

Cryopreservation of temperate fruit species in Serbia

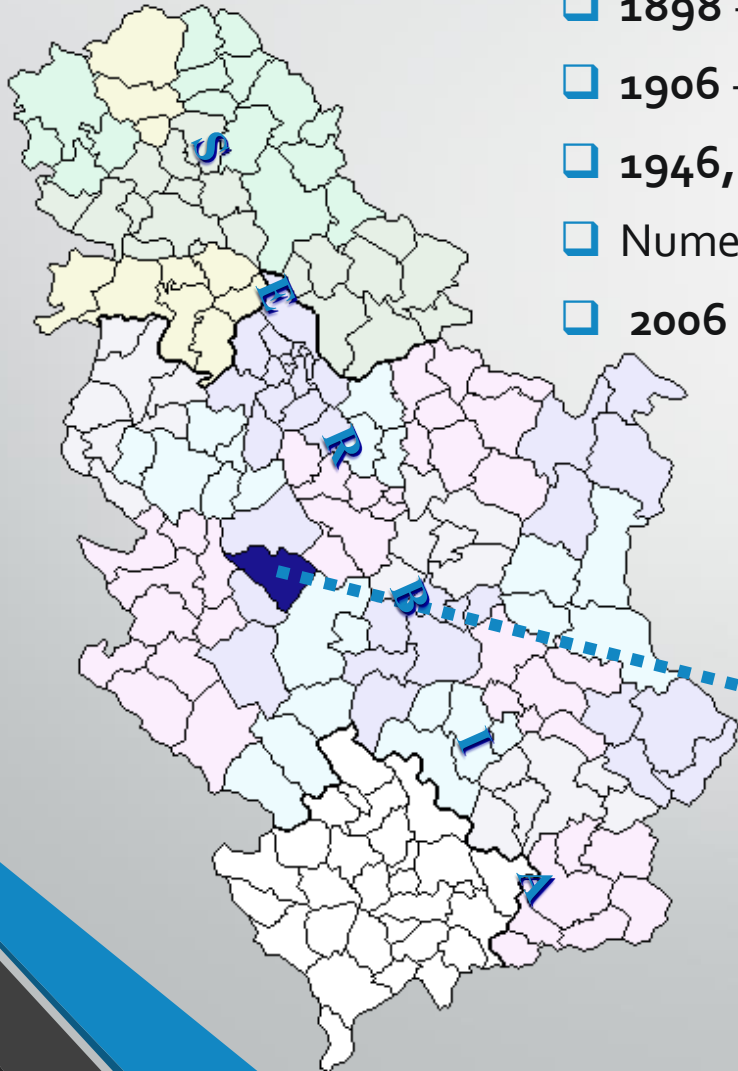
Tatjana Vujović, Darko Jevremović
Fruit Research Institute, Čačak, Serbia



Fruit Research Institute, Čačak

Research and Development Institute

- ❑ **1898** - Law on the improvement of fruit growing
- ❑ **1906** - fruit nursery
- ❑ **1946, July 17** – foundation day (Fruit Growing and Processing Station)
- ❑ Numerous transformations
- ❑ **2006** - Fruit Research Institute





Fruit Research Institute, Čačak

Departments

Pomology
and fruit
breeding

Fruit
physiology

Plant
protection and
certification of
planting
material

Technology
of fruit
growing

Fruit
processing
technology

Experimental
fields

Research & development laboratories

Chemical analysis

Phytopathology

Tissue culture *in vitro*

Collection, characterisation and evaluation of autochthonous genotypes of pome, stone, kernel and small fruit species



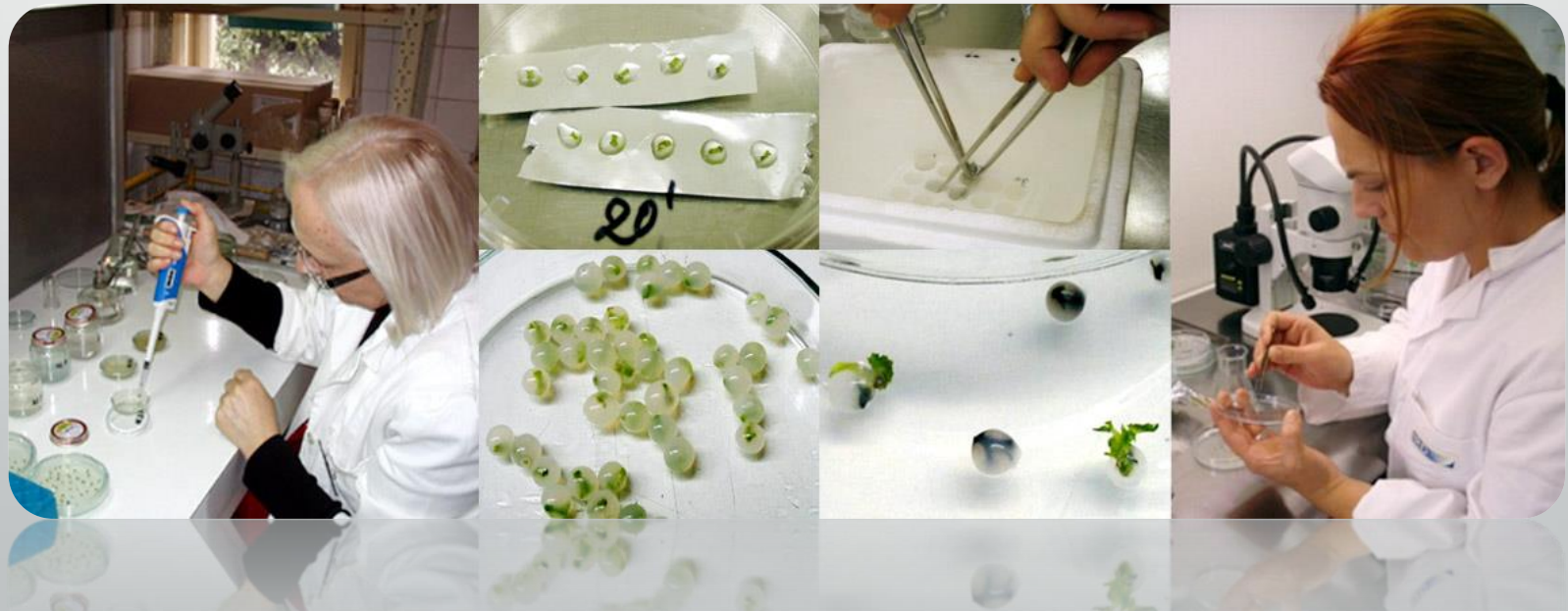
- ❑ Besides the cultivated fruit species and cultivars, a large number of wild and related species have been registered in Serbia.
- ❑ *Ex situ* collection of Fruit Research Institute comprises more than **800** genotypes of different fruit species.
- ❑ Breeders are currently involved in characterization and evaluation of considerable number of landraces, especially those that exhibit favorable traits (resistance to pests and diseases, long shelf life, etc.).
- ❑ The significant outcome of the Cryoplum project are *in vivo* and *in vitro* collections of nine autochthonous plum cultivars that are maintained in the greenhouse and laboratories of the Fruit Research Institute and are available for various purposes (conservation, propagation, breeding, exchange, morphological characterization and agronomic evaluation).

Our interest?

To reestablish fruit gene bank of Serbia employing, among others, different *in vitro* cryopreservation techniques.

Cryopreservation *in vitro*

- ❑ Encapsulation dehydration
 - ❑ Vitrification
- ❑ Droplet vitrification
 - ❑ V cryo-plate
 - ❑ D cryo-plate





Projects



COST 863 STMS

Participant: Đurđina Ružić

Title: The application and the elaboration of the protocol for encapsulation-dehydration, vitrification and droplet vitrification techniques in raspberry (*Rubus idaeus* L.)

