

## Issue 7/2018 of the journal "Plant Protection"

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*See which are the current topics in this issue.*

Issue 7/2018 of the journal „Plant Protection” has been published. The main topic of the issue is greenhouse production in Bulgaria and the challenges of providing fresh vegetables on the market. In the country, mainly tomatoes, cucumbers and peppers are grown. About 90% of the total greenhouse production is accounted for by these crops. However, vegetable crops grown in protected cultivation facilities are attacked by many diseases, some of which have economic significance for the yield obtained from them. Therefore, Prof. Dr. Stoyka Masheva will present in detail all viral, fungal and bacterial diseases of vegetable crops in greenhouses. In addition to dangerous diseases, numerous pests, which are polyphagous, also occur in greenhouses. They develop several generations and cause damage throughout the year. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vinelina Yankova from the

Maritsa Vegetable Crops Research Institute in Plovdiv focuses on some of the most widespread pests that lead to deterioration of product quality in protected cultivation facilities.

The key to the efficiency of vegetable production is the optimization of the nutritional regime. The balance of nutrients is the main tool for managing plant nutrition. In the current issue of the journal we offer schemes and tables for achieving high yields in tomato production through balanced fertilization.

In recent years, hydroponic technologies have been increasingly introduced as an alternative for growing vegetables in greenhouses, especially tomatoes and cucumbers. Read about the history of hydroponic technologies, their advantages and the differences between the various methods in issue 7 of the journal.

Regarding Bulgarian breeding in tomatoes and the appropriate choice of variety ensuring high and stable yield, we again turn to the experience of the specialists from the Maritsa Vegetable Crops Research Institute in Plovdiv. The breeding technologies developed at the institute are aimed at developing tolerant and resistant varieties, most often using local forms and wild species as gene sources.

Cucumbers are the second most economically important crop in greenhouses. According to the production technology, they can be grown in steel-glass and polyethylene structures, as a first and second crop. Depending on the method of cultivation, certain requirements are set for the varietal composition.

In this issue we also cover the topic of leafhoppers, which in our country are not sufficiently studied and damage caused by them is often attributed to other reasons. Read in the current issue of the journal about the species of leafhoppers on plants and their control and management.

In the „Quarantine” section we will introduce you to the South American fruit weevil and the tiger weevil, which have already been reported in many European countries as pests of fruit crops and grapevine.

In August, care for protecting the fruit harvest and trees from pests continues. During this month, the process of differentiation of fruit buds takes place. In the vegetable garden in August, disinfection of vegetable seeds is the first step towards obtaining quality production and high yields. A large part of the diseases of vegetable crops caused by viruses, bacteria, mycoplasmas and

fungi are transmitted by seeds. This is the reason why preventive measures must be observed. Seed disinfection is carried out with different means and in different ways – thermal, chemical, semi-wet, dry, wet and others.

## Topic

**V. Yankova** – Greenhouse production – a challenge and an opportunity for providing fresh vegetables

**S. Masheva** – Diseases

**V. Yankova** – Pests

**V. Kanazirska** – Fertilization of tomatoes

**B. Arnaudov** – Hydroponic technologies – an effective approach for growing vegetable crops

**V. Yankova, S. Masheva** – Tomatoes – a main and traditional crop in greenhouses

**N. Velkov** – Greenhouse cucumber varieties

## Pests

**A. Kharizanov, A. Kharizanova** – Leafhoppers

## Quarantine

**B. Katinova** – South American fruit weevil and tiger weevil

## Traffic light

**M. Borovinova, I. Lecheva** – In the orchard in August – Diseases and pests still threaten fruit trees

**S. Masheva et al.** – In the vegetable garden in August: Disinfection of vegetable seeds – the first step towards obtaining quality and high yields

## School for specialists

**Prof. Stoyka Masheva** – Leaf spot diseases on major vegetable crops

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