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**Evaluation of Fall Pear Variety Candidates Obtained by
Hybridization in Terms of Fire Blight Disease Resistance,
Pomological and Commercial Values**

Melezleme yoluyla elde edilen güzlük armut çeşit adaylarının ateş yanıklığı hastalığına dayanıklılık, pomolojik ve ticari değerler yönünden değerlendirilmesi

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ABSTRACT

Objective: In this research, evaluations of F1 fall pear hybrids, that obtained from different cross combinations, were made to contribute to our country's agriculture and gene pool.

Material and Methods: 11 hybrids investigated in this research were obtained from the cross combinations that 'Magness', 'Kiefer', 'Williams' and 'Santa Maria' cultivars were maternal and, 'Güz', 'Santa Maria' and 'Kiefer' cultivars were used as pollinator parents. Susceptibilities of those hybrids to fire blight disease, pomological and biochemical characteristics were determined. Besides, sensory parameters were added to the data attained by the measurements, and promising hybrids were detected through the modified weighted ranking method.

Results: Fruit width, fruit length, shape index, fruit weight, fruit firmness, soluble solid content, pH, titratable acidity, vitamin C and antioxidant activity characteristics were varied between 53.22 - 84.25 mm, 52.91 - 105.01 mm, 0.95 - 1.62, 86.51 - 317.70 g, 3.32 - 8.41 kg/cm², %8.77 - 16.53, 3.52 - 4.73, %0.14 - 0.59, 0.53 - 3.17 mg.L⁻¹ and %26.43 - %75.09, respectively. Eight hybrids were evaluated as promising fall cultivars through the modified weighted ranking method.

Conclusions: Due to the lack of a definite solution against fire blight, the chemicals used are harmful to human health and organic cultivation is becoming more widespread, the pears with high fruit quality parameters and disease resistant hybrids will come to the fore in the near future, it is thought that the hybrids (2-12-43, 2-15-93, 2-12-47, 1-17-20, 3-36-87, 2-33-32, 2-15-33 and 1-16-130) transferred to the forward observation plot will contribute to pear cultivation by registering in the following period.

ÖZ

Amaç: Bu çalışmada, farklı melezleme kombinasyonları sonucu elde edilen güzlük F1 armut melezlerinin, ülke tarımına ve genetik havuza katkı sağlaması amaçları doğrultusunda, değerlendirilmeleri yapılmıştır.

Materyal ve Metod: Çalışmada incelenen 11 genotip; 'Magness', 'Kiefer', 'Williams' ve 'Santa Maria' çeşitlerinin ana ebeveyn, 'Güz', 'Santa Maria' ve 'Kiefer' çeşitlerinin tozlayıcı olduğu melezleme kombinasyonları veya serbest tozlamalar sonucu elde edilmiştir. Melez bireylerin, armudun en yıkıcı hastalığı olan ateş yanıklığı hastalığına karşı hassasiyetleri, pomolojik ve biyokimyasal özellikleri tespit edilmiştir. Ayrıca ölçümlerle elde edilen verilere, meyvelerin ticari değerini belirlemeye yönelik duyuşal parametrelerle eklenerek, tartılı derecelendirme sonucu ümitvar melez bireyler tespit edilmiştir.

Bulgular: Meyve eni, 53,22 - 84,25 mm, meyve boyu 52,91 - 105,01 mm, şekil indeksi 0,95 - 1,62, meyve ağırlığı 86,51 - 317,70 g, meyve eti sertliği 3,32 - 8,41 kg/cm², suda çözünebilir kuru madde miktarı %8,77 - 16,53, pH 3,52 - 4,73, titre edilebilir asit miktarı %0,14 - 0,59, Vitamin C 0,53 - 3,17 mg.L⁻¹ ve antioksidan aktivite %26,43 - %75,09 aralıklarında değişim göstermiştir. Tartılı derecelendirme sonucunda, 8 melezin, güzlük armut olarak tescil edilebilme potansiyelinde olduğu görülmüştür.

Sonuç: Ateş yanıklığına karşı henüz kesin bir çözümün bulunamamış olması, kullanılan kimyasalların insan sağlığına zararlı olmaları ve organik yetiştiriciliğin giderek yaygınlaşması sebebiyle, meyve kalite parametreleri yüksek ve hastalığa dayanıklı genotiplerin, ön plana çıkacağı yakın dönemde, ileri gözlem parseline aktarılan genotiplerin (2-12-43, 2-15-93, 2-12-47, 1-17-20, 3-36-87, 2-33-32, 2-15-33 and 1-16-130), ilerleyen dönemde tescil edilmesiyle, armut yetiştiriciliğine, katkı sağlayacağı düşünülmektedir.

