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SAGTEVRUGTEPLANTVERBETERINGSVERENIGING
DECIDUOUS FRUIT PLANT IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

2025

ANNUAL REPORT

Compiled by:



plantsa
PLANTVERBETERING SUID-AFRIKA
PLANT IMPROVEMENT SOUTH AFRICA





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SAGTEVRUGTEPLANTVERBETERINGSVERENIGING
DECIDUOUS FRUIT PLANT IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Annual Report of the Deciduous Fruit Plant Improvement Association (DPA)

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SAGTEVRUGTEPLANTSERTIFISERINGSKEMA
DECIDUOUS FRUIT PLANT CERTIFICATION SCHEME

ABBREVIATIONS USED

DPA	DECIDUOUS FRUIT PLANT IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
DoA	DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
CFPA	CANNING FRUIT PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION
D.N.A.	THE DECIDUOUS FRUIT NURSERYMEN'S ASSOCIATION
PIO	PLANT IMPROVEMENT ORGANISATION
GV	FOUNDATION UNIT
MB	MOTHER BLOCK
B/O	SCION / ROOTSTOCKS
PBR	PLANT BREEDERS' RIGHTS
BLOU	CERTIFIED PLANT MATERIAL
KAND	CANDIDATE PLANT MATERIAL

FRUIT TYPES

A	APPLE
P	PEAR
E	QUINCE
M	ALMOND
K	APRICOT
C	CHERRY
N	NECTARINE
S	PEACH
R	PLUM
D	PRUNE
X	INTERSPECIFICS

1. THE YEAR IN REVIEW

1.1 Financial year

At the end of 2024, it was approved that the year-end of the DPA be moved from 31 December to 31 October to be more in line with the seasonal activities of the year. The move resulted in the 2025 financial year of the DPA spanning only ten months. Consequently, this Annual Report only includes events over the ten-month period.

1.2 Constitution

The Constitution of the DPA was revised during 2025 in respect of a few articles:

Article 6 Membership of the association

The membership of Plant Improvement Organisations has been adjusted to provide for the registration of other organisations in that the current three organisations are no longer listed by name, but that provision is made for “individual deciduous fruit plant improvement organisations”.

The membership of the Deciduous Fruit Nurserymen’s Association has been adjusted to make provision for “individual tree growers, as represented by the D.N.A”.

Article 9 Board

The clause that limited the members of the Board to a maximum of twelve members has been removed.

The composition of the Board has been adjusted to provide for two representatives on behalf of Hortgro Pome and two representatives on behalf of Hortgro Stone to give producers greater say.

Provision has also been made for each Plant Improvement Organisation to appoint a representative on the Board.

The voting rights of Board members have been adjusted to provide for two votes on behalf of the PIOs, one vote on behalf of the nurserymen and three votes on behalf of the producers. The Chairperson has no voting rights.

Article 15 Chairman and Vice-Chairman

The wording has been adjusted to make it clear that the Chairperson must be independent while the Vice-Chairperson is elected from among the members, but cannot be a PIO or nursery representative, to ensure full independence.

Article 20 Board decisions

The wording has been adjusted to provide clarity on what steps should be taken in the event of a deadlock during a vote.

Article 24 Financial year of the association

The end of the association's financial year has been adjusted from 31 December to 31 October.

1.3 Board Members

Mr Wiehahn Victor confirmed his resignation as DPA chairperson during a special Board meeting on 20 February 2025. Mr Hugh Campbell was unanimously elected as independent chairperson of the DPA during the same meeting, while Prof Wiehann Steyn was appointed as chairperson of the Technical Committee in his place.

Hortgro Stone appointed Mr Charl Stander as representative on the DPA Board in place of Mr Dana Morkel in February 2025, while Mr Ross Heyns (Hortgro Pome) and Ms Tanith Freeman (Hortgro Stone) were appointed as the two new representatives, in accordance with the amended Constitution. Mr Stander was also elected as vice-chairman of the DPA Board.

1.4 Directors of Plant SA

The DPA Board appointed two new Directors during 2025, namely the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson of the DPA Board to serve on the Plant SA board to look after the interests of the DPA.

1.5 Strategic session and Plant improvement plan

The DPA, in collaboration with Hortgro, held a strategic session in June 2025, during which a Plant Improvement Plan was drawn up with six critical Action Plans. The aim of the Plant Improvement Plan is to increase both the quality and quantity of certified deciduous fruit trees.

Action plan 1: Virus testing, identification of pathogens and virus elimination

As part of this action plan, all registered testing laboratories must participate in a ring test annually to ensure that virus tests can be performed effectively. This year, four laboratories participated in a ring test for PCR tests for the four pome fruit viruses. Both registered laboratories successfully completed the tests.

Action plan 2: Levels of certification

The DPA Board has approved in principle the proposals of the working group to make some adjustments to the levels of certification. However, these proposals still need to be presented to all role players for input before implementation can be considered.

Action plan 3: Determining the economic importance of viruses

The first part of this plan, namely a thorough literature study, has been completed. However, further information is still being worked on to substantiate the confirmation of the literature study that the prescribed scheme viruses are indeed of economic importance.

Action plan 4: Inspection service

The importance of thoroughly trained and knowledgeable inspectors is the focus of this action plan.

Action plan 5: Communication and information to producers regarding certification information to producers regarding certification

This Action Plan will align with the outcomes of the other Action Plans.

Action plan 6: Funding model and cost-effective testing

The action plan aims to look at ways to ensure that certification can be sustainable, both for the DPA as well as for the PIOs.

1.6 Scheme amendment

An amendment to the Deciduous Fruit Plant Certification Scheme was published in the Government Gazette on 5 September 2025. *Platycarpa* Scaly bark has been moved in Schedule 1 of the Scheme from the list of diseases for which testing must be carried out to the list of diseases for which plants and planting material must be visually free.

1.7 Training of inspectors

An Inspector Training Course was offered in June, the course was attended by 15 people, and ten people successfully passed the theoretical exam.

2. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS ON 31 OCTOBER 2025

According to the preliminary audited Income Statement for the fiscal year 1 January 2025 to 31 October 2025, prepared by BGR de Villiers Inc., the fiscal year closed with a surplus of R 652 990.

This surplus resulted in the deficit of -R 53 183 on 1 January 2025 being eliminated, and the DPA showing a surplus of R 599 807 on 31 October 2025.

3. COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

3.1 DPA BOARD

Mr Hugh Campbell serves as the Chairman of the DPA Board. The following members represent their respective organisations:

Producers

Mr.	J Jordaan	Canning Fruit Producers' Association
Ms.	A Pretorius	Hortgro Pome
Mr.	R Heyns	Hortgro Pome
Mr.	C Stander	Hortgro Stone
Ms.	T Freeman	Hortgro Stone

PIOs

Mr.	M Gresse	SAPO
Mr.	MH Prins	Stargrow
Mr.	S Amos	TopFruit

Deciduous Fruit Nurserymen's Association

Mr.	F Ungerer	D.N.A. – Pome fruit nurseries
Mr.	W Van Rijswijk	D.N.A. – Stone fruit nurseries

Other

Mr.	NL Africander	DoA – Directorate Inspection Services
Ms.	A Kistnasamy	DoA – Registrar of Plant Improvement
Prof.	W Steyn	Chairman – Technical Committee

Secretary

Ms.	RM Kriel	Plant SA
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3.2 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr.	H Campbell (Chairman)
Mr.	C Stander
Ms.	R Kriel

3.3 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Members

Prof.	W Steyn	Hortgro Science (Chairman)
Mr.	M Gresse	SAPO
Mr.	MH Prins	Stargrow
Mr.	S Amos	TopFruit
Mr.	C Stemmet	D.N.A.

Co-opted

Mr.	P du Toit	DoA – Inspection Services
Ms.	L Frazenburg	DoA – Diagnostic Services
Dr.	G Pietersen	Patho Solutions
Prof.	K Theron	Universiteit Stellenbosch
Mr.	C Stander	Freshness First

Ms.	RM Kriel	Secretary
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4. DIRECTORS OF PLANT SA

Mr. H Campbell and Mr. C Stander are appointed by the DPA Board to serve as directors of Plant SA.

5. MEMBERS OF THE DPA

5.1 Producer Organisations

The following industry organisations were registered with the DPA in 2025 to represent the interests of producers:

Hortgro Pome (Pome Fruit Producers)
Hortgro Stone (Stone Fruit Producers)
Canning Fruit Producers' Association (CFPA)

5.2 Plant Improvement Organisations

The following Plant Improvement Organisations were members of the DPA in 2025:

SAPO

Stargrow

TopFruit

5.3 Nurseries

There are 50 nurseries registered for 2025, of which 14 have registered as Foundation Nurseries. The nurseries are represented on the DPA Board and Technical Committee by the Deciduous Fruit Nursery Association (D.N.A.).

The list of registered nurseries (in alphabetical order) is as follows:

CERT	REGISTERED NURSERIES
10013	Ashton Kwekery
10020	Bokkeveld Nursery Partnership
10468	Caledon Valley Nursery
11769	Cape Sweet Nursery
12010	Capestar Kwekery
12037	Ceres Tree Traders
10022	Ceres Vrugtebome
10218	Constantia Kwekery
11432	Cordale Nursery
11763	De Keur Kwekery
11625	Dep Belange Kwekery
12008	Free State Tree Nursery (Pty) Ltd
12109	Groenewald Agri (Pty) Ltd
11806	Jonkiespoort Kwekery
10024	Joubertina Kwekery
10122	Laastedrif Kwekery
11702	Langfontein Ceres Agri Kwekery
10370	Louis Lategan en Seuns Boerdery
11123	Montagu Vrugteboom Kwekery
11819	Mouton Nursery

10206	Nuweland Kwekery
12000	Oudebrug Kwekery
10002	Redhill Superplant Nursery
12096	Rietvleispruit Kwekery
10054	RJF Boerdery
10859	Rosenhof Nursery
10011	St Kilda Kwekery
10801	Stargrow Marthinusrust
10702	Stargrow Rooihogte
10814	Stargrow Suikerbosrand
10006	Stemmet Kwekery
10123	Tierberg Kwekery
11176	Tolbos Nursery
11543	Tulbagh Kwekery
10017	Vredehoek Kwekery
10567	Zuiderkruis Nursery

SAPO GV Kwekerye

Stargrow GV Kwekerye

Topfruit GV Kwekerye

6. STATUS OF VARIETIES AND CLONES

6.1 Varieties

A total of 31 varieties were added to the official variety list during the ten months of 2025 (5 within the scheme).

The status of the official varieties, as well as their utilisation, as on 31 October 2025 is shown in **Table 1**. The table also indicates how many varieties within each fruit group are currently protected by Plant Breeders' Rights and how many of the varieties are within the scheme.

TABLE 1 Total official and protected varieties and the utilisation in 2025

FRUIT TYPE	OFFICIAL VARIETIES (with PBR)	IN THE SCHEME (with PBR)	PROPAGATED IN 2025	
			OFFICIAL VARIETIES (IN SCHEME)	EXPERIMENTAL VARIETIES (IN SCHEME)
POME FRUIT				
SCIONS				
APPLES	216 (111)	81 (54)	51 (40)	6 (1)
PEARS	74 (23)	38 (13)	15 (14)	1 (-)
ROOTSTOCKS				
APPLES	22 (9)	16 (8)	13 (13)	3 (3)
PEARS & QUINCE	11 (2)	10 (2)	3 (3)	1 (1)
TOTAL	323 (145)	145 (77)	82 (70)	11 (5)
STONE FRUIT				
SCIONS				
NECTARINES	263 (197)	112 (82)	62 (37)	4 (-)
PEACHES	189 (105)	102 (56)	48 (47)	5 (-)
PLUMS	100 (64)	72 (41)	38 (34)	
APRICOTS	60 (45)	22 (12)	11 (9)	2 (-)
INTERSPECIFICS	48 (37)	12 (8)	13 (4)	2 (1)
CHERRIES (SWEET)	43 (30)	15 (6)	6 (3)	4 (-)
CHERRIES (SOUR)	1	1		
ALMONDS	24 (7)	13 (2)	11 (9)	2 (-)
PRUNES	7 (3)	6 (3)	4 (4)	
ROOTSTOCKS				
CHERRIES	14 (6)	10 (6)	8 (6)	1 (-)
OTHER STONE FRUIT	35 (16)	26 (9)	17 (15)	
TOTAL	784 (510)	391 (225)	218 (168)	20 (1)

* The experimental varieties declared in Table 1 are only for varieties of which 1 000 or more trees were propagated in 2025.

6.2 Clones

In 2025 clone applications for 14 candidate clones and two registered clones were received from PIOs.

The details of the varieties and clones within the scheme as on 31 October 2025 are summarised in **Table 2**.

