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EVALUATION OF PHENOLOGY AND PRODUCTIVITY OF TWO FLORICANE BLACKBERRY CULTIVARS IN HIGH TUNNEL

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Growing blackberry in high tunnel could increase the income of growers and prepare delicious fruit for customers in dormant season. The aim of this study was to compare the efficiency of two close relative and thorny blackberry cultivars from SANRU collection as off season crop. The experiment performed in CRD for two cultivars in three replications since 1th January 2016 in GABIT greenhouse. Each pot included Cocopeat and perlite as substrate and planted bushes achieved from full chilling farm plants. The traits related to phenology, cane, leaf, flower, fruit, photosynthesis were evaluated during growth and production. Results showed significant differences between cultivars in leaf and flower anthesis and ripening time, number of flower and fruit in laterals. The first ripening time for fruits was 13th march. That was excellent time of off season production of blackberry. The "SANRUIzadyar" cultivar showed earlier anthesis in leaf and flower anthesis and ripening with 5, 13 and 11 day, respectively. This early ripen cultivar had been showed genetic difference from other studied cultivar and it could use as early ripen cultivar for off season production of blackberry

Keywords: thorny blackberry, phenology, ripening