Place: CRA - Fruit Tree Research Centre of Rome, Italy

Supervisor: Dr Carmine Damiano and Dr Emilia Caboni



COST 871 STMS

Participant: Tatjana Vujović

Title: Cryopreservation of autochthonous plum genotypes (*P. insititia* L. and *P. cerasifera* Ehrh.) using encapsulation-dehydration and droplet vitrification techniques

Place: IRD, Montpellier, France

Supervisor: Dr Florent Engelmann

SERBIAN-FRENCH BILATERAL SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION (Program 'Pavle Savic' – 'Partnership Hubert Curien')

Project title: Application of droplet-vitrification and V cryo-plate methods in cryopreservation of *Prunus* genetic resources

Institutions: IRD and INRA, Montpellier, France and FRI, Čačak, Serbia

Duration: 2014–2015





Projects



BILATERAL SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION BETWEEN SERBIA AND CROATIA

Project title: In vitro propagation, conservation and quantification of biological activity of fruits of small fruit species and grapevine

Institutions: University of Zagreb – Faculty of Agriculture, Croatia and FRI, Čačak, Serbia

Duration: 2019–2022



SCIENCE FUND OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA Program for excellent projects of young researchers (PROMIS)

Project title: Conservation and plum pox virus eradication from Serbian autochthonous plum genotypes using cryotechniques - CryoPlum

Institutions: FRI, Čačak, Serbia

Duration: 2020–2022

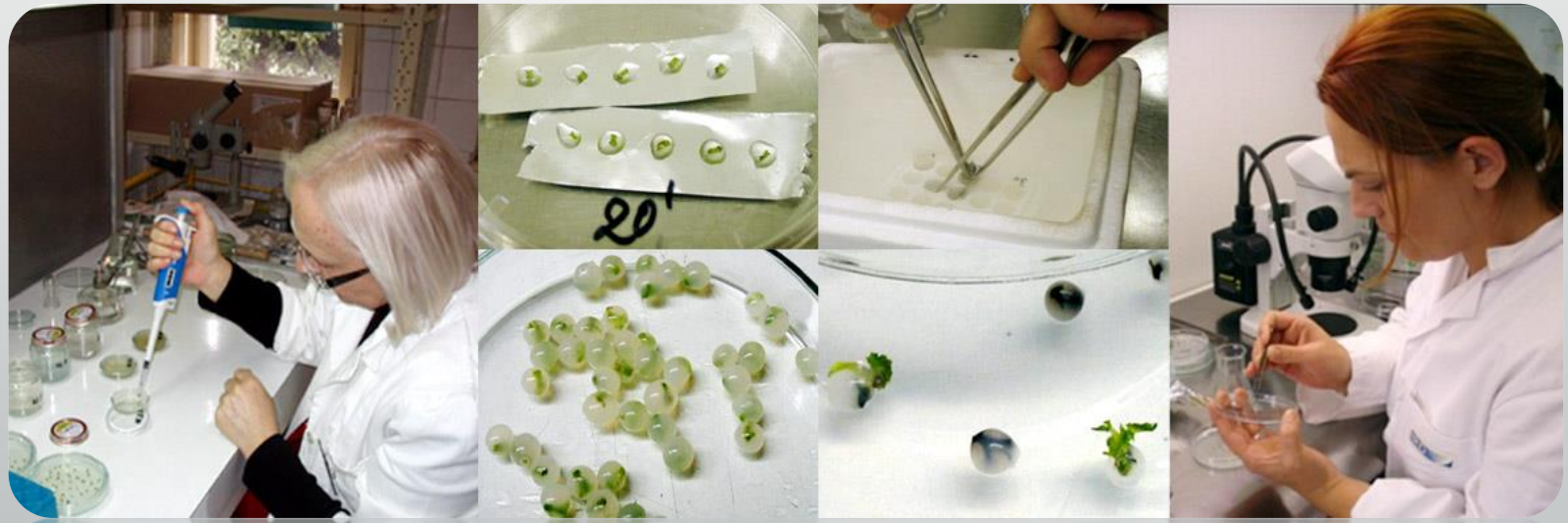
COST ACTION CA21157

Project title: European Network for Innovative Woody Plant Cloning (COPYTREE)

Duration: 2022–2026



What we have done so far



Vitrification

Rootstock 'Gisela 5'

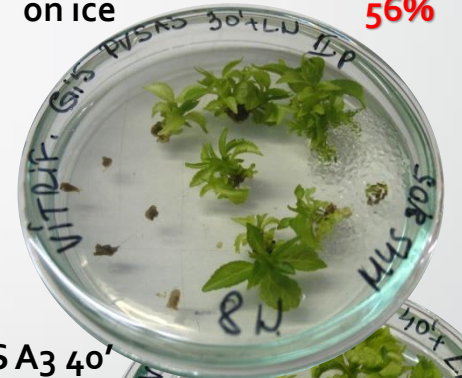
PVS2 vitrification

PVS2 50' on ice
Regrowth 17%

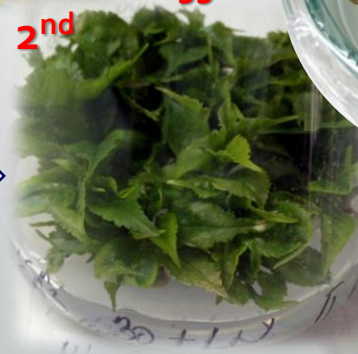


PVS A3 vitrification

PVS A3 30' on ice
Regrowth 56%



PVS A3 40' on ice
Regrowth 55%



- ❖ Preculture (0.3 and 0.7 M sucrose)
- ❖ Loading (2 M glycerol + 0.4 M sucrose)
- ❖ Dehydration (PVS 2, PVS A3)
- ❖ 1 h in LN
- ❖ Water bath at 40 °C
- ❖ Recovery (1.2 M sucrose)

