvest index of Dobrudzha cultivar had the lowest values (0,174) when applying Mn chelate and

Mn (0,197) 666
 - , -
 , -
 666 -
 3 ,
 HI
 - 0,226,
 9,7%.
 Mn
 6,3 5,8%.

- Molybdenite, and the highest (0,197) when treated with Bormax. In Obrazets 666, the harvest index was the lowest in the control and the highest in the variant with Bormax treatment. The parameters of the studied characteristic varied by years, with the highest values reported in the last experimental year in both studied cultivars.

Obrazets 666 had higher values of the harvest index by years compared to Dobrudzha. The data in Table 3 show that the growth regulators increased the HI in all the variants. The greatest positive effect was found in the variants treated with Bormax – 0,226, exceeding the control by 9,7%. The treatment with Mn chelate and RENI D also had a positive effect, resulting in an increase of the harvest index by 6,3 and 5,8%, respectively.

CONCLUSIONS

- The studied cultivars showed a different response to the foliar applied growth regulators – Dobrudzha cultivar responded better than the cultivar Obrazets 666.

The application of the two Bormax-containing products – Bormax and RENI D, had the greatest effect on the grain yield of both common vetch cultivars.

The growth regulators Mn chelate and Bormax contributed to a certain increase in straw yield in Dobrudzha cultivar, and RENI D and Bormax – in Obrazets 666 cultivar.

- The growth regulators applied at the stage of budding – beginning of flowering influenced favourably the values of the harvest index (HI) in common vetch. Bormax and RENI D had a significant effect on the morphological structure of common vetch and on the share of vegetative and reproductive organs.

(HI)

/ REFERENCES

1. **Abd-El-Hamied, K. I., E. A. Eawis, I. I. Farghal and R. M. Shuker**, 1999. Effect of the Fungicide Vitavax and Gibberellic Acid on Growth, Yield and Endogenous Hormones of *Vicia faba* Plants. *Egyptian Journal of Physiological Sciences*, 22 (2), 223-237.
2. **Awasthi, C. P.; A. B. Singh, Anita Dhiman**, 1998. Effect of Phenolic Compounds on Yield and Biochemical Constituents of Broad Bean. *Himachal Journal of Agricultural Research*, 23 (1/2), 70-76.
3. **Chandra, R., R. Pollsetty and J. D. S. Panwar**, 1989. Effect of Chloromequat and Phosphorus on Growth and Yield of Pea (*Pisum sativum* L.). *Annals of Plant Physiology*, 3 (1), 65-73.
4. **Elkoca, E. and F. Kantar**, 2006. Response of Pea (*Pisum sativum* L.) to Mepiquat Chloride under Varying Application Doses and Stages. *Journal of Agronomy and Crop Science*, 192, 2, 102-110.
5. **Kadam, S. M., K. M. Pol**, 2007. Influence of Foliar Sprays of Plant Growth Regulators on Yield and Yield Attributes of Pigeon Pea (*Cajanus cajan* L.). *Advances in Plant Sciences*, Muzaffaranga: Academy of Plant Sciences, 20 (2), 403-405.
6. **Kertikov, T.**, 1998. Effect of Biostimulants of Plant Origin on Seed Germination and Grain Productivity of Common Vetch. *Plant Science*, 35, 2, 110-112.
7. **Kertikov, T.**, 2005. Effect of RENI Biostimulator on Grain Yield and Quality in Common Vetch Cultivars Depending on the Phenological Stage at Treatment. *Plant Science*, 42 (5), 407-412.
8. **Kertikov, T. and V. Radeva**, 1998. Influence of the Treatment with the Biostimulants Molstim and Ecostim on Spring Vetch Productivity. *Plant Science*, 35, 188-191.
9. **Kholodar, A. V., K. K. Sidorova and V. K. Shumny**, 2002. Effects of Synthetic auxin (2,4-D) on the Level of Indolyl-3-acetic Acid in Cultivars and Supernodulating Mutants of Pea (*Pisum sativum* L.). *Proceedings, Biological Sciences*, 386 (1), 460-461.
10. **Prusinski, J. and M. Borowska**, 2001. Impact of Selected Growth Regulators and Ecolist on Yellow Lupin Seeds Yield (*Lupinus luteus* L.) *Electronic Journal of Polish Agricultural Universities, Agronomy*, 4, 2.
11. **Skrobakova, E.**, 1995, Vplyv regulatorov rastu na tvorbu urody hrachu siateho. *Agrochemia* (Slovakia), 35 (3-4), 61-62.
12. **Stakhova, L. N., L. F. Stakhov and V. G. Laygin**, 2000. Effect of Exogenic Folic Acid on the Yield and Amino Acid Composition of the Seeds of *Pisum sativum* L. and *Hordeum vulgare* L. *Applied Biochemistry and Microbiology (Prikladnaya biokhimiya i mikrobiologiya)*, 36 (1), 98-103.