TABLE 2 Total varieties and clones with statuses

FRUIT TYPE	B/O		OFFICIAL VARIETIES		EXP. VAR.
			REGISTERED	CANDIDATE	CANDIDATE
POME FRUIT					
APPLES	B	VARIETY	58	29	19
		CLONE	69	33	19
	O	VARIETY	12	9	13
		CLONE	16	22	15
PEARS	B	VARIETY	28	12	3
		CLONE	32	14	3
PEARS & QUINCE	O	VARIETY	8	3	1
		CLONE	9	3	2
TOTAL		VARIETY	106	53	36
		CLONE	126	72	39
STONE FRUIT					
ALMONDS	B	VARIETY	11	2	1
		CLONE	13	2	1
APRICOTS	B	VARIETY	17	6	13
		CLONE	19	6	13
CHERRIES	B	VARIETY	15	1	15
		CLONE	16	1	15
NECTARINES	B	VARIETY	99	16	9
		CLONE	101	17	10
PEACHES	B	VARIETY	86	18	21
		CLONE	88	18	21
PLUMS	B	VARIETY	53	17	18
		CLONE	58	18	18
INTERSPECIFICS	B	VARIETY	9	3	2
		CLONE	9	3	2
PRUNES	B	VARIETY	4	2	5
		CLONE	4	3	5
CHERRIES	O	VARIETY	4	9	1
		CLONE	7	10	1
STONE FRUIT	O	VARIETY	18	14	3
		CLONE	24	16	3
TOTAL		VARIETY	316	88	88
		CLONE	339	94	89

7. STATUS OF BLOCK UNITS

7.1 Pome fruit scion blocks

The details of the pome fruit scion block units as on 31 October 2025, are provided in **Table 3**.

TABLE 3 Number of scion varieties per block type – pome fruit

IT TYPE	BLOCK	STATUS	VARIETIES	SITES	BLOCKS	TREES
POME FRUIT						
APPLES	GV	BLUE	31	8	61	2 292
		CAND	43	11	77	2 486
		O	148	9	171	7 779
		TOTAL	205	15	309	12 557
	MB	BLUE	19	21	55	64 375
		CAND	19	20	53	38 877
		O	53	38	132	200 378
		TOTAL	70	59	240	303 630
	GRAND TOTAL		228	64	550	316 187
PERE	GV	BLUE	9	5	19	1 067
		CAND	12	6	15	442
		O	55	6	60	797
		TOTAL	71	9	94	2 306
	MB	BLUE	8	7	12	16 533
		CAND	4	4	4	4 700
		O	19	14	35	11 177
		TOTAL	25	20	51	32 410
	GRAND TOTAL		81	26	145	34 716
GRAND TOTAL - POME FRUIT			309	74	695	350 903

- One pome fruit foundation block was added, while 7 foundation and 5 mother blocks were scrapped over the same period.
- There is one pome fruit foundation block that is older than 20 years, while 64% of pome fruit foundation blocks are younger than 10 years. 19% of pome fruit mother blocks are older than 20 years, while 43% are younger than 10 years.

- There are 140 reserve scion block units (192 040 trees) that could qualify for status, but where the necessary ELISA tests have not been carried out.
- 68% of pome fruit blocks that could qualify do have certification status.

7.2 Stone fruit scion block units

The details of the stone fruit scion block units as on 31 October 2025, are provided in **Table 4**.

TABLE 4 Number of scion varieties per block type – stone fruit

IT TYPE	BLOCK	STATUS	VARIETIES	SITES	BLOCKS	TREES
PEACHES						
PEACHES	GV	BLUE	30	2	41	1 766
		CAND	10	1	14	169
		O	98	7	142	1 355
		TOTAL	132	7	197	3 290
	MB	BLUE	2	2	2	1 322
		CAND	4	1	4	375
		O	37	11	70	49 157
		TOTAL	37	11	76	50 854
	GRAND TOTAL		144	16	273	54 144
	NECTARINES					
NECTARINES	GV	BLUE	18	5	22	667
		CAND	4	2	4	47
		O	179	7	318	2 221
		TOTAL	197	7	344	2 935
	MB	BLUE	5	4	6	4 178
		CAND	3	1	3	515
		O	40	11	48	30 315
		TOTAL	45	12	57	35 008
	GRAND TOTAL		229	17	401	37 943

TABLE 4 – cont.

IT TYPE	BLOCK	STATUS	VARIETIES	SITES	BLOCKS	TREES
PLUMS						
PLUMS	GV	BLUE	30	1	47	2 200
		CAND	11	1	15	247
		O	77	7	98	1 688
		TOTAL	103	7	160	4 135
	MB	BLUE	18	4	30	9 620
		CAND	1	1	1	124
		O	41	7	80	12 067
		TOTAL	44	9	111	21 811
	GRAND TOTAL		119	14	271	25 946
APRICOTS						
APRICOTS	GV	BLUE	7	1	22	1 714
		CAND	1	1	1	45
		O	23	7	34	833
		TOTAL	25	7	57	2 592
	MB	BLUE	6	3	9	3 908
		CAND				
		O	7	2	8	711
		TOTAL	7	5	17	4 619
	GRAND TOTAL		25	9	74	7 211
INTERSPECIFICS						
INTERSPECIFICS	GV	BLUE	4	5	10	120
		CAND	5	4	5	35
		O	103	6	182	796
		TOTAL	106	6	198	951
	MB	BLUE	4	3	5	1 486
		CAND				
		O	4	4	8	2 335
		TOTAL	5	6	13	3 821
	GRAND TOTAL		107	10	211	4 772

TABLE 4 – cont.

IT TYPE	BLOCK	STATUS	VARIETIES	SITES	BLOCKS	TREES
ALMONDS						
ALMONDS	GV	BLUE	8	1	9	140
		CAND	3	2	3	176
		O	11	3	14	1 013
		TOTAL	11	4	26	1 329
	MB	BLUE	6	2	7	724
		CAND	2	1	3	497
		O	6	4	12	2 059
		TOTAL	9	4	22	3 280
	GRAND TOTAL		11	6	48	4 609
	CHERRIES					
CHERRIES	GV	BLUE				
		CAND	7	2	7	414
		O	21	3	42	998
		TOTAL	23	4	49	1 412
	MB	BLUE	3	1	4	414
		CAND				
		O	6	4	9	2 220
		TOTAL	8	4	13	2 634
	GRAND TOTAL		24	7	62	4 046
	PRUNES					
PRUNES	GV	BLUE	1	1	1	20
		CAND	4	1	4	80
		O	7	2	8	207
		TOTAL	10	2	13	307
	MB	BLUE	1	1	1	102
		CAND				
		O	4	2	5	313
		TOTAL	4	2	6	415
	GRAND TOTAL		10	2	19	722
	GRAND TOTAL - STONE FRUIT			652	40	1 359

- Six stone fruit foundation blocks were added, while three foundation and 21 mother blocks were scrapped.

- 90% of stone fruit foundation blocks are younger than 10 years while 54% of mother blocks are younger than 10 years. There are 8% of stone fruit mother blocks that are older than 20 years on the block register.
- There are 313 reserve scion block units (94 390 trees) that could qualify for status, but where the necessary ELISA tests have not been carried out.
- Only 47% of blocks that could qualify for certification have been certified.

7.3 Rootstocks

The details of the rootstock block units as on 31 October 2025, are provided in **Table 5**.

TABLE 5 Number of rootstock block units per fruit type

JIT TYPE	BLOCK	STATUS	VARIETIES	SITES	BLOCKS	TREES
POME FRUIT						
APPLES	GV	BLUE	11	5	45	197 145
		CAND	22	8	51	70 148
		O	11	4	14	8 359
		TOTAL	31	9	110	275 652
	MB	BLUE	7	12	41	198 307
		CAND	9	9	29	149 094
		O	10	11	28	113 598
		TOTAL	13	17	98	460 999
	GRAND TOTAL		32	22	208	736 651
PEARS & QUINCE	GV	BLUE	4	3	6	22 818
		CAND	4	6	11	1 971
		O	6	4	8	14 119
		TOTAL	12	9	25	38 908
	MB	BLUE	3	12	21	45 885
		CAND	1	2	2	528
		O	3	9	17	37 869
		TOTAL	3	18	40	84 282
	GRAND TOTAL		12	24	65	123 190

TABLE 5 cont.

JIT TYPE	BLOCK	STATUS	VARIETIES	SITES	BLOCKS	TREES
STONE FRUIT						
STONE FRUIT	GV	BLUE	6	5	17	3 526
		CAND	11	5	17	2 382
		O	22	4	36	4 041
		TOTAL	29	8	70	9 949
	MB	BLUE	11	11	50	35 891
		CAND	5	4	8	6 647
		O	12	9	37	17 171
		TOTAL	16	14	95	59 709
	GRAND TOTAL		34	17	165	69 658
	CHERRIES	GV	BLUE	1	1	1
CAND			2	1	3	25
O			6	3	14	575
TOTAL			6	3	18	684
MB		CAND	1	1	1	436
		O	1	1	1	111
		TOTAL	1	2	2	547
GRAND TOTAL		6	4	20	1 231	
GRAND TOTAL			84	32	458	930 730

- There was only one mother block added in 2025, while one foundation and 12 mother blocks were scrapped.
- There is only one foundation block older than 20 years and 52% of foundation rootstock blocks are younger than 10 years. For mother blocks, 8% of rootstock blocks are older than 20 years, while 68% are younger than 10 years.
- There are currently 72 reserve rootstock blocks (142 907 plants) on the register that do not qualify for status, because the necessary ELISA tests are not up to date.
- 68% of rootstock blocks that qualify for certification currently have status.

8. TREES AVAILABLE FOR SALE

8.1 Tree numbers

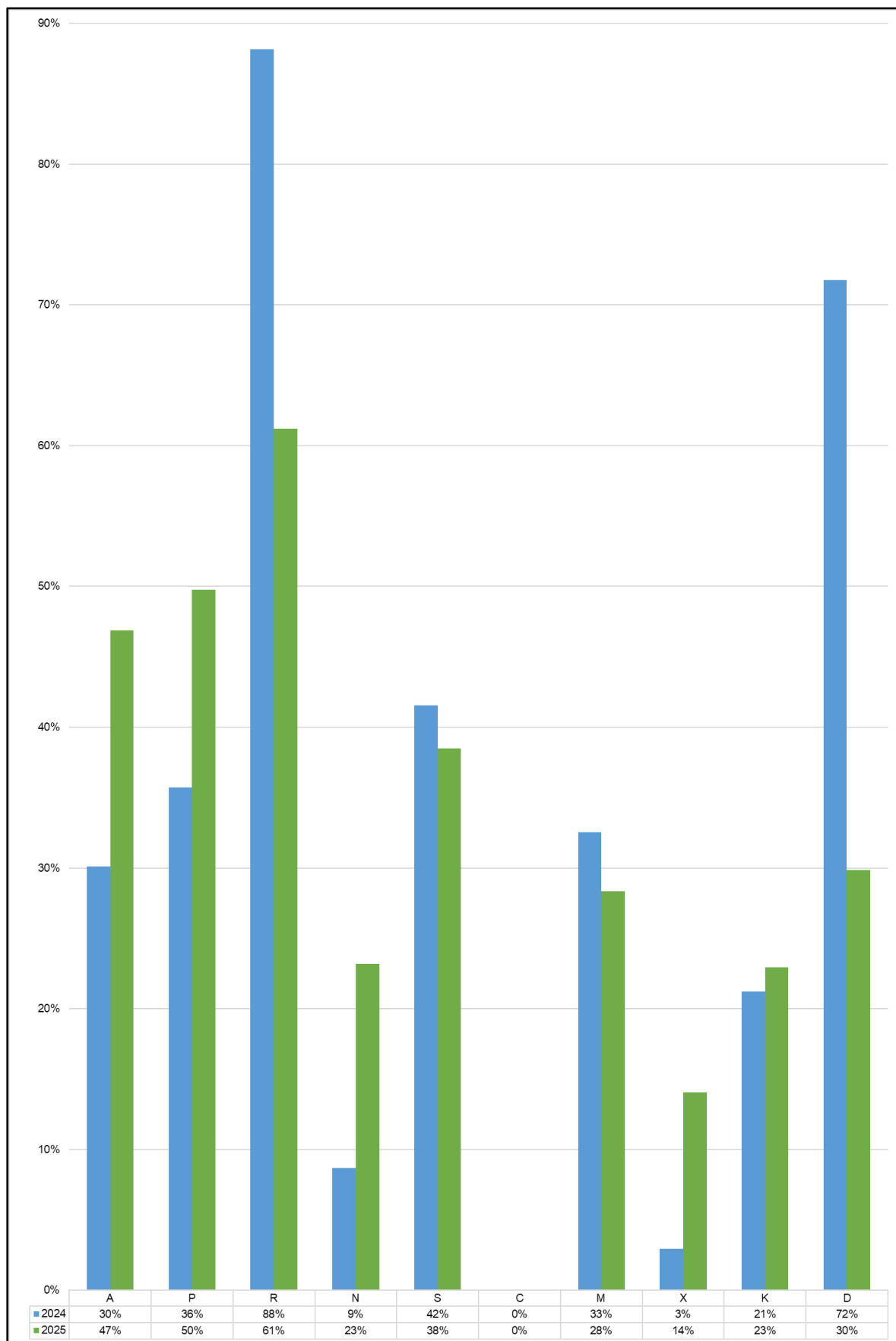
Trees propagated are summarised by fruit type in **Table 6**.

