ARDENA – A NEW PEAR CULTIVAR OBTAINED AT FRUIT RESEARCH STATION CLUJ, ROMANIA

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SUMMARY

Pear breeding in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, started in 1953 when the Fruit Research Station was founded and since then there were homologated several cultivars. After first cultivars, Napoca and Doina, created before 1980, in 1993 was obtained Haydeea (Sestras, 2004). The following cultivars (Sestras et al., 2006, 2007) were Ina Estival (1999), Virgiliu Hibernal (2000), Jubileu 50 and Milenium (2003), Rosioara de Cluj (2005). In 2007 was homologated the pear cultivar Arvena, which was obtained by selection in F1 hybrids derived from Triomphe de Vienne, open pollinated. Trees are weak to medium vigour, with moderate-strong branching and semi-upright habit being very productive and suitable adaptation to Romanian weather conditions. Fruit size is medium to large, with soft firmness and juicy flesh; the colour changes from green to yellow attractive upon maturity, copper-coloured. Time of maturity for consumption is the first or second decades of September, when the fresh fruit has a good quality rating. The new cultivar Arvena, obtained at FRS Cluj-Napoca, Romania, enrich the international germplasm repository, representing useful genetic resources, which could be used for pear breeding programs in the future.

REFERENCES