Management of seedling rot of chilli (*Capsicum annuum* L.) using *Trichoderma* spp. and fluorescent pseudomonads (*Pseudomonas fluorescens*)

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Abstract

Isolates of *Trichoderma* (*T. harzianum* TR20 and *T. pseudokoningii* TR17) and fluorescent pseudomonads (*Pseudomonas fluorescens* P28 and P51) were evaluated (alone and in combination) under greenhouse and field conditions for efficacy in suppressing rhizoctonia root rot incidence and promoting plant growth in chilli. The combination, *T. harzianum* (TR20) + *P. fluorescens* (P28), was most effective in reducing disease incidence (66.7% more efficient than the control), but was at par with copper oxychloride (0.3%). Highest per plant yield also was recorded in the treatment combination TR20 + P28, followed by *T. pseudokoningii* (TR17) + *P. fluorescens* (P51). *T. pseudokoningii* (TR17) and *T. harzianum* (TR20) when applied alone also significantly increased the yield per plant and was superior to both the pseudomonads applied individually.

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