

Possibilities of growing basil *Ocimum basilicum* in Istria

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Abstract

The experiment was carried out to determine the effect of black PE mulch on yield and quality of three basil varieties: 'Genovese', 'Holandānin' and 'Violeto aromatico' cultivated in Galižana, Croatia. The basil herbage was cut three times in the vegetation period, just before flowering, at the height of 10 cm above the ground. The most intensive vegetative growth and the highest total yield were achieved by 'Genovese' in combination with black PE-mulch. The highest percentage of dry leaves was realized by 'Violeto aromatico' (64.89 % on bare soil and 64.36 % on black PE-mulch). Intensive cutting affected the vegetative growth and branching of basil positively, resulting in an increased percentage of leaves in the third harvest at all varieties. The highest content of essential oil in dry leaves was detected in 'Genovese', and the lowest in 'Violeto aromatico'. The mulch of black PE-film did not affect the quality of basil varieties cultivated in Istria.

Key words: mulch of black PE-film, herbage, yield, quality, essential oil

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Mogućnosti uzgoja bosiljka *Ocimum basilicum* u Istri

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Sažetak

Istraživan je utjecaj malča crnog polietilenskog (PE) filma na ukupni prinos herbe, broj berbi i kvalitativna svojstva kultivara bosiljka 'Genovese', 'Holandānin' i 'Violeto aromatico' na području Galižane u Istri. Usjev je košen neposredno prije cvatnje na visinu od 10 cm iznad tla, tri puta tijekom vegetacije. Najintenzivniji vegetativni porast i najviši ukupni prinos postignut je sa sortom 'Genovese' uzgajanom na crnom PE-malču. Najviši udio listova u suhoj herbi postignut je u 'Violeto aromatico' (64,36 % uz malč i 64,89 % na nepokrivenom tlu). Košnjom herbe pojačano je grananje i formiranje vegetativne mase, što je rezultiralo povećanjem udjela listova u trećoj berbi kod svih kultivara. Najviši sadržaj eteričnog ulja u suhom listu u sve je tri berbe imala sorta 'Genovese', a najniži 'Violeto aromatico'. Malč crnog PE-filma nije imao utjecaja na kvalitativne karakteristike bosiljka.

Ključne riječi: malč crnog PE-filma, herba, prinos, kvaliteta, eterično ulje

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