



ISSN 1311-0489 (Print)  
ISSN 2367-8364 (Online)

**Agricultural Academy**

**JOURNAL  
OF MOUNTAIN AGRICULTURE  
ON THE BALKANS**

**Volume 21**

**Number 5, 2018**

**Published by  
Research Institute of Mountain Stockbreeding and Agriculture  
Troyan, Bulgaria**

**AGRICULTURAL ACADEMY, SOFIA, BULGARIA**

**JOURNAL OF MOUNTAIN AGRICULTURE  
ON THE BALKANS (JMAB)®**

**ISSN 1311-0489 (Print); ISSN 2367-8364 (Online)**

JOURNAL OF MOUNTAIN AGRICULTURE ON THE BALKANS is a bilingual journal issued six times a year by the Research Institute of Mountain Stockbreeding and Agriculture (RIMSA) in Troyan, Bulgaria. Its scope includes basic and applied researches relevant to agriculture and stockbreeding in the mountain, hilly and lowland areas in Bulgaria and abroad. JMAB is an international free open access web based scientific journal dedicated to the publication and discussion of high-quality research in the field of Stockbreeding, Forage Production and Grassland Management, Annual and Perennial Plants and General Agriculture. It publishes original scientific papers, overviews and short communications which are doubleblind peer reviewed.

*For contributions and subscription information, please contact the Editorial Office:*

*RIMSA, 281, Vasil Levski Str.*

*5600 Troyan, Lovech District*

*Bulgaria*

*Tel.: +359/670/66914*

*Mobile: +359/877/743604*

*E-mail: [jma@mail.bg](mailto:jma@mail.bg)*

*Website: <http://www.rimsa.eu/index.php/journal>*

**Editorial Board**

**Editor-in-Chief:** Assoc. Prof. Diyan Georgiev, PhD (Troyan, Bulgaria)

**Deputy Editor-in-Chief:** Assoc. Prof. Maria Georgieva, PhD (Troyan, Bulgaria)

**Managing Editor:** Diana Todorova (Troyan, Bulgaria)

**Members:**

Prof. Stefan Gandev, DSc (Plovdiv, Bulgaria)

Prof. Hristina Yancheva, PhD (Plovdiv, Bulgaria)

Prof. Maria Ivanova-Kicheva, PhD (Sofia, Bulgaria)

Prof. Aneliya Katova, PhD (Pleven, Bulgaria)

Prof. Tsvetoslav Mihovski, PhD (Troyan, Bulgaria)

Prof. Boryana Churkova, PhD (Troyan, Bulgaria)

Prof. Ivan Minev, PhD (Troyan, Bulgaria)

Assoc. Prof. Penko Zunev, PhD (Troyan, Bulgaria)

Assoc. Prof. Gercho Gerchev, PhD (Troyan, Bulgaria)

Assoc. Prof. Teodora Spasova, PhD (Troyan, Bulgaria)

Assoc. Prof. Boryana Stefanova, PhD (Troyan, Bulgaria)

Assist. Prof. Svetoslava Stoycheva, PhD (Troyan, Bulgaria)

Prof. Milan Petrović, PhD (Belgrade-Zemun, Republic of Serbia)

Prof. José Leitão (Faro, Portugal)

Dr. habil. István Tóbiás, DSc (Budapest, Hungary)

RNDr. Jan Ned Iník, PhD (Troubsko, Czech Republic)

Res. Assoc. Milan Lukić, PhD (Niš, Republic of Serbia)

1, 1\*, 2, 1, 1  
, , , , ,  
1, 1, 1  
1 1  
1, 2, 1, 1  
1  
1 3200  
2  
1, 4, 11120

## **Occurrence of the incompatible pollen tubes in the style of plum cultivar ‘Pozna Plava’**

Milena Đorđević<sup>1\*</sup>, Radosav Cerović<sup>2</sup>, Sanja Radićević<sup>1</sup>, Ivana Glišić<sup>1</sup>,  
Nebojša Milošević<sup>1</sup>, Slađana Marić<sup>1</sup>, Milan Lukić<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Fruit Research Institute, Kralja Petra I/9, 32000 Čačak, Republic of Serbia*

