



Changes of internal quality of some apple cultivars stored in normal and controlled atmosphere in Estonia

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Introduction

- In 2011, the area of fruit and berry plantations was 7000 ha
- 3300 ha pome fruit plantations
- Estonia's climate includes a great risk of cold damages to fruit trees
- Good winter hardiness



Introduction

- In commercial apple orchards established within the past 10 years, cultivars 'Krista', 'Talvenauding', 'Lobo' and 'Cortland' constitute about 20% of planted apple trees.
- Short storage period:no longer than 4-5 months.
- Most apples sold in Estonian markets are imported after January.



Research objectives

- Does controlled atmosphere (CA) storage extend storage period of locally grown apples?
- Storage recommendations.





Polli Horticultural Research Centre

- Modern cold storage facilities
- Reconstructed 2007/2008
- First screening of apples under CA started in 2008.



Materials

- 2 seasons 2009/2010 and 2010/2011
- 8 apple cultivars:

'Krista', 'Talvenauding', 'Auksis',

'Antey', 'Alesya', 'Cortland',

'Sinap Orlovski' and 'Ligol'



Methods

- Fruits were stored in a cold room at 2°C, at three atmospheres:
 - in air (NA)
 - CA conditions: $3\% O_2 + 5\% CO_2$
 - $1.5\% O_2 + 1.5\% CO_2$





Methods

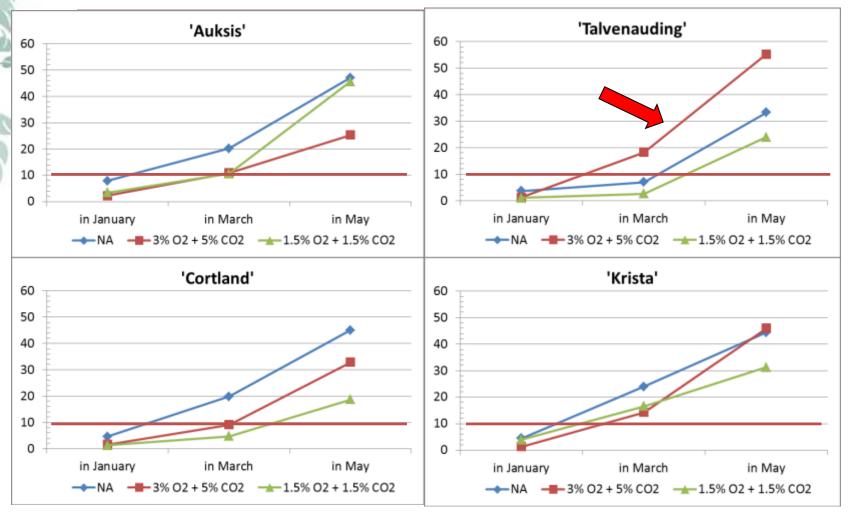
Storage loss (weight loss, physiological and fungi-caused damages);

- Fruit flesh firmness (in newtons, N);
- Total soluble solids content (TSS, in °Brix);
- Titratable acidity;
- Measured at harvest, in January, March and May;

