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Effect of anti-hail nets on the yield and fruit quality of raspberry cultivars in Western Serbia

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SUMMARY

- The impact of anti-hail nets on yield and fruit quality of two floricane red raspberry cultivars 'Meeker' and 'Willamette' and a primocane cultivar 'Polka' has been examined in agro-ecological conditions of Western Serbia. The experiments were set up in the localities in the municipality of Arilje (Western Serbia). Anti-hail net and drip irrigation system were installed in 'Meeker' and 'Willamette' plantations. In the plantation with cultivar 'Polka', beside anti-hail net and drip irrigation, sprinkler irrigation system was installed. During the same period, experiments were also conducted in the plantations of these cultivars grown by the conventional system without anti-hail net and with drip irrigation system.

- Obtained results showed that anti-hail net in unfavorable weather conditions

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(high temperatures, excessive insolation, snow and hail) significantly reduce their negative effects.

- In contrast, the negative effect of anti-hail net was recorded during seasons with extremely high rainfall and a reduced amount of daylight.

Key words: raspberry, weather conditions, effect, anti-hail net, yield