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INSECTICIDE CYPRONIL, OD (ciantraniliprol, 100 g/l) IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CHERRY FRUIT FLY (*Rhagoletis cerasi* L.) ON SWEET CHERRY IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

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Sweet cherry is one of the most common stone fruit crops in Moldova. The total area of sweet cherry orchards is approximately 6,000 hectares. Fruit yields reach 15–18 tonnes per hectare. The assortment of recommended varieties comprises 39 cultivars.

The widespread use of sweet cherries is primarily due to their good adaptability to Moldova's soil and climate conditions, as well as their early maturity, high, consistent productivity, and excellent taste and nutritional qualities. The main pest of this species is the cherry fruit fly. Tiny maggots tunnel inside the fruit, causing them to dimple, rot, or drop prematurely.

The insecticide Cypronil (OD) was tested in an orchard of the 'Kordia' sweet cherry variety at SRL "Agrocordia" in the village of Bălăbănești, Criuleni District. The trees were planted in 2014, with a planting spacing of 5x4 meters. The experiment was designed in four variants. Each variant included three replicates. Each replicate included five trees with identical crown parameters.

Experience schem: Control (no treatment); standard (Boxer 5 CS) - 0.8 l/ha; Cypronil, OD - 0.75 l/ha; Cypronil, OD - 0.9 l/ha. To protect the crop, the first spray treatment against the cherry fruit fly was carried out on June 2 in 2025 and on June 4 in 2026. The second treatment took place two weeks before fruit ripening—on June 14 in 2025 and June 17 in 2026.

During testing, the insecticide Cypronil OD demonstrated biological efficacy superior to the reference standard when used against the cherry fruit fly on sweet cherries at application rates of 0.75–0.9 L/ha. Its efficacy ranged from 91.4% to 93.9%, whereas the reference standard achieved 89.2%. In the untreated control, fruit damage amounted to 79.7%. Fruit infestation in the treatment variants was reduced 13- to 15-fold compared to the control. The results indicate that Cypronil OD can be applied one to two times per growing season to control the cherry fruit fly on sweet cherries at a rate of 0.75–0.9 L/ha.

Key words: cherry, insecticide, biological effectiveness, cherry fruit fly

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