

Basic and Concept on microbial control – potential for FAW management

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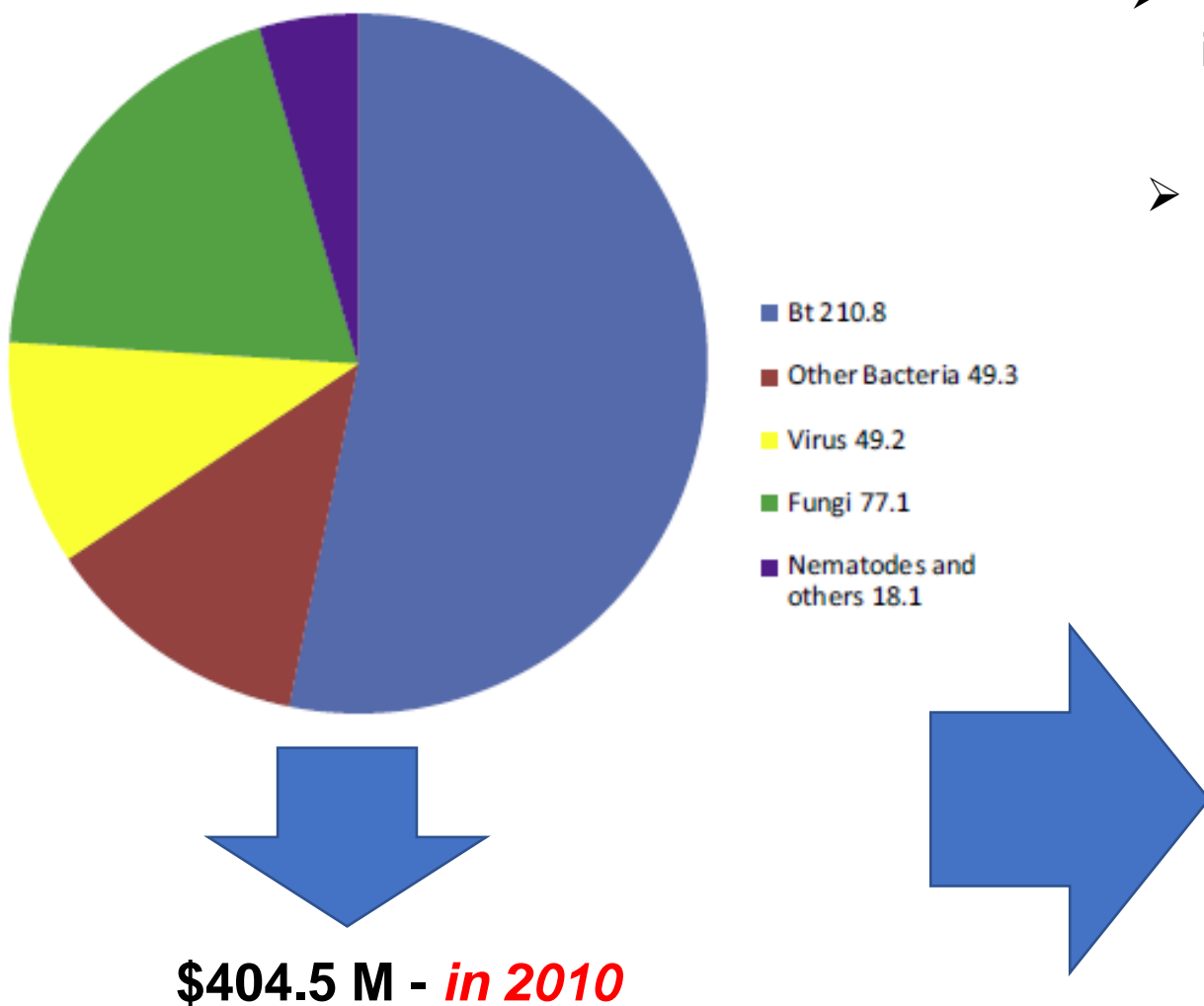


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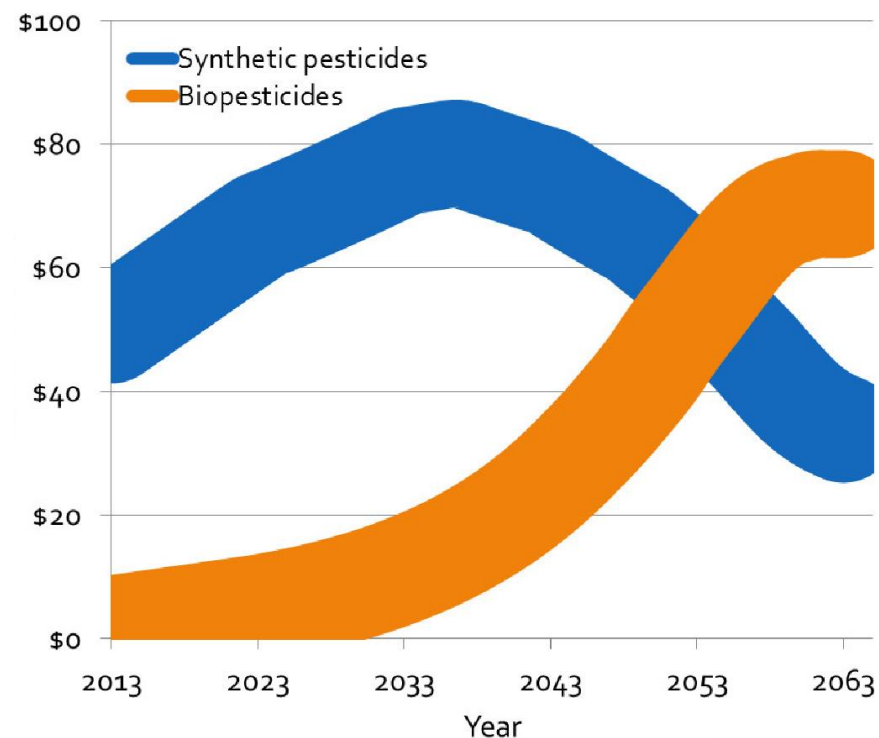
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Estimated world biopesticide sales & alternative to pesticides

- Global chemical market is projected to grow from **\$70.24 bn** in 2019 to **\$101.64 bn** in 2026 ~ **5.42%**
- Biopesticides **\$4.4 billion** in 2019; **\$10.6 billion** by 2027; will match chemicals by 2050