INTRODUCTION

Pear is the most produced fruit after apple among the temperate fruit species in the world. Only 10% of world pear production is subjected to international trade (FAO, 2017). Increasing the trade share is possible by providing standard and quality fruit production. In this context, it is very important to develop genotypes that meet both consumer and breeder requests (Byrne, 2012).

The appeal of freshly consumed fruits is important in diverting consumer demands (Reid and Buisson, 2001). Visually, a typical pear shape in fruits, pink-red cheek on the yellow-green background color and the presence of some rust are wanted by consumers because of the organic perception (Gamble et al., 2006; Steyn et al., 2010). During tasting, firm, juicy, buttery and aromatic properties are sought (Pinto et al., 2007; Predieri et al., 2014). Due to the decrease in the number of individuals in families and short shelf-life of fruits, large pears are not preferred. Producers tend to produce yielding, disease and pest-resistant pears which are preferred by consumers and marketed at high prices with a long shelf-life (Soare et al., 2019).

Considering the changing market demands with variable ecological factors, it is possible to make farming economical and sustainable only by using wild species and local genotypes effectively (Polat and Bağbozan, 2017; Çubukçu and Bostan, 2019). In breeding studies, variation in gene sources is very important in determining the genotypes to be developed. With the global climate change, ecosystem balance has deteriorated as a result of the destruction of natural resources by humans. Therefore, it has been observed that species and variety losses are increasing nowadays (Çepel, 2003). As a result of breeding studies, the new genotypes may contain the genes that provide resistance to biotic and abiotic stress conditions as much as possible, with a broad genetic base (Sekhwal et al., 2015). At this point, before the breeding studies, it is the most important criterion that the use of genetic pool as rich as possible to be able to choose the variety that will serve the desired characteristics (Dumanoglu et al., 2018; Evrenosoğlu et al., 2019). In the last periods of the production season, when the winter fruits are not yet in the market, the lack of product as variety and quantity in the market increases the importance of fall cultivar breeding. With a more balanced sugar-acid ratio, mid and late-season varieties are highly consumed. In addition, they are also very suitable for storage by having less intercellular space and pectinase enzyme activity (Koutouvela et al., 2007; Bostan and Çelikel-Çubukçu, 2018).

In this study, fall pear hybrids obtained as a result of different hybridization combinations were evaluated to contribute to World's agriculture and genetic pool. The susceptibility levels of hybrid individuals to fire

blight disease was determined in the previous studies (Evrenosoglu et al., 2010; Evrenosoglu et al., 2011). In addition to this feature, harvest time, pomological and biochemical properties of hybrids were identified. Also, sensory parameters were added to reveal the commercial value of fruits, and promising hybrids were identified as a result of weighted ranking method.

MATERIAL and METHODS

Plant material

The study was carried out in 2018 on the F1 hybrid pear parcel in Eskişehir Osmangazi University, Faculty of Agriculture. Eleven hybrids, that obtained using 'Magness', 'Kiefer', 'Williams' and 'Santa Maria' varieties as female parents, 'Güz', 'Santa Maria' and 'Kiefer' varieties as pollinators, by hybridization or open pollination, examined in this study. Hybrids are obtained within the projects of TOVAG 106O719 and 110O938 (Evrenosoglu et al., 2010). The fall varieties 'Conference' and 'Kaiser Alexandre' were used as reference varieties for a better evaluation of the results.

Fire blight disease susceptibility of the hybrid plants was determined by the artificial inoculation method by injection according to Thompson et al. (1962). Hybrids were classified as A (The least susceptibility) to E (The most susceptibility) through the inoculations (Evrenosoglu et al., 2010; Evrenosoglu et al., 2011).

Harvest Date

Harvest time of the varieties and hybrid individuals was determined based on coloration, taste and the status of abscission layer (Karaçalı, 2012; Mertoğlu and Evrenosoğlu, 2017).

