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Yield and some morphological properties of newly introduced Italian rice varieties grown in Macedonia

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Summary

This paper presents the results of investigation of three newly introduced Italian rice varieties *Brio, Ellebi* and *Opale*, in comparison with two standards *Prima riska* and *R-76/6*. The field experiment (randomised block system) was conducted during 2010 and 2011 under the agro-ecological conditions of Kocani region. The paddy rice yield, stem height, panicle length and number of productive tillers per m² were analysed. In both years of investigation, the paddy rice yield of the standard variety *R-76/6* as well as the introduced *Brio, Ellebi* and *Opale* varieties was significantly lower compared with standard *Prima riska* variety. The stem height of the Italian rice varieties was significantly shorter in comparison with standard varieties, in both years of testing. In general, according to the results obtained in this investigation, the newly introduced varieties: *Brio, Ellebi* and *Opale* could be included in the rice breeding programmes, especially for breeding short stem rice varieties.

Key words: rice, varieties, paddy rice yield, stem, panicle, productive tillers

Introduction

In order to ensure higher yields and better grain quality in rice production, the use of varieties with high yielding and quality potential is an important factor, together with the technology applied. Rice production would be more successful if large assortment of rice varieties was available on the market, providing producers with the right choice regarding the productivity and quality. Lately, there has been increased interest among farmers in such varieties suited to intensive production system.

Carnahan et al. (1972) estimated 60% yield increase in USA rice production, due to introduction of new high yielding varieties. According to Russo and Callegarin (1997), the main factors limiting rice growing in Italy (low temperatures during sowing, flowering and fertilisation, diseases, weeds and red rice appearance)

might be overcome within rice breeding programmes as well as by introducing new better varieties.

The rice varieties in Macedonia are tall, with long stem, not being very suitable for intensive production systems, especially not responding to high doses of inorganic fertilisers. Medium-height rice varieties have recently contributed to higher productivity in the world rice production. This is due to a set of positive traits characterising medium-height rice genotypes, as well as increased tillering capacity, lodging resistance, positive response to nitrogen fertilisers, etc. Parallel to a breeding process, in order to enrich the assortment of rice varieties in the rice production in Macedonia, there is also need to introduce high-yielding and good quality varieties (Andov et al. 2003/2004, 2008/2009, 2010, Ilieva et al. 2005/2006). The introduced varieties require further investigations regarding their adaptability to local environmental factors (Ilieva et al. 2000, 2007, 2008). Thus, the aim of this research is to explore yield and certain morphological traits of three Italian rice varieties within the agro-ecological conditions in Kocani region (Eastern Macedonia).

Materials and methods

The research was conducted during 2010 and 2011 at the locality "Bosevica", Department for Rice in Kočani (part of the Experimental Field of the Institute of Agriculture in Skopje).

Three newly introduced Italian rice varieties (Brio, Ellebi and Opale) were investigated together with standards prima riska (modern Macedonian variety) and P-76/6 (domesticated Italian variety, widely spread in production in Macedonia), in order to compare their results. Field experiments were set up upon the method of randomized block system, in three repetitions. Standard technology for rice growing was applied. The statistical analysis of the results were performed by using ANOVA and tested by LSD test.

Soil and climatic conditions

Field trials were set up on alluvium soil type, carbonate-free at the examined depths (Table 1.). The soil texture was fine sandy loam. The pH of the soil solution was acid; the content of humus was low, the content of total nitrogen was strongly correlated to the content of humus. The soil was medium supplied with easy available potassium and phosphorus.

In general, climatic conditions during both years of investigation (Table 2) provided normal development of rice plants. During the rice vegetation period (from April to October), the average monthly temperature in 2010/2011 was 19.9° C, average maximum temperature was 25.4°C, while average minimum temperature was 12.8°C. The average monthly temperature during 2010 (19.7°C) was lower as compared with 2011 (20.1°C).

Tab.1. Some chemical properties of the soil from the locality "Bosevica" *Neka hemiiska svoistva zemliišta sa lokaliteta "Bosevica"*

D 4	CaCO ₃	Humus	Total (%)	pН	[Easy available (mg/100 g soil)		
Depth (cm)	(%)	(%)		H ₂ O	nKCl	P_2O_5	K_2O	
0-20	-	2.16	0.09	5.79	4.92	17.85	14.02	
20-40	-	1.50	0.06	5.88	5.07	11.57	12.04	

The sum of monthly rainfalls (average value for both years of investigation) was 277.9 mm.