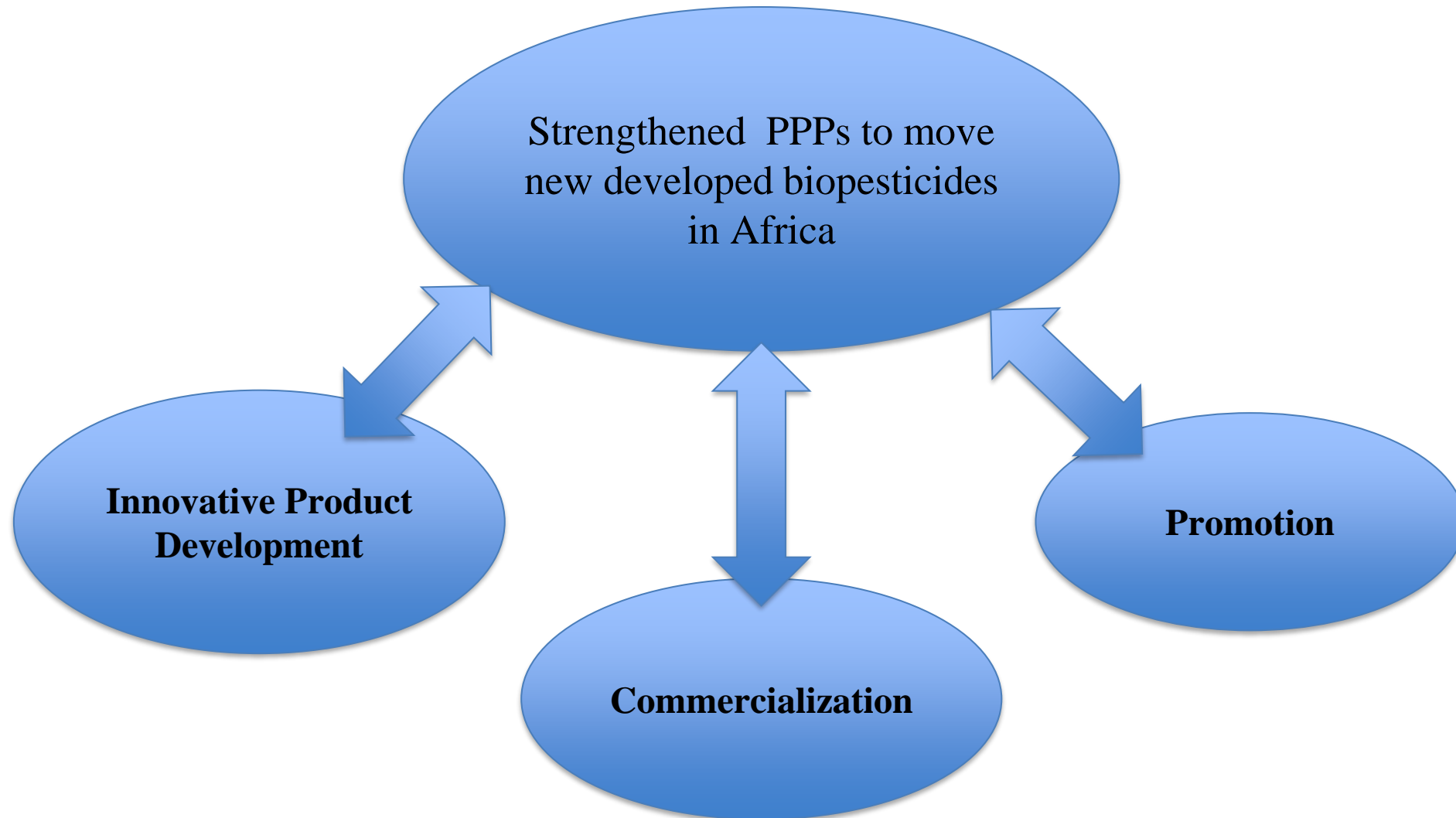


Predicted growth of Biopesticides sector



Source: Lux Research, Inc.
www.luxresearchinc.com

PPPs to move new developed biopesticides in Africa



Arthropod Pathology Unit



- ❖ Research and innovations on biopesticides
- ❖ Bioprospecting for entomopathogens
- ❖ Microbes and pests' identification and characterization
- ❖ Maintains a long-term repository of entomopathogens
- ❖ Capacity-building in insect pathology research
- ❖ Commercialization in partnership with private sector



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Global food security & why pests control?



A recent study showed that, insect invasions cost at least \$162.7 billion to the global economy & insects reduced the global agricultural production by 10- 16%

- ❖ While associated health costs exceed \$6.9 billion per year
- ❖ Invasive species are costing Africa \$3.66 trillion per year — *Nature* 592, 571-576 (2021)

Strategies used to overcome pest losses

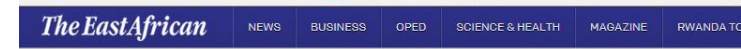
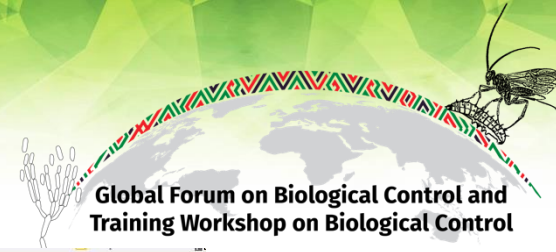
- ✓ Increased & abusive use of pesticides/ insecticides (Costly, resistance development, health issues, residues accumulation, non target effects, etc.)
- ✓ Ecological approaches (Resistant host plants, Quarantine, Barriers, Trap crops, Crop diversity, etc.)
- ✓ GMO
- ✓ Cultural practices & Physical control and others...
- ✓ **Biological control** (Predators, Parasitoids, **Pathogens (biopesticides)** & Biorationals
- More sustainable, environmentally friendly, cost effective, etc.)



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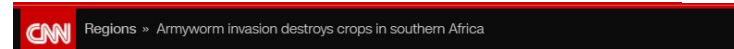
Invasion of FAW - Over dependence on pesticides



Rwanda faces hunger over fall armyworm invasion

SATURDAY APRIL 22 2017

Are there sustainable alternative approaches to pesticides? Yes, Nature regulate itself – How?



Zambia is using its air force against the pests.



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Ecosystem & entomopathogens



Ecosystem = community of living organisms in conjunction with the non-living components of their environment & interacting as a system

Ecosystem services = Benefits people obtain from ecosystems. The four categories of ecosystem services – *Supporting, Provisioning, Regulating & Cultural*
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecosystem_services

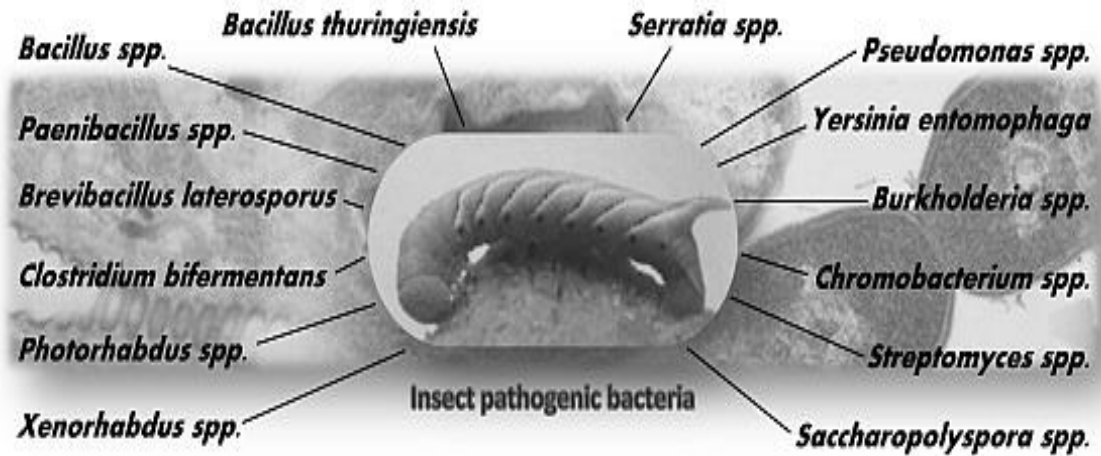
Entomopathogens can also play diverse roles in nature including living as **Epiphytes** or **Endophytes** – microorganisms that colonize internal plant tissues without having any symptomatic effects on the host plant



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Entomopathogens = Insect Pathogens



Fungi - *Beauveria bassiana*, *Metarhizium anisopliae*, *Hypocrea lixii*, *Isaria sinclairii*, *Lecanicillium spp.*, etc.

Bacteria - *Bacillus thuringiensis*: *Bt. kurstaki*, *Bt. aizawai*, *Bt. israelensis*, *Bt. tenebrionis*, *Bt. Japonensis*; *Serratia spp.* & *Paenibacillus popilliae*

Nematodes - *Steinernema carpocapsae*, *S. riobravus*, *S. scapterisci* & *Heterorhabditis bacteriophora*

Viruses - Nuclearpolyhedrosis virus (Japanese Beetle Milky Disease)



Epizootics or epidemics occurred in insect populations & we use these same causal agents as a strategy to control our insect pests ==== **Biopesticides development**

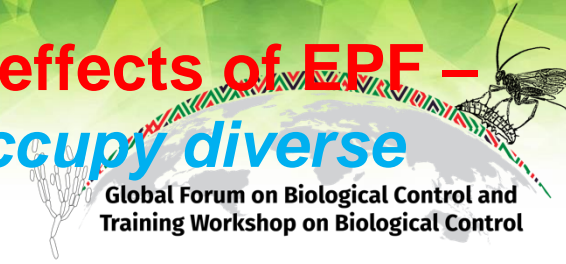
Entomopathogenic fungi (EPF) are considered as important BCAs, traditionally applied in inundative approach

However, they can also play diverse roles in nature including living as **Endophytes & Biofertilizers**

Beauveria bassiana

Gibberella sp.