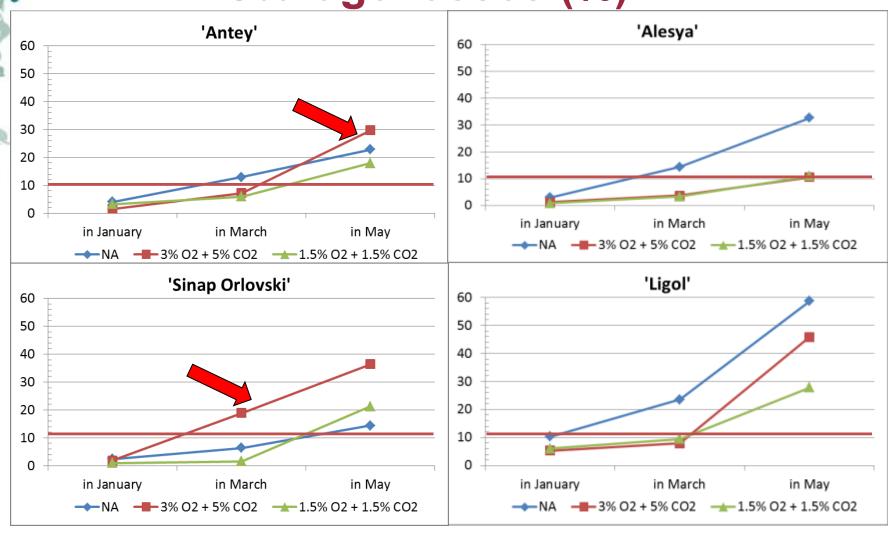




Results Storage losses (%)



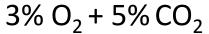
Results Storage losses (%)



Flesh browning 'Talvenauding'



Normal atmosphere





Flesh browning 'Antey'



