Comparative study of different varieties of red clover in Bulgaria

Tsvetoslav MIHOVSKI, Boriana CHOURCOVA, Dimitar MITEV
Research Institute of Mountain Stockbreeding and Agriculture, 5600 Troyan, Bulgaria, (e-mail: mihovsky@mail.bg)

Abstract
During the 2007-2009 period in the experimental field of RIMSA – Troyan, a field trial was carried out with 10 varieties of red clover. Five varieties from Switzerland and four varieties from Japan were studied for botanical composition, morphological analysis, yield of green mass and dry matter and chemical analysis, comparing them with a Bulgarian candidate variety Troyan.

There were no significant differences with regard to the yields of fresh and dry mass from the different varieties of red clover. The diploid Japanese variety Sapporo was the highest-yielding and it exceeded the candidate variety Troyan by almost 13% and 11% for the fresh and dry mass, respectively. It had also the best chemical composition, therefore it can be recommended to the practice in the foremountainous regions of Bulgaria. The highest presence of red clover was found in the second experimental year. The portion of stems was predominant in the fresh mass of red clover, followed by that of leaves and flowers.

Key words: red clover, varieties, characteristics

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