TABLE 6 Trees propagated in 2025

FRUIT TYPE	BLUE	CAND	O	TOTAL
POME FRUIT				
APPLES	242 164	700 470	1 054 135	1 996 769
PEARS	193 008	184 943	381 817	759 768
STONE FRUIT				
PLUMS	206 466	37 955	154 986	399 407
NECTARINES	45 842	4 476	166 782	217 100
PEACHES	56 600	25 221	130 843	212 664
CHERRIES			108 186	108 186
ALMONDS	21 944	5 595	69 602	97 141
INTERSPECIFICS	9 285	1 365	65 056	75 706
APRICOTS	14 911		50 070	64 981
PRUNES	359	81	1 034	1 474
TOTAL	790 579	960 106	2 182 511	3 933 196

- The total number of trees propagated is 3% less in 2025 than in 2024.
- The percentage of certified and candidate trees propagated increased from 30% in 2024 to 44% in 2025.

The percentage of trees with certified / candidate status propagated in 2025 compared to 2024 is shown in **Graph 1**.



Graph 1 Nursery trees with certification status as propagated in 2025 compared to 2024

8.2 Pome fruit trees propagated

The most important apple and pear varieties propagated in 2025, are presented according to the certification status in **Tabel 7**.

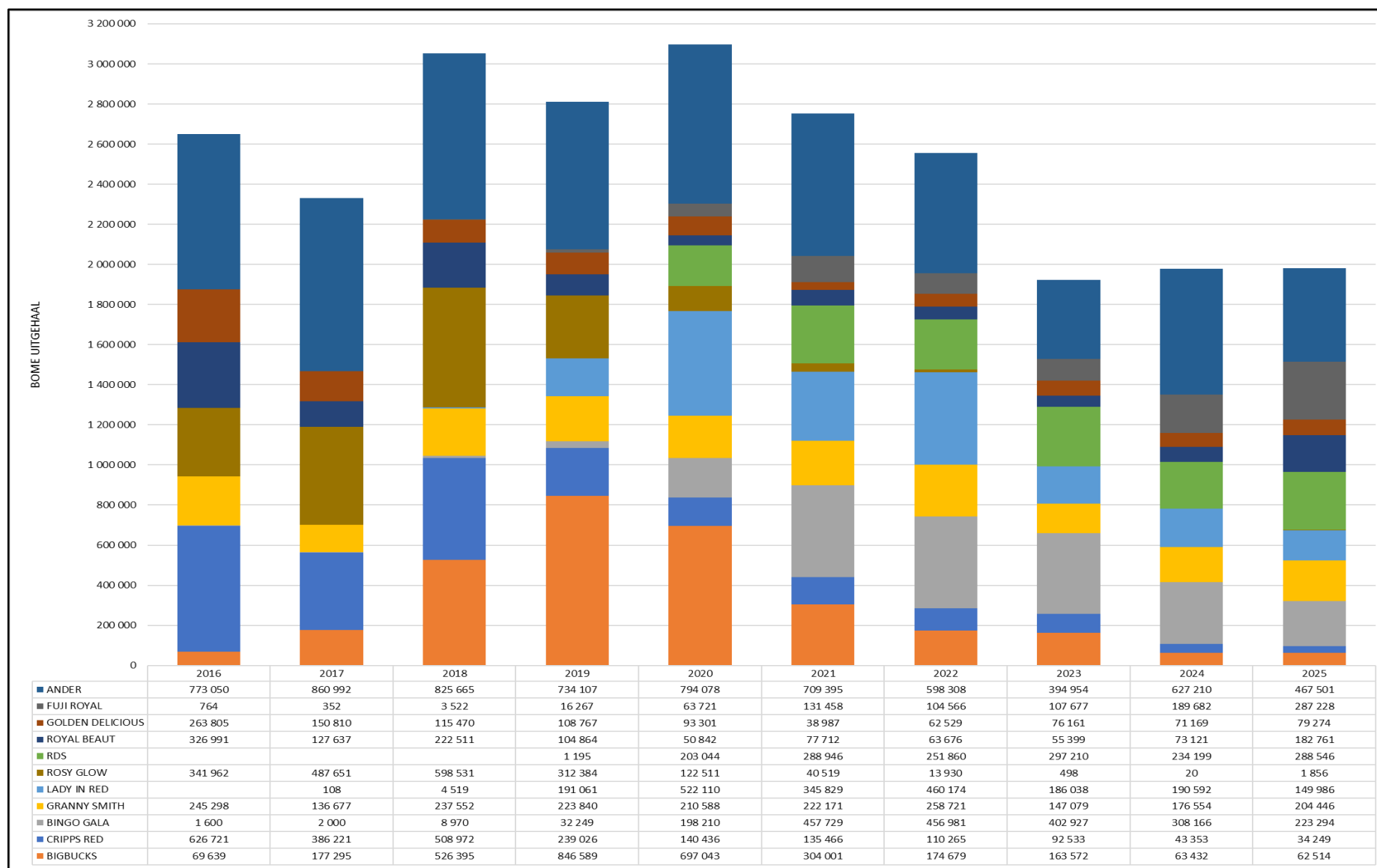
TABLE 7 Key varieties propagated per fruit type in 2025

VARIETY	BLUE	CAND	O	TOTAL
APPLES				
RDS	5 947	159 434	123 165	288 546
FUJI ROYAL			287 228	287 228
BINGO GALA		171 182	52 112	223 294
GRANNY SMITH	60 202	55 415	88 829	204 446
ROYAL BEAUT	29 623	80 638	72 500	182 761
LADY IN RED	5 370	64 187	80 429	149 986
DECARLI GALA	77 735		40 814	118 549
WA38		74 413	11 451	85 864
GOLDEN DELICIOUS	31 527	9 291	38 456	79 274
BIGBUCKS GALA		34 002	28 512	62 514
LOUTERWATER GRANNY		0	54 179	54 179
CRIPPS RED	6 760	17 701	9 788	34 249
EARLY RED ONE	340	40	31 274	31 654
PREMA093		7 246	19 692	26 938
JEROMINE	2 084		23 503	25 587
SHORTIE			17 803	17 803
MARIRI RED		11 520	5 873	17 393
RUBY MATILDA		11 412	4 631	16 043
SG-AP-M3 (EVERGALA)			13 231	13 231
<i>OTHER (88 VAR)</i>	<i>15 045</i>	<i>5 058</i>	<i>57 127</i>	<i>77 230</i>
PEARS				
FORELLE	95 118	116 396	262 422	473 936
ROSEMARIE / ROSELYN		55 904	12 032	67 936
PACKHAMS TRIUMPH	36 234		19 819	56 053
CAPE ROSE	35 955	2 800	11 214	49 969
ABATE FETEL	15 379	5 703	19 294	40 376
EARLY BON CHRETIEN			20 246	20 246
BON CHRETIEN			14 782	14 782
CELINA	10 227		1 417	11 644
CLAPP'S FAVOURITE			11 310	11 310
<i>OTHER (14 VAR)</i>	<i>95</i>	<i>4 140</i>	<i>9 281</i>	<i>13 516</i>

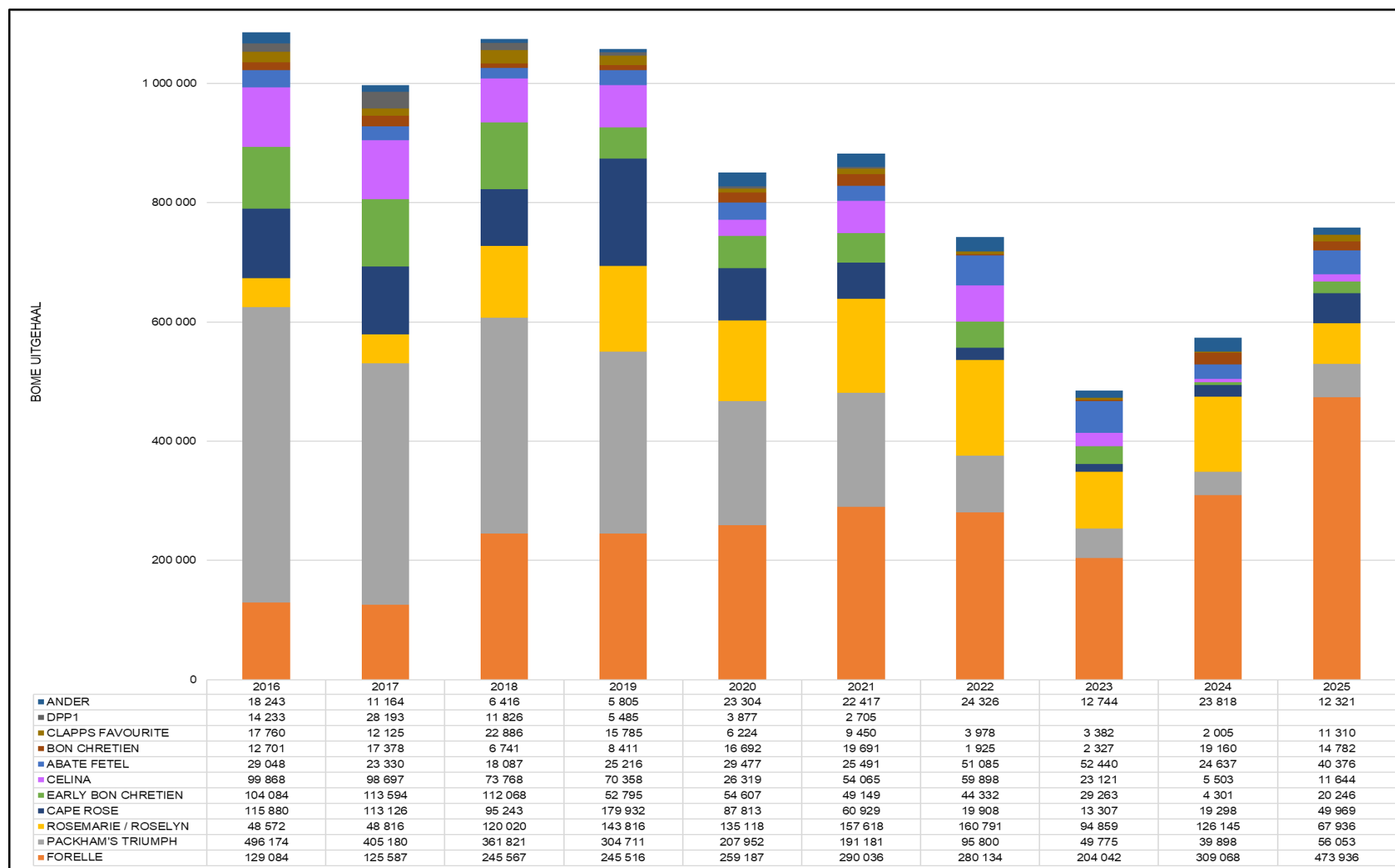
Rows in green are varieties within the Scheme, varieties indicated in blue/italic are experimental and do not yet appear on the official variety list.

- Only trees of which 10 000 or more have been propagated are listed here.

Graphs 2 - 3 show the top 10 apple and pear trees propagated over the last ten years. The graphs show the total number of trees propagated per year.



Graph 2 Top 10 apple varieties propagated 2016 - 2025



Graph 3 Top 10 pear varieties propagated 2016 - 2025

8.3 Stone fruit trees propagated

The most important stone fruit trees propagated in 2025, are provided according to the statuses in **Table 8**.

The table only includes varieties of which there were 10 000 or more available for sale, or otherwise the top ten varieties per fruit type.

TABLE 8 Key stone fruit varieties propagated in 2025

VARIETY	BLUE	CAND	O	TOTAL
PLUMS				
RUBY SUN	25 142	1 640	61 249	88 031
ARC PR-2	33 928	4 157	21 190	59 275
HARRY PICKSTONE	19 979	1 922	1 223	23 124
SUPLUMSIX	3 768	10 776	6 160	20 704
LAETITIA	10 121		7 920	18 041
SUNKISS	8 468		8 243	16 711
GREEN RED	16 423			16 423
SONGOLD	12 304	204	3 779	16 287
LARRY ANNE	13 640			13 640
PIONEER	5 186		8 244	13 430
ARC PR-1	10 663		980	11 643
QUEEN ELSA			10 814	10 814
BLACK SPLENDOR	10 380			10 380
SOUTHERN BELLE	9 630	524	22	10 176
<i>OTHER (35)</i>	<i>26 834</i>	<i>18 732</i>	<i>25 162</i>	<i>70 728</i>
NECTARINES				
HONEY TREAT			33 457	33 457
MAJESTIC PEARL	20 000	1 211	132	21 343
ALPINE	15 420		4 442	19 862
LUCIANA			16 790	16 790
SUNECTWENTYONE	9 204	2 429	4 560	16 193
<i>HONEY RICO</i>			<i>15 163</i>	<i>15 163</i>
HONEY POT			13 439	13 439
<i>POLAR SNOW</i>			<i>10 562</i>	<i>10 562</i>
<i>SIDONIA</i>			<i>10 396</i>	<i>10 396</i>
ARCTIC MIST			8 804	8 804
<i>OTHER (94)</i>	<i>1 218</i>	<i>836</i>	<i>49 037</i>	<i>51 091</i>

TABLE 8 cont.