Above & below ground effects of EPF – “Lifestyle & ability to occupy diverse niches”



✓ Below- and aboveground communities of fungal entomopathogens are different

✓ *Metarhizium anisopliae* is most common belowground, but absent aboveground

✓ *Beauveria bassiana* is most commonly infecting arthropods aboveground

✓ *Metarhizium relyi* – known to infect a lot FAW



Metarhizium anisopliae

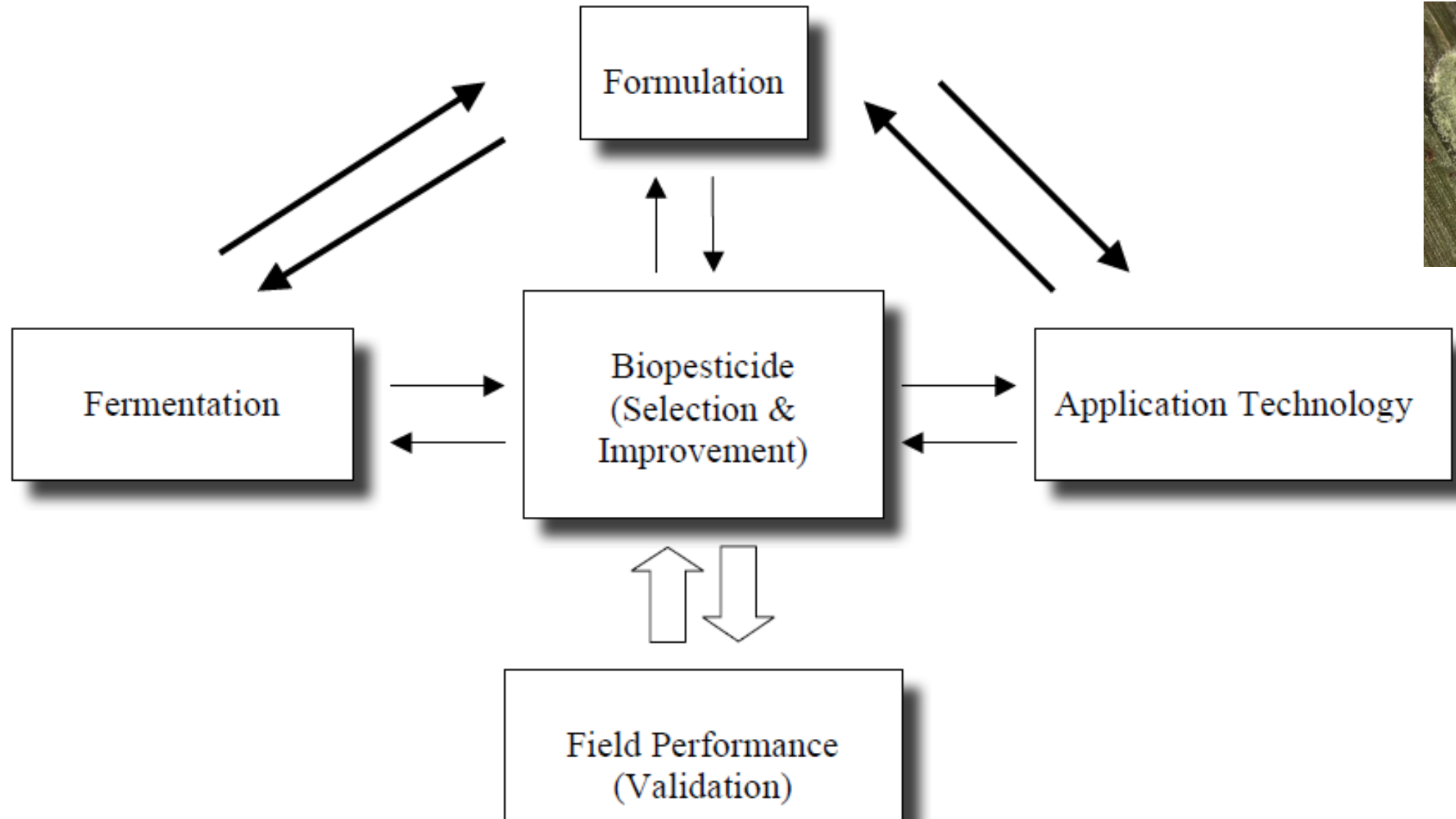


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Strategic framework for development and evaluation of biopesticides



How do we value their service?



- ✓ **Bioprospecting** — Dead, sick, mycosis insects, host plants, soil...
 - ✓ **Isolations & Substrates selection** — Detection and isolation / culture and purification
 - ✓ **Identification** — Morphological and molecular tools
 - ✓ **Bioassays** — reinfection for virulence and efficacy against insect pest
 - ✓ **Formulations** — Aqueous & oil formulations (e.g. *Beauveria bassiana* & *Metarizhium anisopliae*)
 - ✓ **Virulence & Pathogenicity tests** — Conduct bioassays on target pests to characterize the efficacy of the pathogen
 - ✓ **Mass production & Applications** — Inundative & augmentative releases, Autodissemination devices (Pheromone or Lures/ attractants combined with the pathogens)
- Proper formulation of a fungal agent, requires a thorough understanding of not only the **life cycle of the pathogen, but also the biological aspects of both the fungus & the target host**



Fungi isolation technique through surface sterilization & insect bait



- ✓ **Soil** (soil suspension or insect bait: *Galleria mellonella* & *Tenebrio molitor*)
- ✓ **Host plants** (Endophytic fungi)
- ✓ **Seeds** (Seed-borne endophytes)
- ✓ **Insects** (Dead, Infected or Mycosed insects)



Beauveria bassiana
emerging from *Vicia faba* seeds



G. mellonella larva infested
by *M. anispliae*



Endophytic fungal colonies
emerging from plated plant tissue



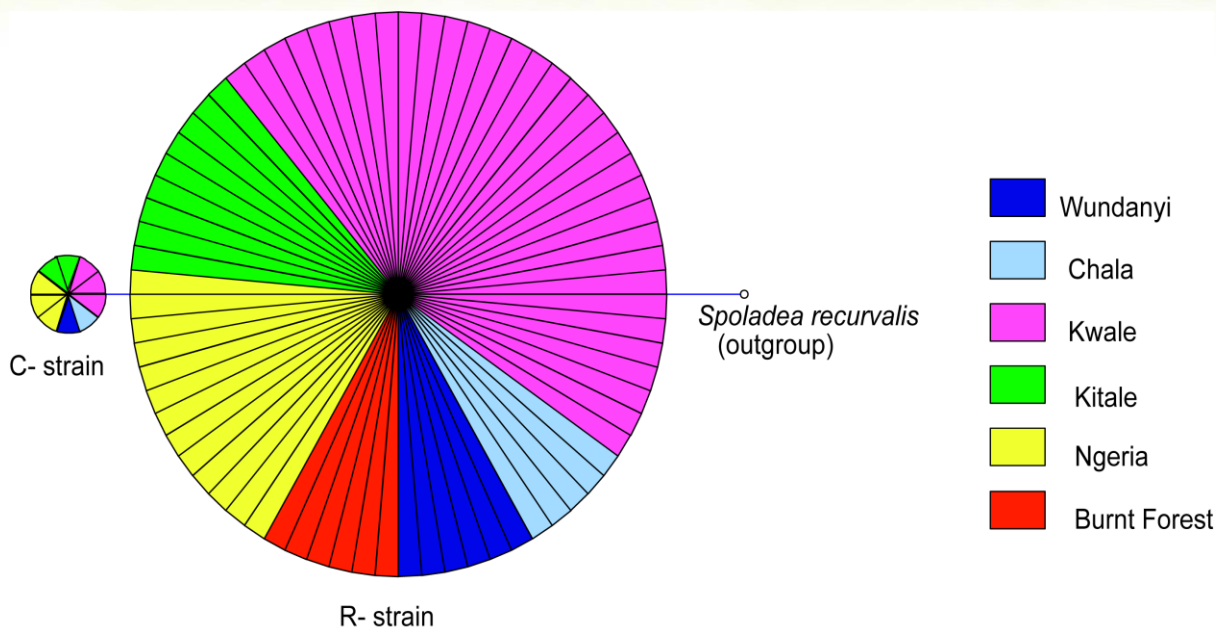
G. mellonella larva infested by
B. bassiana



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FAW diversity and gut microbes in Kenya



