Book Reviews

Kerry B.R., Bourne J.M. 2002. A Manual for Research on *Verticillium chlamydosporium*, a Potential Biological Control Agent for Root-knot Nematodes. IOBC/OILB – WPRS/SROP, Gent, 84 pp. ISBN 92-9067-138-2.

This valuable Manual was produced in connection with an European Community funded project FAIRS5-PL.-97-3444 entitled "Development of a sustainable strategy for the management of root-knot nematodes in vegetable crops in southern Europe – an alternative to the use of methyl bromide". In fact, as methyl bromide will be withdrawn from the market in 2005 there is hope that the nematophagous fungus *Verticillium chlamydosporium* may be marketed as a commercial bioinsecticide against *Meloidogyne* spp. attacking various crops.

First part of the book "General Introduction" has only one chapter titled "The use of *Verticillum chlamydosporium* as a biological control agents" (p. 1–12) concerning development of biological strategies and pointing future research priorities.

The second part titled "Description of methods used to evaluate *V. chlamydosporium* as a biological control agent" contains 21 chapters devoted to various specific research methods or aspects of studies on *V. chlamydosporium* and *Meloidogyne* spp. The titles of these chapters are following: 2. Isolation of *V. chlamydosporium* from soil, roots and nematodes" (p. 15–16). 3. Estimation of growth of *V. chlamydosporium* isolates on semi-selective medium (p. 17). 4. Extraction of chlamydospores of *V. chlamydosporium* from soil (p. 18). 5. Storage (p.19). 6. Identification of *Verticillium* from nematode eggs (p. 20–21). 7. Production of inoculum (p. 22–23). 8. Inoculation of soil with *V. chlamydosporium* (p. 24). 9. Screening *V. chlamydosporium* isolates for their potential as control agents (p. 25–27). 10. Analysis (p. 28–29). 11. Estimating populations of nematodes in soil (p. 30). 12. Estimating populations of nematodes in roots (p. 31–32). 13. Visualization of the fungus in the rhizosphere (p. 33). 14. Microscopy techniques (light microscopy, electron microscopy, scanning electron microscopy, field emission SEM, low-temperature SEM and cryotrimming) (p. 34–43). 15. Impact of *V. chlamydosporium* on plant symbiotic micro-organisms (p. 44–46). 16. Nematode culturing and extraction (p. 47). 17. *Verticillum chlamydosporium* isolate selection and pot tests (p. 48–56). 18. Field trials for evaluation of *V. chlamydosporium* as a control agent of *Meloidogyne* in vegetable crops (p. 57–59). 19. Identification of root-knot nematodes (p. 60–63). 20. Electrophoresis of enzymes by the automated miniaturized system (Phast system, Pharmacia) (p. 64–65). 21. The development of molecular markers and the polymerase chain reaction to identify specific isolates of *Verticillum chlamydosporium* (p.66–74).

Then follow four appendices. I. Stock solutions for polyacrylamide gel preparation; electrophoresis and staining (p. 75–76). II. Media used (p. 77). III. Project participants (p. 78–79). IV. Selected bibliography for *Verticillum chlamydosporium* (p. 80–84).

This book will serve as a valuable source of information to all persons working on plant pathogenic nematodes and their biological control. I strongly recommend this manual for all plant protection libraries.

Jerzy J. Lipa
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