

## Secondary Broccoli Sprouts Influence upon Broccoli Yields

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### SUMMARY

The name broccoli comes mainly due to its appearance: broccoli comes from the Latin *Brachium*, which means strong arm or branch. Broccoli itself has lots of arms or branches that grow from the main stem. Broccoli doesn't have a long history in Romania, it's cultivated on small parcels by small gardeners for their own consumption and the broccoli that we find in supermarkets are mostly imported from other countries and it's quite expensive. Broccoli is very good against cancer and in Romania cancer rate is growing every year that's why people should start eating broccoli. It's also a good source of vitamins (A, B2, C) also calcium, potassium. Romania also has a temperate climate that is recommended for broccoli growing. We can grow it in early spring, spring and autumn. That's why we tried in our research to find the best way to produce broccoli. We tested three hybrids: Fiesta F1, Marathon F1 and Belstar F1, also different densities and different ways to set the crop in the field (with two rows or three rows). After we cut the main broccoli sprouts, secondary sprouts (also called side shoots) will start developing. Side shoots will vary in size and weight, depending on the hybrid but as general information, side shoots are smaller than main broccoli heads. Depending on weather we can cut side shoots at 3 to 5 day intervals for 2 to 3 weeks. Side shoots production was influenced by hybrids, densities and the way that the crop was set in the field. On this poster I will present the influence of side shoots upon final broccoli yields, to see if it's worth to keep broccoli plants after the main broccoli head it's cut. If the secondary sprouts don't have an important influence upon final broccoli yields, than maybe it will be better to clear the land a plant something else instead.

**Keywords:** broccoli, sprouts, side shoots, hybrid, growth, yields

### REFERENCES

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