← Multiplication in successive subcultures after regrowth →

Cherry plum,
autochthonous
plums
Sitnica
Crvena Ranka

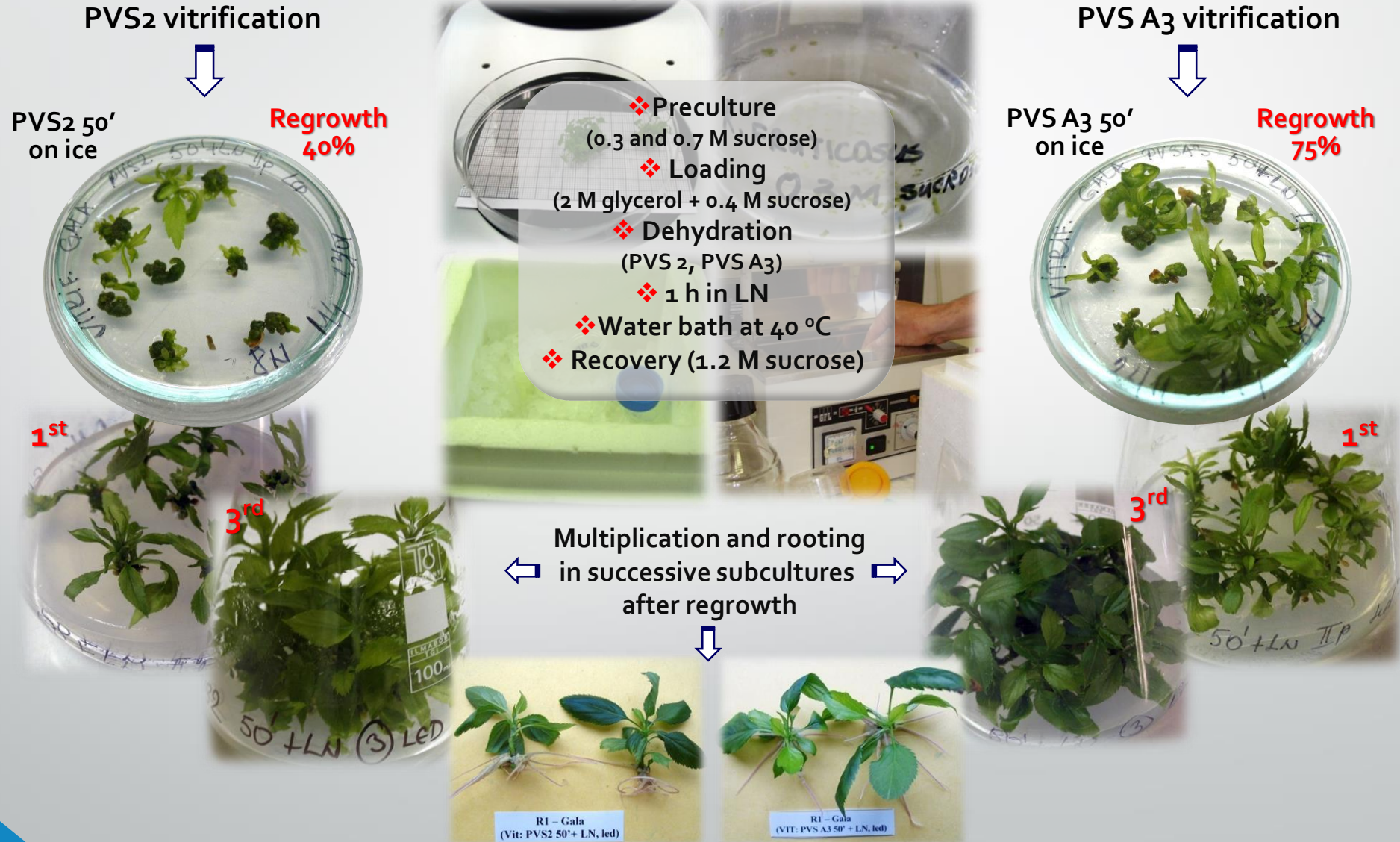
↓
PVS2
vitrification

↓
No regrowth

Vitrification

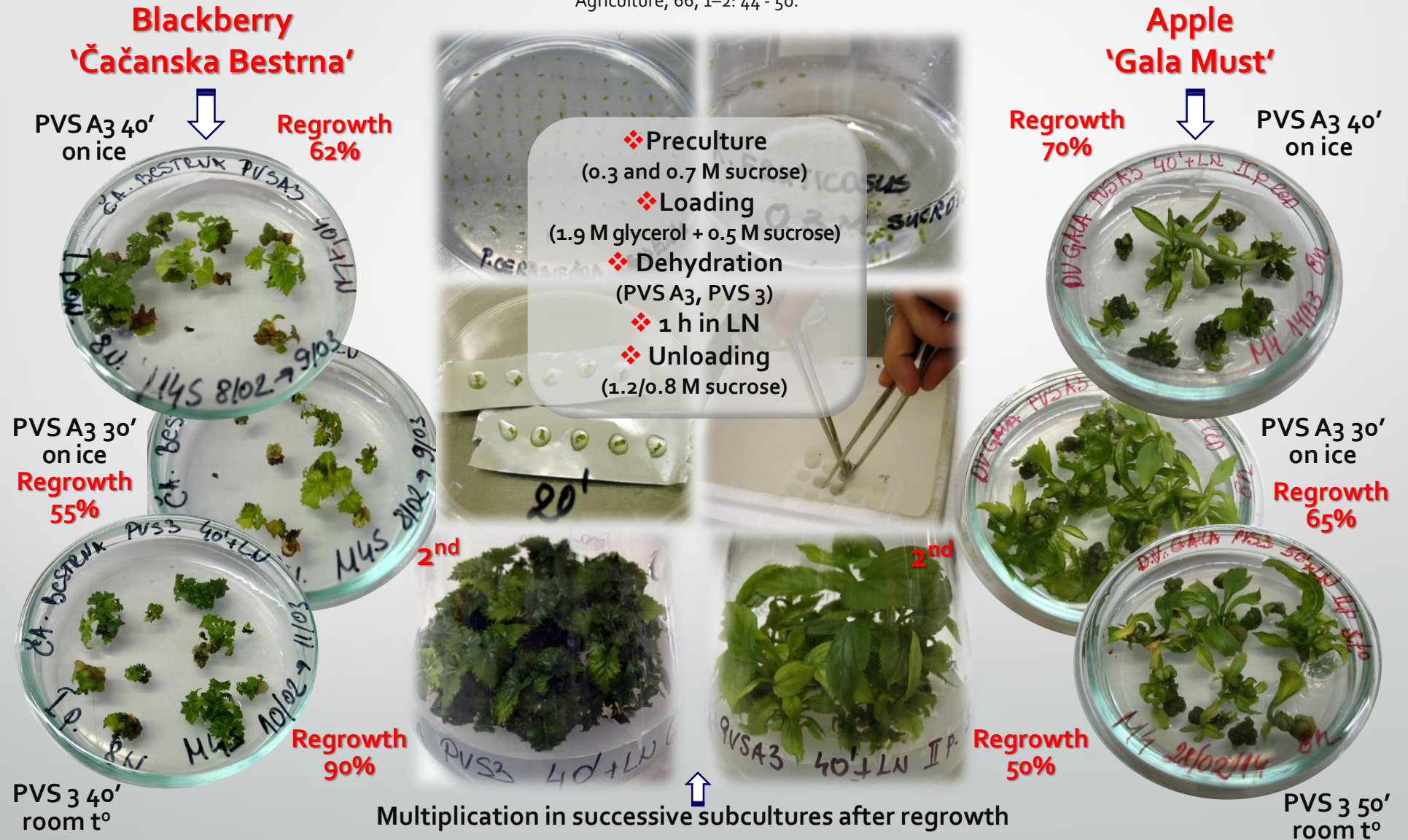
1. Vujović T., Ružić Đ., Cerović R. (2021): Cryopreservation of apple shoot tips by vitrification and subsequent plant regeneration. Acta Horticulturae, 1308: 33–40.

Apple Gala Must



Droplet vitrification

1. Vujović T., Sylvestre I., Ružić Đ., Engelmann F. (2011): Droplet-vitrification of apical shoot tips of *Rubus fruticosus* L. and *Prunus cerasifera* Ehrh. *Scientia Horticulturae*, 130: 222–228; 2. Vujović T., Ružić Đ., Cerović R. (2015): Optimization of droplet vitrification protocol for cryopreservation of *in vitro* grown blackberry shoot tip. *Acta Horticulturae*, 1099: 595–601; 3. Vujović T., Ružić Đ., Cerović R. (2017): Effect of the duration of liquid nitrogen storage on the regrowth of blackberry cryopreserved by droplet vitrification. *Contemporary Agriculture*, 66, 1–2: 44 - 50.



4. Vujović T., Ružić Đ., Vranić D., Marjanović T. (2020): Cryopreservation in vitro of apple shoot tips following droplet-vitrification. *Acta Horticulturae*, 1289: 1–8.