<sup>2</sup>*University of Belgrade, Innovation Centre at Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy,  
Karnegijeva 4, 11120 Belgrade, Republic of Serbia*

*\*Email: mdjordjevic@institut-cacak.org*

Received: 30.04.2018

Accepted: 17.12.2018

Published: 21.12.2018

### **SUMMARY**

Self-incompatibility in fruits prevents self-fertilization by recognition and rejection of its own or genetically identical pollen. Occurrence of gametophyte incompatibility is accompanied by irregular pollen tube growth with an abundant accumulation of callose in it.

In a three-year period, pollen tube incompatibility in the style of the plum cultivar ‘Pozna Plava’ in three pollination variants was analysed using fluorescent microscopic aniline blue staining method. Pollination variants were open, cross- (‘Čačanska Najbolja’, ‘Presenta’, ‘Hanita’) and self-pollination.

In all the analysed variants, the

presence of pollen tubes with typical signs of incompatibility was found. In most cases, incompatible pollen tubes stopped their growth in the upper third of the style. In a cross-pollination with the cultivars 'Hanita' and 'a anaska Najbolja' incompatible pollen tubes in the second third of the style were seen as well. The highest percentage of incompatible pollen tubes 4,84% was found in a self-pollination variant.

Somewhat lower percentage of incompatible pollen tubes was found in a cross-pollination variant with the cultivar 'a anaska Najbolja' (3,06%), which can be explained by being a parent of the cultivar 'Pozna Plava'. The lowest percentage (less than 1,3%) of incompatible pollen tubes was found in a cross-pollination variant with the cultivars 'Presenta' and 'Hanita'.

**Key words:** plum, style, fluorescent microscope, incompatible pollen tubes

presence of pollen tubes with typical signs of incompatibility was found. In most cases, incompatible pollen tubes stopped their growth in the upper third of the style. In a cross-pollination with the cultivars 'Hanita' and 'a anaska Najbolja' incompatible pollen tubes in the second third of the style were seen as well. The highest percentage of incompatible pollen tubes 4,84% was found in a self-pollination variant.

Somewhat lower percentage of incompatible pollen tubes was found in a cross-pollination variant with the cultivar 'a anaska Najbolja' (3,06%), which can be explained by being a parent of the cultivar 'Pozna Plava'. The lowest percentage (less than 1,3%) of incompatible pollen tubes was found in a cross-pollination variant with the cultivars 'Presenta' and 'Hanita'.

**Key words:** plum, style, fluorescent microscope, incompatible pollen tubes

*Prunus*,  
 (Nasrallah et al., 1991).  
 (Crawford and Yanofski, 2008).  
 (Higashiyama and Hamamura, 2008; Palanivelu and Tsukamoto, 2011).  
 , Radi evi

**INTRODUCTION**

In the genus *Prunus*, the style belongs to the wet type with secretory cell exudates on the stigma which enabling pollen germination and pollen tube penetration into the tissue of the stigma (Nasrallah et al., 1991).

Conductive channel is in the centre of the style composed of elongated cells which excreting the pectinase extracellular matrix (Crawford and Yanofski, 2008). After pollen adhesion on the stigma, further events including hydration, germination, growth through the conductive tissue of the style, guidance to micropyle and in the end, interaction with female gametophyte are guided and regulated by the female sporophyte (Higashiyama and Hamamura, 2008; Palanivelu and Tsukamoto, 2011).

By examining the growth of pollen tubes in cherries, Radi evi (2013) points

(2013) - to a faster growth of pollen tubes in the style than in the ovary, indicating the dependence of pollen tubes numbers and the growth rate of used pollinators of the sporophytes of the mother plant.

(Herrero, 1992). - Reduction in the numbers of pollen tubes along the style is associated with the reduction of the conductive channel, and therefore the availability of nutrients (Herrero, 1992).

