

ETIOLOGICAL STUDY OF BLOSSOM BLAST OF PEAR IN SOUTHEAST SERBIA (REGION OF LESKOVAC)

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Abstract. The paper studied and biochemical characteristics of pathogenic strains of bacteria isolated from necrotic pear flower buds in the region of Leskovac. Strains were gram negative, fluoresce on King's medium B (KB), does not produce oxidase, produce levan and HR caused by tobacco. On the basis of pathogenicity tests, biochemical and physiological properties and molecular methods (PCR) revealed that these symptoms cause the Krušce *Pseudomonas syringae*, more widespread and economically štetinji pear pathogen not only in Leskovac, but throughout Serbia.

Keywords: Pear, *Pseudomonas syringae*, blossom blast, Leskovac