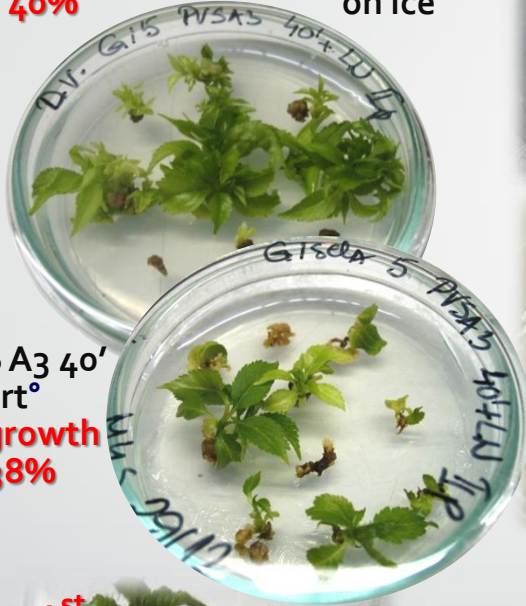
Droplet vitrification

Rootstock 'Gisela 5'

PVS A3 vitrification

Regrowth
40%

PVSA3 40'
on ice



PVSA3 40'
rt°
Regrowth
38%

PVS 3 vitrification

Regrowth
38%

PVS 3 90'
rt°



PVS 3 60'
rt°
Regrowth
40%

- ❖ Preculture (0.3 and 0.7 M sucrose)
- ❖ Loading (1.9 M glycerol + 0.5 M sucrose)
- ❖ Dehydration (PVS A3, PVS 3)
- ❖ 1 h in LN
- ❖ Unloading (1.2/0.8 M sucrose)



1st



3rd

Multiplication
↔ in ↔
successive
subcultures
after regrowth



3rd



1st

Droplet vitrification

1. Vujović T., Sylvestre I., Ružić Dj., Engelmann F. (2012): Cryopreservation of cherry plum and blackberry shoot tips by droplet-vitrification. Proceedings of Final Meeting of COST Action 871 – Cryopreservation of Crop Species in Europe, Angers (France), pp. 163–166.
2. Vujović T., Ružić Dj., Cerović R. (2015): Cryopreservation in vitro of autochthonous *Prunus* sp. by droplet-vitrification. *Biologia*, 70, 10: 1359–1365.

Poor regrowth capacity!

- ❖ Preculture (0.3 and 0.7 M sucrose)
- ❖ Loading (1.9 M glycerol + 0.5 M sucrose)
- ❖ Dehydration (PVS A3, PVS 3)
- ❖ 1 h in LN
- ❖ Unloading (1.2/0.8 M sucrose)

Cherry plum

Regrowth 28% PVS A3 30' rt° 60' unl.

PVS A3 40' rt° 60' unl. Regrowth 27%

Plum 'Crvena Ranka'

Regrowth 36% PVS A3 30' rt°

PVS A3 40' rt°/60' unl. Regrowth 34%

Plum 'Požegača'

PVS A3 30' rt° Regrowth 15%

PVS 3 50' rt° Regrowth 10%

Plum 'Sitnica'

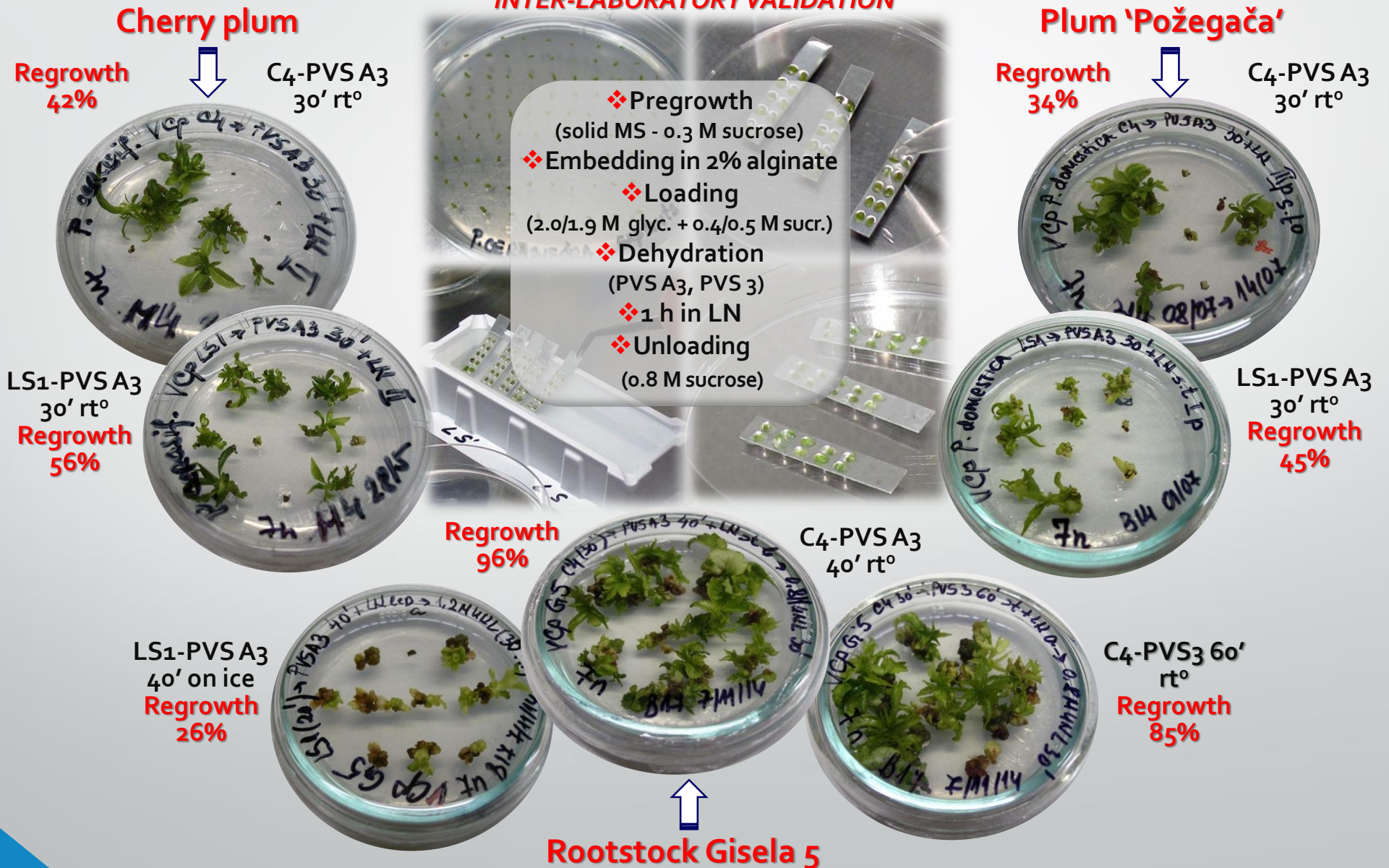
PVS3 90' rt° Regrowth 18%

PVS3 60' rt° Regrowth 30%

V cryo-plate

1. Vujović T., Chatelet Ph., Ružić Đ., Engelmann F. (2017): Cherry plum & plum (Prunus sp.), V cryo-plate; D cryo-plate. In: 'Manual of cryopreservation methods using cryo-plate. V and D cryo-plate procedures as an effective protocol for cryobanks', Nino T., Matsumoto T., Yamamoto S-I., Maki S., Tanaka D, Engelmann F. (eds.), pp. 66–69.