VARIETY	BLUE	CAND	O	TOTAL
PEACHES				
CASCADE	14 325		9 612	23 937
EARLIBLUSH	2 700		18 406	21 106
WITZENBERG	44	5 520	12 579	18 143
SANDVLIET	7 877	1 230	6 555	15 662
KEISIE	3 067	2 100	8 341	13 508
CASCADE (GOLDEN PRIDE)	6 540		4 940	11 480
FANTASY	10 460			10 460
SUPREME			8 742	8 742
TRANSVALIA	2 332	3 600	1 475	7 407
OOM SAREL	1 207	3 450	2 738	7 395
OTHER (63 VAR)	8 048	9 321	57 455	74 824
CHERRIES				
<i>IFG CHER-TEN</i>			39 599	39 599
LAPINS			28 532	28 532
<i>IFG CHER-EIGHT</i>			22 611	22 611
ROYAL TIOGA			4 152	4 152
<i>IFG CHER-FIVE</i>			3 808	3 808
ROYAL HAZEL			2 626	2 626
<i>STACCATO</i>			2 500	2 500
<i>IFG CHER-FOUR</i>			984	984
<i>IFG CHER-NINE</i>			983	983
MINNIE ROYAL			844	844
OTHER (18 VAR)			1 547	1 547
ALMONDS				
EL FAHEM	18 875	2710	9 830	31 415
<i>SHASTA</i>			21 397	21 397
NE PLUS ULTRA	2 285	1 600	6 773	10 658
NONPAREIL	550	1280	7 287	9 117
<i>ADMONT</i>			5 891	5 891
AVIJOR			4 300	4 300
PEERLESS	133		3 687	3 820
SOLETA			3 730	3 730
VOLCANI 5	78		3 330	3 408
TEXAS MISSION	5		1 444	1 449
OTHER (4 VAR)	18	5	1 933	1 956

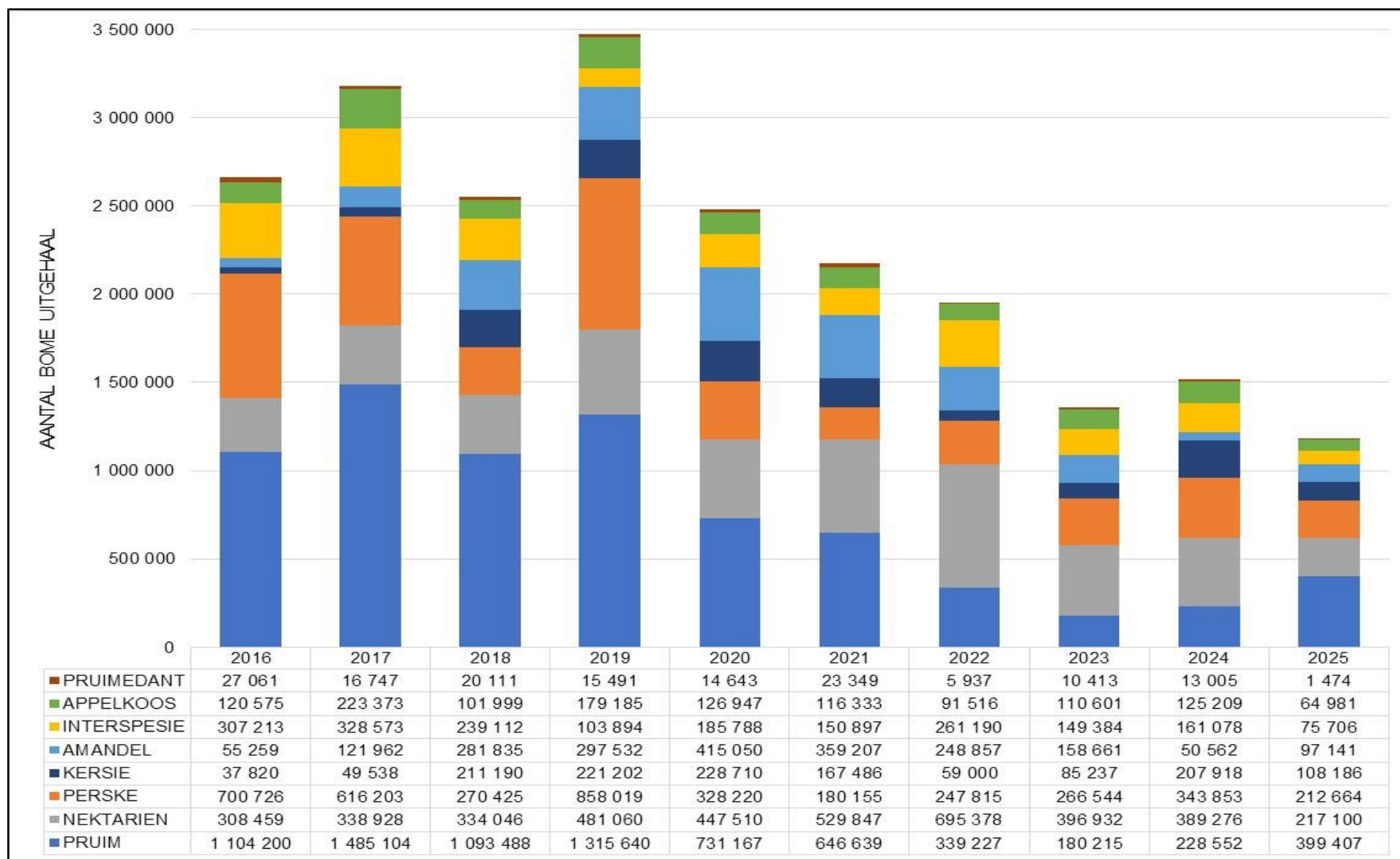
TABLE 8 cont.

VARIETY	BLUE	CAND	O	TOTAL
INTERSPECIFICS				
RED PHOENIX	89		16 377	16 466
REDSWEET I			13 004	13 004
FLAVOR FALL	9 110		2 260	11 370
<i>FESTIVAL PUNCH</i>			<i>9 576</i>	<i>9 576</i>
EBONY ROSE			7 830	7 830
BLACKRED I	65	976	6 090	7 131
BLACK KAT			4 412	4 412
FESTIVAL RED			1 304	1 304
<i>BLACKRED IV</i>		<i>180</i>	<i>940</i>	<i>1 120</i>
FESTIVA			1 071	1 071
OTHER (43 VAR)	21	209	2 192	2 442
APRICOTS				
BULIDA	3 287		16 264	19 551
PALSTEYN	7 261		9 045	16 306
CAPE BEBECO	1 316		6 415	7 731
CHARISMA	1774		2 454	4 228
SOLDONNE	1 215		2 780	3 995
GOLDEN MAY			3 605	3 605
SUPERGOLD			2262	2 262
ROYAL	58		1 708	1 766
SUNSHINE			1 410	1 410
FARLIS			1 300	1 300
OTHER (10 VAR)			2 827	2 827
PRUNES				
VAN DER MERWE	340		986	1 326
<i>TOPEND PLUS</i>			<i>28</i>	<i>28</i>
<i>JOGANTA</i>		<i>28</i>		<i>28</i>
<i>HAGANTA</i>		<i>26</i>		<i>26</i>
<i>TOPHIT</i>			<i>20</i>	<i>20</i>
ERFDEEL	19			19
TULARE GIANT		14		14
MUIR BEAUTY		13		13

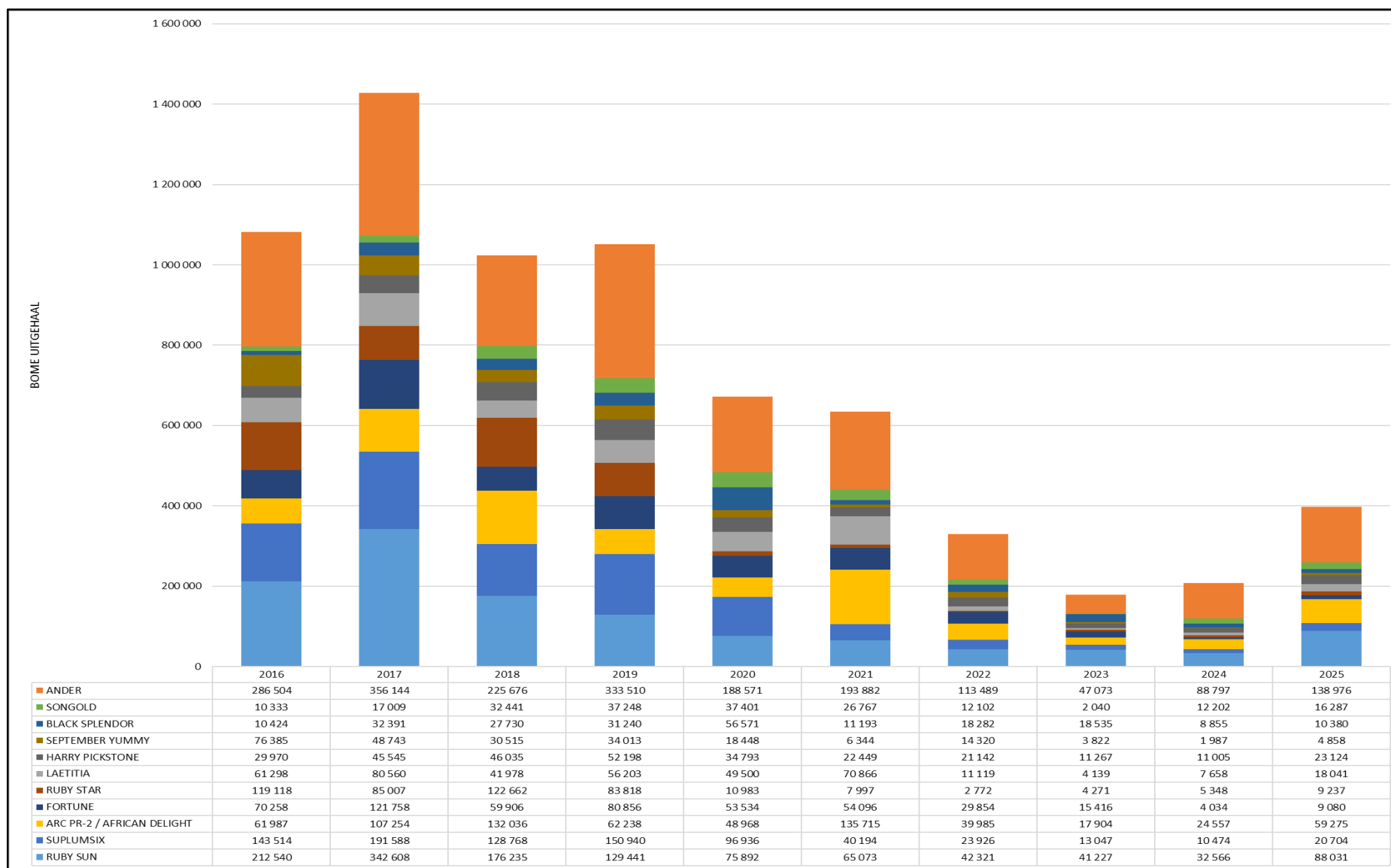
Rows in green are varieties within the Scheme, varieties indicated in blue/italic are experimental and do not yet appear on the official variety list

Graph 4 shows the proportion of stone fruit types propagated over the last ten years.