Impact of the Genotype, the Forerunner Culture and the Fertilization on the Productive Qualities of Sorghum

Stanimir Enchev*, Tzvetan Kikindonov

Agricultural Institute, 9700 Shumen, Bulgaria

*E-mail: stanimir_en@abv.bg

Original scientific paper

2016-2017
SgI-47, Sg-OBF
(
NPK - 20 kg/da.
8% 15%
N
(
14%-20%

SUMMARY

Field experiment is conducted in 2016-2017 with test of the varieties Maxired, Maxibel, Alize, Armida and Hartmann and the lines SqR-OA, SgI-47, SQ-OBF with variants of forerunner beet and sorghum (monoculture) and 20 kg/da NPK fertilization.

The severe drought in the two years of testing reflects on the green mass productivity in milky-wax stage and on the grain yield.

The average results show increase of the green mass - 8% - 15% with fertilization for both forerunner variants.

The application of combined fertilizer compensates significantly the negative effect of the forerunner sorghum (monoculture).

The decrease in the productivity after the sorghum forerunner is between 14-20% on the average for green mass and grain. The differences in the productivity of the tested genotypes increase when grown in monoculture. This increases the necessity of assessment of the variety reaction as an effective tool for improvement of the agricultural practices

in the conditions of climate changes.

Key words: sorghum, forerunner, fertilization, productivity

INTRODUCTION

The suitable areas for growing a particular plant species are extremely important for meeting the requirements of the culture and are prerequisite of successful cultivation (Mihova et al., 2017). The optimization of effective crop rotation is a basic factor for the intensive and sustainable agriculture in the conditions of the new economic realities and of tendency for increase of the extremal deviations from the agrometeorological norms (Vasilev, 1986; Mihova et al., 2017).

The unique plasticity and drought resistance of sorghum makes actual its place in the crops structure in agriculture. A basic factor for the drought resistance is its powerful root system, which absorbs intensively water and nutrition elements even from the deepest soil horizons (Kalaidjiev et al., 1969; Tanchev, 1996). The climate indicators of the environment and applying agrotechnical activities are crucial for development, productivity and adaptability of crops (Bozhanska et al., 2017).

The breeding of new varieties, the balanced fertilization and the optimization of the modern agro-technics disprove the old standpoint that sorghum is a bad forerunner crop. Thus the potential for ensuring the forage balance is increased in the agriculture in conditions of water deficiency (Hanssmans, 1998; Berenji and Dahlberg, 2004, Kikindonov and Slanev, 2008; Kikindonov et al., 2009; Andreeva, 2014; Slanev, 2014).

The intensive market character of the agricultural practice in Bulgaria is concentrated in the narrow parameters of the grain production, which brings the

(Mihova et al., 2017).

(Vasilev, 1986; Mihova et al., 2017).

et al., 1969; Tanchev, 1996).

(Bozhanska et al., 2017).

(Hanssmans, 1998; Berenji and Dahlberg, 2004, Kikindonov and Slanev, 2008; Kikindonov et al., 2009; Andreeva, 2014; Slanev, 2014).

80

(Zarkov, 1995; Ranli, 2009).