INTER-LABORATORY VALIDATION

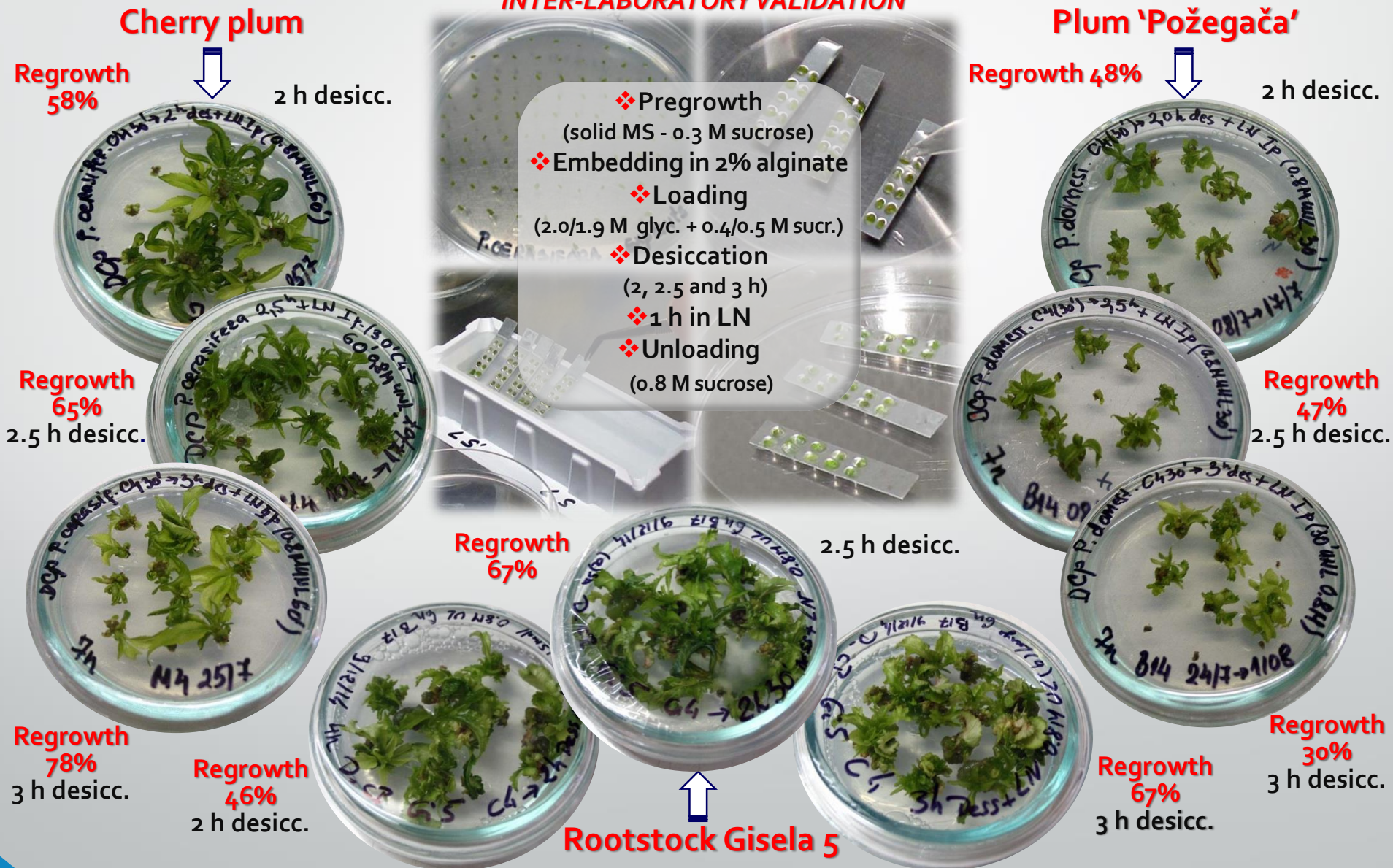


D cryo-plate

2. Vujović T., Chatelet Ph., Ružić Đ., Engelmann F. (2015): Cryopreservation of Prunus sp. using aluminium cryo-plates. Scientia Horticulturae, 195: 173–182.

3. Vujović T., Ružić Đ., Marjanović T., Jevremović D. (2020): Application of V and D cryo-plate methods for the cryopreservation of cherry rootstock Gisela 5. Book of Proceedings of the XI International Scientific Agricultural Symposium 'Agrosym 2020', pp. 62–68.

INTER-LABORATORY VALIDATION



V cryo-plate

Strawberry 'Clery'

Regrowth
50%

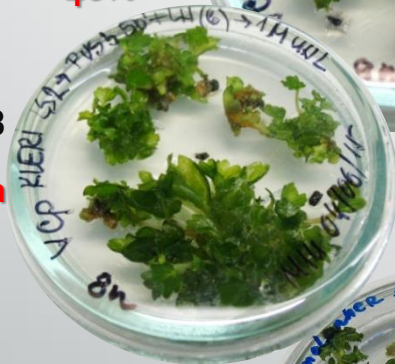
LS2-PVS2
50' rt°



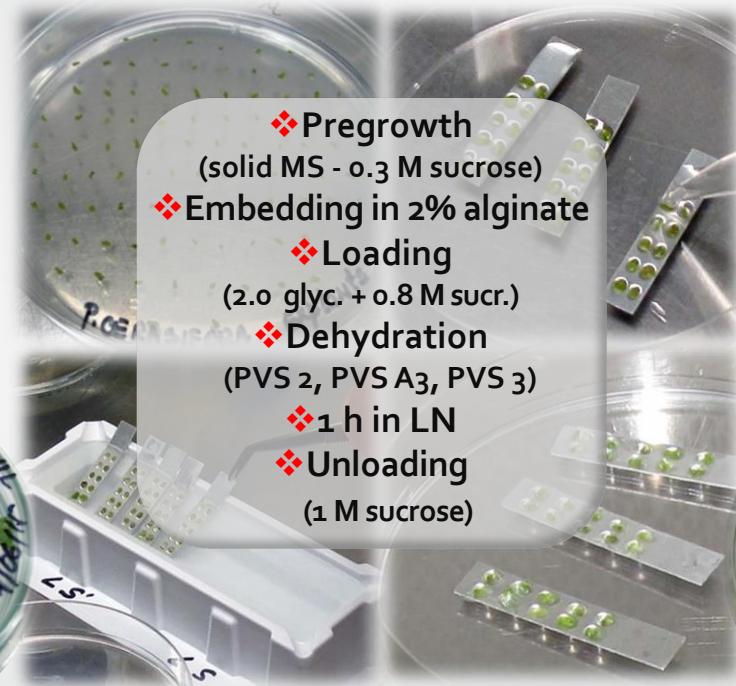
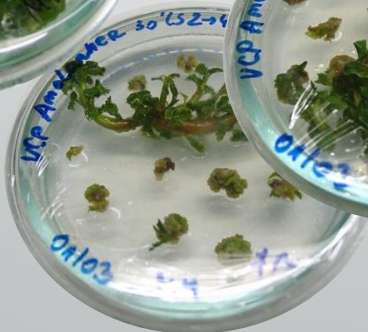
LS2-PVS A3
50' rt°
Regrowth
46%



LS2-PVS3
50' rt°
Regrowth
63%



LS2-PVS A3
40' rt°
Regrowth
36%

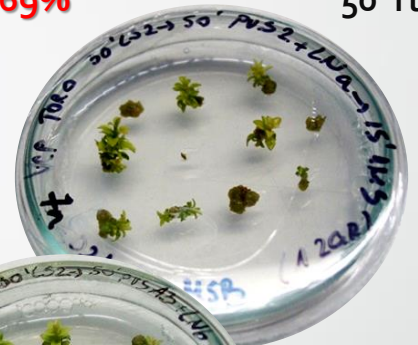


- ❖ Pregrowth
(solid MS - 0.3 M sucrose)
- ❖ Embedding in 2% alginate
- ❖ Loading
(2.0 glyc. + 0.8 M suc.)
- ❖ Dehydration
(PVS 2, PVS A3, PVS 3)
- ❖ 1 h in LN
- ❖ Unloading
(1 M sucrose)

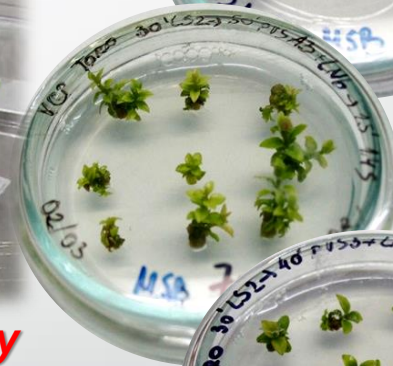
Blueberry 'Toro'

Regrowth
69%

LS2-PVS 2
50' rt°



LS2-PVS A3
50' rt°
Regrowth
80%

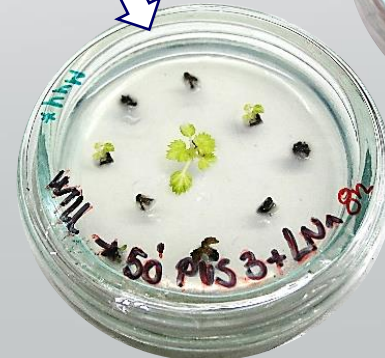


Amelancier *alnifolia*

LS2-PVS3
40' rt°
Regrowth
50%



LS2-PVS3
50' rt°
Regrowth
20%



Raspberry 'Willamtte'

LS2-PVS3
50' rt°
Regrowth
68%



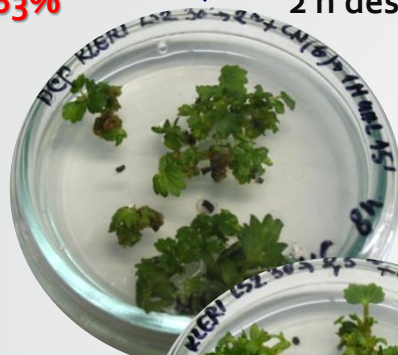
D cryo-plate

Strawberry 'Clery'

Regrowth
63%



LS2
2 h desicc.



