

Management of *Meloidogyne incognita* by *Pseudomonas fluorescens* and *Trichoderma viride* in mulberry

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ABSTRACT

The efficacy of commercial formulations of the plant growth promoting rhizobacterium *Pseudomonas fluorescens* and the antagonistic fungus *Trichoderma viride* on the root-knot nematode, *Meloidogyne incognita*, infesting mulberry, *Morus alba*, were evaluated under field conditions. The effects of applications to the soil of formulations of the bio-control agents, alone and in combination at the rates of 3 and 6 g/plot, were compared with those of the nematicide carbofuran 3G at the rate of 1 kg a.i./ha and controls. The combination of *P. fluorescens* (6 g/plot) and *T. viride* (6 g/plot) was effective in reducing the population of *M. incognita* in soil and root and suppressing root-galling of mulberry. This treatment also improved shoot and root development and increased leaf area, leaf contents of protein, nitrogen and chlorophyll, silkworm larval weight, cocoon weight, shell weight and shell ratio of silkworm larvae fed on leaves of mulberry infested with *M. incognita*.

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