

Study of bio-efficacy of entomopathogenic fungi for suppression of termite incidence in maize

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ABSTRACT

Extensive use of chemical insecticides for termite management has led to hazardous residual impact on plant health. Moreover, they are very expensive and also toxic to human beings. Therefore, there is a demand to develop an alternative safe economic and eco-friendly bio agent to control the termite population under maize field condition. In the present investigation, the bio-agents *i.e.* *Beauveria bassiana*, *Metarrhizium anisopliae* and *Paecilomyces fumosoroseus* were used @ 5×10^{13} spore /ha and @ 5×10^{13} spore /ha FYM to enrich formulation and all the bio-agents have shown the promising results in *in vivo* in suppression of termite population in maize field. Similarly, the antagonistic fungi improved the germination as well as reduced the plant mortality caused by termite and improved the yield of maize as compared to untreated control. Result of entire study indicated a possibility of obtaining a powerful suppression of termite population by using plant beneficial bio-agents.

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