

Hungarian variety assortment and changing market demands

Zuzana Finta

F-kender (Fleischmann hemp), registered in 1923 was the first Hungarian variety, which started 70 years lasting period of one-purpose varieties. Until the beginning of 1990's, beside one ornamental variety, Panoráma, there were 2 free-pollinating varieties and 3 hybrids grown for fibre as the only market demand. F-kender was improved into Kompolti, registered in 1955, which became the variety of the highest fibre content. At the beginning of 1990's with a new hemp legalization in Western Europe and Canada, research intensified and hemp won the position of multi-utilisable plant.

This was the period of hemp seed as a source of the excellent nutrition. Dioecious fibre varieties did not produce enough seeds, therefore Hungarian variety collection had to be completed with monoecious varieties and TC hybrids consisting of monoecious and female plants suitable for dual-usage production. Such varieties were Lipko, registered in 2001, Fibrol and Monoica registered in 2006, KC Dóra (reg.2010). From 2010's the demand for high CBD varieties (or special cannabinoid profile) increased. Dioecious variety „Balaton” registered this year is supposed to satisfy demand for big seed yield and higher CBD content. Some of older Hungarian varieties also appeared to be proper for CBD production, especially Kompolti, but also KC Dóra, KC Virtus or Kompolti Hybrid TC. As new purposes appeared, the variety list grew to 15 varieties, which is 23% of all EU registered hemp varieties.

Key words: Hungarian varieties, Fibre content, seed oil content, seed yield, CBD and THC content