Pomological Characteristics

The fruits harvested from hybrids were immediately transferred to the laboratory. Fruit weight was determined using an electronic scale susceptible to 0.001 g (Sartorius - CPA 16001S) and digital calipers were used to measure fruit width and fruit length at 0.01 mm precision. The shape index of the fruits was obtained by proportioning the fruit length to the fruit width. Fruit flesh firmness was determined using a digital hand penetrometer (PCE-FM200) while the color values of the over color were determined using a colorimeter (NR20XE) (Karaçalı, 2012).

Chemical Characteristics

Total soluble solids (TSS) were measured by a digital refractometer (Atago PR-32, Japan) and the results were given in percentile values (Karaçalı, 2012). The volumetric titration method was conducted to determine vitamin C content. According to this method, starch was used as an indicator and titrated with potassium iodide. Calculations were carried out according to Spinola et al. (2013), the results are given as mg.100 mL⁻¹. For the determination of titratable acidity, the fruit juices were titrated with 0.1 N sodium hydroxyl solution using phenolphthalein as indicator

and the results were expressed as malic acid % by calculating the formula showed by Karaçalı (2012). Antioxidant activity analyzes were performed using the DPPH method. Accordingly, all the fruit juices were mixed firstly, and sample concentration that provides 50% inhibition (IC50) was calculated by plotting the percent inhibition against the of the sample. Samples were taken from each sample in the amount of IC50 determined, and the ability to scavenge the DPPH radical was determined according to the method specified by Sanchez-Moreno et al. (1998) and the results were expressed in percentile values (%).

Statistical Analysis

Statistical analysis was done on fruit width, height, shape index, weight, firmness, L*, C*, h°, TSS, pH, TA, Vitamin C and DPPH values. The study was designed according to a randomized plot design and was carried out with three replications. Results are expressed as

mean ± standard deviation. Statistically significant differences between hybrids and reference varieties were determined by the one-way ANOVA procedure in the Minitab-17 program package. The Tukey multiple comparison test was used to reveal differences (Zar, 2013).

Identification of the promising hybrids

The weighted ranking method was used to determine the superior hybrids. Sensory parameters (eating quality, appeal, fruit meat stone cell status and rustiness) were added to the numerical data obtained from the study and the selection criteria were established (Table 1). The international pear identification documents were used (UPOV, 2000) for the selection of the criteria used in the weighted ranking table and the determination of the reference values of the criteria.

Table 1. Parameters of hybrid pears based on modified weighted ranking method, relative scores, class values and scores of traits
Çizelge 1. Melez armut genotiplerin tartılı derecelendirme yöntemine esas alınan parametreleri, göreceli puanları, özelliklerin sınıf değerleri ve puanları

ParameterS	Relative Scores	Class Values and Scores of the Properties	
Eating Quality	20	Very Good	10
		Good	7
		Moderate	4
		Poor	1
Attractiveness	20	Very Good	10
		Good	7
		Moderate	4
		Poor	1
Resistance to Fire Blight	15	Very Low Susceptibility(<10)	10
		Low Susceptibility(11-20)	8
		Moderate Susceptibility(21-40)	5
		High Susceptibility(41-60)	3
		Very High Susceptibility(>60)	1
Fruit Size	10	Very Large Size (> 220g)	10
		Large Size (175-220g)	8
		Moderate Size (130-175g)	5
		Small Size (75-140g)	3
		Very Small Size (> 75g)	1
Length/Diameter	10	Very Long	10
		Long	8
		Moderate	5
		Short	3
		Ery Short	1
TSS	10	High (> 13.75%)	10
		Moderate (10 - 13.75%)	7
		Low (< 10%)	3
Stone Cell Status of Fruit Flesh	5	Low	10
		Moderate	5
		High	1
Fruit Flesh Firmness	5	Very Firm (>11 kg/cm ²)	1
		Firm (>8-11 kg/cm ²)	10
		Moderate (6-8 kg/cm ²)	7
		Soft (>86 kg/cm ²)	4
Rustiness	5	Very Low	10
		Low	7
		Moderate	4
		High	1

RESULTS and DISCUSSION

The characterization of the pomological characteristics of the new genotypes developed for table consumption is extremely important in the selection of products intended for consumer needs (Sağır and Aygün, 2018). In this context, among the pomological characteristics listed in Table 2, fruit width, fruit length, shape index, fruit weight and fruit flesh firmness were varied between 53.22 mm (hybrid 2-12-

