

## EXPERIMENTS OF BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF AVOCADO WHITE ROOT ROT

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The effectiveness of eight mass isolates of *Trichoderma* as agents of biological control to avocado white root rot caused by *Rosellinia necatrix* has been studied. These isolates were inoculated once (Experiment 1) and twice (Experiment 2), together with a virulent isolate of the pathogen, on 3 and 7-month-old avocado seedlings derived from *in vitro* embryo culture. The epidemic progress of the disease, and the population level of *Trichoderma*, in the soil as well as in the rhizoplane of the plant, have been evaluated.

In the younger plants there were no differences among the treatments, and none of the isolates of the antagonist controlled the disease. In the older plants, the isolates CH 255 and CH 316, were selected as potential antagonists to the pathogen.