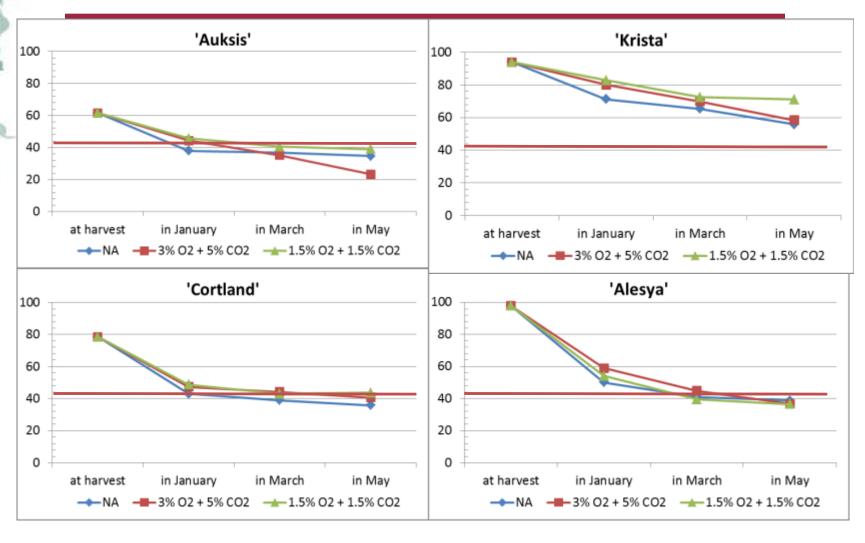


Normal atmosphere

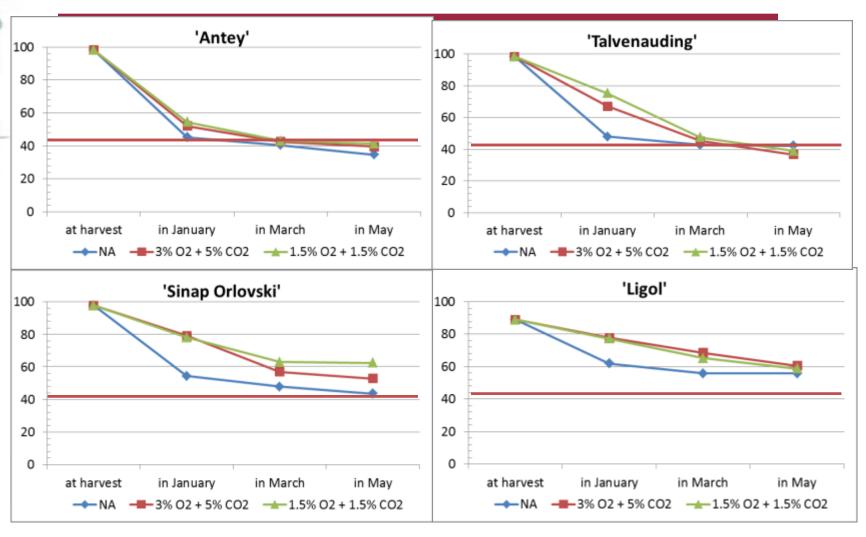
 $3\% O_2 + 5\% CO_2$



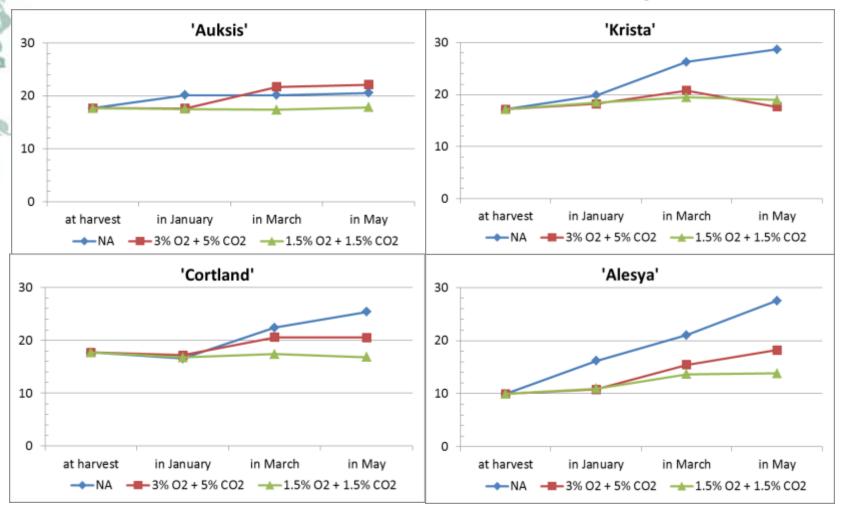
Results Flesh firmness (N) retention



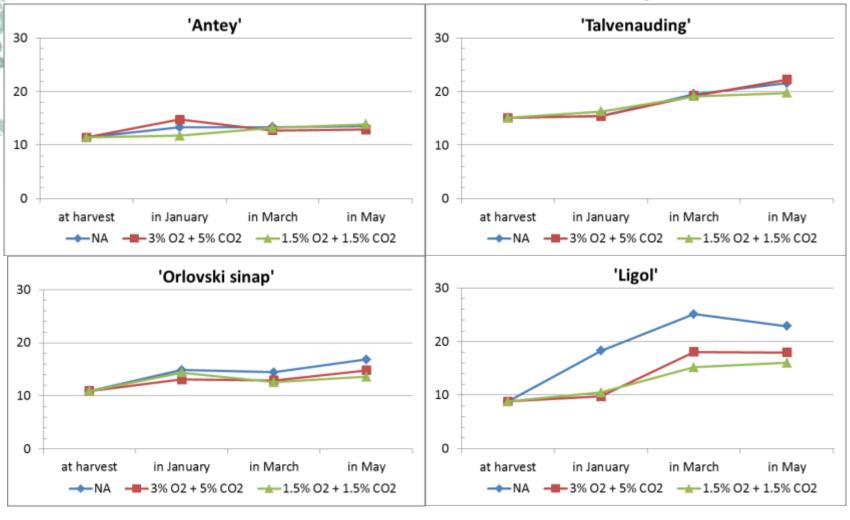
Results Flesh firmness (N) retention



Results TSS: titratable acidity



Results TSS: titratable acidity



Results 'Ligol'





Normal atmosphere

 $1.5\% O_2 + 1.5\% CO_2$



Conclusions

- In NA:
 - 'Alesya', 'Auksis', 'Cortland', 'Krista',
 'Talvenauding' JANUARY
 - 'Antey', 'Sinap Orlovski', 'Ligol'
 MARCH
- In CA 1.5% O_2 + 1.5% CO_2 :
 - 'Alesya', 'Auksis', 'Cortland', 'Krista',
 'Talvenauding' MARCH
 - − 'Sinap Orlovski', 'Ligol' → MAY
- 'Antey' NO EFFECT



Conclusions

- In CA 3% O_2 + 5% CO_2 :
 - 'Antey', 'Talvenauding', 'Sinap Orlovski'

SENSITIVE TO HIGH CO 2

FLESH BROWNING





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