



Operational Group: QUALITOMATE - the complexity of being simply RED. *QUALITOMATE - a complexidade de ser simplesmente vermelho.*



Practical Problem

The RED color in the fruit's pulp is a conditioning characteristic in the processed tomato industries.
The knowledge of the correct factors and their interactions to the RED color formation is the pathway to decrease the percentage of fruits rejection.

Partners

Type:

Research/ Teaching

Agri association

Agri enterprise

Name:

Centro de Competências para o Tomate Industria (CCTI); ISA-Instituto Superior de Agronomia; Instituto Politécnico de Santarém/ESA

Centro Operativo e Tecnológico Hortofrutícola Nacional; FNOP-Federação Nacional das Organizações de Produtores de Frutas e Hortícolas

ITALAGRO- Indústria de Transf. de Prod. Alimentares, S.A.; RELCAMPO - Viveiro de Plantas Hortícolas; Sociedade Agrícola Ortigão Costa, Lda.; Sociedade Agro-pecuária do Vale da Adega, S.A.; FRUTO MAIOR, OP Hortofrutícolas Lda.; TOMATAZA S.A.

Project

Objectives:

The project aims to increase the knowledge of the external causes and its interaction with the tomato plant physiology, facilitating hypothesis to maximize the occurrence of red fruits.
The understanding of the causes will guide the sector to adopt correct practices in the pursuit of waste mitigation.

Expected results:

The project has two major branches of studies: one is related with external factors (diseases, fertilization, soil) and other linked with the plant physiology and its capacity to respond to the surrounding agri-system.
All the planned work intends to increase the knowledge about the tomato culture, focusing in the quality of the fruits and decreasing the rejections in the end of each campaign.

Results so far/first lessons:

Crop protection of processing tomato crop in Portugal has been studied since 2001 to develop IPM strategies, particularly risk assessment techniques and decision making rules.
Firstly to control usual problems (downy mildew and caterpillars) and also to study new species, *Frankliniella occidentalis*/ TSWV and more recently *Tuta absoluta*. The current consortium enables the recent working in progress.

Who will benefit:

The efficient use of resources will affect directly the agri-system's actors, producers and the industrial quality.

Start: January/2017
End: January/2021

Budget: 331.031 €



Contact:Qualitomate Consortium
E-mail:info@qualitomate.pt