(Frankling-Tong and Franklin, 2003). - Self-incompatibility is one of the most important mechanisms of plants to prevent self-pollination and enhance cross-pollination (Frankling-Tong and Franklin, 2003). In plants, there are two types of self-incompatibility, sporophytic and gametophytic. The sporophytic type is found in a small number of plants from the families *Brassicaceae*, *Asteraceae* and *Convolvulaceae*, while the gametophytic type is more prevalent (Igic and Kohn, 2001).

*Brassicaceae*, *Asteraceae* *Convolvulaceae*, - Unlike other species of the genus *Prunus*, in which there is a gametophytic system of incompatibility, both types of self-incompatibility are seen in domestic plum (Botu et al., 2002). Sporophytic incompatibility is conditioned by locus mutation, responsible for pollen formation and cytoplasmic sterility (Kota and L cis, 2013). The gametophytic system is based on the allelic polymorphism of the S-RNase of the coding gene or S-gene, and based on its manifestation, cultivars are classified into three groups: self-compatible, partially self-compatible and self-incompatible (Botu et al., 2002).

*Prunus*, - (Botu et al., 2002).

(Kota and L cis, 2013). -

Lacis, 2013). -

S-RNase S- -

: , - (Botu et al., 2002).

(Kho i Baër, 1971). -

-

- have been used: determination of style

: (S-RNase)  
 (Halász et al., 2010).  
 " " : ,  
 .  
 (2008 ., 2010 . 2011 .)  
 " " .  
 2002 .  
 ,  
 (*Prunus cerasifera* L.),  
 6,0x5,0 m.  
 " " ,  
 1980 .  
 " " ,  
 " " ,  
 2008 .  
 - Klaus Ganter  
 ( Klaus Ganter  
 Markenbaumschule, Wyhl, )  
 " a ak Späthe".  
 ,  
 : , ( " " " )  
 " " ) .  
 ,  
 .  
 - 72, 144,  
 240 .  
 FPA (70% ,  
 , 90:5:5)  
 4° .

- ribonuclease (S-RNase) and DNA  
 - amplification and identification by PCR  
 analysis (Halász et al., 2010).

The research in this paper was aimed at determining the presence of incompatible pollen tubes in the style of 'Pozna Plava' in three variants of pollination: open, cross- and self-pollination.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

Investigations were carried out during the three-year period (2008, 2010 and 2011) within the plum plantation at the Ljubic facility of the Fruit Research Institute a ak. The orchard was established in 2002, with cultivars grafted on a myrobalan (*Prunus cerasifera* L.) rootstock, with a spacing of 6.0x5.0 m. The plum cultivar 'Pozna Plava' was used as a test material, created in 1980 at the Fruit Research Institute from the self-pollination of the cultivar ' a anaska Najbolja', recognized as a cultivar in 2008. In cooperation with Mr. Klaus Ganter (plantations of Klaus Ganter Markenbaumschule, Wyhl, Germany) this plum cultivar has been protected in the European Union under the name ' a ak Späthe'.

Under field conditions, during the full flowering sub-phase, experiment was set with three pollination variant: open, cross- (pollen of the ' a anaska Najbolja', 'Presenta' and 'Hanita' cultivars) and self-pollination. The application of pollen on the pistil stigma was made at the time when the secretion on the stigma was observed. Upon the pollination, pollinated pistils were subjected to the triple successive fixation – 72, 144, 240 hours.

To fix the samples, pistils were immediately soaked in FPA solution (70% ethanol, propionic acid and formaldehyde, 90:5:5 percentages by volume) and stored at 4°C. A fluorescence-microscopic method with aniline-blue as a fluorochrome (Preil, 1970; Kho and Baër,

Kho and Baër, 1971) .

(Preil, 1970;

1971) was used to examine the growth of pollen tubes in the style.

(Olympus BX61)

Multiple Image Analysis in AnalySIS.