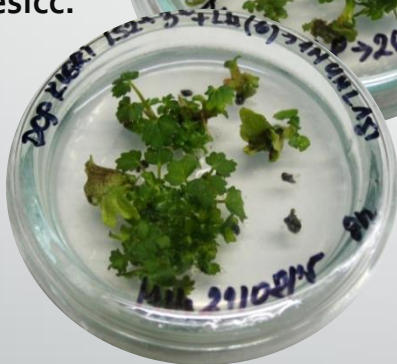
Regrowth
83%

LS2, 2.5 h
desicc.



Regrowth
46%

LS2, 3 h
desicc.



Regrowth
20%

LS2, 2 h
desicc.



Blueberry 'Toro'

Regrowth
78%



LS2, 2 h
desicc.



Regrowth
77.3%

LS2, 2.5 h
desicc.



Regrowth
83%

LS2, 3 h
desicc.

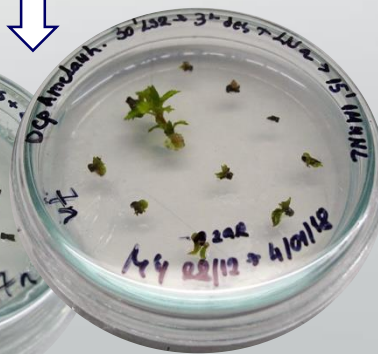
- ❖ Pregrowth
(solid MS - 0.3 M sucrose)
- ❖ Embedding in 2% alginate
- ❖ Loading
(2.0 M glyc. + 0.8 M suc.)
- ❖ Desiccation
(2, 2.5 and 3 h)
- ❖ 1 h in LN
- ❖ Unloading
(1 M sucrose)

Amelancier *alnifolia*



Regrowth
13%

LS2, 3 h
desicc.



Raspberry 'Willamtte'



No regrowth



V cryo-plate

Plum 'Crvena Ranka'

Regrowth
50%
PVS A3 20'



Regrowth
52%
PVS A3 40'



Regrowth
67%
PVS3 60'



Regrowth
46%
PVS3 80'



Plum 'Sitnica'

Regrowth
25%
PVS2 40'



Regrowth
38%
PVS3 60'

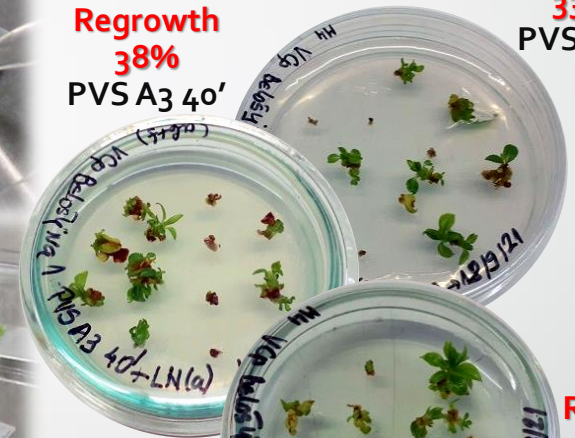


CRYOPLUM

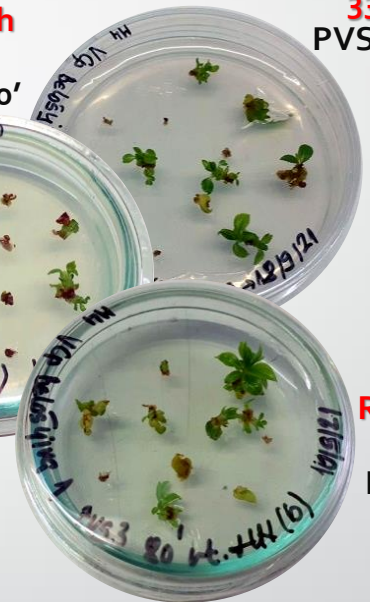
- ❖ Pregrowth (solid MS - 0.3 M sucrose)
- ❖ Embedding in 2% alginate
- ❖ Loading (1.9 glyc. + 0.5 M suc.)
- ❖ Dehydration (PVS 2, PVS A3, PVS 3)
- ❖ 1 h in LN
- ❖ Unloading (0.8 M sucrose)

Plum 'Belošljiva'

Regrowth
38%
PVS A3 40'



Regrowth
33%
PVS2 40'



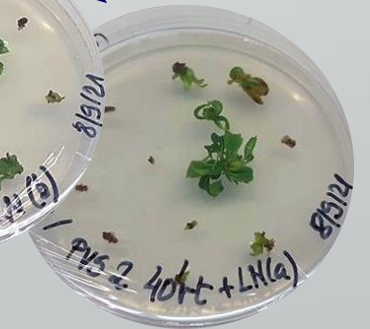
Regrowth
29%
PVS3 60'

Regrowth
48%
PVS3 60'

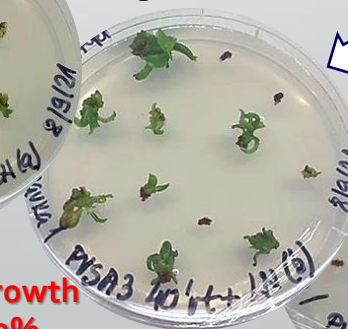


Plum 'Moravka'

Regrowth
21%
PVS2 40'



Regrowth
63%
PVS A3 40'



V cryo-plate

CRYOPLUM

- ❖ Pregrowth (solid MS - 0.3 M sucrose)
- ❖ Embedding in 2% alginate
- ❖ Loading (1.9 glyc. + 0.5 M suc.)
- ❖ Dehydration (PVS 2, PVS A3, PVS 3)
- ❖ 1 h in LN
- ❖ Unloading (0.8 M sucrose)

Plum 'Crnošljiva'

Regrowth 30%
PVS A3 20'

Regrowth 43%
PVS3 60'

Regrowth 25%
PVS3 80'

Plum 'Piskavac'

Regrowth 20%
PVS3 60'

Regrowth 30%
PVS2 40'

Regrowth 25%
PVS3 80'

Regrowth 11%
PVS3 80'

Regrowth 17%
PVS3 80'

Regrowth 13%
PVS A3 40'

Regrowth 8%
PVS2 40'

Plum 'Trnovača'

Plum 'Okruglica'



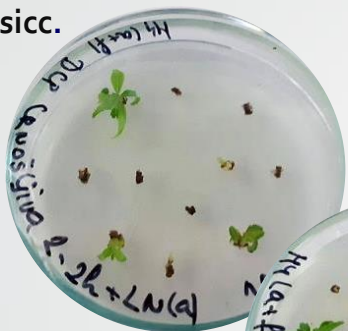
D cryo-plate



D cryo-plate

Plum 'Crnošljiva'

Regrowth
13%
2 h desicc.



Regrowth
12.5%
2.5 h desicc.



Plums 'Trnovača' and 'Okruglica'

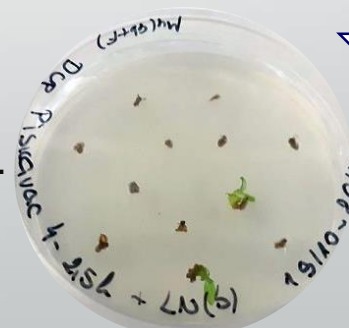


NO regrowth



Regrowth
17%
3 h desicc.

