

## OCCURRENCE OF PREDATORY MITES OF THE PHYTOSEIIDAE FAMILY ON TWO APPLE ORCHARDS IN ALBANIA

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### ABSTRACT

The aim of the study was to determine the abundance of predatory mites during 2014 – 2015 vegetation seasons in two apple orchards in Albania, with distinct meteorological conditions and pesticide application programs. Leaves were collected once a month from apple cultivars on each orchard from May to October 2014 - 2015. According to the results obtained on apple orchard in Durrës were found two predatory mites: *Amblyseius andersoni* (Chant) and *Typhlodromus pyri* (Scheuten) whereas on apple orchard in Pogradec was found only one predatory mite: *Amblyseius andersoni* (Chant). *Amblyseius andersoni* was the dominant species in apple orchard in Durrës whereas *Typhlodromus pyri* was less frequent. In 2015 vegetation season the abundance of predatory mites was higher (80%) than in 2014 (71%) in the orchard in Durrës , whereas in apple orchard in Pogradec the abundance of predatory mite, *Amblyseius andersoni* was higher in 2014 (29% ) than in 2015 vegetation season (20%). In total for both years the abundance of predatory mites was higher in apple orchard in Durrës (76%) whereas in the orchard in Pogradec was (24%).

**Keywords:** *Amblyseius andersoni*, *Typhlodromus pyri*, apple orchards, Albania.