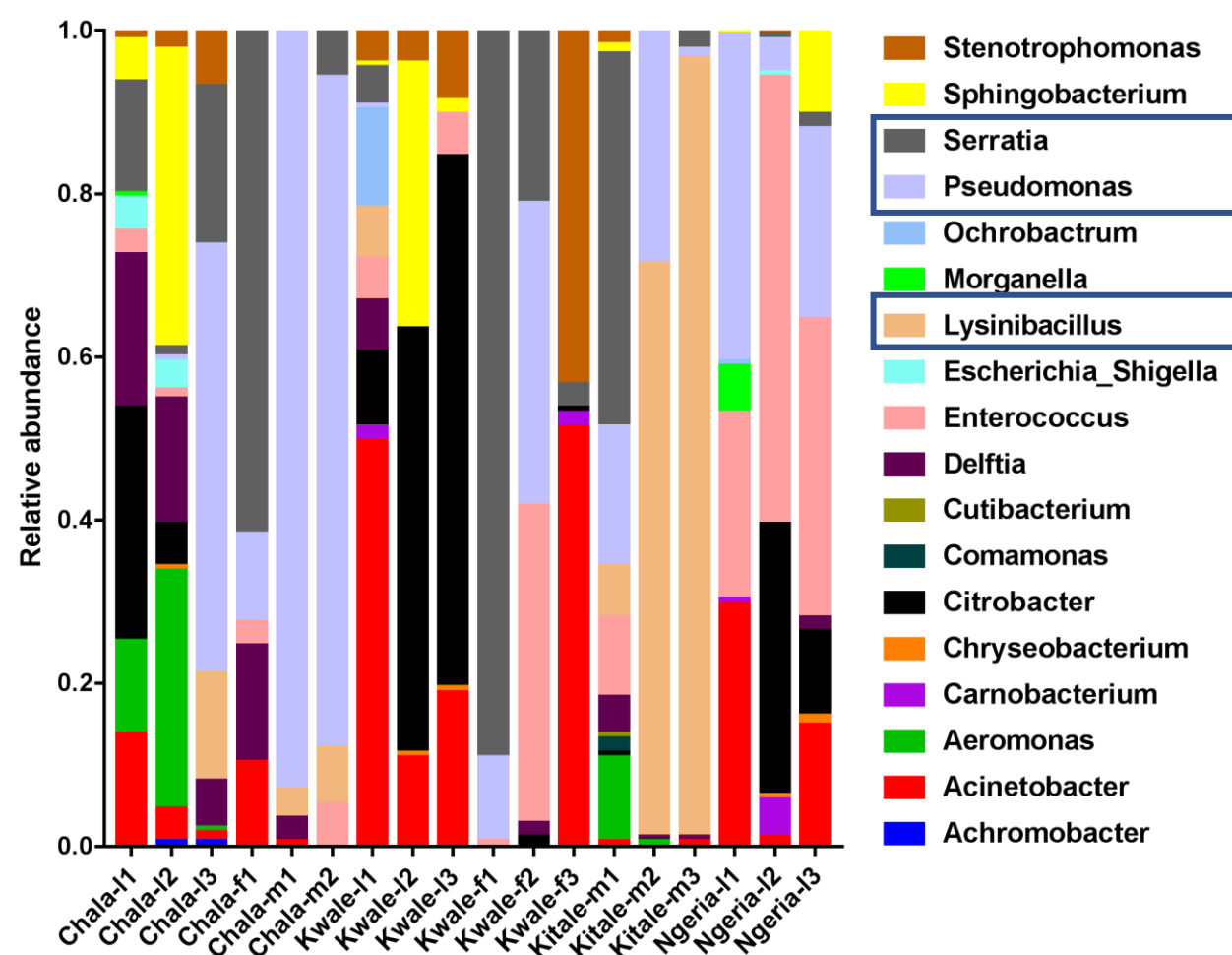
Diversity of fall armyworm, *Spodoptera frugiperda* and their gut bacterial community in Kenya

Joseph Gichuhi¹, Subramanian Sevgan¹, Fathiya Khamis¹,
Johnnie Van den Berg², Hannalene du Plessis², Sunday Ekesi¹ and
Jeremy K. Herren^{1,3}



Metarhizium rileyi has been frequently observed in some of the samples.

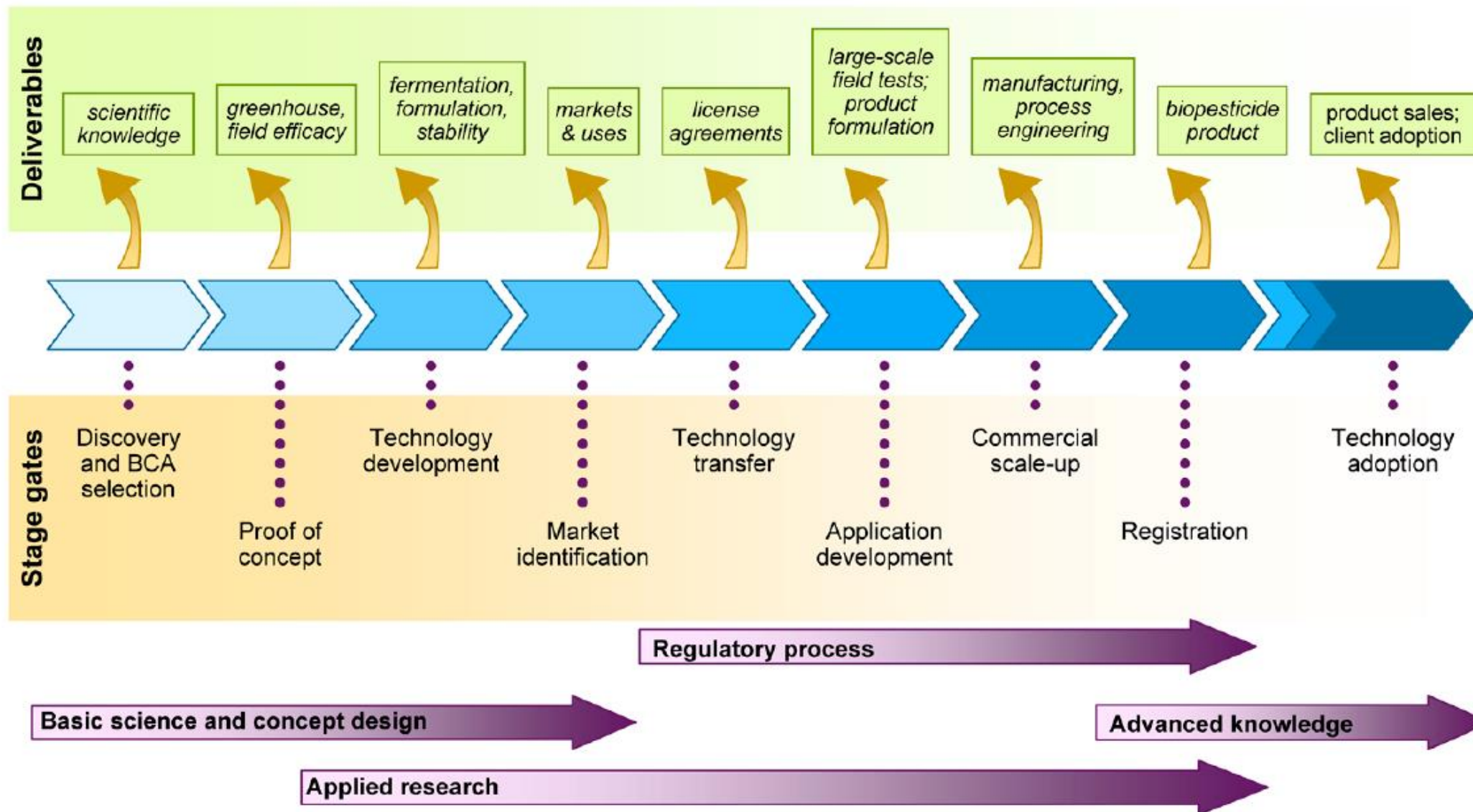
Epizootics of the ***Metarhizium rileyi*** are also observed regularly in Nairobi



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Biopesticides development pathway – Innovation chain



Delivery of biopesticides – Innovation chain



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Bioprospecting and maintenance of a repository of biopesticides



Entomopathogen group	No. of isolates	Genus
Entomopathogenic fungi	311	<i>Beauveria</i> , <i>Metarhizium</i> , <i>Verticillium</i> , <i>Isaria</i> , and others
Entomopathogenic bacteria	157	<i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i> , <i>Serratia marcescens</i> and others
Endophytes	10	<i>Hypocrea</i> , <i>Trichoderma</i> , <i>Clonostachys</i> , and <i>Bionecteria</i>
Entomopathogenic nematodes	2	<i>Heterorhabditis</i> and <i>Steinernema</i>
Microsporidian	3	<i>Nosema</i> , <i>Malamoeba</i> and <i>Johenrea locustae</i>
Baculoviruses	2	<i>Spodoptera littoralis</i> NPV and <i>S. exigua</i> NPV



Biopesticide research and product development



Plant pests

Whiteflies, *Liriomyza* leafminers, cereal stemborers, diamondback moth, African bollworm, red spider mites, aphids, thrips, fruit flies, pod-borers, pod suckers, storage beetles, false codling moth, fall armyworm and tomato leafminer

Animal pests and disease vectors

Ticks (*Rhipicephalus* sp., *Boophilus* sp., *Amblyoma* sp.) and tsetse flies (*Glossina* sp.)