The occurrence of incompatible pollen tubes in the style was done on the fluorescent microscope (Olympus BX61) under ultraviolet light, using Multiple Image Analysis in AnalySIS software.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

( 1).

The occurrence of gametophytic incompatibility was accompanied by irregular growth of pollen tubes, with an abundant accumulation of callosis in it. In all pollination variants, the presence of pollen tubes with typical signs of incompatibility was found (Figure 1).

( 1 , 1b).

In the majority of cases, incompatible pollen tubes stopped their growth in the upper third of the style (Figure 1a, 1b). The largest number of incompatible pollen tubes was characterized by an extended tip, which was more or less fluorescence. Pollen tubes that were thickened all over their length were also observed and more fluoresced than other pollen tubes. In a small number, incompatible pollen tubes were observed in the region just below the stigma (Figure 1c) or in the second third of the style.

( 1 )

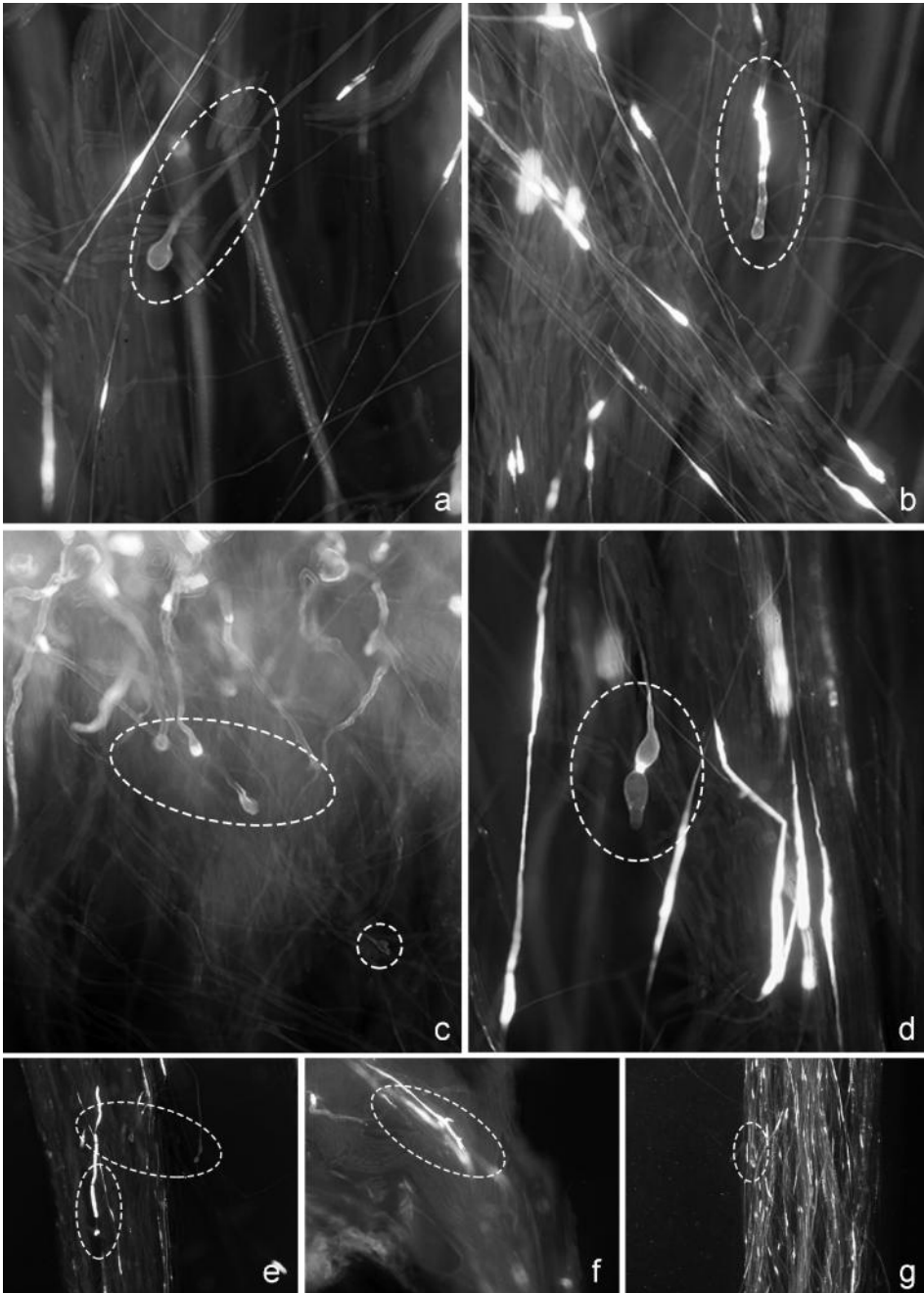
2010 .