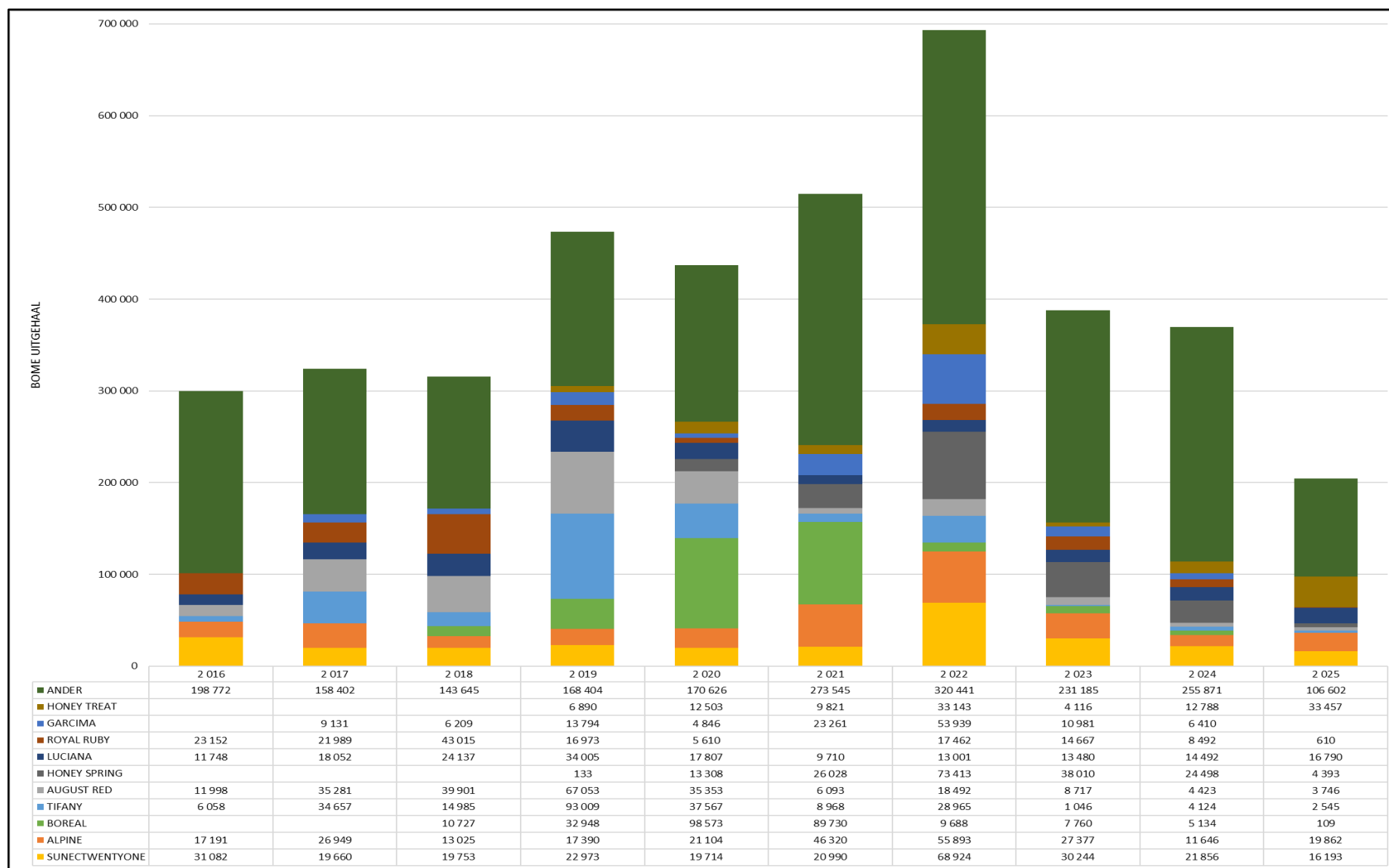
Graphs 5 - 12 show the top 10 for the different types of stone fruit propagated over the last ten years. The graphs show the total number of trees propagated for the relevant year



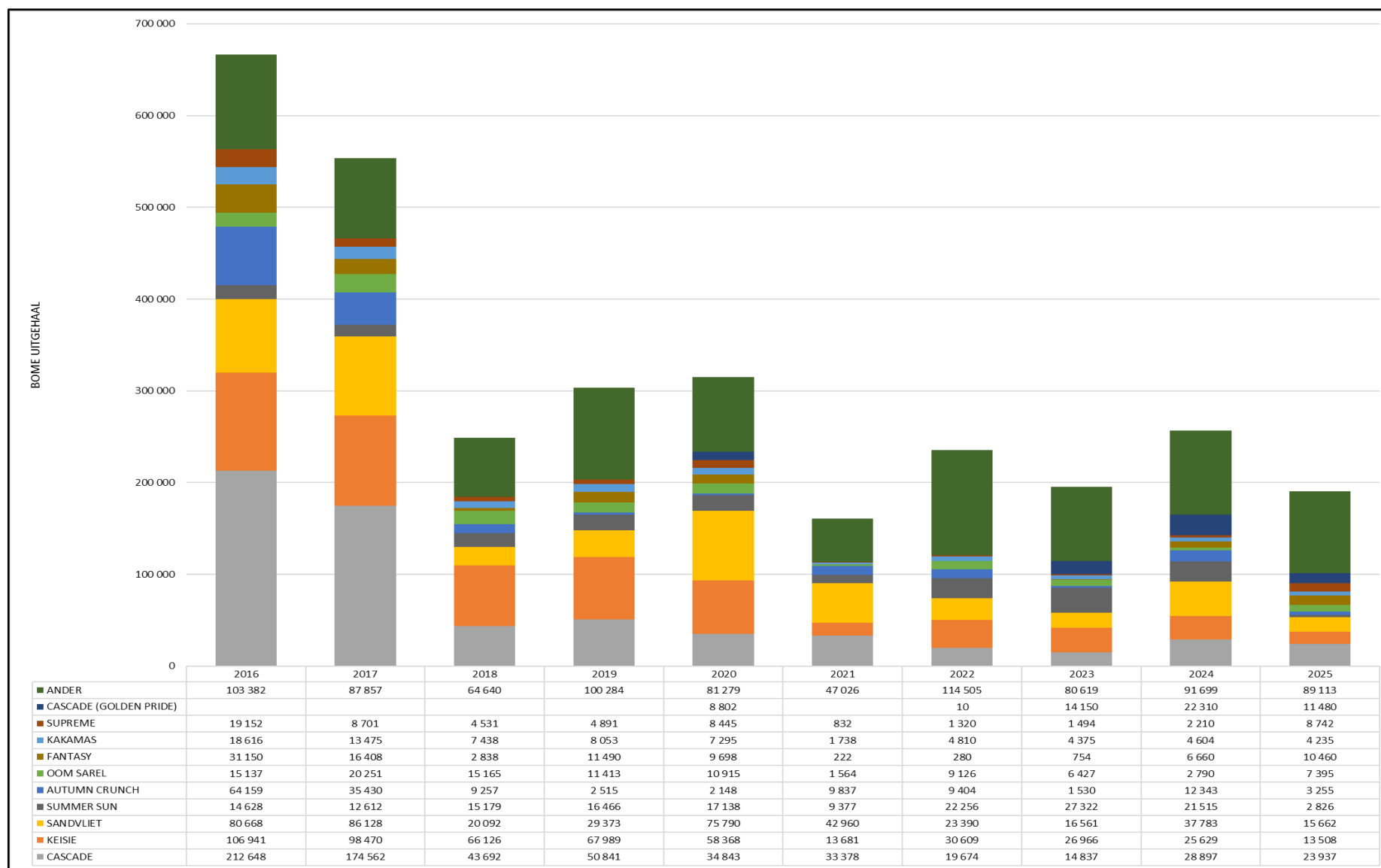
Graph 4 Stone fruit trees propagated 2016 - 2025



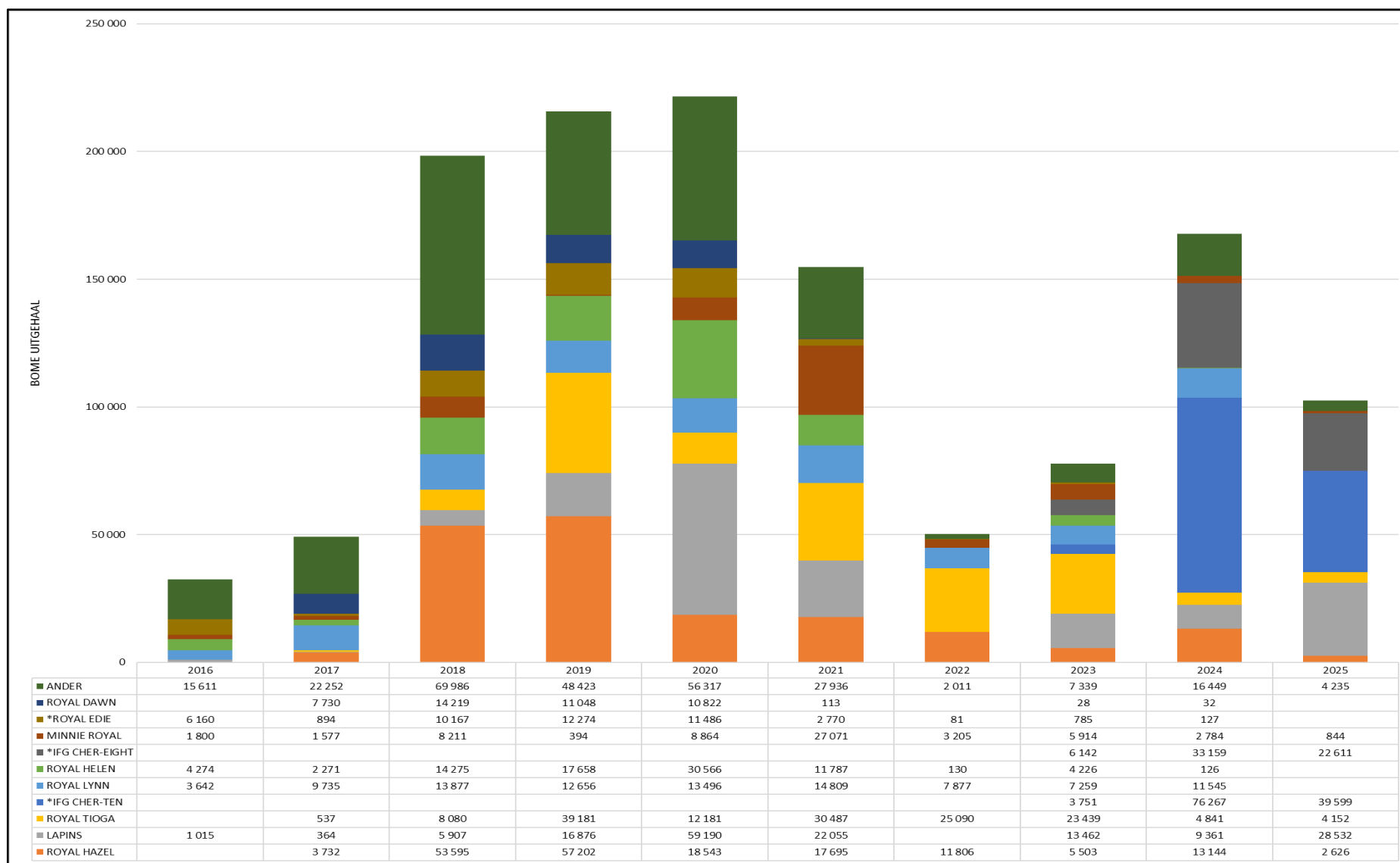
Graph 5 Top 10 plum varieties propagated 2016 – 2025



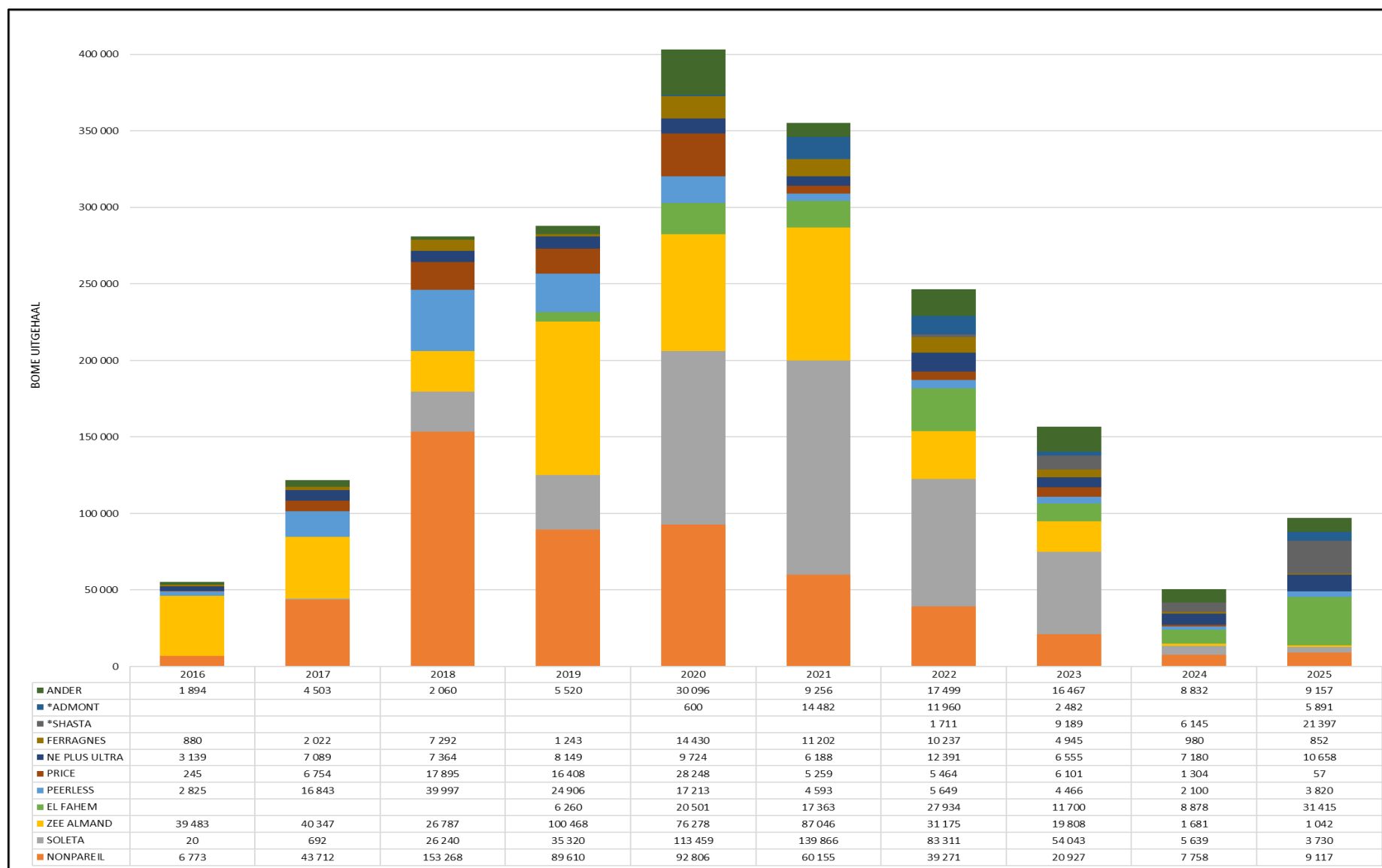
Graph 6 Top 10 nectarine varieties propagated 2016 - 2025



