Some fruit characteristics of rosa hip (*Rosa canina* L.) genotypes collected from high altitude of Central Anatolia (Kayseri province) - Turkey

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Abstract

Turkey is known with diverse genetic resources of rosa hip including various genotypes. Therefore, it is among the most common natural growing fruit crops of the country. It is commonly consumed due to its higher nutritious values especially high vitamin C content, flavonoids, anthocyanins, tannin and antioxidants. Generally, fruits are consumed as fresh. Recently, it has been used in agricultural industry as hot drink, juice, marmalade and jam. Selection of superior genotypes is an important goal because of natural aboundance and being used as raw material in agricultural industry.

The present study was conducted to select the superior genotypes for fruit characteristics. Fruit samples were collected from the down hills (around the zeniths of Gokdag mountain with 2000 – 2500 m range of altitude) of Erciyes Mountain, the highest mountain (3917 m altitude) of Central Anatolia (Kayseri province). Totally 13 genotypes were identified and sampled in the year 2011. Fruit weight, fruit length, fruit width, length/width index, flesh thickness, total soluble solid content (TSS), seed number, skin color, flesh color and fruit shape were considered as the fruit characteristics. Fruit weight, flesh thickness and total soluble solids (TSS) of genotypes ranged respectively between 2.31 g (GKD-KU-12) - 5.26 g (GKD-KU-5), 2.20 mm (GKD-KU-12) - 2.83 mm (GKD-KU-5), 32.60% (GKD-KU-9) - 42.00% (GKD-KU-12). Higher TSS contents were observed with increasing altitudes.

Key words: rose hip, Central Anatolia, Erciyes Mountain, Kayseri, pomology

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