Only in 2010, the presence of incompatible pollen tubes was observed in the second third of the style, in the cross-pollination variant with the cultivar 'Hanita' (60% of the total number of incompatible pollen tubes was in the second third of the style) and with the cultivar ' a anska Najbolja' (17% of the total number of incompatible pollen tubes were in the second third of the style).

( 1d, 1 ).

( 1f, 1g).

Tip of the incompatible pollen tube was most often round, but incompatible pollen tubes with an irregularly shaped tip were also observed (Figure 1d, 1e). Apart from the typical signs of incompatibility, pollen tubes that have had stronger or weaker branches were seen in smaller number as well (Figure 1f, 1g).



. 1.

; )  
; f-g)

: - )

; - )

**Fig. 1. Incompatible pollen tubes: a–b) typical extended tip of pollen tube; c) their presence in the stigma; d–e) irregular tip of pollen tube; f–g) branching of incompatible pollen tube**



For all three years, the highest number of incompatible pollen tubes, on average, was found in the self-pollination variant (4.84%), while the smallest number was found in the cross-pollination variants with the cultivars 'Presenta' and 'Hanita' (1.10% and 1.25%) (Table 1).

Observed by the year of study, the largest number of incompatible pollen tubes in the self- and cross- pollination variants was found in 2010, while in the open pollination variant, in 2008.

For all three years, the highest number of incompatible pollen tubes, on average, was found in the self-pollination variant (4.84%), while the smallest number was found in the cross-pollination variants with the cultivars 'Presenta' and 'Hanita' (1.10% and 1.25%) (Table 1).

Observed by the year of study, the largest number of incompatible pollen tubes in the self- and cross- pollination variants was found in 2010, while in the open pollination variant, in 2008.

1. " " (%)

Table 1. Presence of incompatible pollen tubes (%) in the style of the plum cultivar Pozna Plava, in variants of pollination, by years

Pollination variant	Style region	Year 2008	Year 2010	Year 2011	Total
'Pozna Plava'	1/3	2,65	6,75	5,11	4,84
' a anska Najbolja'	1/3	1,92	5,64	3,46	3,06
	2/3	/	1,15	/	
'Hanita'	1/3	1,82	1,29	0,10	1,25
	2/3	/	1,77	/	
'Presenta'	1/3	–	1,70	0,49	1,10
Open pollination	1/3	4,56	3,42	4,33	4,10

In a self-pollination variant by the years of study, the number of incompatible pollen tubes ranged from 2,65% to 5,11%. In cross-pollination variants, the number of incompatible pollen tubes was in the range 1,92–6,79% with the cultivar ' a anska Najbolja'; 0,10–3,06% with 'Hanita' and 0,49–1,79% with the cultivar 'Presenta'. In an open-pollination variant, the number ranged from 3,42 to 4,56%.

In a self-pollination variant by the years of study, the number of incompatible pollen tubes ranged from 2,65% to 5,11%. In cross-pollination variants, the number of incompatible pollen tubes was in the range 1,92–6,79% with the cultivar ' a anska Najbolja'; 0,10–3,06% with 'Hanita' and 0,49–1,79% with the cultivar 'Presenta'. In an open-pollination variant, the number ranged from 3,42 to 4,56%.

