Organic production of raspberries and blackberries in high tunnels in Sweden

CONCLUSIONS

Organic production of Rubus in high tunnels in Sweden 2009-2010:

- Raspberries, combination of floricanes and primocanes grown in soil in high tunnels gives a profitable production with high yield and fruit quality during a long season, June 15–October 15, in Sweden
- Raspberries needs minimum 15 gram of organic nitrogen per plant and season
- Aphid control is essential during the whole season
- Glen Ample is a high yielding and robust cultivar but is very susceptible to Phyllocoptes gracilis which has to be controlled, but how?
- Polka and Autumn Treasure yields excellent fruit quality

The project continues 2011

Challenges in organic production of Rubus in high tunnels in Sweden:

- Soil or container
- Organic fertilizers, solid or liquid
- Aphids (Aphis idaei) and mites (Phyllocoptes gracilis, Tethranychus urticae)
- Winter damage on buds and canes

RESULTS

2009

Primocane raspberries: Cv. Polka yielded highest during a long cropping period July 15–October 10. There were no differences between nitrogen treatments the first year. Different letters means significant (p<0,05) difference between cultivars. In 2010 a good yield is expected.

Blackberries 2010: planted in soil looks promising for cultivar Loch Tay and Loch Maree but not for Loch Ness. In spite of a thick snow cover all plants in container died during the winter 2009/2010. Blackberry is not a commercial crop in this area.

2010

Floricanes raspberries: Glen Ample planted in soil, treated with the high level of nitrogen had the highest yield the first year. Glen Doll and Tulameen got severe injuries on buds and canes during the winter 2009/2010 and yielded less and with no differences between treatments. Different letters means significant (p<0,001) difference between treatments

METHODS

Field trials with floricanes and primocane raspberries and blackberries in three parallel high tunnels at Råna Experimental Station, (58°27’S, 13°51’E), transplanted August 2008, harvest 2009-2011

Floricanes raspberry cultivars: Glen Ample, Glen Doll, Tulameen,
Primocane raspberry cultivars: Autumn Bliss, Autumn Treasure, Polka
Blackberry cultivars: Loch Ness, Loch Maree, Loch Tay

Floricanes raspberries and blackberries are grown in soil and in containers (20-27 litres)
Treatments with two levels of nitrogen in different cultivars and soil/container 2009: N1=6 and N2=9 gram N per plant, 2010: N1=12 and N2=17 gram N per plant

This project is financed by the Swedish Board of Agriculture, The Interreg project Climafruit and SLU

Climafruit

The Interreg IVB North Sea Region Programme

Inventing the future by working together for a sustainable and competitive region

Birgitta Svensson, Department of Horticulture, SLU, Box 103, SE-230 53 Alnarp, Sweden
Birgitta.Svensson@ltj.slu.se