

Universitatea de Științe Agronomice și Medicină Veterinară Facultatea de Horticultură – București

20 Years of Jujube Research in Romania

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Jujube Workshop 2016 - Chinese Jujube – a new fruit for Europe USAMV București – 9-12 October 2016





Introduction

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Position: 43° 37' and 48°15' northern latitude
    and 20°15' and 29°41' eastern longitude
Area: 238,392 km2
Population: aprox . 22,500,000
Language: Romanian (neo-latin)
Climate: - temperate, excessive continental
         - average annual temperature: 8-11 degrees Celsius
         - annual rain fall: 450-800 mm
Agriculture: - arable land: 10 million hectares
             - vineyards: 250,000 hectares: several local cv.
             - fruit orchards: 200,000 hectares: temperate fruits:
Apples, European Plums, Pears, Quinces, Peaches, Apricots, Sweet &
Sour Cherries, Walnuts, Hazelnuts, Chestnuts, Berries etc.
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Dedication

I dedicate this work to the memory of my Chinese friend, **Mr. Bi Ping** from Shanxi province that had an outstanding contribution to the first studies of *Ziziphus jujuba* in Romania





Dedication

A special gratitude to my students and collaborators that during the time worked beside me to discover this wonderful plant.



History of Chinese Jujube (Ziziphus jujuba Mill.) to Romanian land

Gaius Plinius Secundus (AD 23 - 79), better known as Pliny the Elder, mentioned in his Historia Naturalis that a counsellor of the Roman Emperor Octavian Augustus, introduced the Chinese jujube from Syria to Italy and from there it was distributed to other Mediterranean countries.

Chinese date populations founded in Romania are located in the neighbourhood of antique sites as Greek, Roman and Byzantine ruins.

Probably, those old civilizations have an important role in the introduction of this Asian plant to the area (Stănică, 1997).

Dobrogea Region Argamum Greek Colony – Doloşman Cape, Jurilovca







Foto Adrian Nicolaev

Dobrogea Region Doloşman Cape, Jurilovca



Ostrov, Constanța - Andronache Dumitru Family



Ostrov, Jud. Constanța - Fam. Andronache Dumitru

Byzantine Fortress Vicina, Păcuiu lui Soare







Introduction of new varieties in Romania – 1997

Visit to Shanxi Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences and Taigu Fruit Research Institute



Introduction of new varieties in Romania – May 1998

Visit of Mr. Bi Ping from Taigu Fruit Research Institute





Introduction of new varieties in Romania – May 1998

Visit of Mr. Bi Ping to Doloşman Cape



Introduction of new varieties in Romania – 1997

Germplams collection with varieties from Shanxi, Hebei and Ningxia Provinces



Jujube Research in Romania Plant Phenology – Fruit ripening

Genotype	September		October			
	1	2	3	1	2	3
R2P2						
R2P3						
R2P4						
R2P5						
R2P7						
R1P8						
R1P9						
Dagua Zao						
Xuan Cheng Jian Zao						
Da Bai Ling Zao						
Da Ma Ya Zao						
Long Zao						
Cheng tuo Zao						
Tai Li Hong Zao						
Feng Mi Guan Zao						
Hongan						