Genetic control of self-incompatibility is regulated by a multiallelic S-locus, where the compatibility of crossing is determined by the haploid pollen genome and the diploid genome of the pistil. Stopping of the pollen tube growth occurs if the S-allele

Genetic control of self-incompatibility is regulated by a multiallelic S-locus, where the compatibility of crossing is determined by the haploid pollen genome and the diploid genome of the pistil. Stopping of the pollen tube growth occurs if the S-allele

S-  
 S-  
 -  
 -  
 : S-RNase ( ) S-  
 F-box gene, *SLF* (S-  
 box) (kod *Prunus mume*) *SFB* S-  
 -specific F-box gene) ( *Prunus dulcis*, *Punus avium* *Prunus cerasus*), S-

(Hauck et al., 2006).

(Dicenta et al., 2002).

S-RNase *SFB*  
 S-  
*Rosaceae* PCR  
 (Kitasiba et al., 2007).

1.10%

4.84%

2010

possessing a pollen grain is mutual with one of the two S-alleles of the pistil. Two completely different S-locus genes are involved in identifying and rejecting their own pollen: S-RNase (glycoprotein with ribonucleate) as an S-component of the pistil and F-box gene, *SLF* (S-lokus F-box) (kod *Prunus mume*) and *SFB* S-haplotype-specific F-box gene) (in *Prunus dulcis*, *Punus avium* and *Prunus cerasus*), as an S-component of the pollen, whose function in the incompatible reaction haven't been established yet (Hauck et al., 2006).

The fact that the gametophytic incompatibility system prevents self-fertilization, leading to reduced fruit set, pollination with compatible pollen is extremely important. In fruits, the occurrence of self-incompatibility excludes one varietal planting and requires the presence of two or three compatible pollinators (Dicenta et al., 2002). Examination of self-fertility, as well as the benefits of certain pollinators, have been most often defined by fruit set or by examination of pollen tubes growth in the style after pollination.

Identification of S-RNase and *SFB* gene enabled the characterization of S-haplotype in the representatives of *Rosaceae* family using PCR analysis. This method is independent of flowering time and season, because vegetative tissue is used as the analysis material (Kitasiba et al., 2007).

Using fluorescence microscopic method of aniline blue staining, the number of incompatible pollen tubes ranged from 1.10% in the variant of cross pollination with the cultivar 'Presenta', up to 4.84% in self-pollination.

In most cases incompatible pollen tubes stopped their growth in the upper third of the style. In 2010, in the cross pollination variant with the cultivars 'Hanita' and

" " "

" (3.06%)

1,3%)

" " " "

(Ünal et al., 2013).

*Prunus:*  
(Milatovi Nikoli , 2007),  
(Miloševi , 2013; Djor evi et al., 2014),

37 , Milatovi and  
Nikoli (2007)

" ' a anska Najbolja', incompatible pollen tubes were observed in the second third of the style. Approximately the same number of incompatible pollen tubes was established in the variant of self- and open pollination in all three years of study, which is probably conditioned, among others, by the presence of their own pollen on the stigma in the open pollination variant.

A somewhat smaller number of incompatible pollen tubes in the variant of cross pollination with the cultivar ' a anska Najbolja' (3.06) can be explained by it being a parent of the 'Pozna Plava' cultivar. The lowest number (less than 1.3%) of incompatible pollen tubes was determined in the cross pollination variant with the cultivars 'Presenta' and 'Hanita'.

Gametophytic incompatibility system involves irregular behavior of pollen tubes and a large callose deposition in them (Ünal et al., 2013). In this incompatibility system, reaction of pollen rejection is most common in the upper third of the style and is accompanied by a strong callose deposition in the pollen tubes walls and its sedimentation at the very top leading to the formation of a characteristic extension of the pollen tube tip.

The results obtained agree with the results of the study with larger number of species of the genus *Prunus*: apricot (Milatovi and Nikoli , 2007), plum (Miloševi , 2013; or evi et al., 2014) in which the occurrence of incompatible pollen tubes is mainly related to the region of the upper third of the style.

