

Biological Control of Pythium Root Rot in Container Flower Production Using Microbial Inoculants

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Abstract:

The effectiveness of microbial products, vermicompost and vermicompost extracts for *Pythium* root rot suppression in young transplants were compared in two studies under typical greenhouse production conditions, using first cucumber and then geranium (*Pelargonium*) seedlings. Protective drench and preincorporation treatments in a standard soilless mix substrate were included, and were challenged with *Pythium* inoculum. Data were analyzed and results were shared with growers at several extension meetings in NY during winter 2012-13. Results should aid growers who seek alternatives to chemical control methods or those who want to protect edible/organic crops.