Regrowth
8.3%
2.5 h desicc.



Plum 'Piskavac'

Regrowth
25%
3 h desicc.



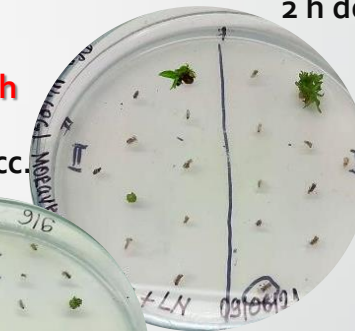
Regrowth
25%
3 h desicc.

CRYOPLUM

- ❖ Pregrowth
(solid MS - 0.3 M sucrose)
- ❖ Embedding in 2% alginate
- ❖ Loading
(2.0 M glyc. + 0.4 M suc.)
- ❖ Desiccation
(2, 2.5 and 3 h)
- ❖ 1 h in LN
- ❖ Unloading
(1 M sucrose)

Plum 'Moravka'

Regrowth
10%
2 h desicc.



Regrowth
29%
2.5 h desicc.



Cryotherapy

Effect of D and V cryo-plate methods for plum pox virus eradication from two plum cultivars

Darko Jevremović¹ · Bojana Vasiljević¹ · Tatjana Anđelić¹ · Tatjana Vujović¹

Table 2 Frequency of plum pox virus eradication by cryotherapy in plum 'Belošljiva'

Treatments	Subculture after regrowth				After acclimatization
	1	2	3	4	
LS1 loading control	5/5*	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
2 h desiccation – LN	0/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
2 h desiccation + LN	0/9	9/9	9/9	9/9	9/9
2.5 h desiccation – LN	0/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
2.5 h desiccation + LN	0/7	1/7	7/7	7/7	7/7
3 h desiccation – LN	0/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
3 h desiccation + LN	0/12	12/12	12/12	12/12	12/12
C4 loading control	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
PVS2 20 min – LN	0/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
PVS2 20 min + LN	–	–	–	–	–
PVS2 40 min – LN	0/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
PVS2 40 min + LN	0/15	13/15	15/15	15/15	15/15
PVS A3 20 min – LN	0/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
PVS A3 20 min + LN	0/4	3/4	4/4	4/4	4/4
PVS A3 40 min – LN	0/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
PVS A3 40 min + LN	0/16	16/16	16/16	16/16	16/16
PVS3 60 min – LN	0/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
PVS3 60 min + LN	0/9	8/9	9/9	9/9	9/9
PVS3 80 min – LN	0/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
PVS3 80 min + LN	0/19	12/19	19/19	19/19	19/19

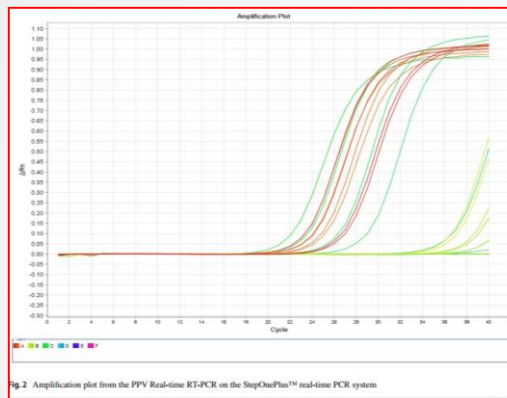
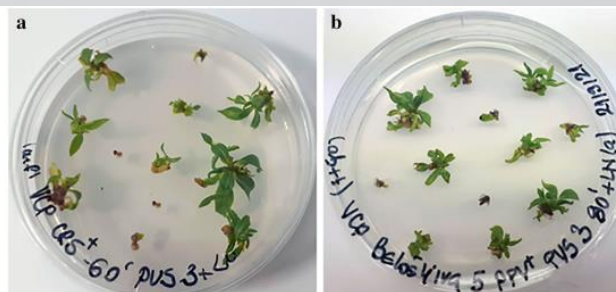


Fig. 2 Amplification plot from the PPV Real-time RT-PCR on the StepOnePlus™ real-time PCR system



Fig. 1 Regrowth of cryo-preserved shoot tips of PPV infected plums: a 'Crvena Ranka' after dehydration with PVS3 for 60 min and b 'Belošljiva' after dehydration with PVS3 for 80 min



Plant Cell, Tissue and Organ Culture (PCTOC)

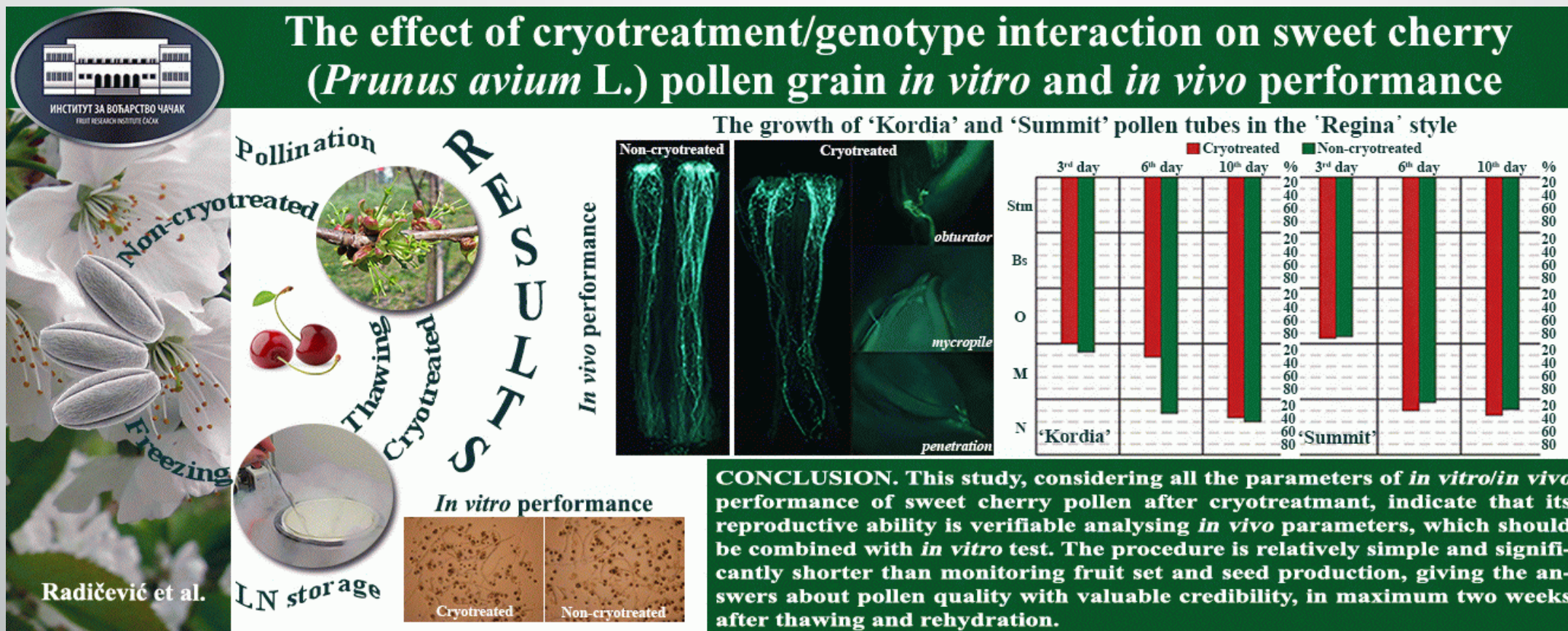


Table 3 Frequency of plum pox virus eradication by cryotherapy in plum 'Crvena Ranka'

