AGRORES

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ZP4242- a new maize hybrid

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Abstract

During the past seven decades, the Maize Research Institute, Zemun Polje has been succeeding in keeping up with global trends within the fields of developing and producing hybrids of various FAO maturity groups (100-700). Considering the length of the growing season, breeding of such a wide range of hybrids, has provided marketing of hybrid maize seed all over the world. Mercantile corn production in Serbia increasingly involves the participation of medium early hybrids FAO 300-400. These hybrids should be characterized as high and stable yields with a quick release of moisture from the kernels. The intensification of agricultural production, higher inputs, harvesting corn directly by shelling in grain, high temperatures accompanied by dry winds and lack of rainfall during the growing period are among the most important causes for the growing medium early hybrids. Medium early hybrids have a smaller plant which enables them growing in higher densities that is, larger number of plants per unit area. Also, due to the shorter growing season, these hybrids go through a period of grain filling in terms of better soil moisture supply. In the Maize Research Institute, Zemun Polje in recent times, the development of medium early maturity hybrids has been performed, and the hybrid ZP 4242 (FAO 400) is a result of such development. This hybrid was tested in trails of the Commission for the Variety Releasing in 2020 and 2021. During the investigation period, yields of the hybrid ZP 4242 were significantly higher than yields of check hybrids NK PAKO and ZEROS. ZP 4242 had a moisture level content on the level of check hybrids. Because of its adaptability, yield stability and good level of drought tolerance new ZP hybrid has good potential for production in different agro-ecological environments.

Key words: maize, new hibryds, yield