Viveros Hernandorena starts the micro-grafting campaign with the Rootpac 40 rootstock.

Specialised in stone fruit trees, Viveros Hernandorena uses the Rootpac 40 rootstock as a reference when it comes to improving fruit quality and size, increasing production and tree resistance to nematodes and limestone.

Viveros Hernandorena continues to make progress in its specialisation as a stone fruit nursery. In this sense, it is now starting its stone fruit micro-grafting campaign with the **Rootpac 40 rootstock,** one of those that is arousing most interest in the sector. Currently, Viveros Hernandorena is one of the reference centres for this rootstock, with one of the largest stocks which allows it to meet the demands of all its clients for this coming autumn and winter.

The **Rootpac 40 rootstock,** developed by **Agromillora**, provides great advantages for any stone fruit species. "It allows production to be brought forward, improves fruit quality and size and is resistant to nematodes and limestone. In addition, due to its medium vigour, it is suitable for high

density and super high density cultivation systems", José Luis Sánchez, sales representative and stone fruit technician, who has been specialising in the management of this rootstock for years, explains.

As a novelty this season, Viveros Hernandorena has started to sell stone fruit plants with a 60 cm stalk and a 50 cm cane. With this, they are offering a pre-formed plant with the definitive height of the withers for the field and with a step forward that farmers used to have to carry out in the field.

Visits to Reference Farms

In the middle of the stone fruit season, Viveros Hernandorena begins visits to the experimental plots of the breeders themselves and to the so-called reference plots, where the fruit growers can check the development of the new varieties. These are highly personalised visits organised to show plant materials adapted to current market demands.

These visits form part of one of the internal processes that endorses its seal of Varietal Reliability: varietal adaptability. "We show customers, on real farms, that the variety adapts to the real growing conditions", José Luis Sánchez, the sales representative and technician responsible for stone fruit, argues.

Varietal control by DNA

But if it is so important to verify this varietal adaptation, it is also important to corroborate its authenticity. To this end, Viveros Hernandorena has been working for some years now with DNA control in its mother plant fields.

Thus, when the variety first sprouts in the mother plant field (approximately 6-7 months after planting), the buds are analysed using molecular markers to confirm varietal authenticity and health. "With this, we are avoiding possible errors that would otherwise not be noticed for 2-3 years, with the costs that this could entail", explains the sales technician. This is a genetic process that is carried out by public and private companies specialised in this area.

This DNA control, integrated within its seal of Varietal Reliability, together with the phytosanitary passport, is positioning Viveros Hernandorena at the forefront as an innovative and trustworthy nursery, at the service of customers, and with total traceability and transparency.