- necessity of studying the possibilities of
- monoculture growing of crops. The
- researches with sorghum are mostly from the 80-s of the last century and are concentrated on the agrochemical sequels from the sorghum as a forerunner crop (Zarkov, 1995; Ranli, 2009). In the last years the accent is on breeding decisions by selection of forms with increased self-sustainability.

The aim of the study is to assess the productiveness of varieties and lines with forerunners sorghum and beet crops, in variants with or without fertilization.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The research is conducted in 2016-2017 on the experimental field of Agricultural Institute - Shumen. The soil is carbonate black soil with weekly alkaline reaction.

In the tests are included the medium-early varieties Alise and Armida of Euralis Semences, the medium-late Maxired and Maxibel, the pollinator SgR-OA of Maxired and the line Sgl-47. Sgl-OBF and Hartmann lines are forage type, used for silages, with variants of forerunner beet and sorghum crops with or without fertilization.

The experimental field is part of a crop rotation wheat/corn/oats/beet/sorghum. The experiment is conducted according to the long plots method, in 4 repetitions, with a 3-rows plot of 12 m², with 50 cm inter-row space and a sowing rate of 30000 plants per da.

The sowing is at the beginning of May, and the fertilization with 20 kg/da NPK is made after germination together with a manual hilling. The cutting of the over-ground mass in milky-wax stage, and the harvesting in technical maturity stage are made by hand.

After the threshing of the grain the moisture is measured and the yield is calculated for 13% moisture of grain. Data

2016-2017

Euralis semences,
OA
Sgl-OBF

Alise Armida
SgR-
Sgl-47.

/ / / /
, 4
12 m²,
50 cm
30 000
20 kg/da NPK

13%

GD 1%

2016

1800 kg

4800 kg

20 kg/da NPK

9.5%

20%

2017

5% 65%

120% 126.8%

are treated by dispersion analysis for calculating the limit values for discernment GD 1% and experimental exactness P%.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The agro-meteorological conditions in both years of research are characterized with extreme and continuous drought in the active period of sorghum vegetation during July-August.

The sorghum sowings in practice are often cut in milky-wax grain maturity stage for production of full-bodied silage. In 2016 (table 1), for the unfertilized variants with beet forerunner the green mass yield varies from 1800 kg for the pollinator to 4800 kg per da for the forage types. For the variants with 20 kg/da NPK addition the level of variation is kept with an insignificant increase of mean of 9.5% towards the control. The monoculture growing increases the variation for the control and fertilized variants, and the decrease of the productivity is on the average of 20% compared to the variants with a beet forerunner. The variation in 2017 is increased for variants with fertilization – from 5 to 65% in comparison with the control variants, and the differences are increased - with average values of 120% and 126.8% depending on beet or sorghum used as forerunner crop.

1.

, 2016-2017 .

Table 1. Influence of the genotype, mineral fertilization and the forerunner crop on the green mass productivity of sorghum, 2016-2017