Treatments	Subculture after regrowth				After acclimatization
	1	2	3	4	
LS1 loading control	5/5*	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
2 h desiccation – LN	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
2 h desiccation + LN	6/9	9/9	9/9	9/9	9/9
2.5 h desiccation – LN	0/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
2.5 h desiccation + LN	0/6	1/6	3/6	6/6	6/6
3 h desiccation – LN	0/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
3 h desiccation + LN	0/9	6/9	8/9	9/9	9/9
C4 loading control	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
PVS2 20 min – LN	0/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
PVS2 20 min + LN	0/4	0/4	0/4	0/4	0/4
PVS2 40 min – LN	0/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
PVS2 40 min + LN	0/2	0/2	2/2	2/2	2/2
PVSA3 20 min – LN	0/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
PVSA3 20 min + LN	0/2	0/2	2/2	2/2	2/2
PVSA3 40 min – LN	0/5	3/5	4/5	5/5	5/5
PVSA3 40 min + LN	0/6	0/6	3/6	6/6	6/6
PVS3 60 min – LN	0/5	5/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
PVS3 60 min + LN	0/12	0/12	0/12	0/12	0/12
PVS3 80 min – LN	0/5	4/5	5/5	5/5	5/5
PVS3 80 min + LN	0/6	0/6	0/6	0/6	0/6



Pollen cryopreservation

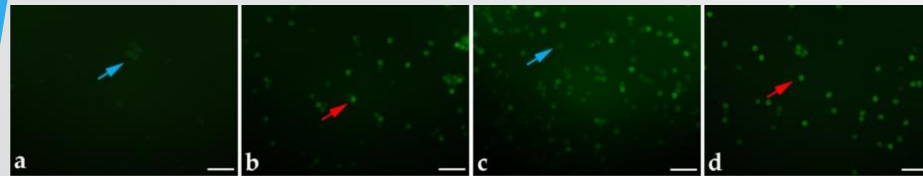


Pollen cryopreservation

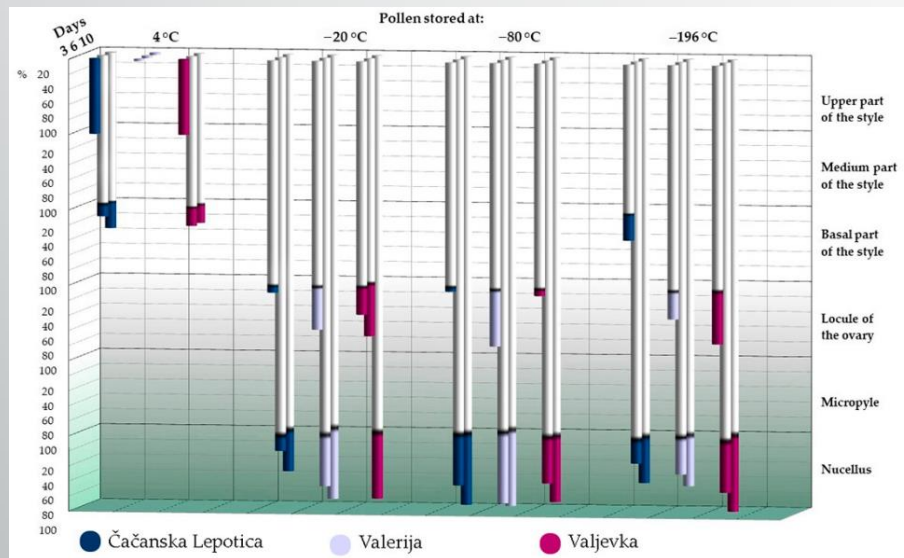
Article

In Vitro and *In Vivo* Performance of Plum (*Prunus domestica* L.) Pollen from the Anthers Stored at Distinct Temperatures for Different Periods

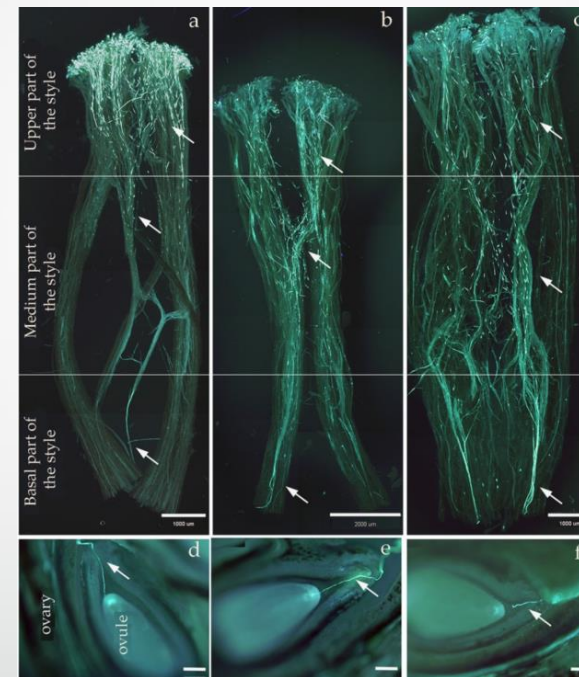
Milena Đorđević¹, Tatjana Vujović¹, Radosav Cerović², Ivana Glišić¹, Nebojša Milošević¹, Slađana Marić¹, Sanja Radičević¹, Milica Fotirić Akšić³ and Mekjell Meland^{4,*}



FDA-stained pollen grains after 12 months of storage: (a) at 4 °C; (b) at -20 °C; (c) -80 °C; (d) -196 °C. Scale bars = 200 μm. Blue arrows—non-viable pollen grain; red arrows – viable pollen grain

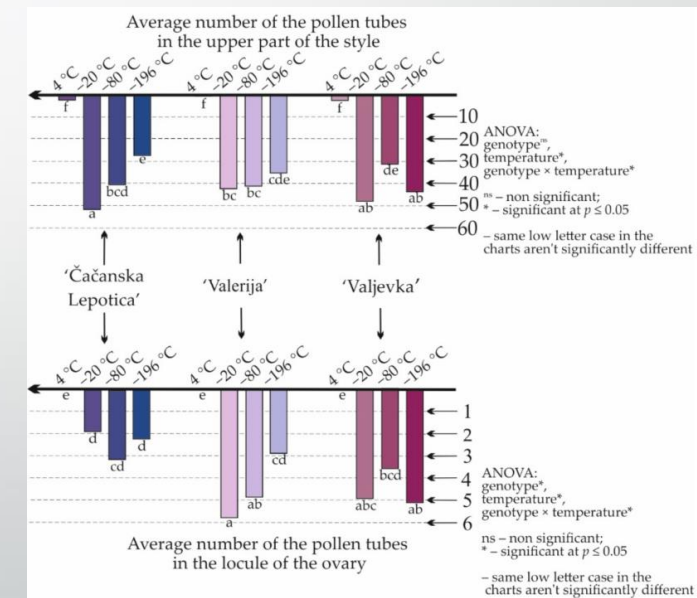


Dynamics of pollen tube growth in the pistils of the Čačanska Lepotica after 12 months of pollen storage at different temperatures.



Growth of pollen tubes into certain parts of the pistils of Čačanska Lepotica from the pollen of: (a,d) Čačanska Lepotica stored at -20 °C; (b,e) Valerija stored at -80 °C; (c,f) Valjevka stored at -196 °C. Scale bars: (a,c) 1000 μm; (b) 2000 μm; (d,e,f) 200 μm. Arrows indicate pollen tubes.

Average number of pollen tubes in certain parts of the pistil of Čačanska Lepotica



What we have not done so far

- ❖ We did not establish cryo-bank of temperate fruit species in Serbia because up to now funding was limited to research projects on cryopreservation.

Further steps

- ❖ Fruit Research Institute will launch an initiative for the formation of a national cryo bank for fruit species. The establishment of the bank should be under the authority of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management.

Idea

- ❖ Large European project on cryopreservation with the aim to form a centralized European cryo bank for fruit species. Each partner to develop a protocol for their most important autochthonous genotypes and deposit specimens into the bank.

**Thank you for
your attention**

