

BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF *Phytophthora citrophthora* AND *P. nicotianae* var. *Parasitica* On Citros BY *Trichoderma koningii* AND *T. harzianum*.

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Phytophthora citrophthora and *P. nicotianae* var. *parasitica* are considered to be the most serious soil borne disease affecting citros in Brazil. Biological control of *Phytophthora* in the orchard is a management option that may offer potential. *Trichoderma* spp. are well documented as effective biological control agents, including some pythiaceous fungi. Two isolates of *Trichoderma harzianum* (Th. 13 and Th. 9) and one isolate of *T. koningii* (Tk.3), Isolated from *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* sclerotia, were evaluated against different isolates of *Phytophthora* *in vitro* and in a greenhouse bioassay. Isolates Th. 13 and Th.9 parasited both *Phytophthora* species. Isolate Tk.3 completely inhibited the mycelial growth of *Phytophthora*. Isolate Tk. 3 produces a toxic metabolite that inhibit the growth of *Phytophthora*. Isolate Th. 9 consistently was superior to all other isolates in reducing the root disease. Citros seedlings survived an average of 90% whereas those in the control survived only 30-50%.