



Adaptation strategies of apricot and other stone fruit crops to climate change in warm production areas



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Fruit production facing climate change: anticipating and taking action for tomorrow





GLOBAL WARMING - CLIMATE CHANGE



Temperature

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)



Evolution of average temperature in Spain (1965-2018)



Source: Aemet



GLOBAL WARMING - CLIMATE CHANGE





Rodriguez et al. 2019





Crop yield

- Variations in phenology (breaking dormancy date, flowering and ripening date, fruit development cycle) and fruit quality
- Lower chilling accumulation → No fulfillment of chilling requirements:
 - High % bud drop
 - Deficient vegetative bud breaking (poor vegetation)
 - Lack of synchronization between flowering and vegetation
 - Loss of uniformity in flowering
 - Abnormalities in pistils and pollen
- Extreme events: Drought, Lack of chilling, frost...
- Reduction of the availability of water resources
- Salinity
- Increase in the prevalence of pests and pathologies









EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN APRICOT AND OTHER STONE FRUIT CROPS





Mid April

Effects of Non-fulfillment of CR: Flowering delay



EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN APRICOT AND OTHER STONE FRUIT CROPS





Foto: D. Ruiz

Foto: J. García

Effects of Non-fulfillment of CR: High % bud drop, poor vegetation



EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN APRICOT AND OTHER STONE FRUIT CROPS





Effects of Non-fulfillment of CR: Loss of uniformity



Strategies to facilitate the adaptation of stone fruit crops to climate change in warm areas



- A) Breeding for low-chilling requirements cultivars
- B) Identification of agro-climatic areas. Modeling in the future scenarios of climate change
- C) Guidelines for cultivar choice, considering chilling requirements (CR) i) Cultivar availability of stone fruits grouped by CR
- D) Design, development and optimization of cultivation systems and methods to minimize the effect of climatic change



A) Breeding for low-chilling requirements cultivars

- Currently we only have extra-low chilling cultivars in peach (<300 Chill Units)
- >*Prunus* breeding programmes must be addressed on this objective



Apricot breeding programme (CEBAS-CSIC)



CEBAStruit CSIC





CEBASTruit CSIC

New cultivars

~ 38 Porciones / 620 CU

Japanese plum breeding programme (CEBAS / IMIDA)



New advanced selections

< 25 Porciones / < 400 CU



Adaptation strategies of apricot to climate change in warm production areas

Apricot crop in warm European areas



Valencianos 36 Portions / 600 CU

Very low-chilling requirements apricot cultivars



~ 38 Portions / 620 CU

Low-chilling requirements apricot cultivars



~ 45 Portions / 700 CU



B) Identification and characterization of agro-climatic areas. Modeling in the future scenarios of climate change

- Mapping chill accumulation (homo-climatic areas) *
- Current and future scenarios *
- Displacement of climatic zones in the new future scenarios *



Figure 1. Isotherm map of the average temperature for the period from October to March



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Phenological projection models

Mapping risk of frost. Current and future scenarios



Isotherm map of minimum temperatures Source: SIAM - IMIDA

Low Chilling Requirements cultivars / Cold Areas

Early flowering — In cold areas, risk of frost



C) Guidelines for cultivar choice, considering chilling requirements

Cultivar availability of stone fruits grouped by chill requirements (chill units)



SOME IDENTIFIED GAPS...

- Scarce information regarding CR. Determination of chilling requirements in cultivars that we do not have information
- Models and methodology. Optimization of the models for chill accumulation determination. Standardization of the methodology and protocols for the assessment of chilling requirements for breaking dormancy and heat requirements for flowering
- > Validation of chilling requirements data in different climatic conditions, especially in warm areas



- D) Design, development and optimization of cultivation systems and methods to minimize the effect of climatic change
 - Optimization of treatments with biostimulant products for improving vegetation and flowering
 - Shading nets to increase chilling accumulation
 - Reduction and optimization of irrigation (monitoring with sensors, biodegradable plastic padding, etc.)



IN WARM AREAS, APPLICATIONS OF BIOSTIMULANT PRODUCTS

- i) to improve dormancy release, flowering and vegetation. Uniformity and precocity
- ii) to advance breaking dormancy time and consequently flowering and ripening time)

Optimization of treatments with biostimulant products

- Products
- Concentrations
- Moment of application

Compuesto	Concentración	
Cianamida de Hidrógeno 50% (Dormex)	2 %	
DNOC	0,25 %	
TDZ + Aceite Parafínico 83% 200 p.p.m. + 1,5%		
Erger + Activ-Erger	4% + 6%	VALAGRO
Syncron + Nitroactive	1,5% + 4,5%	DAYMSA
Armoblen 650 + KNO3	1% + 5%	MASSÓ
NH4NO3 + Ca(NO3)2 + Aceite Parafínico 83%		
Ca(NO3)2 + KNO3 + Aceite Parafínico 83%		

Treatments must be applied when around 75% of chilling requirements are fulfilled



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Treatments applied when around 75% of chilling requirements are fulfilled



Shading nets

- Type of shading nets
- Moment of installation and removal of the net



To reduce temperature and increase chill accumulation (15-20%)

Installation: when chill accumulation begins Removal: when chill requirements are fulfilled





INNOVATION PROJECT (2019-2022) – SPANISH OPERATIVE GROUP **"ADAPTATION OF STONE FRUIT SECTOR TO CLIMATE CHANGE"**

www.cambioclimaticofrutadehueso.es



"Developing strategies and tools to minimize the effects of climate change in the stone fruit sector"







GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF THE INNOVATION PROJECT

- **A. Identification of agro-climatic and homo-climatic areas.** Modeling in the future scenarios of climate change.
- **B. Guidelines for cultivar choice, considering chilling requirements.** Adaptation and problems associated with the effects of climate change
- C. Design, development and optimization of systems, methods and practices of production / cultivation
- **D.** Agro-economic evaluation
- E. Integrated decision support system (DSS)







Thanks for your attention!!!





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