Course Unit Descriptor

Study Programme: Field and vegetable crops, Fruit growing and viticulture, Phytomedicine, Organic agriculture

Course Unit Title: Plant biochemistry

Course Unit Codes: 19.FTM005

Name of Lecturer(s): Prof. dr Djordje Malenčić

Type and Level of Studies: Undergraduate academic studies

Course Status (compulsory/elective): compulsory

Semester (winter/summer): summer

Language of instruction: english

Mode of course unit delivery (face-to-face/distance learning): face-to-face

Number of ECTS Allocated: 6

Prerequisites: none

Course Aims:

To gain knowledge on molecular aspects of biochemical processes and interactions in plants. Study on primary and secondary biomolecules in plants and their metabolism.

Learning Outcomes:

The contribution of new knowledge in the field of Plant biochemistry.

Syllabus:

Theory

Chemical composition of plant organs and tissues. Water, mineral composition, primary and secondary biomolecules. Properties, structures and function of amino acids, peptides and proteins; Amino acids and protein biosynthesis; Enzymes, functions classification and nomenclature; Kinetics of enzyme catalysis; Isoenzymes and multienzyme complexes; Coenzymes and prosthetic groups: structures, functions and classification; Vitamines: structures, functions and classification; Photosynthesis in C3, C4 and CAM plants; Catabolism of carbohydrates: glycolysis and Krebs cycle; Pentosophosphate pathway; Lipids: structure and classification, fatty acids; Lipid metabolism; Nucleic acids: classification, structures and functions, DNA and RNA replication; Plant membranes and transport of metabolites; Respiratory electron-transport chain and oxidative phosphorilation; Secondary biomolecules: properties, structures and function of plant phenolics, isoprenoids, alkaloids, cyanogenic glycosides and glucosinolates.

Practice

Proteins (qualitative reactions, determination of isoelectrical point of amino acids and proteins); Enzymes (effect of temperature, pH, substrate and enzyme concentration on enzyme activity, kinetics of enzyme reactions, antioxidant enzymes activity); Carbohydrates (qualitative reactions, determination of aldoses in plant material); Organic acids (determination of total acidity in apple fruit); Lipids (determination of saponification and iodine number of plant oils); Vitamins and provitamins (determination of vitamin C and carotenoids); Secondary biomolecules: isolation of essential oils and TLC chromatography); Metabolism: glycolysis and alcoholic fermentation.

Required Reading:

- 1. Dr Milan Popović: Biohemija biljaka (Plant biochemistry), Faculty of agriculture, Novi Sad, 2008
- 2. Dr Đorđe Malenčić, dr Milan Popović: Praktikum iz Biohemije biljaka (Plant biochemistry handbook), Faculty of agriculture, Novi Sad, 2011
- 3. P.M. Dey & J.B. Harborne: Plant biochemistry, Academic Press, London, 1997.

Weekly Contact Hours: 6 Lectures: 3 Practical work: 3

Teaching Methods:

Lectures, Practical classes, Consultations, research work (optional)

Knowledge Assessment (maximum of 100 points): 100

Pre-exam obligations	points	Final exam	points
Active class participation	5	written exam	30
Practical work	5	oral exam	60
Preliminary exam(s)			
Seminar(s)			

The methods of knowledge assessment may differ; the table presents only some of the options: written exam, oral exam, project presentation, seminars, etc.