# Certification of stone fruits in Italy

**Di Terlizzi B., Savino V.**

*in*

**Di Terlizzi B. (ed.), Myrta A. (ed.), Savino V. (ed.).**
**Stone fruit viruses and certification in the Mediterranean countries: problems and prospects**

**Bari : CIHEAM**
**Options Méditerranéennes : Série B. Etudes et Recherches; n. 19**

**1998**
pages 115-118

# Certification of stone fruits in Italy

**Biagio DI TERLIZZI**
Istituto Agronomico Mediterraneo
Valenzano, Bari (Italy)

**Vito SAVINO**
Dipartimento di Protezione
delle Piante dalle Malattie
University of Bari (Italy)

The certification of stone fruits started in Italy with the voluntary certification of national nursery production. It was then extended through the Decree on 23 October 1987 by the Ministry of Agriculture (MiPA). Later, it was amended by the Ministerial Decree (MD) on 6 March 1989 establishing a technical scientific national committee for the implementation and management of the certification service and by the MD on 2 July 1991 defining the interconnections between the Ministry, Local Boards, Institutes, Interprofessional organisations as well as the functions of the certification service, the categories of the material, liabilities and documentation. The MD on 31 November 1992 amended by the MD on 21 February 1997, specified new techniques for the production of the plant propagating material of Prunoideae and their rootstocks.

The national certification service is structured as follows:

*Conservation Centre for Premultiplication (CCP)*

CCP, located at the Experimental Farm of Tor Mancina, belong to the Experimental Institute for Plant Pathology, Rome (ISPaVe), and they are charged with its establishment and management.

CCP was established to maintain under screenhouse (Annex 1 MD dated 21 February 1997) and contains, at least, two mother plants per cultivar derived from the first multiplication of primary sources entering certification and to produce *pre-basic* propagating materials.

Sanitary and trueness-to-type controls are the responsability, respectively, of ISPaVe and Experimental Institute for Pomology, Rome (ISF), through the collaboration of other boards

or organisations recognised by the MiPA (Tab. 1) in compliance with the procedures in annex 2A and 3A of the MD dated 21 February 1997.

### *Premultiplication Centre (CP)*

ISPaVe is in charge of the first step of premultiplication (art. 2, sub-paragraph 1, letter b) of the MD 289/91) which will be activated in other structures as recognised by the MiPA.

The purpose of CP is to maintain under screenhouse (Annex 1 MD of 21 February 1997) two or more mother plants according to the relevance of the clone. These plants descended from the first multiplication of the *pre-basic* propagating materials. CP also produces *basic* propagating materials.

Sanitary and trueness-to-type controls are carried out, respectively, by the ISPaVe and the ISF through the collaboration of boards or organisations recognised by the MiPA, following the procedures reported by annex 2A and 3A of the MD dated 21 February 1997.

### *Multiplication Centre (CM)*

CM was a structure established and managed by nurseries' associations and recognised by the MiPA (art. 2, 3 and 9 of the MD 289/91).

The purpose of CM was to: (i) grow mother plants in compliance with the rules reported by annex 4 of the MD dated 21 February 1997 in a number compatible with the relevance of the clone, descending from the first multiplication of the *basic* propagating material; and (ii) produce certified propagative material.

Sanitary and trueness-to-type controls to be done by the regional administrations and by the autonomous provinces within the National Certification Service in compliance with annex 2A and 3B of the MD dated 21 February 1997.

### *Nurseries*

The nursery was a structure recognised by the Regional Phytosanitary Service for the cultivation of certifiable propagating material (rootstocks, ungrafted and grafted plants). This material to be certified after controls and inspections as by Annex 6 of the MD 289/91.

In Italy, two different categories of propagating material are marketed: "standard", with a passport released by the Regional Phytosanitary Service, and "certified", whose sanitary status may be 'virus tested' or 'virus free' (Tab. 2). Certified stocks are guaranteed from the pomological and sanitary points of view.

*Tab. 1.* Organization of the voluntary certification system of stone fruit species (MD 289/91, MD 31/11/1992 amended by 21/2/1997)

| Steps | Responsibility | Category of propagating material | Localisation | Level | Controls | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | Trueness-to-type | | Sanitary | |
| | | | | | Type | Responsibility | Assay | Responsibility |
| Conservation for premultiplication | ISPaVe | Pre-Basic | Screen-house | National | Phenological | ISF | Serological Biological | ISPaVe |
| Premultiplication | ISPaVe or Boards recognised by MiPA | Basic | Screen-house | National | Phenological | ISF | Serological Biological | ISPaVe |
| Multiplication | Nurseries (Associations, Consortia) | Certified | Open field | Regional | Phenological | SFR | 10% plants/year biological | SFR |
| Propagation | Nurseries | Certifiable controls ↓ Certified | Open field | Local | Biometric features | SFR | Visual | SFR |

**SFR** Regional Phytosanitary Services
**ISPaVe** Experimental Institute of Plant Pathology of the Ministry of Agriculture
**ISF** Experimental Institute for Pomology of the Ministry of Agriculture

***Tab. 2.*** List of viruses and diseases to be assessed for the certification of stone fruit species with virus-tested and virus-free sanitary status (MD 31/11/1992 amended by MD del 21/2/1997)

| Agents and diseases | Stone fruit species | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | almond | | apricot | | peach | | plum | | sweet and sour cherry | |
| | VT | VF | VT | VF | VT | VF | VT | VF | VT | VF |
| *Viruses* | | | | | | | | | | |
| PPV | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | | |
| ACLSV | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + |
| PDV | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + |
| PNRSV | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + |
| ApMV | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + | + |
| CGRMV | | | | | | + | | | | + |
| CLRV | | | | | | | | | | + |
| CRLV | | | | | | | | | | + |
| ArMV | | | | | | | | | | + |
| SLRV | | | | | | + | | | | + |
| RRSV | | | | | | | | | | + |
| TomRSV | | | | | | + | | + | | + |
| TBRV | | | | | | + | | | | + |
| MLRSV | | | | | | | | + | | |
| *Viroids* | | | | | | | | | | |
| PLMVd | | | | | + | + | | | | |
| *Phytoplasma* | | | | | | | | | | |
| ACLR | | | | + | | | | + | | |
| *Virus-like diseases* | | | | | | | | | | |
| Necrotic rusty mottle | | | | | | | | | | + |
| Little cherry | | | | | | | | | | + |
| Rusty mottle (European) | | | | | | | | | | + |
| Peach asteroid spot | | | | + | | + | | | | |
| Apricot ring pox | | | | + | | | | | | |

**VT:** virus-tested
**VF:** virus free