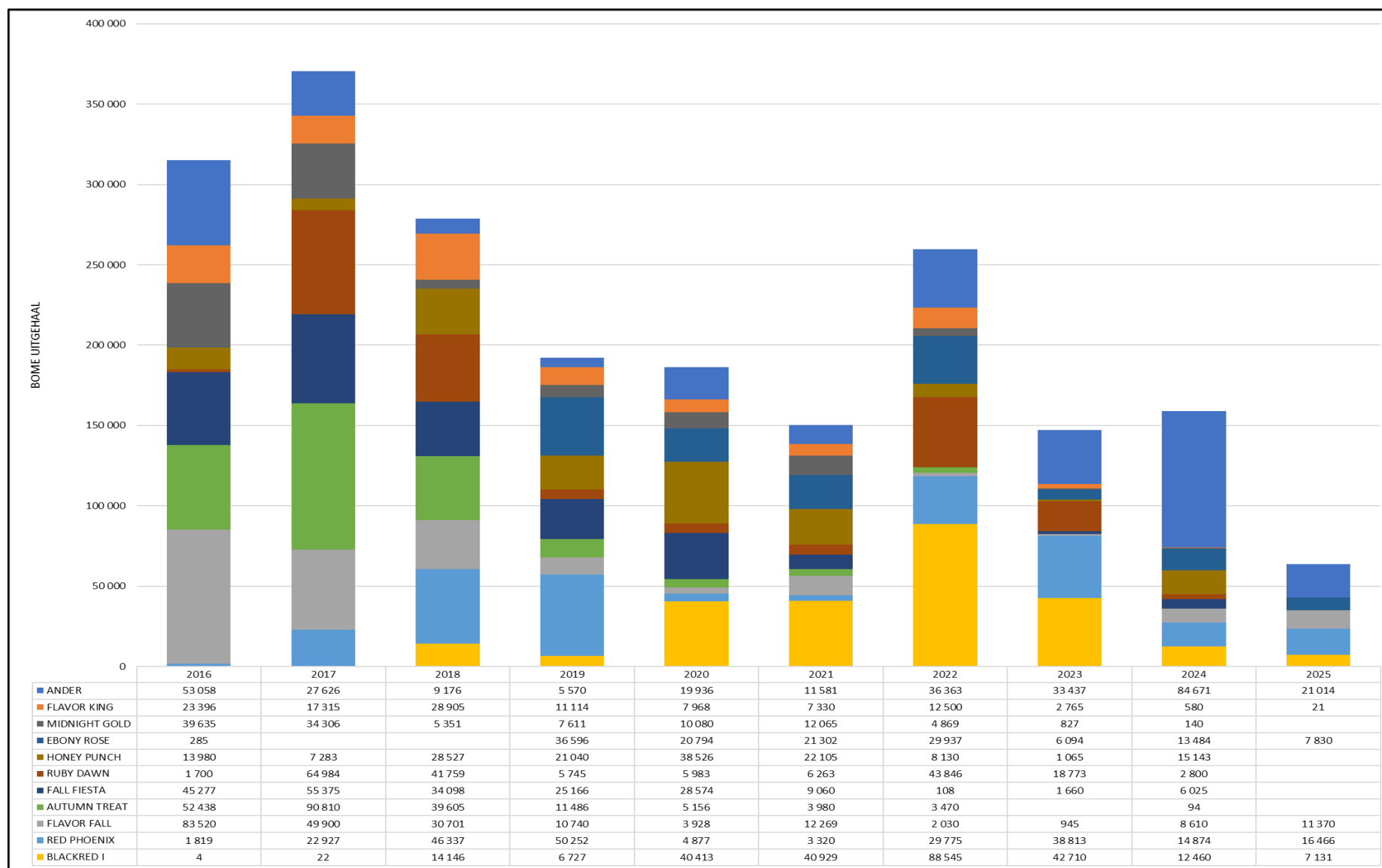
Graph 7 Top 10 peach varieties propagated 2016 - 2025



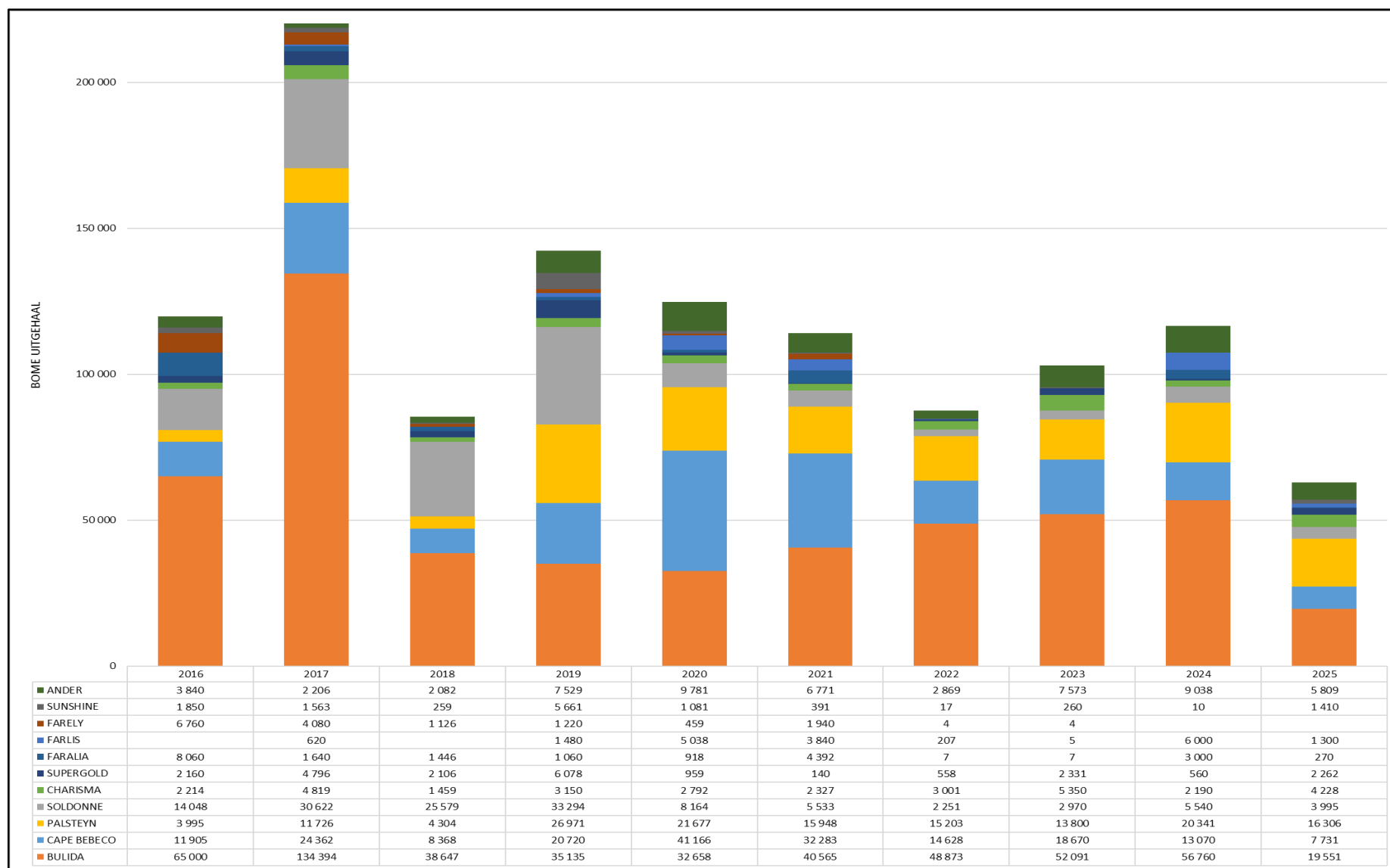
Graph 8 Top 10 cherry varieties propagated 2016 – 2025



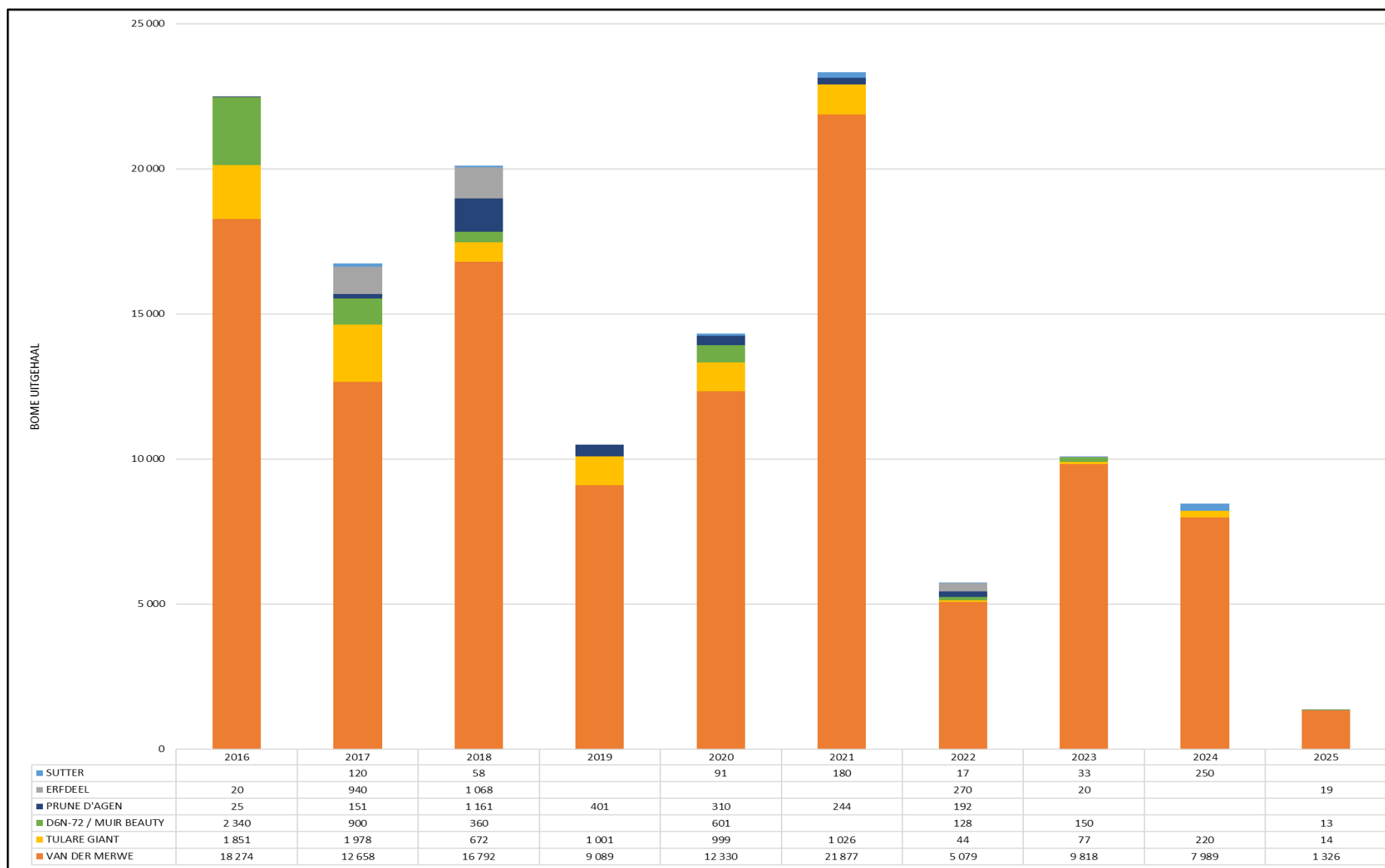
Graph 9 Top 10 almond varieties propagated 2016 - 2025



Graph 10 Top 10 interspecific varieties propagated 2016 - 2025



Graph 11 Top 10 apricot varieties propagated 2016 - 2025



Graph 12 Prune varieties propagated 2016 - 2025

8.4 Rootstocks utilised

The rootstocks used in 2025 are summarised in **Table 9**, showing the number of rootstocks per fruit type along with their respective statuses as it was issued.

