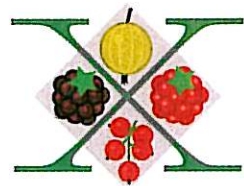




International Society for Horticultural Science
Faculty of Agriculture, University of Belgrade
Institute of Pesticides and Environmental Protection, Belgrade



International *Rubus & Ribes* Symposium

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Superior black- and redcurrant cultivars for organic production

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Organic or unsprayed production of blackcurrants (*Ribes nigrum*) and redcurrants (*Ribes rubrum*) requires cultivars which are resistant or less susceptible to the most common pests and diseases, such as powdery mildew (*Sphaerotheca mors-uvae*) and leaf spot (*Gloeosporidiella ribis*). The aim of this study was to find promising cultivars that are less disease susceptible, deliver high-yields and have an acceptable juice quality when produced in an organic system. In 2009 and 2010, 13 blackcurrants and 10 redcurrants were evaluated in Denmark. The blackcurrant cultivars 'Narve Viking' and 'Ben Hope' were superior cultivars for organic production. They had high yields, good juice quality, and were resistant to damage from pests and diseases. The redcurrant cultivars 'Red Poll' and 'Roodneus' had the highest yields and were the most resistant to diseases when grown unsprayed. 'Red Poll' also had a good juice quality. This cultivar evaluation focussed on identifying superior black- and redcurrant cultivars suited for organic production in Denmark will continue in 2011.