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Organic Strawberry Production under Protected Ambient

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Strawberry culture has an important significance to the state of Rio Grande do Sul, as well as to rural growers, as an alternative of viable income. The work aimed to evaluate the organic strawberry production using different cultivars under protected ambient. The experiment was carried out at Embrapa Uva e Vinho – Vacaria-RS, Brazil during 2002-2004. The sowing beds were prepared at the size of 1.00 m x 30.0 m and 0.20 m height in a high tunnel. The seedlings were supplied by certificated nursery and planted at plant spacing of 0.30 m x 0.30 m in October 2002. The experimental design was a complete randomized block with six treatments and three replications. The treatments were: treated cultivar treated Camarosa (T1), control 'Camarosa' (T2), treated 'Oso Grande' (T3), control 'Oso Grande' (T4), treated 'Seascape' (T5) and control 'Seascape' (T6). It was used applications of biofertilizers 5 %; Gliocladium roseum (50 g/L); lime sulphur 0.5% and neem oil 1.5 ml/L for the treated cultivars. It was assessed the fruit number, weight and size; totals soluble solids; rot incidence; powdery mildew; insect and caterpillar damage. There was no significative difference to yield per plant, average fruit weight, powdery mildew presence and others. The number of fruits in T1 was higher (76) whether compared to T3 (42); however, it showed high percentage of rot fruits (7 %). The insect damages were higher, varying from 15 % (T1) to 28 % (T5) of fruits. T5 and T6 showed higher amounts of medium and small fruits. Nevertheless, T5 presented the highest totals soluble solid value (7.55% °Brix), more than T1 and T2. According to the results of this experiment it is possible to produce organic strawberry under protected ambient, being the phytosanitary aspect as the major limitation.

Keywords: *Fragaria x ananassa*, greenhouse, quality, small fruit, yield.

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