i9Kiwi

Development of strategies for the sustainability of the kiwifruit industry through the creation of a value-added product

PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION

The production of kiwi (Actinidia sp.) is an important economic activity in several countries, having shown a worldwide expansion in recent years. In Portugal, it was in the 1990s that kiwi production began to develop thanks to the commercial value of fruit associated with the low cost of production. Investments have increased in recent years, resulting in a notable increase in exports.

Even with the increase in investment, this agricultural sector has not been growing as expected and three main problems were identified:

- Diseases associated with the production of kiwifruit;
- Pollination: phenology, viability and application of pollen;
- Identification of a set of parents more resistant to national biotic/abiotic factors.

OBJECTIVES

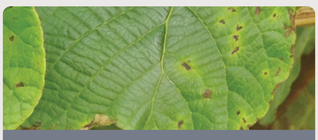
The I9Kiwi aims to improve the country's competitiveness by focusing exclusively on primary production activities in the kiwi sector through various types of innovation, including product and process innovation.

The I9Kiwi brings together the skills needed to fill obvious gaps in the phytosanitary sector and in the quality and diversity of cultivars and pollen, associated with high production costs.

- Methods for mitigation and control of Psa
- Viability, synchronization and application of pollen
- Cultivars adapted to national biotic and abiotic factors
- Dissemination and demonstration of results

ACTIVITIES

Monitoring of abiotic and biotic factors



Diseases associated with kiwi production

Solutions to combat Psa

Pollen viability and application

Multifactorial characterization of kiwi plants

Disclosure and income statement

RESULTS TO BE ACHIEVED

- Characterization of the main producing regions based in abiotic and biotic factors.
- Psa mitigation and control methods using antagonists with real appliance by producers.
- Methods for enhancing the plant's immune system with real appliance by producers.
- Methods for mitigating and controlling Psa in pollen.
- Identification and quantification of natural pollinators.
- Identification and propagation of highly productive and Psa tolerant/resistant varieties.
- Methods for applying innovative and country-adapted pollen.
- Development of a web-based platform for data collection for integrative decision-making.
- Identification of Psa natural reservoirs.

For more information please visit: **www.i9kiwi.pt**

PARCEIROS

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