"Aramis®" strategy: a durable manner to develop a sharka resistant apricot cultivar

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ABSTRACTS

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"Aramis®" strategy: A Durable Manner to Develop A Sharka Resistant Apricot Cultivar

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Abstract

Among fruit species apricot is characterized by a large extension over the last 20 years in Western Europe and worldwide. But, that development, by comparison with others, such as apple and peach, is hampered by strong weaknesses mainly related to climatic factors, susceptibility to pests and diseases in relation with the death of the plant or the destruction of the production. Sharka disease, due to Plum Pox Virus infection, belongs to that set of major large spread disease. The western European heritage accessions are susceptible but sources of resistance issued from America and coming from Central Asian germplasm have been identified. Under the frame of EU SharCo project molecular markers have been developed and validated. Unfortunately they were not sufficient to characterize the resistant accessions because part of the expected resistant plants are able to multiplicate the virus and to present symptoms. So a procedure has thus been developed to identify durable resistant apricot cultivars characterized by no viral multiplication under huge inoculation pressure.

The procedure is now under process and developed under the name ARAMIS®. It gives the opportunity in preserving on long term apricot species from PPV contamination