

REACTION OF WALNUT NATIVE GENOTYPES TO KEY ATTACK OF *XANTHOMONAS CAMPESTRIS* PV. *JUGLANDIS* (PIERCE) DYE., UNDER THE CLIMATIC CONDITIONS VÂLCEA AREA

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ABSTRACT

Research on the behavior of domestic walnut genotypes (varieties and hybrids) between 2015 - 2016 at S.C.D.P. - Valcea, have conducted to attack the pathogen *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *juglandis* (Pierce) Dye.

The research aimed to establish the influence of rainfall between March and June of years of research on the incidence of *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *juglandis* (Pierce) Dye., attack on 14 walnut genotypes under natural infection.

INTRODUCTION

Blight or walnut bacterium is the main bacterial disease affecting the walnut crop cultivators in most countries.

In terms of Romania, especially in the nearby Carpathian walnut with higher humidity it is very strongly affected.

Causing bacteria (*Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *juglandis*) infects young shoots, leaves, female and male flowers and especially the fruits (Teviotdale and Schroth 1998, Bandi 2014).

Tissue penetration by the pathogen occurs through stomata, through flower stigmas and through artificial openings (cuts, injuries, strokes mechanical) spread during vegetation accomplished with the help of drops of water, wind and insects.

Teviotdale and Schroth(1998), studying the pathogen in vitro biological parameters determine the threshold temperature is 1° C, the optimal threshold is between 22-32° C and the maximum is 37° C.

Adaskaveg J. E. et al., in (2004), observed for the first time in artificial conditions (rain programmed in plastic tunnels after producing budbreak), the incidence of pathogen attack produced is directly proportional to the number of scheduled rains. Thus, comparative plants (without rain) attack amounted to 6.60%, while artificial rains after the attack amounted to 31.90%.

Through this paper, it was proposed to establish under the effect of natural rainfall in the years 2015 - 2016, on the frequency (F%) and intensity of the attack the pathogen *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *juglandis*, some walnut genotypes grown in experimental fields at Research Fruit Growing the Station of Valcea (Carpathian area of Oltenia).

It was noted that varieties of walnut has a differentiated resistance to blight, depending on environmental zones and where they were or cultured as mentioned a number of authors: Woeste K., et. al., 1992; Mulrean and Schroth 1982; Vagelas I. K. et. al., in 2012; Botu in 2010 and Flondor 2011.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Biological material which investigations were conducted in the two years of study (2015 – 2016), was represented by 14 genotypes (varieties and hybrids) to romanian walnut, each genotype assuming the five trees. Out of the 14 genotypes, 12 shows fruition terminal and two lateral fruiting. Plants have age of 20-22 years and are grafted on

rootstock of *Juglans regia*. During the growing season (March to June) plants were treated for five times with bouille bordelaise at 0.5% concentration.

Field observations have aimed to establish frequency (F%) and intensity (I%) at *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *juglandis* bacterium attack on leaves and fruit at different times (June to September), to illustrate the evolution of the attack and the behavior of walnut genotypes depending on the time of the determination.

Correlations pathogen attack was done with rainfall (number of days with rain, the amount of water recorded monthly) in the two years of study in the March to June.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In 2015 and 2016 years, under the Research Fruit Growing the Station of Valcea, at all genotypes of walnut was found to contain the attack of the pathogen *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *juglandis* (Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4).

Analysis of data from table 1, show that in June 2015 the average frequency of attacks leaves ratio was 5.69% compared to 9.95% as was recorded in 2016.

The biggest differences in the frequency of attacks leaves values in 2016 compared to 2015 were recorded in varieties Velnita (8.09%), Sibișel 44 (5.25%) and Sarmis (8.67%).

Intensity of the attack on the leaves in June was comparable values in 2015 and 2016 in most genotypes except VL 102H (11.85%) and Sarmis (5.95%).

The attack on fruit in June (Table 2) joined with averages of greater frequency and intensity in 2016 (9.52% and 9.61% respectively) compared to 2015 (6.96% and 2.62%).

In 2015, the 14 genotypes of walnut, attack frequency values fluctuated within narrow limits, except selections HC O3 and HC O2 growing side, while the intensity was higher in HC O3 (9.95%) and VL 102H (3.76%).

The frequency of attacks fruit in 2016, June had values generally higher than in 2015, except genotypes Valstar (4.83% - 4.66%), HC O2 (20.33% - 17.00%) and HC O3 (19.00% - 14.33%), while intensity was elevated regardless of genotype.