By testing self-fertility in 37 cultivars of apricot, Milatovi and Nikoli (2007) state the presence of incompatible pollen tubes that stop growth in lower parts of the ovary. The same results of incompatible pollen tubes occurrence in lower parts of the ovary were observed in eight apricot

(Milatovi et al., 2010).

” ( “ (2008) ), Kuzmanovi (2008), finds the presence of incompatible pollen tubes in the upper third of the style from 12.1 to 17%.

Milosevic (2013) found the presence of incompatible pollen tubes in 3.70-23,81%.

S-

(Selesses and Bonnet, 1994).

*Prunoideae* (Tao and Iezzoni, 2010).

(Kota and Laciš, 2013).

cultivars analysed in the variants of self- and cross pollination (Milatovi et al., 2010).

Analyzing the pollen tube growth in the style of the plum cultivar ‘ a anska Lepotica’ in three variants of pollination (open pollination, cross- and self-pollination), Kuzmanovi (2008), finds the presence of incompatible pollen tubes in the upper third of the style from 12.1 to 17%. By examining the pollen tube growth in the style of three plum cultivars, Milosevic (2013) found the presence of incompatible pollen tubes in 3.70-23.81% of pistils.

Because of genome’s three-components, it is difficult to find the same allelic formula or structure for two domestic plums, since each genome has its own S-gene with multiple alleles. For this reason, each plum cultivar with pollen fertility can be a pollenizer to another plum cultivar but in varying degrees (Selesses and Bonnet, 1994). Due to the polyploidy and complex structure of the genome, domestic plum is the last studied species from the subfamily *Prunoideae* (Tao and Iezzoni, 2010). For this reason, compatible groups in plums have not been defined yet and there are no reliable information on the genetic diversity of self-incompatible alleles (Kota and Laciš, 2013).

## CONCLUSIONS

5%,

Since these are incompatible pollen tubes whose counts in relation to the total number of pollen tubes in the upper third of the style was less than 5%, their influence is insignificant, even on the number of pollen tubes that penetrate into the ovary, therefore they can only be of significance here in terms of description of (the incidence of) different morphological forms of incompatible pollen tubes.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

TR 31064:

- This work was conducted under  
Research Project TR 31064:  
Development and preservation of genetic  
potential of temperate zone fruits,  
supported by the Ministry of Education,  
- Science and Technological Development  
of the Republic of Serbia.