TABLE 9 Rootstocks utilised in nurseries in 2025

FRUIT TYPE	BLUE	CAND	O	TOTAL
POME FRUIT				
APPLES	1 181 381	1 946 901	656 488	3 784 770
PEARS & QUINCES	793 163	71 362	141 162	1 005 687
TOTAL	1 974 544	2 018 263	797 650	4 790 457
STONE FRUIT				
PLUMS	490 240	71 778	5 835	567 853
PEACHES	188 223	17 626	89 999	295 848
NECTARINES	186 234	44 318	18 844	249 396
CHERRIES		4 171	150 775	154 946
ALMONDS	118 655	3 400	27 433	149 488
APRICOTS	63 513	7 384	59 488	130 385
INTERSPECIFICS	89 172	837	4 212	94 221
PRUNES	1 546			1 546
TOTAL	1 137 583	149 514	356 586	1 643 683
GRAND TOTAL	3 112 127	2 167 777	1 154 236	6 434 140

The percentage of certified rootstocks utilised in 2025, increased from 67% in 2024 to 82%.

The key rootstock varieties, along with their statuses, used in 2025 are provided in **Table 10**.

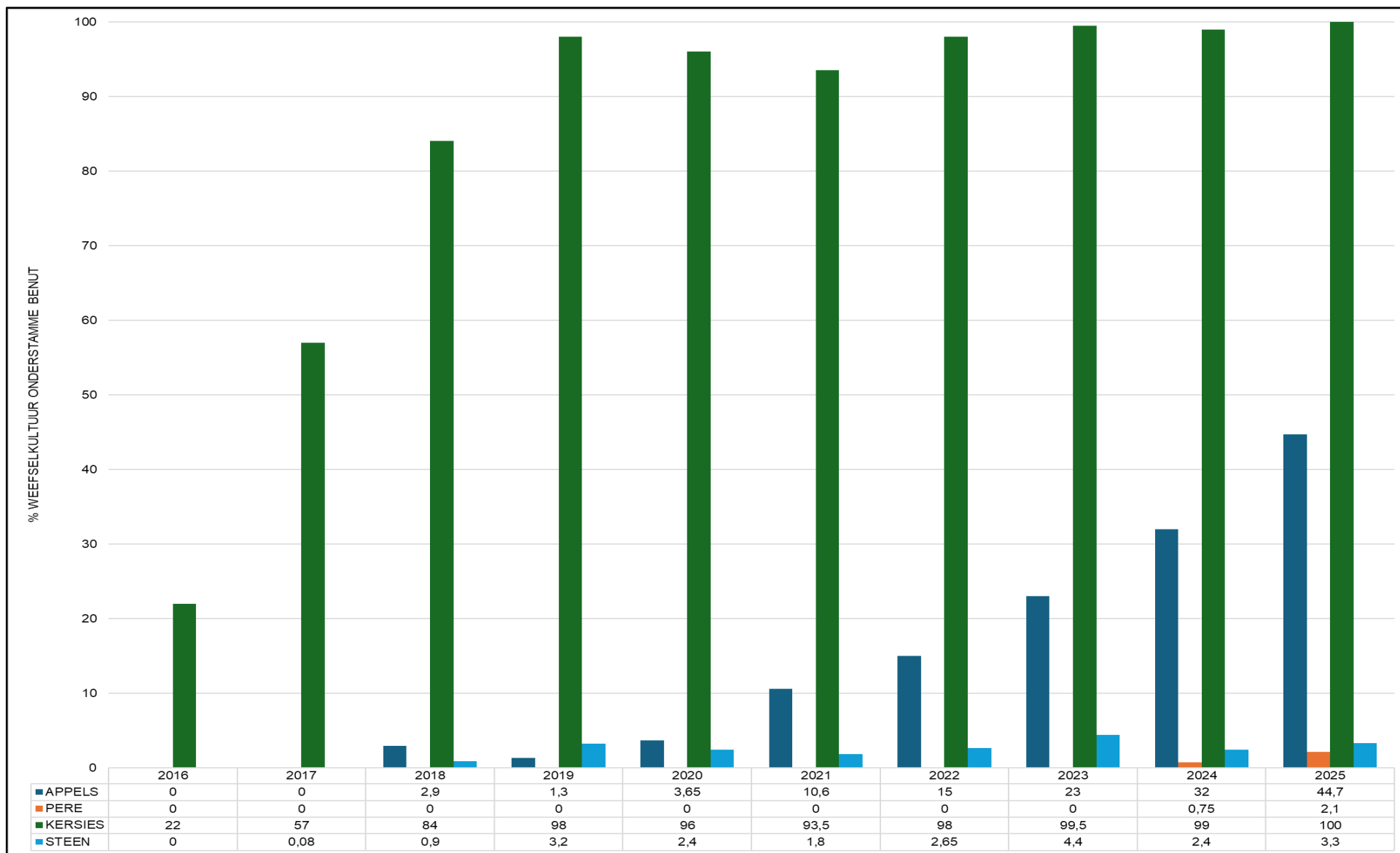
TABLE 10 Key rootstocks utilised in 2025

VARIETY	BLUE	CAND	O	TOTAL
APPLES				
G 778	44 357	1 007 613	250 951	1 302 921
M 7	665 580	33 703	55 533	754 816
G 890		336 600	39 871	376 471
MM 109	241 976	16 132	50 123	308 231
M 9 T337	4 318	76 566	157 153	238 037
M 9 NIC29		200 324	9 966	210 290
M 9 EMLA	106 986	22 982	21 124	151 092
G 202	43 807	78 256	3 454	125 517
G 222	52 831	7 500	36 995	97 326
G 228		59 231	11 911	71 142
G 757		51 034	11 377	62 411
<i>G 213</i>		<i>37 255</i>	<i>5 211</i>	<i>42 466</i>
<i>OTHER (6 VAR)</i>	<i>21 526</i>	<i>19 705</i>	<i>2 819</i>	<i>44 050</i>
PEARS				
BA 29	483 828	66 200	53 992	604 020
BP 1	307 879		8 000	315 879
D 6			56 756	56 756
<i>OHXFD40</i>		<i>5 162</i>	<i>22 414</i>	<i>27 576</i>
QUINCE C51	1 440			1 440
<i>OTHER (1 VAR)</i>	<i>16</i>			<i>16</i>
CHERRIES				
BROKSEC		3 835	68 876	72 711
BROKFOREST			61 954	61 954
<i>WEIGI 2</i>			<i>17 094</i>	<i>17 094</i>
<i>OTHER (6 VAR)</i>		<i>336</i>	<i>2 851</i>	<i>3 187</i>
OTHER STONE FRUIT				
MARIANNA	423 575	34 713		458 288
VIKING	264 818		84	264 902
KAKAMAS	76 755	8 300	95 167	180 222
FLORDAGUARD	109 890	5 909	23 341	139 140
ATLAS	60 177	72 161	1 530	133 868
GF 677	88 076	7 580		95 656
ROYAL	23 811		21 820	45 631
SOLDONNE	810		31 319	32 129
BY 520-9	16 216	2 052	10 120	28 388
AVIMAG	19 403	8 178		27 581
SAPO 778	22 831			22 831
ROYAL/MARIANNA	12 200		5 480	17 680
MARIDON	13 740			13 740
<i>OTHER (13 VAR)</i>	<i>5 281</i>	<i>6 450</i>	<i>16 950</i>	<i>28 681</i>

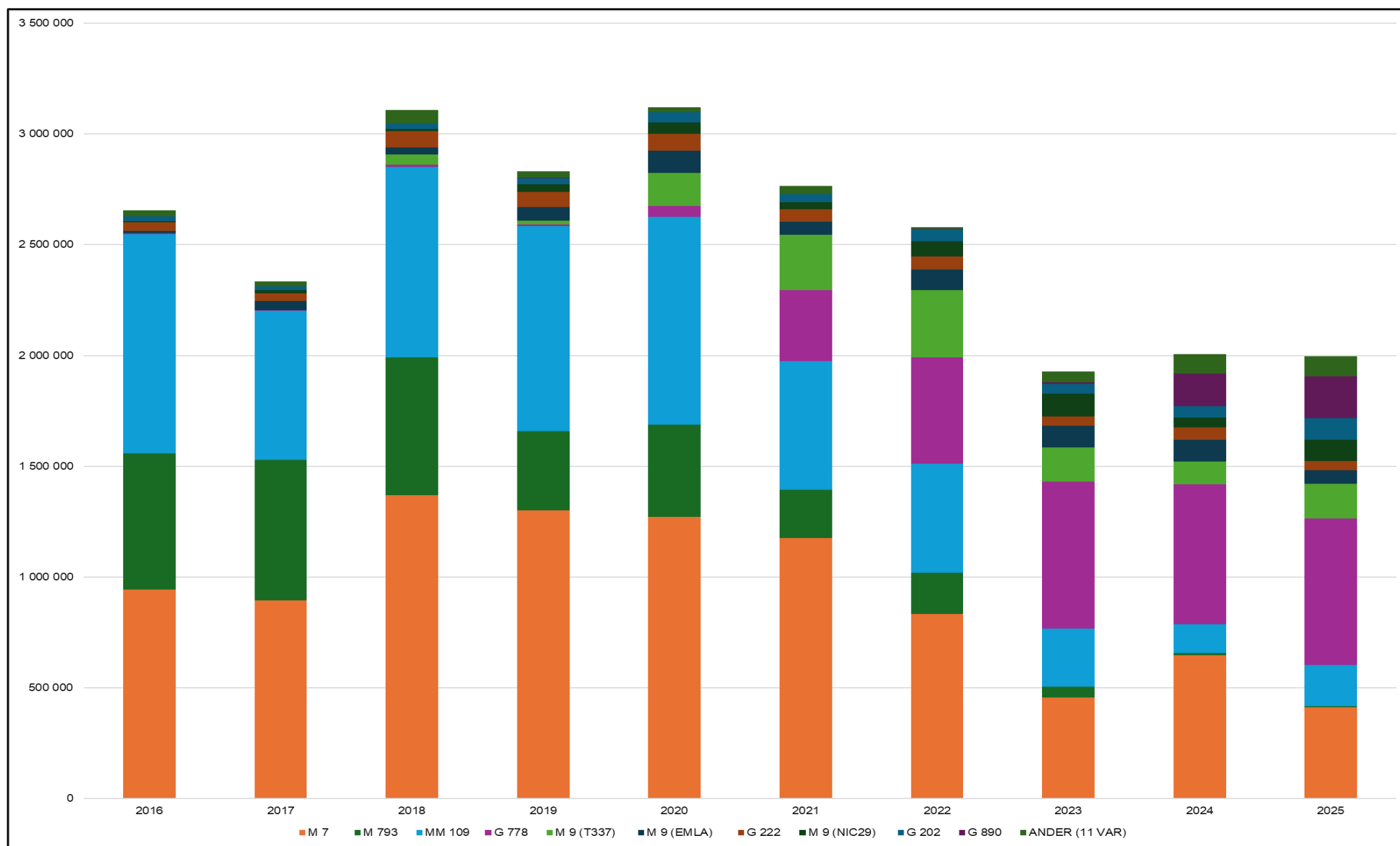
Varieties indicated in italics are experimental and do not yet appear on the official variety list.

The rootstocks used for the propagation of deciduous fruit trees have gradually started to change over the last few years from the traditional varieties to newer varieties. There has also been a gradual movement away from the traditional sources of rootstock plant material. **Graph 13** shows the increase in the use of tissue culture rootstocks over the last ten years for the different fruit groups.