47) - 84.25 mm (hybrid 2-15-93), 52.91 mm (hybrid 3-36-87) - 105.01 mm (hybrid 2-15-93), 0.95 (hybrid 3-36-87) - 1.62 (hybrid 1-17-20), 86.51 g (hybrid 3-36-87) - 317.70 g (hybrid 2-15-93) and 3.32 kg.cm⁻² (hybrid 2-26-73) - 8.41 kg.cm⁻² (hybrid 3-36-87), respectively. L*, C* and h° values representing the over color were found in the range of 51.18 (hybrid 2-15-93) - 76.16 (Conference), 31.53 (hybrid 2-12-36) - 49.61 (hybrid 2-26-73) and 35.84 (hybrid 2-33-32) - 108.21 (hybrid 1-16-130), respectively.

Table 2. Distribution of pomological characteristics according to hybrids
Çizelge 2. İncelenen pomolojik özelliklerin melez genotiplere göre dağılımı

Hybrid	Width (mm)	Height (cm)	Shape index	Weight (g)	Firmness (kg.cm ²)	L*	C*	h°
1-16-130	53.62c	57.73ef	1.08bc	88.86d	7.32ab	73.08ab	43.60a-c	108.21a
1-17-20	53.31c	86.23a-d	1.62a	112.02b-d	5.71b-e	70.96ab	46.38ab	98.57ab
2-15-42	64.92bc	80.04a-e	1.25a-c	157.30b-d	5.19b-e	59.16bc	41.31 a-c	76.86bc
2-12-47	53.22c	63.52c-f	1.19bc	92.73cd	6.23a-d	51.95c	36.41bc	54.08c-f
2-15-33	64.13bc	76.14b-f	1.19bc	145.21b-d	7.84ab	62.17a-c	42.08 a-c	42.75d-f
2-33-32	65.99bc	84.41a-d	1.28a-c	191.74b	4.05c-e	51.95c	37.16 a-c	35.84f
3-36-87	55.39bc	52.91f	0.95c	86.51d	8.41a	52.15c	36.63bc	41.45ef
2-12-43	61.26bc	64.29c-f	1.05bc	120.23b-d	3.71de	62.85a-c	46.42ab	77.6bc
2-15-93	84.25a	105.01a	1.24a-c	317.70a	5.90a-e	51.18c	37.09 a-c	41.95ef
2-12-36	59.71bc	62.08d-f	1.03c	117.20b-d	5.85a-e	62.43a-c	31.53c	72.09b-d
2-26-73	58.08bc	67.24b-f	1.16bc	121.41b-d	3.32e	69.18ab	49.61a	84.48ab
Conference	61.60bc	88.41a-c	1.44ab	137.42b-d	5.67b-e	76.16a	43.44 a-c	95.69ab
K.Alexandre	69.78ab	91.91ab	1.32a-c	185.13bc	6.61a-c	67.75ab	42.78 a-c	70.87b-e
Mean	61.94	75.38	1.22	144.11	5.83	62.39	41.11	69.26

Examining the previous studies carried out with different purposes, depending on the pear varieties, fruit width, height, weight and firmness values were reported in the range of 31.44- 71.77 mm, 29.24- 87.29 mm, 20.07-199.00 g and 3.07-13.00 lb (Özrenk et al., 2010); 38.24-58.23 mm, 36.85-65.50 mm, 31.10-109.40 g and 2.07-6.30 kg/cm² (Duric et al., 2015); 37.0-82.6 mm, 32.2-132.8 mm, 30.8-476.4 g, and 6.9-36.18 lb (Öz and Aslantaş, 2015); 59.14-70.98 mm, 60.66-91.40 mm, 28.29-160.02, and 2.99-13.23 lb (Bayazit et al., 2016); 35.76-73.48 mm, 25.91-117.33 mm, 21.57-273.00 g, and 4.91-13.26 kg/cm² (Polat and Bağbozan, 2017); 35.02-87.33 mm, 30.55-141.27 mm, 22.04-334.00, and 9.92-12.65 kg/cm² (Polat and Öznur, 2017), respectively. Although the data obtained from the study were determined within the limits reported in the literature, these values were generally found at higher levels.

