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Scaphoideus titanus ball and control measures

Ivana Dminić Rojnić
Polytechnic of Rijeka, Croatia

Viticulture represents a significant economic branch in the Istrian peninsula (Croatia). The leaf hopper *Scaphoideus titanus* Ball is the univoltine and monophagous vector of *Flavescence dorée* phytoplasma (FD) which is considered as a quarantine pest in several countries due to its epidemic character and high economic loss it provokes. There are only preventive control measures against FD: the use of pathogen-free propagating material, hot water treatment of propagating material, removal of infected or suspected vine plants as well as control of *S. titanus*, which can be efficiently done by insecticide treatments. According to the legislation of the Ministry of Agriculture in Croatia (NN 46/2017), it is obligatory to carry out two treatments against the *S. titanus* in demarcated areas (infected and security). The third treatment is obligatory if the number of adults is above the threshold of harm. In preliminary investigations the difference in appearance of *S. titanus* between years and locations has been found. This knowledge has affected the determination of precise deadlines for control measures. Regular monitoring of S. titanus and FD, educating and informing producers of protection is an important step in the development of a protection strategy within sustainable and ecological grape and wine production.

Biography

Ivana Dminić Rojnić completed her PhD at Zagreb University, Faculty of Agriculture in 2013. She works at the Polytechnic of Rijeka, Department of Agriculture as a Professor of courses in plant protection. She has published scientific and professional papers in renowned journals and has been involved in several scientific and professional projects. Her current research interests are integrated pest management (IPM) in Mediterranean crops. The overall research emphasis is focused on the development of safe, effective and economical methods of IPM and the biological/ecological interactions relating to insect species and their environment. She is currently focusing on grapevine and olive pests.

ivana.dminic@veleri.hr

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