| Variant | | 2016 | | | 2017 | | |
|----------|--------------|---------|-------|---------------------|---------|-------|---------------------|
| | | control | + NPK | | control | + NPK | |
| Variety | Forerunner | kg/da | kg/da | In % of the control | kg/da | kg/da | In % of the control |
| Alize | beet | 2400 | 2600 | 108.3 | 3857 | 4571 | 118.5 |
| | sorghum | 1800 | 2000 | 111.1 | 3161 | 3982 | 125.9 |
| Maxired | beet | 2000 | 2350 | 117.5 | 3393 | 4607 | 135.7 |
| | sorghum | 1900 | 2050 | 107.9 | 2179 | 3607 | 165.5 |
| Maxibel | beet | 2400 | 2600 | 108.3 | 2929 | 4212 | 143.8 |
| | sorghum | 2000 | 2120 | 106.0 | 2732 | 3607 | 132.0 |
| rmida | beet | 2150 | 2200 | 102.3 | 2821 | 3929 | 139.2 |
| | sorghum | 2000 | 2050 | 102.5 | 2571 | 3161 | 122.9 |
| SgR-OA | beet | 1800 | 1860 | 103.3 | 3143 | 3690 | 117.4 |
| | sorghum | 1500 | 1550 | 103.3 | 1893 | 2161 | 114.1 |
| Sgl-47 | beet | 2300 | 2500 | 108.7 | 3268 | 4036 | 123.5 |
| | sorghum | 1500 | 1500 | 100.0 | 3000 | 3643 | 121.4 |
| SI-OBF | beet | 4500 | 5400 | 120.0 | 4571 | 4821 | 105.4 |
| | sorghum | 3200 | 4000 | 125.0 | 4375 | 4714 | 107.7 |
| Hartmann | beet | 4800 | 4950 | 103.1 | 5214 | 5679 | 108.9 |
| | sorghum | 4250 | 4400 | 103.5 | 4071 | 5071 | 124.5 |
| Average | beet | 2793 | 3057 | 109.5 | 3649 | 4318 | 120.1 |
| | sorghum | 2269 | 2459 | 108.4 | 2997 | 3743 | 126.8 |
| Rel.% | sorghum/beet | 81.2 | 80.4 | | 82.1 | 86.7 | |
| GD 1% | | 640 | | 19.7 | 428 | | 15.1 |
| P% | | 5.30 | | | 3.96 | | |

13%
1 2.
518 kg/da 2016 552 kg/da 2017
20%
2016 2017 . 20%
100.9% 130% 2016 106.3%
134.1% 2017 .

The grain productivity for both years of study, recalculated to 13% grain moisture is shown on Tables 1 and 2. The mean values of the control variants without fertilization (518 kg/da for 2016 and 552 kg/da for 2017) with beet forerunner exceed with identical values of 20% those of the monoculture. It is impressive the lack of difference in the relative values for sorghum forerunner in 2016, and in 2017. This difference of 20% is remaining also for the average values depending on the forerunner for the two years and with fertilization. Impressive is the high degree of variation of the effect of fertilization. High is the degree of variation of the fertilization effect for the tested genotypes – from 100.9 to 130% - for 2016 and 106.3% to 134.1% for 2017. The averaged values of the effect of fertilization for the two years are identical –

109% – 114%
114% -121%

109-114% with beet forerunner and
114-121% for monoculture.

2.

, 2016-2017 .

Table 2. Influence of the genotype, mineral fertilization and the forerunner crop on the grain productivity of sorghum, 2016-2017

| Variant | | 2016 | | | 2017 | | |
|----------|--------------|---------|-------|-----------------|---------|-------|-----------------|
| | | control | + NPK | | control | + NPK | |
| Variety | Forerunner | Kg/da | Kg/da | In % of control | Kg/da | Kg/da | In % of control |
| Alize | beet | 562 | 731 | 130.0 | 577 | 678 | 117.5 |
| | sorghum | 495 | 607 | 122.6 | 496 | 546 | 110.0 |
| xired | beet | 551 | 597 | 108.3 | 553 | 717 | 129.6 |
| | sorghum | 507 | 551 | 108.7 | 478 | 641 | 134.1 |
| xibel | beet | 562 | 596 | 106.0 | 554 | 664 | 119.8 |
| | sorghum | 472 | 528 | 111.9 | 488 | 603 | 123.5 |
| rmida | beet | 522 | 560 | 107.2 | 676 | 702 | 103.8 |
| | sorghum | 487 | 502 | 103.0 | 505 | 629 | 124.5 |
| SgR-OA | beet | 350 | 357 | 102.0 | 407 | 443 | 108.8 |
| | sorghum | 300 | 334 | 111.3 | 336 | 420 | 125.0 |
| Sgl-47 | beet | 540 | 569 | 105.4 | 634 | 766 | 120.8 |
| | sorghum | 427 | 512 | 120.0 | 538 | 663 | 123.2 |
| SI-OBF | beet | 529 | 598 | 113.0 | 593 | 664 | 111.9 |
| | sorghum | 347 | 447 | 128.8 | 457 | 546 | 119.4 |
| Hartmann | beet | 530 | 535 | 100.9 | 425 | 452 | 106.3 |
| | sorghum | 405 | 453 | 111.8 | 379 | 423 | 111.6 |
| Average | beet | 518 | 568 | 109.6 | 552.4 | 635 | 114.8 |
| | sorghum | 430 | 492 | 114.4 | 459.6 | 559 | 121.4 |
| Rel.% | sorghum/beet | 83.0 | 86.6 | | 83.3 | 87.7 | |
| GD 1% | | 175 | | 19.2 | 58 | | 14.4 |
| P% | | 5.82 | | | 3.59 | | |