Late varieties that have a long period from full bloom to harvest, have larger fruit sizes and higher weight than those of the early varieties. The slow course of developmental physiology allows a fewer inter-cellular space in late varieties and increases the flesh firmness (Bostan and Çelikel-Çubukçu, 2018). In the late varieties that complete their development in the warmer period, the shape index of the fruits is lower due to the higher exposure to auxin hormone which increases with high temperature and causes the formation of a round structure in fruits (Sherman and Beckman 2002). In this study, the average of shape index value obtained as 1.22 was found to be in parallel with the studies in which late genotypes were evaluated whereas lower than those reported in studies in which early genotypes were evaluated (Polat and Öznur, 2017; Polat and Bağbozan, 2017; Bayındır et al., 2019).

Chemical properties, which is one of the most important factors affecting the taste of plant products, are also important in terms of their qualitative and quantitative quality parameters (Hepaksoy et al., 2009). TSS, pH, titratable acidity, vitamin C and antioxidant activity values were varied from 8.77% (hybrid 3-36-87) to 16.53% (hybrid 2-26-73), 3.52 (hybrid 2-12-47) to 4.73 (hybrid 2-12-43), 0.14% (hybrid 2-12-43) to

0.59% (hybrid 2-12-47), 0.53 mg.L⁻¹ (hybrid 2-15-42) - 3.17 mg.L⁻¹ (Conference) and 26.43% (hybrid 2-12-36) to 75.09% (Conference) (Table 3), respectively. In similar studies TSS, TA and pH values were reported as 11.0-17.1%, 0.22-0.37%, and 4.4-6.2% (Karadeniz and Corumlu, 2012); 10.6%-14.1%, 0.10%-0.94%, and 3.21-5.41% (Polat and Bağbozan, 2017); 10.0-21.0%, 0.20-1.33% and 4.07-5.56 (Kalkisim et al., 2018), respectively.

Table 3. Harvest dates, susceptibility to fire blight and phytochemical properties of hybrids
Çizelge 3. Melez bireylerin hasat tarihleri, ateş yanıklığına karşı hassasiyet durumları ve fitokimyasal özellikleri

Genotype	Date of Harvest	Susceptibility to fire blight (%)	TSS (%)	pH	TA (%)	Vitamin C (mg.L ⁻¹)	DPPH (%)
1-16-130	29.8	1.56	13.13bc	3.69f-h	0.33bc	1.63b	31.78e
1-17-20	27.8	8.70	16.27a	3.67gh	0.31b-d	1.66b	31.39e
2-15-42	28.8	16.18	13.67bc	4.00de	0.23e-g	0.53c	42.80c-e
2-12-47	28.8	0.00	14.13bc	3.52h	0.59a	0.74c	49.09b-d
2-15-33	28.8	9.09	14.33b	4.24cd	0.19f-h	0.75c	28.19e
2-33-32	26.8	61.43	12.43c	3.93ef	0.24d-g	0.58c	33.13de
3-36-87	29.8	4.29	8.77d	3.65gh	0.26c-f	1.90b	61.74ab
2-12-43	28.8	2.75	14.06bc	4.73a	0.14h	0.78c	28.50e
2-15-93	28.8	8.93	12.43c	3.82e-g	0.28c-e	0.72c	52.48bc
2-12-36	28.8	78.36	13.53bc	4.38bc	0.19f-h	2.01b	26.43e
2-26-73	29.8	36.48	16.53a	3.80e-g	0.38b	1.84b	55.21bc
Conference	19.8	75.00	14.63b	4.56ab	0.17gh	3.17a	75.09a
K.Alexandre	20.8	50.00	13.83bc	4.54ab	0.24ef	3.05a	54.65bc
Mean			13.67	4.04	0.27	1.49	43.88

Due to the long developmental periods, in the late cultivars, TSS content is generally high and titratable acid content is low. Therefore, it has been reported that phenolic and organic acids and aroma compounds, which are acidic and exhibit antioxidant activity, are present at lower levels in varieties showing high pH (Mertoğlu and Evrenosoğlu, 2019). Vitamin C and antioxidant activity characteristics, which were determined as 1.49 mg.100ml⁻¹ and 43.88%, were found to be lower than reported in the literature (Kevers et al., 2011; Öztürk et al., 2015; Erbil et al., 2018).

Although differences in all investigated characteristics were thought to be mainly due to the differences in genotypes examined, differences in climate and soil characteristics, geographical status of the cultivation area, harvesting type and time, storage or processing of the crop, method or periodical differences of the applied cultural processes lead to significant differences in the final shape and content of

the products (Li et al., 2012; Tiwari and Cummins, 2013; Gündüz and Özbay, 2018; Atılğan et al., 2019).