Tab. 2. Average monthly temperatures and monthly sums of rainfalls during the rice vegetation period in Kočani

Prosječne mjesečne temperature i mjesečne sume padavina tokom

vegetacionog perioda riže u regionu Kočani

Year Months							A	verage	
1 cai	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	per year	per vegetation
	Average monthly temperature (C°)								
2010	13.7	18.5	22.1	24.9	26.9	19.3	12.2	14.3	19.7
2011	13.1	17.2	22.1	26.2	26.3	23.1	12.6	13.9	20.1
Avera ge	13.4	17.9	22.1	25.6	26.6	21.2	12.4	14.1	19.9
Average monthly maximum temperature (C°)									
2010	19.0	23.9	26.9	29.9	32.7	25.6	16.8	19.3	25.0
2011	18.4	22.2	27.5	31.9	32.2	29.7	18.6	19.2	25.8
Avera ge	18.7	23.1	27.2	30.9	32.5	27.7	17.7	19.3	25.4
			Ave	rage mon	thly minir	num temp	erature (C	°)	
2010	8.3	11.8	15.2	17.0	18.7	12.4	8.2	8.9	13.1
2011	6.7	11.2	14.4	16.9	16.8	14.8	5.8	7.3	12.4
Avera ge	7.5	11.5	14.8	17.0	17.8	13.6	7.0	8.1	12.8
		Mont	hly sum c	f rainfall	s (mm)				
2010	63.3	20.5	86.0	19.5	6.5	33.0	119.5	623.3	348.3
2011	15.5	42.5	44.0	23.5	16.5	30.0	35.5	296.0	207.5
Avera ge	39.4	31.5	65.0	21.5	11.5	31.5	77.5	459.7	277.9

Results and discussion

Paddy rice yield

The obtained results for paddy rice (rough rice) yield are presented in Table 3. The highest average yield was reached by the standard variety *Prima riska* (9465 kg ha⁻¹). In both years of investigation, the yields of this standard variety were

significantly higher (for both levels of probability) compared with other varieties (the standard *R-76/6* as well as the newly introduced *Brio*, *Ellebi* and *Opale*). The *Brio* variety was the best yielding among introduced varieties and slightly, but not significantly better yielding than the standard *R-78/6*. The lowest average yield (7635 kg ha⁻1) was found in *Ellebi*. In some former investigations (Ilieva et al. 2007), ten other introduced Italian varieties in Kocani region were examined, but none showed superiority over the standard ones regarding the yield.

Tab. 3. Paddy rice yield (kg ha⁻¹)

Prinos sirovog pirinča (kg ha⁻¹)

Varieties	Yield per ha	year (kg	Average yield	Index from		
	2010	2011	(kg ha ⁻¹)	Prima riska	R-76/6	
Prima riska(st.)	9960	8970	9465.00	0	+11,29	
R-76/6 (st.)	8950	8060	8505.00	-10.14	0	
Brio	9055	8173	8614.00	-8.99	+1.28	
Ellebi	8070	7200	7635.00	-19.33	-10.23	
Opale	8943	8050	8496.50	-10.23	-0.10	
Average	8995.60	8090.60	8543.10	-	-	
LSD 0,05	221.50	363.69				
LSD 0,01	322.62	529.73				

Tab. 4. Stem height (cm)

Visina stabla (cm)

Varieties	Year	X	S	Sx	CV (%)	min	max
Desires a	2010	90.33	4.66	0.85	5.16	82.00	103.00
Prima riska(st.)	2011	73.70	4.37	0.80	5.93	64.00	81.00
riska(st.)	average	82.02	4.52	0.83	5.55	73.00	92.00
	2010	86.20	4.21	0.77	4.89	53.00	92.00
R-76/6 (st.)	2011	70.30	5.06	0.92	7.20	43.00	78.00
	average	78.25	4.64	0.85	6.05	48.00	85.00
	2010	61.07	3.86	0.70	6.32	53.00	70.00
Brio	2011	50.77	3.51	0.64	6.91	43.00	60.00
	average	55.92	3.69	0.67	6.62	48.00	65.00
	2010	62.60	3.10	0.57	4.96	57.00	69.00
Ellebi	2011	53.63	2.76	0.50	5.15	47.00	59.00
	average	58.12	2.93	0.54	5.06	52.00	64.00
	2010	65.67	4.05	0.74	6.16	55.00	74.00
Opale	2011	53.33	4.94	0.90	9.26	46.00	65.00
	average	59.50	4.50	0.82	7.71	50.50	69.50
year	2010	2011					_
LSD 0,05	4.06	3.16					
LSD 0,01	5.91	4.60					

Stem height

Regarding the stem height, in general, the newly introduced varieties were significantly shorter than standards in both years of investigation (Table 4.). The average stem height of *Brio* (55.92cm) had the lowest value, near the values of *Ellebi* (58.12 cm) and *Opale* (59.50 cm). The standard Prima riska variety was the tallest one (82.2 cm), but close to the other standard P-76/6 (78.25 cm).

