

Selection of suitable cultivars of Pistachio

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Pistachio (*Pistacia vera. L*) belongs to nut trees and its production is very important for Iran's economy

Selection of pistachio cultivars with suitable characteristics is very important for export of pistachio to international markets.

For selection of pistachio cultivars, experiments have been conducted in the gene bank collection of pistachio during 4 years in Rafsanjan. In this study, habits of cultivars, time of flowering , fruit development , harvesting time, quality and quantity of cultivars were studied and cultivars with suitable characteristics were selected.

Petal dimension have been correlated positively with fruit size; thus small fruited variety (A-94) exhibits petals which typically are 10mm in width where as the petals of the larg fruited variety (A-2) average 18 mm in width.

Number of stamens vary among varieties. The rage is between 20(A-8/8) to 35 (A-2) also . pistils vary between 10 and 20 mm long studied almond varieties. All varieties had one pistil only , but 4% of evaluated varieties had flowers with two pistils ie,certain varieties such as A-101 tend to produce double pistils that grow into double fruit on a single peduncle.

Evaluated almond varieties contain two ovalues one of which develop into a seed, but in certain varieties both develop into seed (100%) for example A-100.

study of flower bud biology has been shown that flowering was starding in selective Almons, on average in first week of april and continued up to fourth week of April. Finally , evaulating of all characteristic of studied genotypes, 12 supeior variaties with different morphology and biology characteristics were selected. Also a variety of wild almond among studied varieties was found that shown to have the maximum xerophyte characteristic and oil content (70.1%) . Also wild almond was late-blooming 7 to 10 days later than the wild varieties. Also kernel of this variety was sweet.

Hybridization was taken place by employing , this important genetor with selective varieties. The progenies are under evaluation.