Among the hybrids, 1-16-130, 1-17-20, 2-12-47, 2-15-33, 3-36-87, 2-12-43 and 2-15-93 showed very low susceptibility to fire blight, the most destructive disease for the pome fruit species, while the hybrid 2-15-42 showed low susceptibility, and the remaining hybrids showed high susceptibility (Table 3). It has been reported that cultivated pear varieties were highly susceptible to fire blight disease and suffer from great economic losses due to the disease (Hepaksoy et al., 1998; Ozrenk et al., 2012; Gaaliche et al., 2018). Therefore, breeding studies are carried out for the development of pear hybrids that are resistant to fire blight disease and have high fruit quality parameters (Evrenosoglu et al., 2010; Hunter, 2016; Evrenosoğlu and Mertoğlu, 2018).

To obtain the correct identification of the intended new candidate varieties that are planned to be offered

to world markets, varieties are needed to meet consumer demands in every sense. In the present study, sensory parameters were added in addition to the properties determined by numbers and all the hybrids were subjected to weighted ranking to determine superior hybrids. As a result of the method created by the parameters that highlight the commercial value of the hybrids, the total scores obtained ranged from 500

(hybrid 2-12-36) to 835 (hybrid 2-12-43) (Table 4). In the study carried out within the concept of the breeding program, the ones who scored higher than the reference varieties among the hybrids were considered as new variety candidates. In this context, eight hybrids (2-12-43, 2-15-93, 2-12-47, 1-17-20, 3-36-87, 2-33-32, 2-15-33 and 1-16-130) were found to have potential to be registered as a fall pear cultivar.

Table 4. Scores of the hybrid pears according to weighted ranking method

Çizelge 4. Tartılı derecelendirme metoduna göre melez armut genotiplerinin aldıkları puanlar

Genotype (Maternal parent*Pollinator)	Resistance to Disease	Eating Quality	Appeal	Fruit Size	Length/Diameter	TSS	Fruit Flesh Stone Cell Status	Fruit Flesh Firmness	Rustiness	Total
2-12-43 (Kiefer*Open Pollination)	150	200	200	30	50	100	50	20	35	835
2-15-93 (Magness*Santa Maria)	150	140	140	100	50	100	50	50	50	830
2-12-47 (Kiefer*Open Pollination)	150	200	140	30	50	100	50	35	5	760
1-17-20 (Magness*Güz)	150	140	80	30	80	100	50	50	35	715
3-36-87 (Williams*Kiefer)	150	200	140	30	30	30	25	50	35	690
2-33-32 (Williams*Open Pollination)	15	200	140	80	80	50	50	20	35	670
2-15-33 (Magness*Santa Maria)	150	80	80	50	50	100	50	35	35	630
1-16-130 (Magness*Santa Maria)	150	140	80	30	50	70	50	35	20	625
Kaiser Alexandre	45	140	80	80	80	100	25	35	5	590
2-26-73 (Santa Maria*Open Pollination)	100	140	80	30	50	100	25	20	35	580
2-15-42 (Magness*Santa Maria)	120	80	80	50	50	70	25	50	35	560
Conference	15	140	80	30	80	100	25	20	20	510
2-12-36 (Kiefer*Open Pollination)	15	140	140	30	50	35	50	20	20	500

CONCLUSION

With respect to the advantages of fall cultivars, it should not be ignored that superior fall hybrids that can be developed and grown with standard and high quality can meet both domestic and international demand.

As a result of the study, eight hybrids (2-12-43, 2-15-93, 2-12-47, 1-17-20, 3-36-87, 2-33-32, 2-15-33 and 1-16-130) were found to have potential to be registered as a fall pear cultivar and seven of them shows very low susceptibility to fire blight disease that is difficult to control and has a very high destructive effects. The facts that no effective solution has been found against disease, the chemicals used are harmful to human health and the consumer tendency is gradually shifting to organic products make the use of resistant

rootstocks and cultivars important in the control of the disease. The very low susceptibility of the hybrids identified as promising to the disease makes the study also important.

We believe that the hybrids transferred to the advanced observation parcel will contribute to pear cultivation as genetic and production material by registering in the following periods.

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