## / REFERENCES

1. **Botu, M., C. arpe and S. Cosmulescu**, 2002. The genetic control of pollen fertility, pollenizing and fruit set for the *Prunus domestica* L. plum cultivars. *Acta Horticulturae*, 577, 139-145.
2. **Crawford, B.C.W. and M.F. Yanofsky**, 2008. The formation and function of the female reproductive tract in flowering plants. *Current Biology*, 18(20), R972-R978.
3. **Dicenta, F., E. Ortega, J.A. Canovas and J. Egea**, 2002. Self-pollination vs. Cross-pollination in almond: pollen tube growth, fruit set and fruit characteristics. *Plant Breeding*, 121, 163-167.
4. **or evi , M., R. Cerovi , S. Radi evi and D. Nikoli** , 2014. Incompatible pollen tubes in the plum style and their impact on fertilization success. *Genetika*, 46(2), 411-418.
5. **Franklin-Tong, N.V. and F.C.H. Franklin**, 2003. Gametophytic self-incompatibility inhibits pollen tube growth using different mechanisms. *Trends Plant Sci*, 8(12), 598-605.
6. **Halász, J., A. Pedryc, S. Ercisli, K.U. Yilmaz and A. Hegedus**, 2010. S-genotyping supports the genetic relationships between Turkish and Hungarian apricot germplasm. *Journal of the American Society for Horticultural Science*, 135(5), 410-417.
7. **Hauck, N.R., H. Yamane, R. Tao and A.F. Iezzoni**, 2006. Accumulation of nonfunctional S-haplotypes results in the breakdown of gametophytic self-incompatibility in tetraploid *Prunus*. *Genetics*, 172(2), 1191-1198.
8. **Herrero, M.**, 1992. From pollination to fertilization in fruit trees. *Plant Growth Regulation*, 11(1), 27-32.
9. **Higashiyama, T. and Y. Hamamura**, 2008. Gametophytic pollen tube guidance. *Sexual Plant Reproduction*, 21(1), 17-26.
10. **Igic, B. and J.R. Kohn**, 2001. Evolutionary relationships among self-incompatibility RNases. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, 98(23), 13167-13171.
11. **Kho, Y.O. and J. Baër**, 1971: Fluorescence microscopy in botanical research. *Zeiss information*, 76, 54-57.
12. **Kitashiba, H., S.L. Zhang, J. Wu, K. Shirasawa and T. Nishio**, 2007. S genotyping and S screening utilizing *SFB* gene polymorphism in Japanese plum and sweet cherry by dot-blot analysis. *Molecular breeding*, 21(3), 339-349.
13. **Kota, D.I. and G. L. cis**, 2013. Evaluation of self-incompatibility locus diversity of domestic plum (*Prunus domestica* L.) using DNA-based S-genotyping. *Proceedings of the Latvian Academy of Sciences, Section B*, 67(2), 109-115.
14. **Kuzmanovi , M.**, 2008. Biology of fertilization of plum cv a anska Lepotica (*Prunus domestica* L.). MSc, University of Belgrade, Faculty of Agriculture, Belgrade, Serbia.

15. **Milatovi , D. and D. Nikoli ,** 2007. Analysis of self-(in)compatibility in apricot cultivars using fluorescence microscopy. *Journal of Horticultural Science & Biotechnology*, 82(2), 170-174.
16. **Milatovi , D., D. Nikoli , V. Rakonjac and M. Fotiri -Akši ,** 2010. Cross-(in)compatibility in apricot (*Prunus armeniaca* L.). *Journal of Horticultural Science & Biotechnology*, 85(5), 394-398.
17. **Miloševi , N.T.,** 2013. Degree of fertilization and biological traits of new plum cultivars (*Prunus domestica* L.). Dissertation, University of Belgrade, Faculty of Agriculture, Belgrade, Serbia.
18. **Nasrallah, J.B., T. Nishio and M.E. Nasrallah,** 1991. The self incompatibility genes of *Brassica*: expression and use in genetic ablation of floral tissues. *Annual Review of Plant Physiology and Plant Molecular Biology*, 42, 393-422.
19. **Palanivelu, R. and T. Tsukamoto,** 2011. Pathfinding in angiosperm reproduction: pollen tube guidance by pistils ensures successful double fertilization. *WIREs Developmental Biology*, 1, 96-113.
20. **Preil, W.,** 1970. Observing the growth of pollen tubes in pistil and ovarian tissue by means of fluorescence microscopy. *Zeiss Information*, 75, 24-25.
21. **Radi evi , S.,** 2013. Fertilization biology and pomological properties of newly introduced sweet cherry (*Prunus avium* L) cultivars. Dissertation, University of Belgrade, Faculty of Agriculture, Belgrade, Serbia.
22. **Salesses, G. and A. Bonnet,** 1994. Cytological studies of tetra-, hepta-, and octoploid interspecific hybrids between *P. cerasifera*, *P. spinosa* and *P. domestica*. *Acta Horticulturae*, 359, 26-32.
23. **Tao, R. and A. Iezzony,** 2010. The S-RNase-based gametophytic self-incompatibility system in *Prunus* exhibits distinct genetic and molecular features. *Scientia Horticulturae*, 124(4), 423-433.
24. **Ünal, M., F. Vardar and Ö. Ayturk,** 2013. Current Progress in Biological Research, Chapter 14: Callose in plant sexual reproduction, doi: 10.5772/53001.