Human disease vectors

Mosquitoes, other key vectors include tsetse flies, ticks, sand flies, fleas, black flies and triatomine bug

Parasites and microbes' screening for safety in insects for food & feed



Biopesticide products



Metarhizium
62

Aphids



Metarhizium
78

Mites



Metarhizium
7

Ticks



Metarhizium
69

Fruit flies
Thrips
Mealybugs



In partnership with *icipe*



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Outreach for commercialized biopesticides



Registration status - Registered in 13 countries



Biological Control and
Biological Control



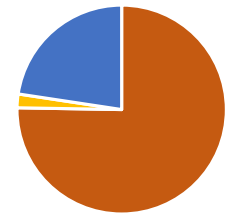
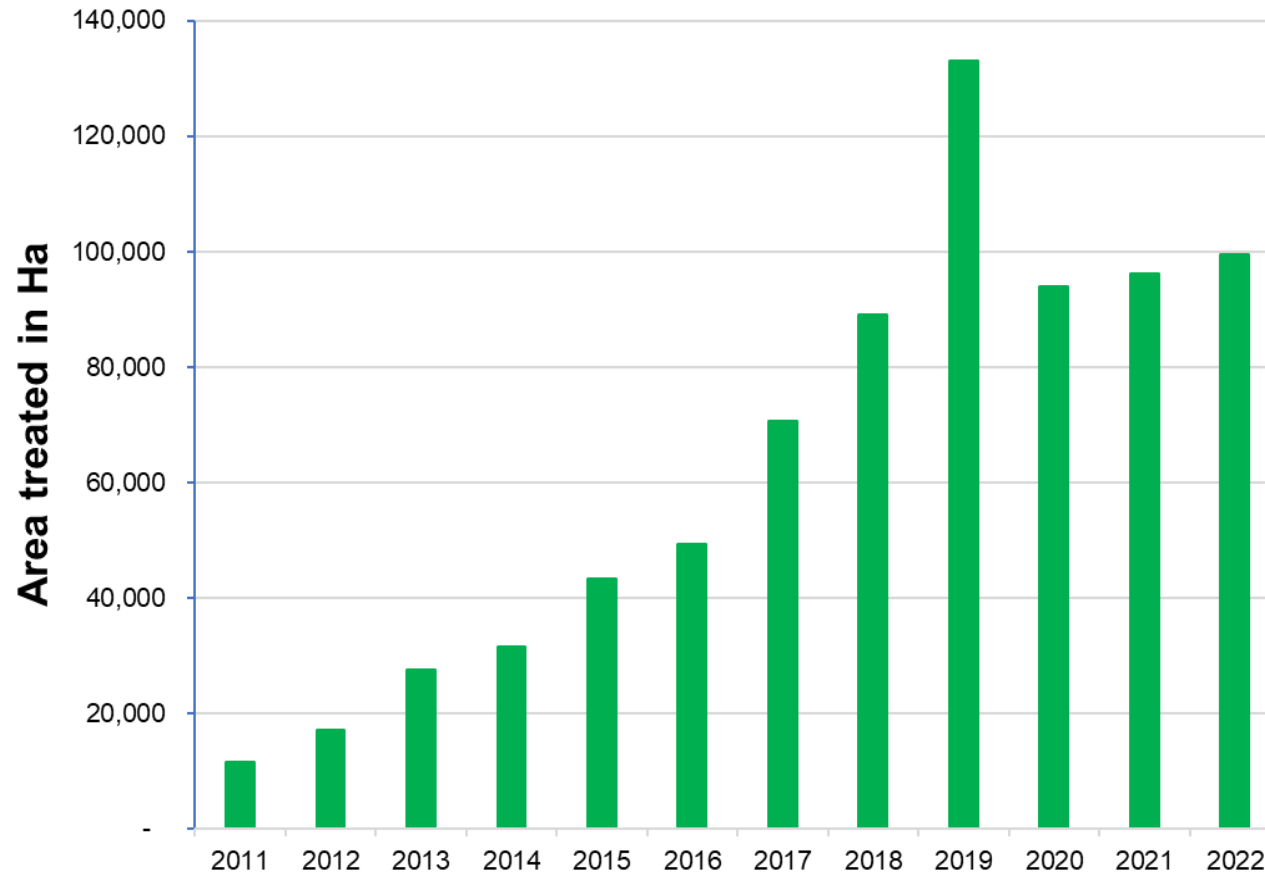
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Scaling up of icipe' s commercialized biopesticides



Acreage of biopesticides use



Met 69 Met 62 Met 78

Building private sector partnerships



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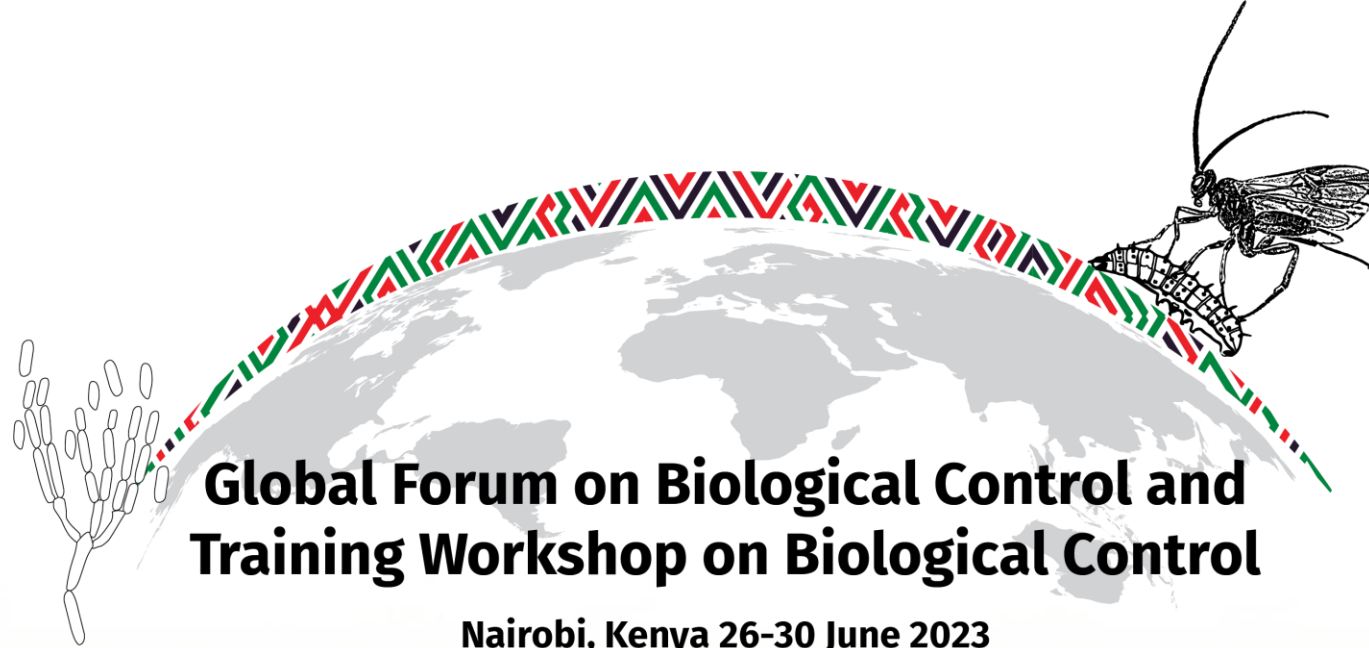
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Global Forum on Biological Control and Training Workshop on Biological Control

Nairobi, Kenya 26-30 June 2023

Prospects and opportunities for Biopesticides (EPF, bacteria, baculoviruses and endophytes) based management of FAW

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Sustainable Fall armyworm IPM strategy for Africa



FAW-IPM Africa-specific, science-led, sustainable and integrated management of the fall armyworm



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

**FAW Biopesticides
development & upscaling**

Conservation of indigenous
and introduced natural
enemies

Effective
monitoring for
timely action

Biopesticides
and
biorationals

Resilient maize
cropping systems
such as Push-Pull

Capacity
building on FAW
management

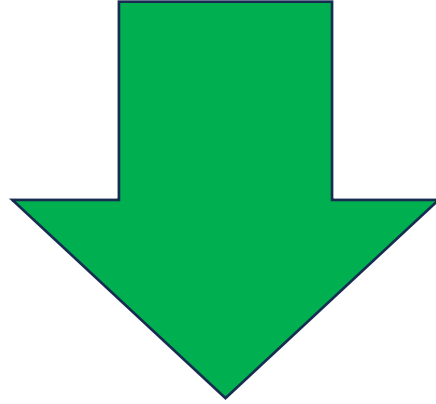
- Enhanced productivity and food security ensured
- Safer environments and products
- Better livelihoods



