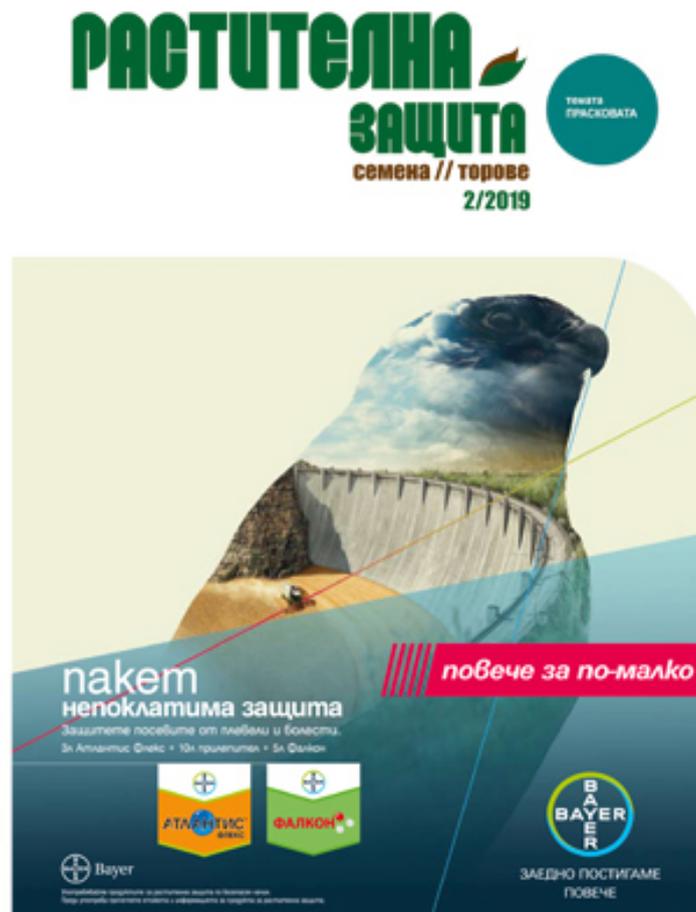


Issue 2/2019 of the journal "Plant Protection"

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See which topics are current in this issue.

For the topic of the March issue of the journal „Plant Protection” we have chosen to present the peach, which is a fruit crop with many advantages. We will acquaint you with the history of this fruit, the common cultivars, cultivation practices and the main diseases and pests that cause damage and often lead to major economic losses and reduced yield.

Did you know that the peach, as an industrial crop, is new to our country? But its exceptional qualities – the attractive appearance of the fruits, their high biological value, refreshing and pleasant taste, the possibility of

fresh consumption for more than 4 months; early entry into bearing, absence of alternate bearing, and reaching maximum yield in the 3rd–4th year after planting – secure its place as a desired fruit crop.

Pathological injuries in stone fruit species, including peach, most often have a mixed aetiology (abiotic and biotic factors). Therefore, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Neshka Piperkova from the Agricultural University believes that, in addition to visual diagnostics, biological analysis is often required.

Peach is also a host to a number of fungal, bacterial, viral and mycoplasma diseases. In the article by Prof. D.Sc. Ivanka Kamenova from the AgroBioInstitute in Sofia you will find interesting information about the sharka virus (Plum pox virus – PPV), the virus of necrotic ringspot (Prunus necrotic ringspot virus – PNRSV) and the prune dwarf virus in stone fruit species (Prune dwarf virus – PDV).

One of the most important agrotechnical and plant protection practices in peach cultivation is weed control. Prof. Dr. Zarya Rankova from the Fruit Growing Institute in Plovdiv will explain to readers why weed vegetation is a major competing factor for the growth and development of fruit crops.

In this issue we have also devoted special attention to the current trends in the development of peach and nectarine assortments. In fruit crops, breeding work is characterized by a number of essential features that distinguish it from that in other groups of agricultural crops, most of which are annuals. Prof. Dr. Agrir Zhivondov from the Fruit Growing Institute in Plovdiv presents in detail the creation, selection, propagation, testing, presentation, official registration and introduction of new fruit cultivars into production.

In issue 2 of the journal “Plant Protection” you can also learn more about polyphagous defoliating caterpillars on fruit crops from the order Lepidoptera and about invasive species of the genus *Agrilus* – which are a threat to broadleaf forests not only in Bulgaria, but also in Europe.

In recent years, the need for mineral nutrition of plants in order to increase the yield and quality of crop production has grown many times over. The problem is that neither mineral fertilization, which is a prerequisite for environmental pollution, nor the application of organic fertilization, which does not provide plants with mineral nutrients quickly and effectively, are long-term and successful solutions for healthy and high-quality production. The use of biostimulants is perhaps the most suitable option for overcoming this problem. Prof. Andon Vasilev from the Agricultural University has prepared for our readers an article on the beneficial effects of the main groups of biostimulants on the mineral nutrition of plants.

In the column “Traffic Light“ you will receive valuable advice on controlling diseases and pests in stone fruit species.

In our special insert, which is published together with the journal, we offer you a system for protecting vineyards from diseases, pests and weeds.

February was a month filled with many events and technical meetings of the major plant protection companies. Especially for you, we have prepared extensive photographic material and interesting summaries of the past meetings.

Enjoy your reading!

The Topic

A. Kharizanov – Peach – a fruit crop with many advantages

N. Piperkova – Bacterial and fungal pathogens

I. Kamenova – Harmful viral diseases in peach

Z. Rankova – Weed control system

A. Zhivondov – Current trends in the development of peach and nectarine assortments

Pests

I. Lecheva, N. Palagacheva – Polyphagous defoliating caterpillars on fruit crops from the order Lepidoptera

Quarantine

B. Katinova – Invasive species of the genus *Agrilus* – a threat to broadleaf forests in Europe

Anti-stress

A. Vasilev – Beneficial effects of the main groups of biostimulants on the mineral nutrition of plants

Traffic Light

*** – Agropal recommends: Schemes for controlling diseases and pests in stone fruit species

Events

*** FMC: Partnership with a future!

*** Medi + P: Fertile soil also for your children!

*** The YIELD PLUS project of BASF sends a clear signal to the market: We have high goals, we follow them!

*** Bayer: Together we achieve more!

*** Viola AE: For a person to reach the goal, one thing is needed – to keep going!

School for Specialists

B. Nakov, A. Kharizanov, I. Zhalnov – System for protecting vineyards from diseases, pests and weeds

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