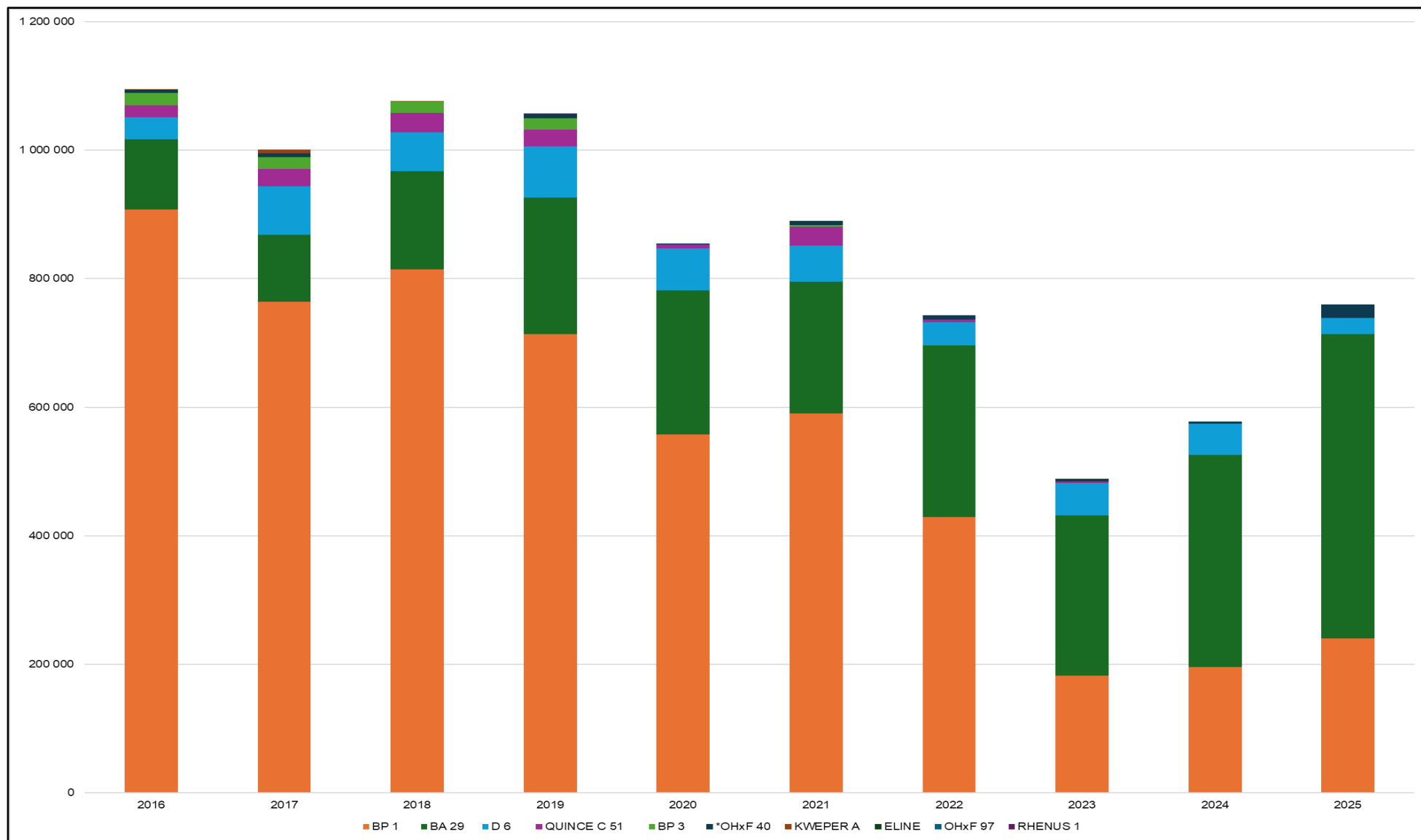
Graphs 14 - 17 provide the top 10 rootstocks for the different fruit types propagated over the last ten years. The graphs show the total number of rootstocks budded for the relevant year.



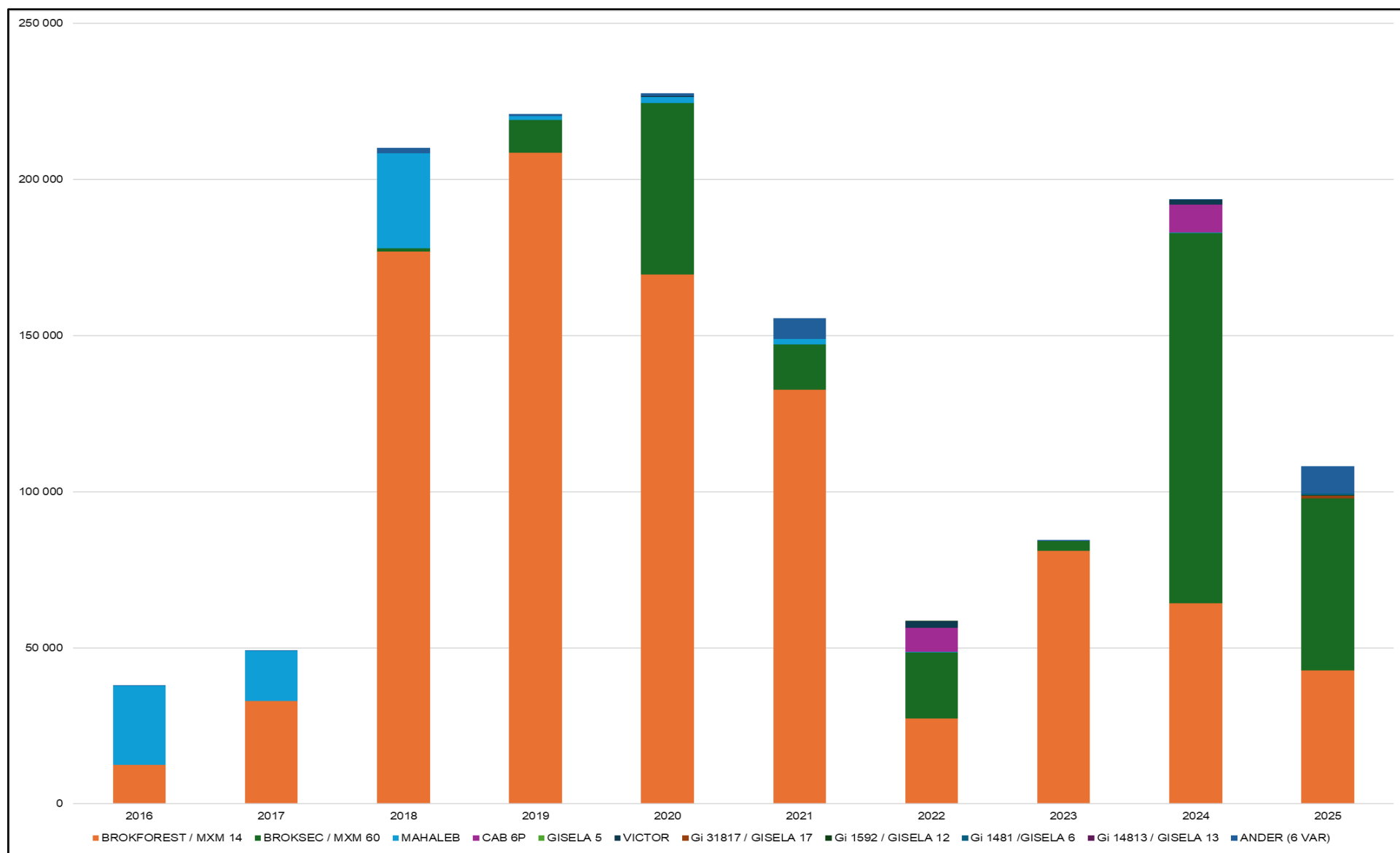
GRAPH 13 The percentage of tissue culture rootstocks utilised per fruit type 2016 – 2025



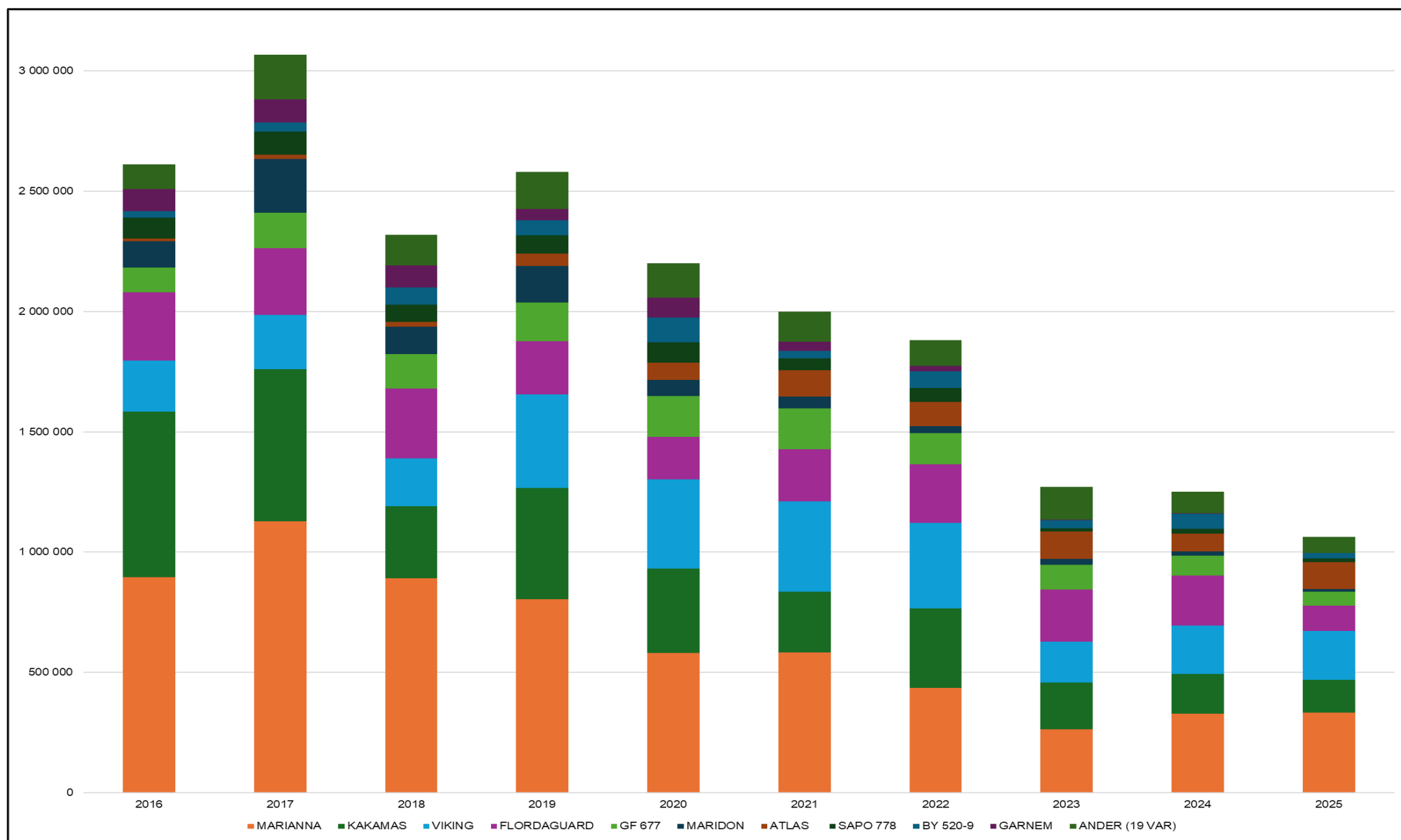
GRAPH 14 Apple rootstocks utilised 2016 – 2025



GRAPH 15 Pear/Quince rootstocks utilised 2016 – 2025



GRAPH 16 Cherry rootstocks utilised 2016 – 2025



GRAPH 17 Stone fruit rootstocks utilised 2016 – 2025

9. SUMMARY

According to the Constitution of the DPA, the objective of the association is to promote the maximum use of certified deciduous fruit propagating material by all sectors of the deciduous fruit industry.

Achieving this objective requires that as many deciduous fruit breeding programmes and entities that import and manage varieties as possible participate in the Scheme. The amendments made to the Constitution aim to open up the Scheme to increase participation.

The improvement in the number of certified nursery trees from 30% in 2024 to 44% in 2025 can be largely attributed to the inclusion of tissue culture rootstocks in the Scheme. The percentage of certified rootstocks utilised improved from 67% to 82% over the same period, confirming that the largest gap in terms of certification still lies with the certification of the scion plant material.

The Action Plans of the DPA Plant Improvement Plan aim, among other things, to optimally improve the quality of plant material within the scheme, while also looking at ways to make the processes as cost-effective as possible. Part of improving the quality of plant material includes putting in place effective virus elimination for the deciduous fruit industry, as well as optimising the testing of plant material for both viruses and other pathogens of economic importance.

There is also an action plan that focuses on bringing the value of plant improvement and certification to the attention of producers and thereby create a demand for certified plant material. Both PIOs and nurseries will therefore have to strive to have the maximum certified propagation material available.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The DPA would like to express its gratitude to the producer organisations, who continued to make a large financial contribution to ensure that the DPA could continue with its activities in 2025. Thanks also to the PIOs and nurseries who were registered with the Deciduous Fruit Plant Certification Scheme in 2025 for their contribution to the provision of good quality propagating material to the deciduous fruit industry.

Thank you also to all the individuals who served on the DPA Board, Technical Committee as well as other working groups, and in particular to the team involved in the rollout of the Plant Improvement Plan.

Hugh Campbell
DPA Chairman

Rachel Kriel
DPA Secretary