

Influence of controlled atmosphere on the carrot storage quality

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Acta Horticulturae 1033: 59-64. (2013)

Abstract

During the last decade the vegetable production in Latvia and in Lithuania had a tendency to grow. Therefore, qualitative long term storage facilities become a topical problem for vegetable growers in Latvia. Till now the storage has been performed in storage rooms with controlled temperature and relative humidity, but not gas composition. Therefore the marketing period is often relatively short and at the end of the winter and spring mostly imported vegetables are offered for customers. The solution is vegetable storage in CA. Carrot was stored in CA atmosphere during the storage periods of 2010/2011 and 2011/2012 in the storage house of Pūre Horticultural Research Centre, Latvia. The storage room was equipped with ULO pallet system "Besseling" 20 channels atmosphere control station. The best results in the investigation were obtained by carrot storing in the O₂ level between 7 and 13% and CO₂ between 3 and 5%.