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Building on icipe' s biopesticide experience



Identification of effective biopesticides against the invasive FAW



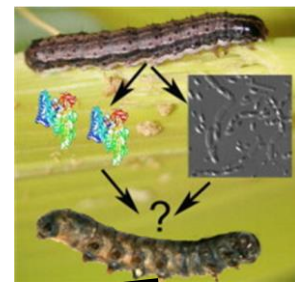
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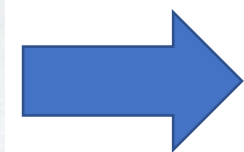
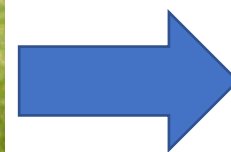
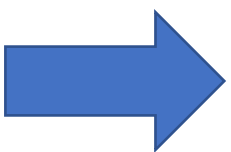
Development of a biopesticide products for all stages for FAW



Insect viral diseases – eg.
Baculoviruses



Insect bacterial diseases – eg.
Bacillus thuringiensis



Insect fungal diseases – eg.
***Metarhizium anisopliae*;**
Beauveria bassiana

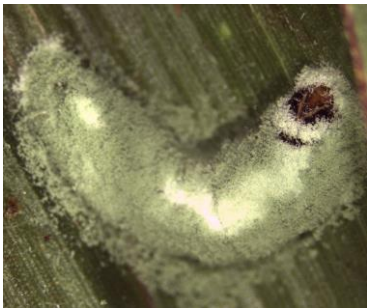
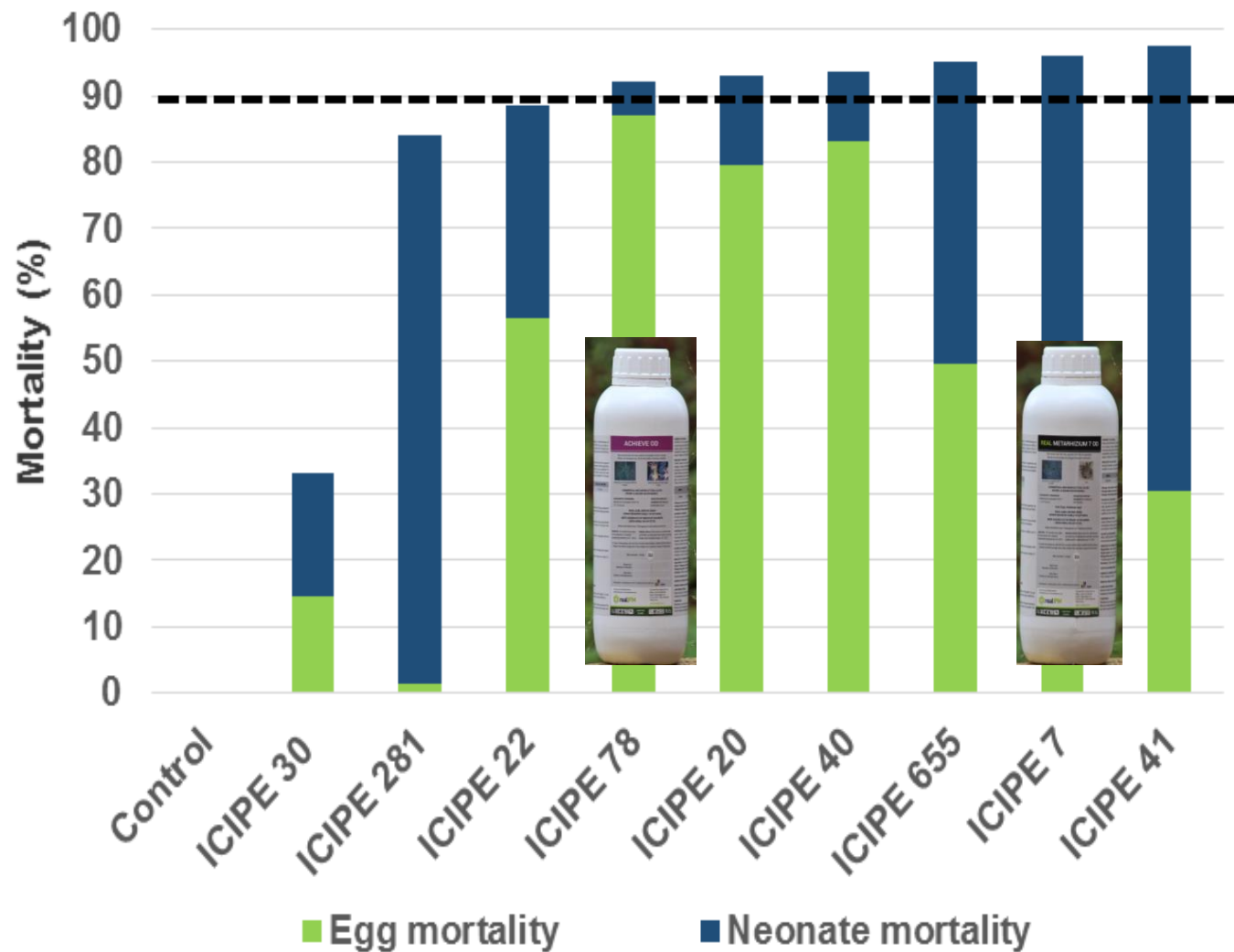


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Efficacy of EPFs against FAW egg and newly emerged larvae



ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTION

WILEY JOURNAL OF APPLIED ENTOMOLOGY

Ovicidal effects of entomopathogenic fungal isolates on the invasive Fall armyworm *Spodoptera frugiperda* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae)

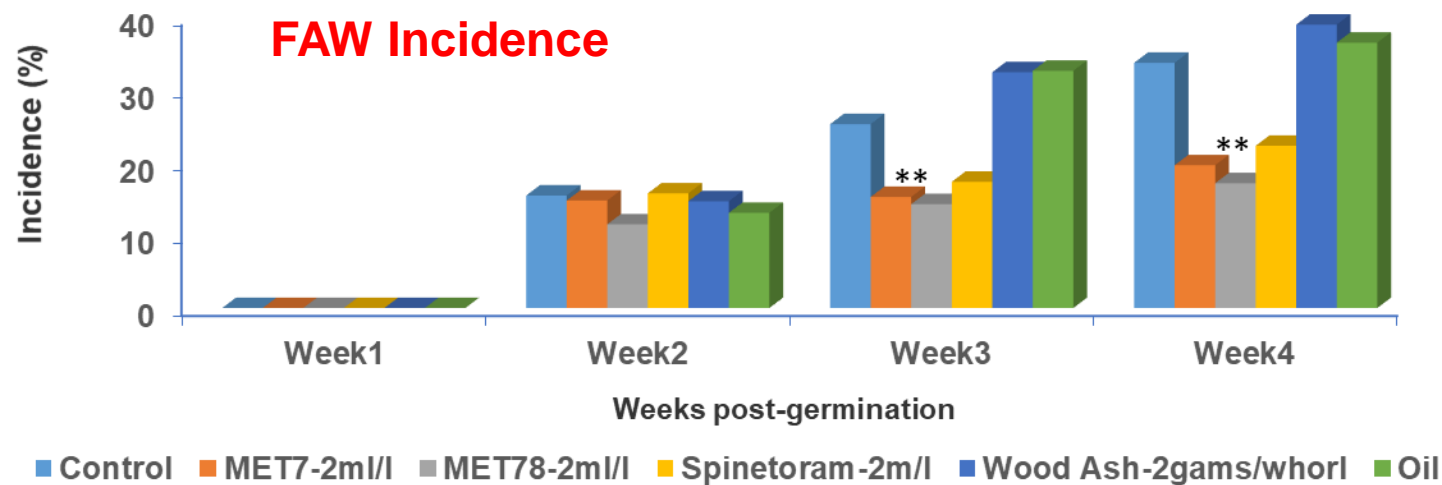
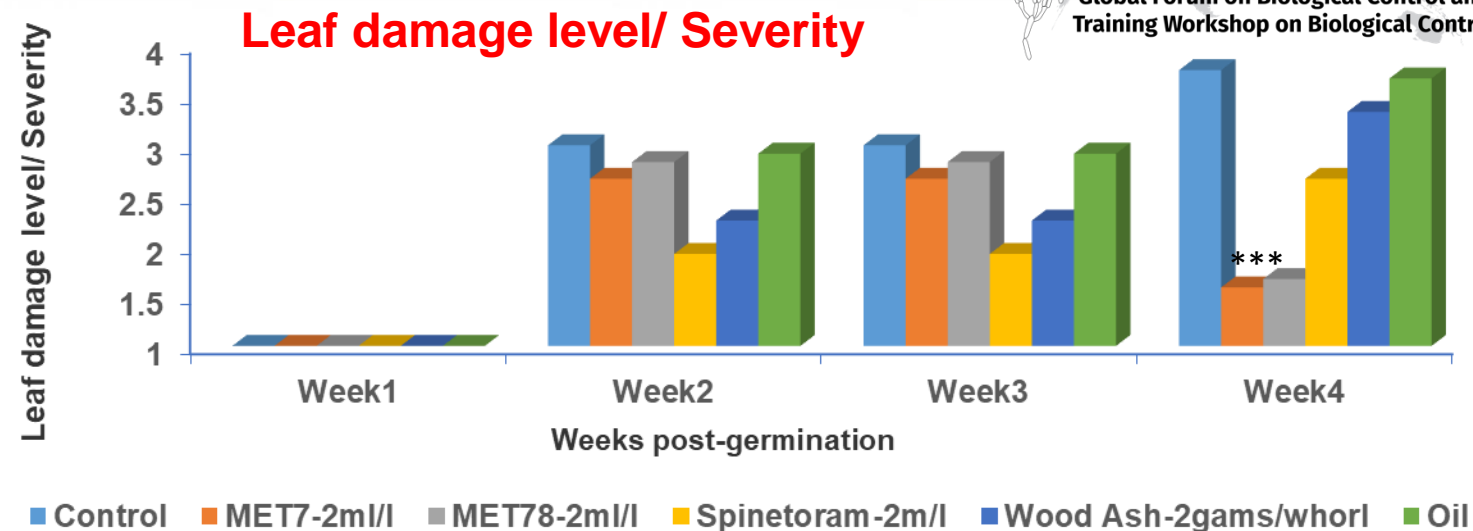
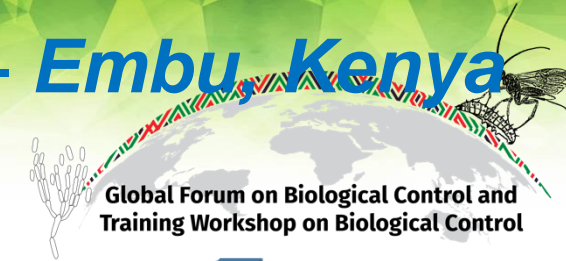
Komivi Senyo Akutse | Jane Wanjiru Kimemia | Sunday Ekisi | Fathiya Mbarak Khamis | Odhiambo Levi Ombura | Sevgan Subramanian