Panicle length

The average panicle length values of the introduced *Brio* (12.75cm), *Ellebi* (16.64cm), *Opale* (13.78cm) varieties and the standard variety R-76/6 (15.30 cm) were significantly lower compared with the panicle length of *Prima riska* (18.65cm). Among the introduced varieties, *Ellebi* was characterised by the longest panicle, significantly longer than the standard R-76/6 (Table 5.).

Tab. 5. Panicle length (cm)

Dužina metlice (cm)

Varieties	Year	X	S	Sx	CV %	min	max
Prima	2010	19.23	1.99	0.36	10.37	15.00	23.00
riska(st.)	2011	18.07	1.39	0.25	7.68	15.00	21.00
	average	18.65	1.69	0.31	9.03	15.00	22.00
R-76/6 (st.)	2010	16.35	1.42	0.26	8.71	11.00	19.00
	2011	14.25	0.85	0.16	5.97	10.00	16.00
	average	15.30	1.14	0.21	7.34	10.50	17.50
Brio	2010	12.57	1.22	0.22	9.73	11.00	15.00
	2011	12.93	1.53	0.28	11.83	10.00	15.00
	average	12.75	1.38	0.25	10.78	10.50	15.00
Ellebi	2010	16.50	1.57	0.29	9.52	13.00	20.00
	2011	16.77	1.59	0.29	9.49	13.00	21.00
	average	16.64	1.58	0.29	9.51	13.00	20.50
Opale	2010	14.03	1.27	0.23	9.07	12.00	16.00
	2011	13.53	1.46	0.27	10.76	11.00	17.00
	average	13.78	1.37	0.25	9.92	11.50	16.50
year	2010	2011					
LSD 0,05	0.67	0.73					
$LSD_{0.01}$	0.97	1.07					

The number of productive tillers per m²

The highest average number of productive tillers per m^2 (Table 6) was found in *Ellebi* (454.34) while the lowest was in *R*-76/6 (291.83). In 2010 and 2011, the tiller number per m^2 of Ellebi was significantly higher compared with other varieties.

Tab. 6. Number of productive tillers per m²

Broj produktivnih bokora po m²

Varieties		e tillers per Year	Average productive	Index from		
	2010	2011	tillers per m ²	Prima riska	R-76/6	
Prima riska(st.)	371.33	330.00	350.67	0	+20.16	
R-76/6 (st.)	306.33	277.33	291.83	-16.78	0	
Brio	450.00	406.00	428.00	+22.05	+46.66	
Ellebi	478.67	430.00	454.34	+29.56	+55.69	
Opale	341.67	302.67	322.17	-8.13	+10.40	
Average	389.60	349.20	369.40	-	-	
LSD 0,05	40.87	22.01		_		
LSD 0,01	59.53	32.05				

Conclusion

The newly introduced rice varieties were, in general, lower yielding compared with standard varieties, and significantly lower than the standard *Prima riska*.

The Italian *Ellebi* variety achieved the significantly biggest number of productive tillers per m² in comparison with other varieties.

Since the stem of the investigated Italian varieties was shorter than the standard ones, *Brio, Ellebi and Opale* will be included in the rice breeding programme for breeding medium-tall rice varieties. Also, these new varieties are going to be tested within intensive production systems under the environmental conditions of Kocani rice growing region.

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Prinos i neka morfološka svojstva novointroduciranih italijanskih sorti pirinča u uslovima gajenja u Makedoniji

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Sažetak

U radu su prezentirani rezultati ispitivanja tri novointroducirane italijanske sorte pirinča: *Brio, Ellebi* i *Opale*, u poređenju sa dve standardne sorte *Prima riska* i *R-76/6*. Poljski eksperiment (randomizirani blok sistem) je bio sproveden tokom 2010. i 2011. u agroekološkim uslovima Kočanskog regiona. Analiziran je prinos sirovog pirinča (pirinčane arpe), zatim visina stabla, dužina metlice i broj broduktivnih bokora na m². U toku dve godine ispitivanja, prinos surovog pirinča kod standardne sorte *R-76/6* i kod svih intoduciranih sorti *Brio, Ellebi* i *Opale* je bio signifikantno niži od prinosa standardne sorte *Prima riska*. Visina stabla italijanskih introduciranih sorti je bila statistički značajno manja od visine standardnih sorti i to u dvegodišnjem trajanju testiranja. Generalno, u saglasnosti sa dobivenim rezultatima, novointroducirane sorte pirinča: *Brio, Ellebi* i *Opale* će biti uvedene u oplemenjivačkim programima pirinča, posebno sa ciljem dobijanja novih sorti pirinča sa kraćim stablom.

Ključne reči: pirinač, prinos sirovog pirinča, stablo, metlica, produktivni bokori