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## AVOCADO (*PERSEA AMERICANA* MILL.) FIELD DISEASES IN THE MOTRIL AREA (GRANADA, SPAIN) AND THEIR CONTROL USING A TRICHODERMA SPP. BIOFORMULA

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Avocado (*Persea americana*) is a major crop worldwide. Its planted surface has considerably increased in Spain and, for this reason, it was necessary to determine and evaluate the fungal diseases present in organic orchards in the Motril growing area (Granada province).

The pathogens *Phytophthora cinnamomi* Rands, *Fusarium sp.*, *Verticillium albo-atrum* Reinke and Berthold, and *Rosellinia necatrix* Prill. were isolated and identified from the roots of young and mature trees, whereas *Botryodiplodia theobromae* Pat. was observed in the aerial part of the trees.

Soil populations of *P. cinnamomi*, *Fusarium sp.* and *V. albo-atrum* were determined and the incidence and severity of the damage caused by these pathogens were quantified. The most important was *P. cinnamomi*. A *Trichoderma* spp.-based formula was evaluated for disease control with satisfactory results.