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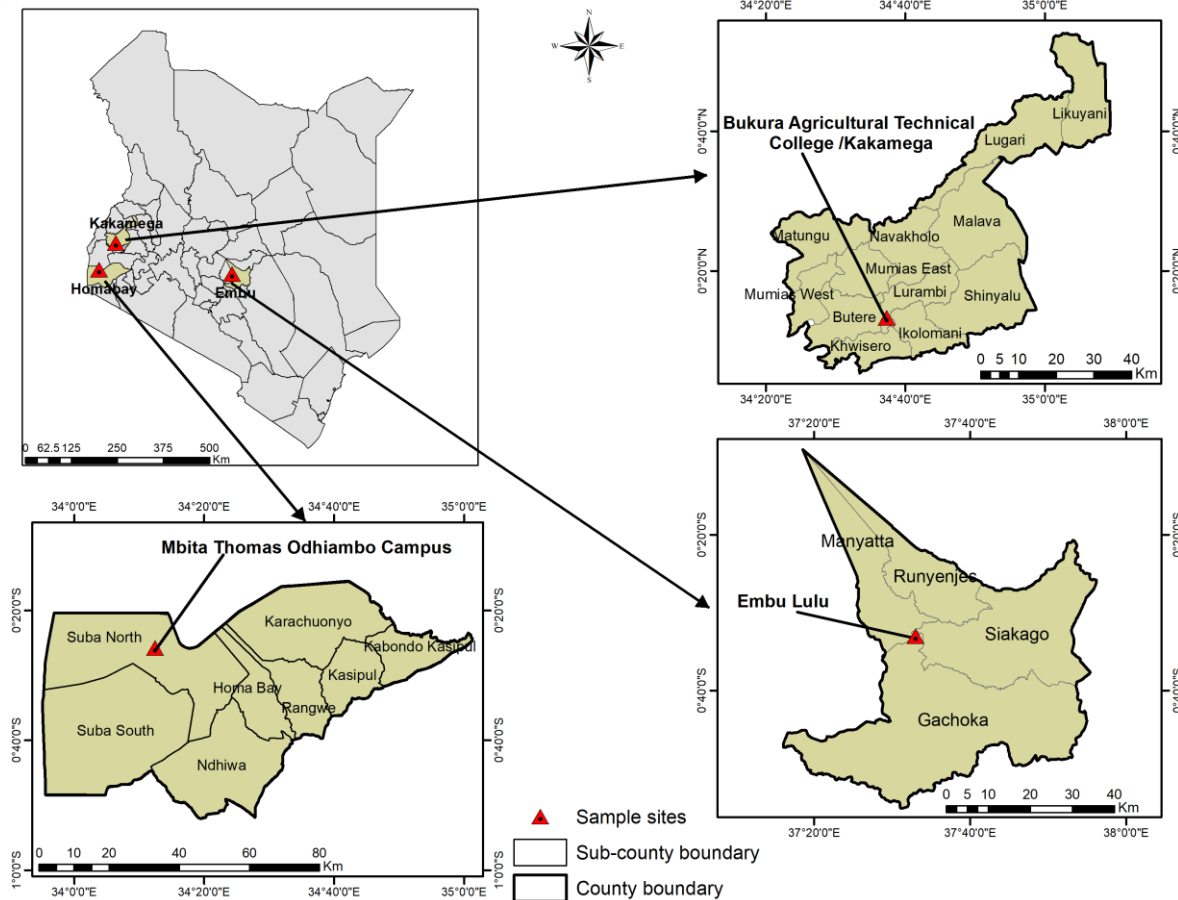
Field efficacy trial with ICIPE 7 & ICIPE 78 – Embu, Kenya



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Field Efficacy Trial in Kenya – incidence of damage caused by FAW



Met 7 & Met 78 have reduced the damage incidence equally to chemical by >60%

For severity of damage and yield

- ✓ No significant difference were observed for Cob width and length
- ✓ More yield were obtained in T2, T3 and T4 in Embu

****Registered – 2021 in Kenya; 2022 in Uganda and Tanzania**

T1- Control (Water only as application) ; **T2-** Met 7 (Oil formulation); **T3-** Met 78 (Oil formulation); **T4-** Chemical (Radiant); **T5-** Wood ash; **T6-** Mixit (Oil only as application)