The conclusion is that 2016 the attack at *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *juglandis* bacterium on leaves and fruit in June had a frequency and intensity higher than in 2015, a phenomenon blamed on the number of rainy days (33 days/2015 and 47 days/2016), but also on account of rainfall (129.4 mm/337.4 mm 2015/2016) Table 5.

The observations in September on blight attack on the leaves and fruit (Tables 3 and 4), revealed that the attack frequency value increased from 6.93% in leaves (2015) to 11.00% (2016), and the intensity of attacks increased from 6.14% (2015) to 9.61% (2016).

In the two years of observations mean frequency of attacks increased from June to September (5.69% to 6.93%) in 2015 and 9.95% to 11.00% in 2016.

Blight attack on the fruit increased both in frequency and intensity in 2016 compared to 2015. The average frequency of attacks in September was 8.55% (2015) and 12.05% (2016) and the intensity of 3.28% (2015) to 9.35% (2016). Blight attack in two years of observations it was heavily influenced by genotype and environmental conditions (rainfall from March to June).

The varieties with high resistance proved to be: Valcor, Valstar, Valrex and Valcris varieties and are most susceptible genotypes HC O2, HC O3, Germisara Velnita and Sibișel 44.

Regression and correlation analysis of the correlation coefficient for attack (F%) on the leaves and fruits have resulted in:

- Leaf regression equation - $y = 0.29x - 3.21$ and the coefficient of correlation $r = 0.960$;

- regression equation fruit - $y = 0.216 + 0.63x$ and the correlation coefficient $r = 0.820$ (Figure 1 and 2).

Biostatistical analyzes resulting from that under more intense rainfall during the period from March to June, bacteriosis attack both the leaves and fruit is more evident. The attack occurred in that period maintain product superiority and attack frequency and intensity in September. The results obtained at the Research Fruit Growing the Station of Valcea, under natural conditions, confirms the results obtained in vitro Adskaveg et. al. 2004 in California.

Table 1

The attack produced by *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *juglandis* (Pierce) Dye., on the leaves of native genotypes of walnut, in 2015-2016 conditions years

No	Specification	Fructification type	June 2015		July 2016	
			F %	I %	F %	I %
1	Germisara	Terminal	6.83	5.52	9.50	2.00
2	Jupânești	Terminal	2.91	2.75	9.50	4.64
3	Velnița	Terminal	5.41	4.39	13.50	6.17
4	Sibișel 44	Terminal	6.08	4.04	11.33	7.05
5	Valcor	Terminal	3.75	2.14	5.83	2.07
6	Valrex	Terminal	3.33	2.56	6.33	4.40
7	Valmit	Terminal	4.08	3.67	8.33	1.82
8	Valcris	Terminal	3.41	2.91	6.50	3.10
9	Unival	Terminal	2.91	3.86	3.66	5.40
10	Valstar	Terminal	2.50	4.01	5.00	5.26
11	HC O2	Lateral	14.16	14.64	18.50	12.52
12	HC O3	Lateral	15.50	10.04	16.33	7.42
13	Sarmis	Terminal	3.66	5.08	12.33	11.05
14	VL 102 H	Terminal	5.33	4.15	12.83	16.00
Mean			\bar{X} = 5.69	\bar{X} = 4.98	\bar{X} = 9.95	\bar{X} = 6.35

Table 2

The attack produced by *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *juglandis* (Pierce) Dye., on the fruits of native genotypes of walnut, in 2015-2016 conditions years

No	Specification	Fructification type	June 2015		July 2016	
			F %	I %	F %	I %
1	Germisara	Terminal	4.83	1.82	18.00	8.00
2	Jupânești	Terminal	4.83	1.97	8.33	6.87
3	Velnița	Terminal	5.50	2.23	8.33	7.78
4	Sibișel 44	Terminal	4.83	2.36	11.00	10.26
5	Valcor	Terminal	4.33	1.72	5.80	5.20
6	Valrex	Terminal	5.00	1.77	6.50	6.18
7	Valmit	Terminal	4.33	2.09	5.00	6.10
8	Valcris	Terminal	4.50	2.11	6.33	7.15
9	Unival	Terminal	4.16	1.96	4.33	8.26
10	Valstar	Terminal	4.83	2.58	4.66	8.46
11	HC O2	Lateral	20.33	0.27	17.00	15.36
12	HC O3	Lateral	19.00	9.95	14.33	13.10
13	Sarmis	Terminal	4.50	2.20	10.33	17.60
14	VL 102 H	Terminal	6.50	3.76	13.33	14.34
MEAN			\bar{X} = 6.96	\bar{X} = 2.62	\bar{X} = 9.52	\bar{X} = 9.61

Table 3

The attack produced by *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *juglandis* (Pierce) Dye., on the leaves of native genotypes of walnut, in 2015-2016 conditions years.