- The diversity by biotype, early maturity and form of use reflects in the
- high degree of variation of the green mass
- and grain productivity of the tested varieties and lines. In water deficiency conditions the effect of fertilization decreases and is increased the negative influence of the monoculture growing.

CONCLUSIONS

- The drought in the two years of tests affects the milky-wax green mass productivity and the grain yield. The results show increase of the green mass by 8%-15% with fertilization for the two forerunner variants. The increase of the grain yield is bigger during 2017.

2017 .

14%-20%

- The decrease of the productivity in conditions of monoculture growing is on the average of 14%-20% for green mass and grain yield. The differences in the productivity of the tested genotypes are increased when grown in monoculture.
- The application of combined fertilizer compensates significantly the negative effect of monoculture.

/ REFERENCES

1. **Andreeva, N., D. Georgiev, G. Popski, T. Mihova and M. Georgieva**, 2014. Physical-chemical Indicators of Soils in Organic Growing of Small-fruit Trees Species in Mountain Conditions. *Plant Science*, LII (1), 48-53.
2. **Berenji, J. and J. Dahlberg**, 2004. Perspectives of Sorghums in Europe. *Journal of Agron and Crop Science*, 190(5), 332.
3. **Bozhanska, ., . Churkova and . Mihova**, 2017. Influence of Growth Regulators and Bio-fertilizers on Productivity of Perennial Legume Forage Grasses in Conditions of the Central Balkan Mountains. *Journal of Balkan Ecology*, 20(2), 135-143.
4. **Hanssman, B.G.**, 1998. Hybrid Performance of Sorghum and Its Relationship to Morphological and Physiological Traits under Drought Stress. *Plant Breeding*, 117(3), 223-229.
5. **Kalaidjiev, I., R. Shentov and S. Ivanov**, 1969. Sorghum. Zemizdat, Sofia.
6. **Kikindonov, Tz. and K. Slanev**, 2008. Productivity and Chemical Structure of Grain of Sorghum Varieties. *Plant Sciences*, 42(3), 218-221.
7. **Kikindonov, Tz., K. Slanev and S. Enchev**, 2009. Influence of the Variety and the Sowing Rate on the Productivity of Sorghum. *Journal of Mountain Agriculture on the Balkans*, 12(5), 971-979.
8. **Mihova, T., D. Georgiev, G. Popski and T. Bozhanska**, 2017. Effective Temperature Amounts Required for Entering into Individual Phenophases for Various Genetic Types of *Chaenomeles sp.*, *Vo arstvo (Journal of Pomology)*, 51, 199-200.
9. **Ran Liq Shen, Jia Yan and Li Weiq**, 2009. Fertilization Processes in Sorghum and its Performance Time for Each Stage. *Acta Agronomica Sinica*, 36(12), 2234-2242.
10. **Slanev, K.**, 2014. Effect of Foliar Fertilization on the Productivity of Grain Sorghum. *Agricultural Science*, 47(2-3), 43-47
11. **Tanchev, D.**, 1996. Results of Green Mass Sorghum Hybrids Study. *Plant Sciences*, 33(3), 36-38.
12. **Vasilev, A.**, 1986. Intenzification of the Crop Rotation. Thesis, AI - Karnobat.
13. **Zarkov, B.**, 1995. Productive Capabilities of Sorghum, Grown in Non-irrigation Conditions. *Plant Sciences*, 32(3), 138-139.