

Peculiarities of olive distribution in dry subtropical arid zone of East Georgia

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Olive tree is called “tree of trees”, the first among the trees. In ancient Greece olive tree was considered a sculpture of the Athena Chamber of light and wise Goddess. She was a symbol of peace, health and longevity. The symbol of the olive is the coastal countries of the Mediterranean. Olive industrial plantations are also cultivated in North and South America. In Georgia, in Abkhazia and Kakheti in dry subtropical zone, there was a widespread olive culture. It turned out that in the beginning of the 19th century, foreigners were introduced. It was built in the subtropical zone of Kakheti, in the village Zemo Bodbe, 450 meters above the sea level. There are historical fact of olive existence in Georgia. Olive breeding peasants began in 1879 in the New Atoni. They planted a large plantation. Today’s plantations are cultivated both in Kakheti, in Marneuli and in Guria. However, it should be said that the best result was revealed in Kakheti, especially Sighnaghi municipality village of Sakobo, where olive making and oil extracted. Here is a favorable climate for the development of olive. Winter is mildly cold, summer is hot. Average annual temperature is 11^o-13^o C , In January is 0^o-1^oC. The temperature of the coldest month is 21^o-25^oC. Maximum atmospheric sediments are in May. Minimum atmospheric sediments in January. Donecnic coefficient is more than 1. Sustainable snow cover doesn’t always appear. When it’s average height doesn’t exceed 5-15 centimeters. Maximum height is 75 centimeters. Olive trees are found in almost all types of soil but it is better to plant them in carbonate, brown alluvial soils and dry sandy slopes. The olive tree can withstand frost -7^o -9^oC . The fruits are used for preparation, preserving, oil and in medicine. Copton is used as animal feed and the timber is used in joinery and junction.