

# Influence of Harvesting Time on Leek Yield in Summer–Autumn Production

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## Abstract

In Slovenia leek is considered a winter vegetable and is therefore predominantly used in late autumn and in winter. Majority of market production is intended for harvesting from late summer until late autumn. In general, leeks can be harvested early or they can be left to grow to a much larger mature size. Time of harvest depends strongly of cultivars types and earliness and also of market requirements about thickness or length of blanched stem.

In the years 2006 and 2007 the influence of harvesting time (August, September, October) on the yield and morphological characteristics of 10 early and medium late leek cultivars was tested on 2 locations (Jablje, Križe) in Slovenia. Strong influence of harvesting time on the yields was observed. At early harvest in August yields were up to 50 % lower than at later harvests in September and October. In 2006 the highest yields of all cultivars (46.5 to 59.8 t/ha) were achieved at the last harvest in October. In 2007 in Jablje the prolonging of the growth period from September to October reduced the marketable and increased the waste yield of summer type leek cultivars, while the marketable yield of autumn cultivars increased from September to October. In that year in Križe the highest yield of all cultivar was achieved in October while additional harvest at that location in November resulted in lower yields of all cultivars. On general in our trials summer cultivars gave higher yields than autumn ones regardless of the time of harvest. Cultivars with the highest yield were Lancia and Lincoln. The harvesting date significantly influenced the thickness of the stem while the stem length was not affected.

Since the leek production in Slovenia, with the exception of the costal area where winter production is also possible, is mostly intended for harvest in autumn the production of summer type leek cultivars could be recommended.

Key words: *Allium porrum*, cultivar, harvesting date, yield, morphological characteristics

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# Utjecaj roka berbe na prinos poriluka u ljetno-jesenskom uzgoju

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## Sažetak

U Sloveniji se poriluk smatra zimskim povrćem, pa se najviše koristi u jesen i zimi. Većina je usjeva stoga namijenjena berbi od kasnoga ljeta do kasne jeseni. Vrijeme berbe poriluka općenito ovisi o ranozrelosti sorte te o potrebi tržišta i njegovim zahtjevima prema debljini i dužini lažne stabljike.

U 2006. i 2007. godini na dvije lokacije u Sloveniji (Križe i Jablje) istraživana je utjecaja vremena berbe na prinos i morfološke karakteristike lažne stabljike kod 10 ranih i srednje ranih sorata namijenjenih ljetnom i jesenskom uzgoju. Rezultati pokazuju, da su prinosi kod rane berbe (august) i do 50 % manji nego kod kasnijih berbi (septembar, oktobar). U 2006. su godini kod svih sorata na obje lokacije najveći prinosi postignuti u zadnjoj berbi u oktobru (između 46.5 i 59.8 t/ha). U 2007. je godini u Jabljama u zadnjoj berbi (oktobar) kod sorata u tipu ljetnog poriluka vidljiv trend smanjivanja tržišnog prinosa i rast pada naspram berbi u septembru, dok je kod jesenskih sorata najveći prinos postignut u zadnjoj berbi. U Križama je i u toj godini najveći prinos kod svih sorata bio postignut u berbi u oktobru, a dodatna berba na toj lokaciji u novembru kod svih sorata je rezultirala u manjem prinosu naspram berbi u oktobru. U svim su berbama sorte u tipu ljetnog poriluka dale veće prinose od sorata u tipu jesenskog poriluka. Po količini prinosa ističu se sorte Lancia i Lincoln. Gledajući morfološke karakteristike, vrijeme je berbe utjecalo na debljinu lažne stabljike, dok se dužina lažne stabljike nije mijenjala.

U Sloveniji se, uz iznimku priobalnog područja gdje je moguća i ozima proizvodnja, poriluk uglavnom bere u jesen, pa se na osnovu naših rezultata za taj termin mogu preporučiti sorte u tipu ljetnog poriluka.

Ključne riječi: *Allium porrum*, sorta, vrijeme berbe, prinos, morfološke karakteristike

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