

Title The assessment of postharvest fungal pathogens on pomegranate (*Punica granatum* L. var Hicaz) fruit in orchard

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Abstract

Turkey is the one of most important countries growing and exporting pomegranate fruit in the world. Pomegranate is mainly grown in the Aegean, Mediterranean, and Southeastern Anatolia regions in Turkey. The aim of this study was to determine the where to start and sources of postharvest decay on pomegranate fruit. In this study, the survey was carried out in Aegean region of Turkey. The sampling was started from the beginning of flowering stage to at the end of the harvest period. As a result of studies, *Alternaria* spp. (40-50%) was the main pathogen isolated from flowers, small fruit and mature fruit. But it was found that some orchards were infected with *Botrytis cinerea* (10%) at the beginning of the flowering to mature fruit stage. *Coniella*, *Colletotrichum*, *Cladosporium*, *Trichotrichum*, *Epicoccum* and rarely *Fusarium* spp. were also isolated from flowers and fruit.