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Experimental study and numerical modeling for drying grapes under solar greenhouse

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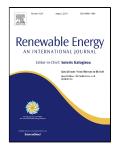
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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

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2	greenhouse
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9	
10	Abstract
11	Renewable energy, in particular solar energy, is becoming world widely spread. Solar energy is a non-
12	polluting viable and economical source used in several fields such as drying. This work presents a
13	combined numerical and experimental study of grape drying in a mixed mode using a solar greenhouse
14	dryer. The experimental set up consists mainly of a solar air collector and a chapel-shaped greenhouse
15	The experiments were carried out in two steps. First, the solar collector was tested to study its
16	performance before being coupled to the greenhouse. Second, the system was used to perform drying
17	experiments. The variation of the product moisture content and the principal drying parameters were
18	analyzed. The collector efficiency with a flow rate equal to 0.05 kg/s changed between 29.63 % and
19	88.52 % for the drying days. The moisture content of grape was reduced to 0.22 (g water/g dry matter)
20	from its initial moisture content of 5.5 (g water/g dry matter) in 128 hours.
21	A mathematical model was developed in order to simulate the system in the appropriate conditions or
22	TRNSYS software.
23	The simulation results were compared to the experimental data. Also, the new model was compared
24	with the classical one for validation purposes.
25	Keywords: grape solar greenhouse mixed dryer TRNSYS simulation

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