

6.6 MARTIN BECKER, MARK VARRELMANN, DANIELA CHRIST
Institute of Sugar Beet Research, Holtenser Landstr. 77, D – 37079 Göttingen

**IMPACT OF HARVEST TECHNOLOGY ON STORAGE ROT FORMATION
AND INVERT SUGAR ACCUMULATION DURING LONG-TERM STORAGE
OF SUGAR BEET**

ABSTRACT

During storage in field clamps, the processing quality of sugar beets is significantly reduced due to storage rot formation and invert sugar accumulation. As wounds represent entry sites for pathogens and saprophytic microorganisms, harvesting technology might pose a significant influence on the development of storage rot and white sugar yield losses. To detect possible effects of eight different selfpropelled harvesters on these parameters, sugar beets were sampled from a harvester demonstration field trial in Poland. Storage at 8°C was conducted in climate containers for 5 and 12 weeks. The results indicated a significant influence of the harvester technique on storage rot formation and invert sugar content. Further trials in a randomized design with field repetitions need to be performed to support these findings.