No	Specification	Fructification type	September 2015		September 2016	
			F %	I %	F %	I %
1	Germisara	Terminal	6.58	5.75	12.30	9.47
2	Jupânești	Terminal	3.25	3.30	10.83	9.00
3	Velnița	Terminal	6.25	4.10	16.30	11.50
4	Sibișel 44	Terminal	6.91	5.20	12.30	10.40
5	Valcor	Terminal	4.41	2.94	6.16	4.28
6	Valrex	Terminal	4.05	2.14	7.50	2.75
7	Valmit	Terminal	4.66	3.75	8.30	1.82
8	Valcris	Terminal	4.08	2.78	7.30	1.76
9	Unival	Terminal	3.75	2.32	4.60	4.93
10	Valstar	Terminal	3.16	4.42	5.16	4.54
11	HC O2	Lateral	15.50	13.04	16.10	19.05
12	HC O3	Lateral	16.50	11.92	18.00	22.84
13	Sarmis	Terminal	4.16	5.56	13.50	15.36
14	VL 102 H	Terminal	13.80	18.81	15.50	16.82
MEAN			\bar{X} = 6.93	\bar{X} = 6.14	\bar{X} = 11.00	\bar{X} = 9.61

Table 4

The attack produced by *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *juglandis* (Pierce) Dye., on the fruits of native genotypes of walnut, in 2015-2016 conditions years.

No	Specification	Fructification type	September 2015		September 2016	
			F %	I %	F %	I %
1	Germisara	Terminal	6.65	1.66	9.00	11.69
2	Jupânești	Terminal	6.00	2.42	11.60	11.78
3	Velnița	Terminal	6.80	1.75	12.60	13.48
4	Sibișel 44	Terminal	7.65	1.99	14.00	13.76
5	Valcor	Terminal	5.30	2.25	0.00	0.00
6	Valrex	Terminal	6.00	1.65	0.00	0.00
7	Valmit	Terminal	5.30	2.34	6.33	5.88
8	Valcris	Terminal	6.30	2.03	8.00	5.44
9	Unival	Terminal	5.15	2.77	7.33	6.82
10	Valstar	Terminal	6.00	2.07	6.00	7.72
11	HC O2	Lateral	23.60	8.81	22.33	18.09
12	HC O3	Lateral	21.00	9.67	22.00	13.72
13	Sarmis	Terminal	6.50	2.88	18.60	9.48
14	VL 102 H	Terminal	7.50	3.69	17.33	8.10
MEAN			\bar{X} = 8.55	\bar{X} = 3.28	\bar{X} = 12.5	\bar{X} = 9.35

Table 5

Climatic conditions representative of the Valcea area (2015-2016)

Year	Month	Temperature ° C			Relative humidity %		Rainfall	
		Average	Low	Maxima	Average	Maxima	No days	Quantity mm
2015	March	6.4	1.5	11.9	71.6	92.1	13	49.6
	April	10.9	4.1	17.6	55.3	84.1	5	42.8
	May	17.2	10.8	24.0	70.0	93.5	7	12.4
	June	19.8	13.0	27.1	68.3	98.9	8	24.6
Mean		13.6	-	-	66.3	-	$\Sigma = 33/\bar{x} = 8.2$	$\Sigma = 129.4/\bar{x} = 32.3$
2016	March	6.8	1.5	12.5	74.3	80.3	14	69.0
	April	12.4	8.3	22.8	67.8	90.1	8	68.6
	May	16.6	10.1	23.8	80.3	98.2	14	96.6
	June	19.9	16.1	29.1	78.3	98.2	11	103.2
Mean		13.9	-	-	75.1	-	$\Sigma = 47/\bar{x} = 11.7$	$\Sigma = 337.4/\bar{x} = 84.3$

Correlation and regression attack *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *juglandis* according to number of days with rain (March-June 2015 - 2016)