Jujube Research in Romania Fruit chemical characteristics

Genotype	Soluble solids	Minerals	Ascorbic acid	Acidity	
	(%)	(%)	(mg/100 g fw)	(% malic acid)	
R1P7 Selection	28.99	0.25	450.0	0.82	
R1P8 Selection	23.73	0.50	343.4	0.32	
R1P9 Selection	30.65	0.32	290.4	0.30	
R1P10 Selection	25.67	0.20	520.0	0.43	
R1P11 Selection	32.75	2.82	1.020.0	0.52	
R2P2 Selection	28.58	0.20	237.6	0.24	
R2P3 Selection	35.60	2.10	264.0	0.39	
R2P4 Selection	39.60	2.54	290.4	0.35	
R2P5 Selection	29.20	2.08	343.2	0.36	
R2P7 Selection	28.40	0.16	281.6	0.36	
R2P8 Selection	25.70	1.65	110.0	0.43	
R3P5 Selection	22.71	0.82	620.0	0.33	
R3P10 Selection	28.85	0.96	240.0	0.44	
Da Gua Zao	30.80	2.56	193.6	0.27	
Xuan Cheng Jian Zao	34.30	3.03	334.4	0.41	
Da Bai Ling Zao	31.70	2.35	202.4	0.35	
Da Ma Ya Zao	33.80	2.70	264.0	0.32	
Long Zao	30.80	0.76	334.4	0.38	
Cheng Tuo Zao	30.40	0.75	290.4	0.16	
Tai Li Hong Zao	29.10	3.22	334.3	0.28	
Feng Mi Guan Zao	35.60	3.38	237.6	0.28	
Hongan	32.40	1.76	246.4	0.26	
Average	30.42	1.59	306.1	0.36	



Horse Tooth– Da Ma Ya



Lang Zao







Jujube Research in Romania

Characteristics of Romanian jujube local populations fruit and stones (including the endocarp)

Selection	Fruit	Kernels	Kernels	Kernels	
	weight	weight	length	diameter	
	(g)	(g)	(mm)	(mm)	
Sour jujube (Control)	0.96	0.21	8.2	6.5	
Jurilovca 1	1.30	0.22	7.8	6.7	
Jurilovca 2	1.35	0.25	9.7	6.8	
Ostrov	6.29	0.35	13.9	7.6	

Jujube Research in Romania Romanian Jujube Characteristics



Jurilovca 1



Jurilovca 2

Jujube Research in Romania Romanian Jujube Characteristics



Ostrov

Jujube Research in Romania - Seed propagation



Jurilovca 1

Chinese Sour jujube

Jurilovca 2



Jujube Research in Romania - seed propagation **Treatment with conc. H2SO4**



Jujube Research in Romania - seed propagation

Chinese date (*Ziziphus jujuba* Mill.) kernel biometric data before and after the treatment with concentrated H_2SO_4 for 24 hours

	Average weight		Average length		Average		
Genotype	(g)	(g)		(mm)		diameter	
					(m	m)	
	before	after	before	after	before	after	
Ostrov 1	0,35	0,24	15,81	12,83	7,64	6,22	
Ostrov 2	0,46	0,24	14,12	12,88	6,88	6,08	
Ban Zao	0,22	0,14	16,50	14,04	5,88	5,23	
Tao 1	0,32	0,23	22,06	16,90	6,21	5,29	

Jujube Research in Romania - Seed propagation





Jujube germination phases

Jujube Research in Romania - in vitro propagation **Two culture media:** Murashige&Skoog (1962) Quoirin&Lepoivre (1977) modified by Standardi and Catalano (Standardi & Catalano, 1985) Four hormonal balances: with 0, 1.0, 2.0 and 3.0 mg/l BAP. Best results – on MS medium with the macro elements reduced in half (Stănică, 1997) Highest propagation rate of - at the conc. of 1.0 mg/l BAP. The best shoots rooting - on MS culture media without hormones with low auxins concentration (IBA 0.1 mg/l) Stănică, 2002).





Jujube Research in Romania - propagation by cuttings

Chinese date (*Ziziphus jujuba* Mill.) dry cuttings - rooting hormones: NAA, IBA, Radistim, Rhizopon



Distribution of Chinese date (Jujube) to the Romanian territory (**Dobrogea Region - South-Eastern part**)



Prospective of Chinese Jujube in Romania:

- important areas under the desertification process,
- more than 300,000 ha of salty soils,
- more than 400,000 ha of sandy soils,
- fruit with high nutraceutical value SUPER FRUIT!
- row material for SUPER FOOD!
- easy to grow, no irrigation needed,
- reduced number of pests and diseases in Romania!?
- adaptable for organic farming



Difficulties to extend the Chinese Jujube in Romania:

- no specialized nurseries,
- lack of planting material,
- Jujube is not a known fruit specie,
- not included in the official list no financial support
- fruit unknown marketing campaign needed !



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Thank you for your kind attention!



