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The Rector's Foreword

Dear Colleagues,

The food, agriculture and livestock sectors have the highest profitability among value-added products with low capital investments and minimal labor costs throughout the world. They are important for their potential to improve prosperity, wealth, and quality of social life.

In the last century, the average yield has increased threefold and as much as 30 fold in some areas of agricultural production. These are the effects of generation, sharing, and implementation of new agricultural developments.

The purpose of this congress, organized by Faculty of Agriculture of Namık Kemal University, with the support of Association of Thrace Universities, was to create an international platform where many aspects of the latest agricultural developments and applications were discussed.

This was an international Congress, with a scientific committee comprised of scientists from different universities and institutions of Balkan countries. The congress made significant contributions to strengthening the collaborations between scientists working on agriculture in Balkan countries, increasing the agricultural production potential of the region, and the development of friendships of participants from different countries.

Many academics, government officials, engineers, firms in related industries, and representatives of civil society organizations attended the Second International Balkan Agriculture Congress.

It was our pleasure and privilege to thank valuable members of Agricultural Faculty of Namık Kemal University and the Association of Thrace Universities, along with the other participating institutions, Trakya University, Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University, Agriculture University - Plovdiv, Democritus University of Thrace, Trakya Agricultural Research Institute, Kırklareli Atatürk Soil and Water Agricultural Meteorology Research Institute, and Tekirdağ Viticulture Research Institute, and valuable participants of the congress, for their valuable contributions to science globally.

Congress attendees had the chance to benefit from scientific exchange during either the formal activities or the informal meetings with colleagues from different backgrounds, but also had a chance to relax thanks to the opportunities provided by the multiple cultural events and by the superb Turkish gastronomic tradition.

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Invited Speakers

Prof. Dr. Spyridon D. Koutroubas Dean, School of Agricultural & Forestry Democritus University of Thrace, Greece	Improving yield and nitrogen-use efficiency in Mediterranean agroecosystems
Prof. Dr. Dragan Škorić Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Novi Sad, Serbia	Achievements of sunflower breeding
Prof. Dr. Alain Carbonneau Retired Professor of Viticulture of Montpellier Sup Agro, France	Experimental methodology and modeling in grapevine physiology: fundamentals and practices.
Prof. Dr. İ. Hakkı İnan Agricultural Faculty, Namık Kemal University, Turkey	Environmental problems of Thrace Region in Turkey
Prof. Dr. Zoran Popovski Faculty Of Agricultural Sciences And Food, Ss Cyril And Methodius University in Skopje, Republic of Macedonia	Evolution in the GMO Detection and Quantification
Prof. Dr. Robert Hasterok Faculty of Biology And Environmental Protection, University Of Silesia in Katowice, Poland	Dissecting grass genome organisation at the cytomolecular level using the model genus <i>Brachypodium</i>
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Apostolos Kyriazopoulos Department of Forestry and Management of the Environment and Natural Resources, Democritus University of Thrace, Greece	An overview on forage resources in Greece

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Variability of quantitative properties in oilseed rape - *Brassica napus* L. depending on the quantity, way and time of use of certain macro and microelements

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For determination of quantitative characteristics by means of the use of macro and micro elements important in the development of oilseed rape *Brassica napus* L., certain elements: nitrogen (N) sulphur (S) and boron (B) were used. Because of the need to get more detailed data about the importance of nitrogen and sulphur as macro elements and boron as trace element, which are necessary in the development of oilseed rape, the experiment was set in period from October to June in 2015. Certain parameters were analyzed: number of plants/m², percentage of frozen plants, height of plants (cm), the number of branches/plant, number of pods/plant, length of the pods (cm), number of seeds in the pod and yield (kg/ha). Imperative in this research was to determine the different amounts of nitrogen, sulphur and boron used individually or together as well as time of their application aimed to understand the effect of the combinations on quantitative characteristics on oilseed rape genotypes. Also, we find out that higher yield with the level of significance of 0.05 for variant 5 (N1PK+S2), variant 8 (N1PK+S1+B1) and variant 15 (N2PK+S2+B2). Higher seed yields 5.33 t/ha and 5.52 t/ha with statistical significance level of 0.01 gave variant 11 (N1PK+S2+B2) and variant 13 (N2PK+S1+B2).

Keywords: oilseed rape, sulfur, boron, foliar fertilization, yield