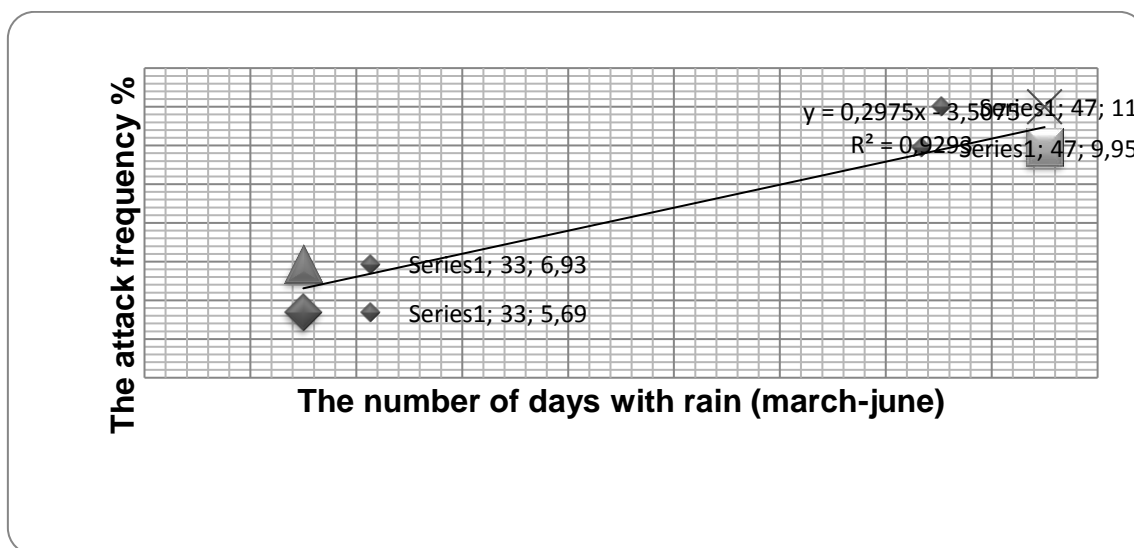


Figure. 1 Attack leaves

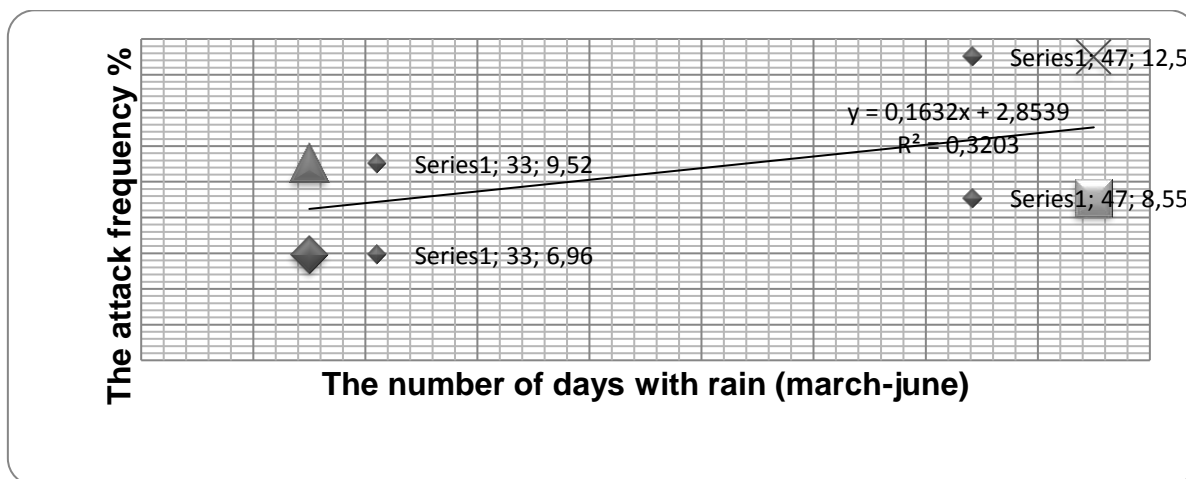


Figure. 2 Attack fruits

CONCLUSIONS

Romanian walnut genotypes (varieties and hybrids) are affected each year by *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *juglandis* (Pierce) Dye., at leaves and fruit under the Research Fruit Growing the Station of Valcea.

Varieties and hybrids behave differently to pathogen attack, and the most resistant are following varieties: Valcor, Valstar, Valcris, and Valrex.

Along with genotype major influence on the frequency (F%) and intensity (I%) had the attack and climatic conditions of the year and especially during rainfall from March to June.

The number of days with precipitation (March – June) was 33 in 2015 and 47 in 2016 and 2015 rainfall was 129.4 mm and 337.4 mm in 2016.

Bacteriosis attack in 2016 was higher than in 2015 and fruit, because the number of rainy days (47 days and 33 days), in June (75.1%) and September (70, 9%).

Program to combat the bacteriosis it must be correlated with the number of days with precipitation in the period from march to june, during which infection occurs on leaves, shoots, female and male flowers and fruit to reduce production losses.

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