ABSTRACT

This paper considers description of morphometrical and pomo-logical characteristics of 5 autochthonous cherry varieties (Ohridska crna, Ohridska vrba, Ohridska dolga siska, Ohridska brza and Dalbazija) grown in the region of Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia on Gisela 5 rootstock. As control varieties were used Burlat and Van. The experimental orchard was established in Ohrid's area at 2008, with a planting distance 3.5 x 2 m. The study has been performed during two consecutive years (2011–2012).

INTRODUCTION

Balkan Peninsula, where R. Macedonia is positioned has a significant number of autochthonous varieties of many fruit species. This genetic variability has great potential in the future breeding programs while creating new varieties. Also part of these genotypes have a potential to revitalize and to serve as a base for the production of local products that will be a function of local agricultural development. The autochthonous cherries represent interesting local genotypes. They were created in the past centuries and are well acclimatized and accepted by the local population. Some of them, despite the introduction of new varieties are still massive grown in production orchards and are characterized by very high quality fruit. Cherry (Prunus avium L.) is one of the major fruit crops grown in the Ohrid's region. The assortment is primarily based on autochthonous genotypes and many of the varieties that are grown have great economic and agronomic value. The origin of these varieties is unknown. Many works about cherry varieties characterization have been reported following (IPOGR (1985) and UPOV (2006) descriptors using mainly agromorphological characteristics (Fogle, 1961; Christensen, 1969, 1970, 1974, 1985; Hillig and Lessoni, 1988; Moreno et al., 2001; Gella et al., 2001; Vursavus, et al., 2006).

The aim of the study was to description of morphological and pomo-logical characteristics of some autochthonous variety grafted on dwarf rootstock Gisela 5. The following characteristics were investigated: period of flowering and ripening, morphological characteristics of the leaves, fruit size, fruit weight, total soluble solids concentration and acidity of the fruits and description of quality characteristics of the fruits. The results have shown that autochthon variety Ohridska dolga siska is characterized with the best quality of the fruits considering their weight (13.27 g). The lowest value for fruit weight was obtained at variety Dalbazija (5.80 g). Autochthon variety Dalbazija have lower quality of the fruits considering their firmness, but in the same time fruits from this variety have higher concentration of total soluble solids (16.2 %). Variety Ohridska brza have acceptable fruit weight (8.58 g), compared with other evaluated varieties considering that this is early ripening variety. Fruits from Ohridska dolga siska has the longest petiole (3.32 mm). Fruits from Ohridska dolga siska has the longest petiole (3.32 mm). Fruits from Ohridska dolga siska has the longest petiole (3.32 mm). Fruits from Ohridska dolga siska has the longest petiole (3.32 mm). Fruits from Ohridska dolga siska has the longest petiole (3.32 mm).

RESULTS

The first step of the research was a survey of sweet cherry producing area of Ohrid's region. This region is located in the south-western part of R. Macedonia, on the banks of Lake Ohrid, at altitude of 690 meters and coordinates 41° 7’ N, 20° 48’ 6” E. During this phase many interviews were conducted with farmers from this area and 5 local autochthonous varieties (with local names Ohridska crna, Ohridska dolga siska, Ohridska vrba, Dalbazija and Dalbazija). Fruits from Ohridska brza variety are characterized with a shortest petiole (3.22 mm).

MATERIAL AND METHODS

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