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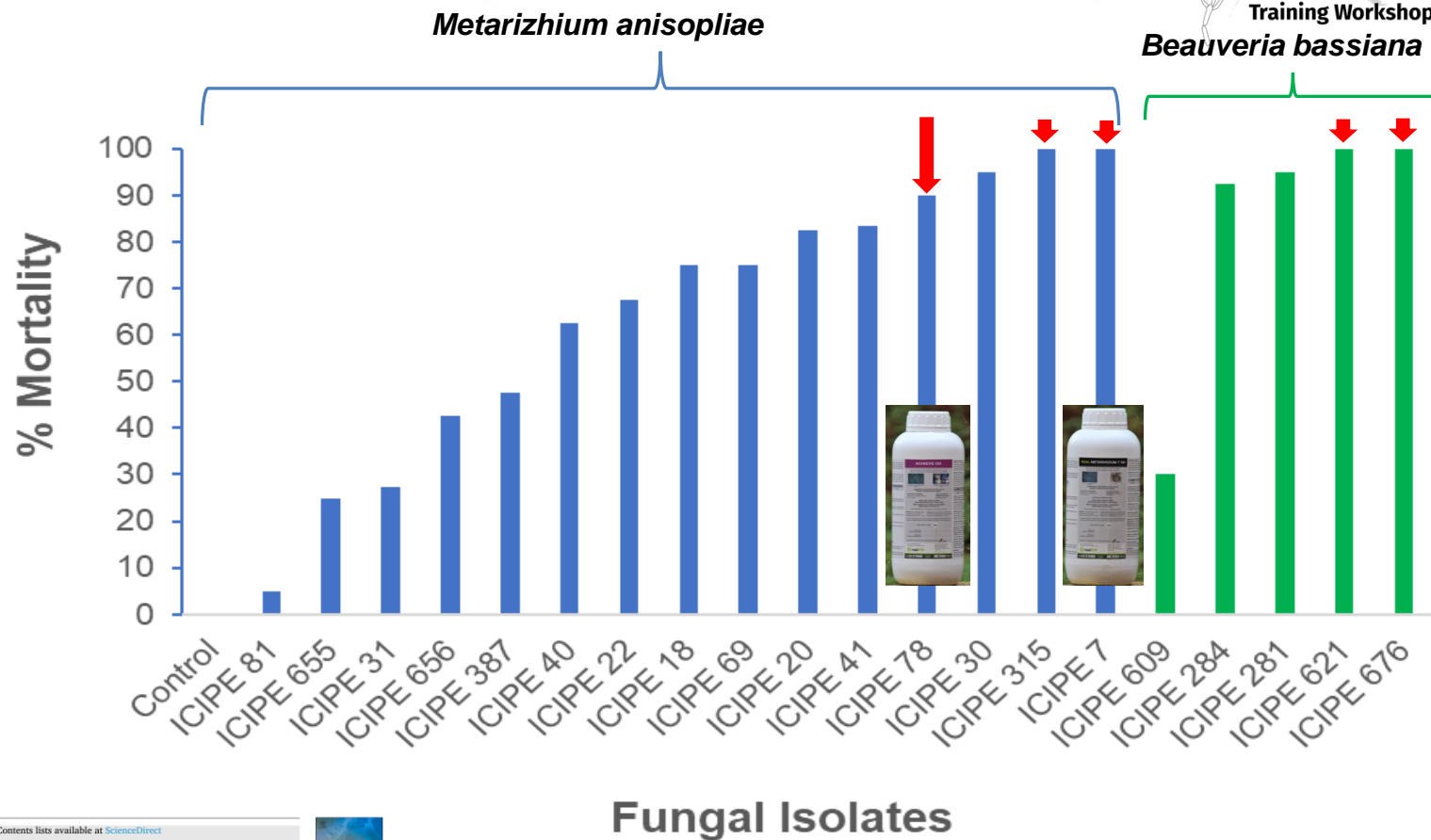
Efficacy of EPF on FAW adults



Healthy



Fungus-infected



Combining insect pathogenic fungi and a pheromone trap for sustainable management of the fall armyworm, *Spodoptera frugiperda* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae)

Komivi S. Akutse^{a,*}, Fathiya M. Khamis^a, Felicitas C. Ambele^{a,b}, Jane W. Kimemia^a, Sunday Ekesi^a, Sevgan Subramanian^a

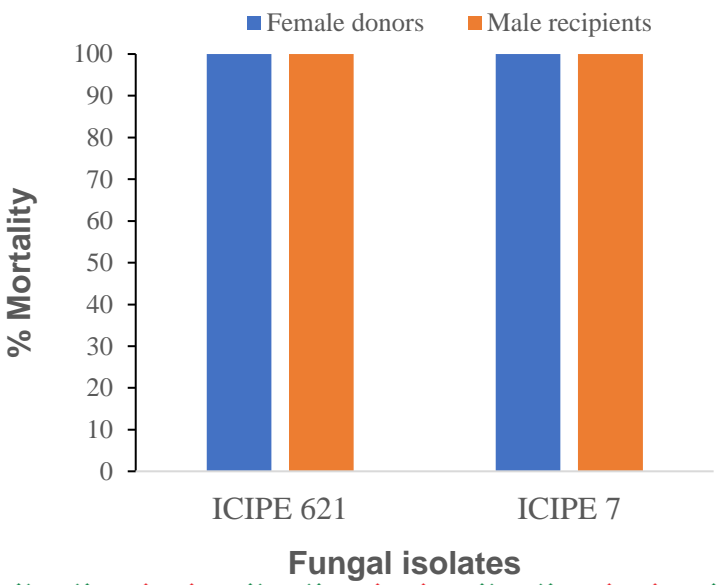
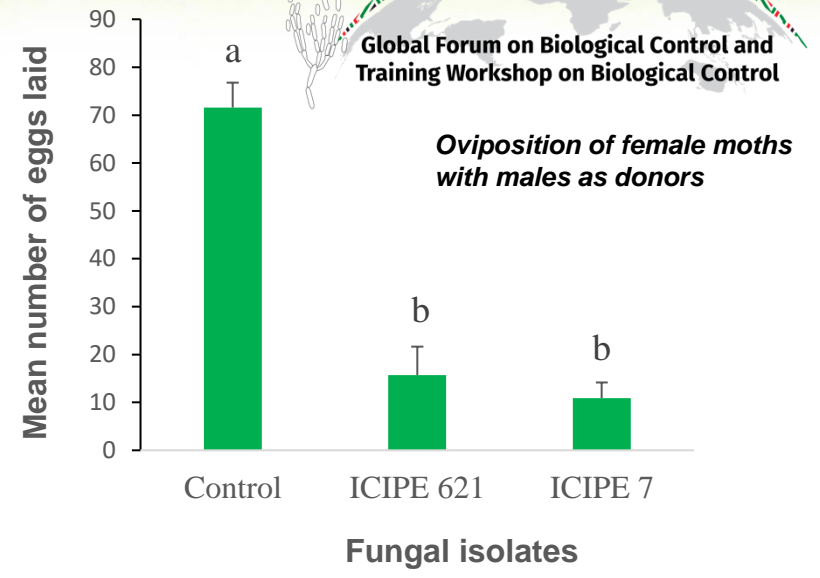
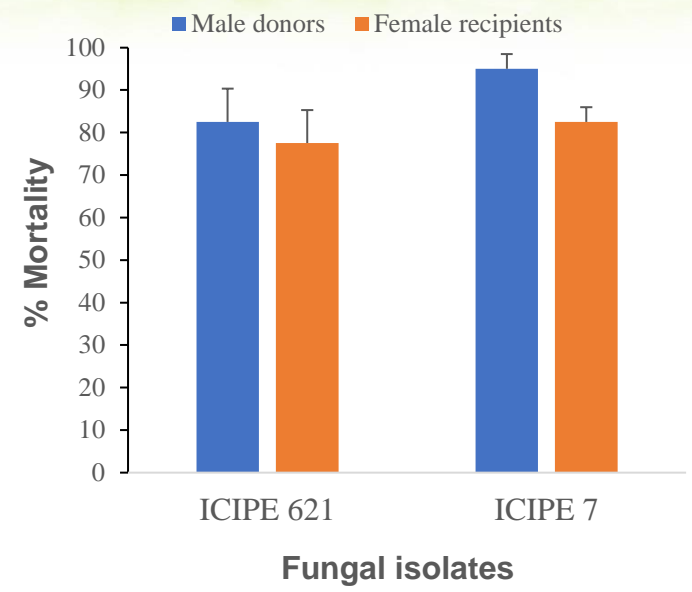
❖ *M. anisopliae* – ICIPE 315 & ICIPE 7 and *B. bassiana* – ICIPE 621 & ICIPE 676 caused 100% mortality



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Effect of horizontal transmission of EPF inoculum as per FAW sex

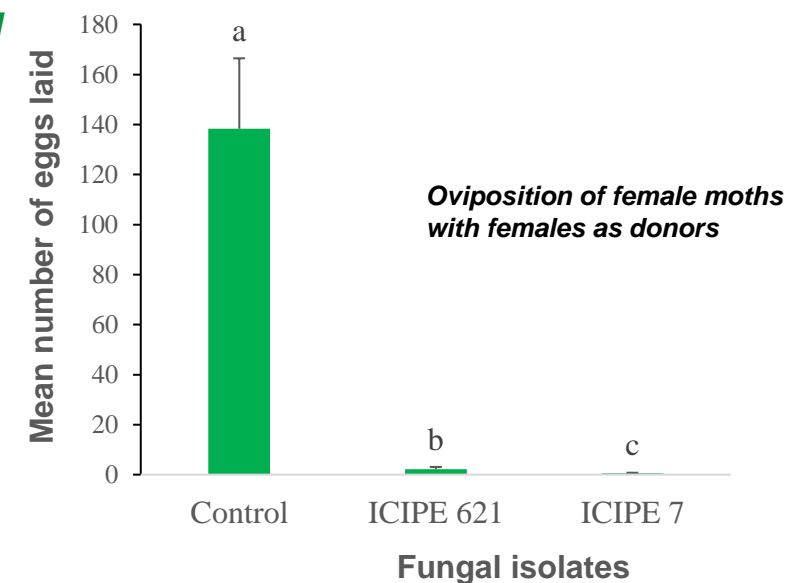


***None of the eggs hatched in the fungal treatments Vs. 100% hatchability in the control

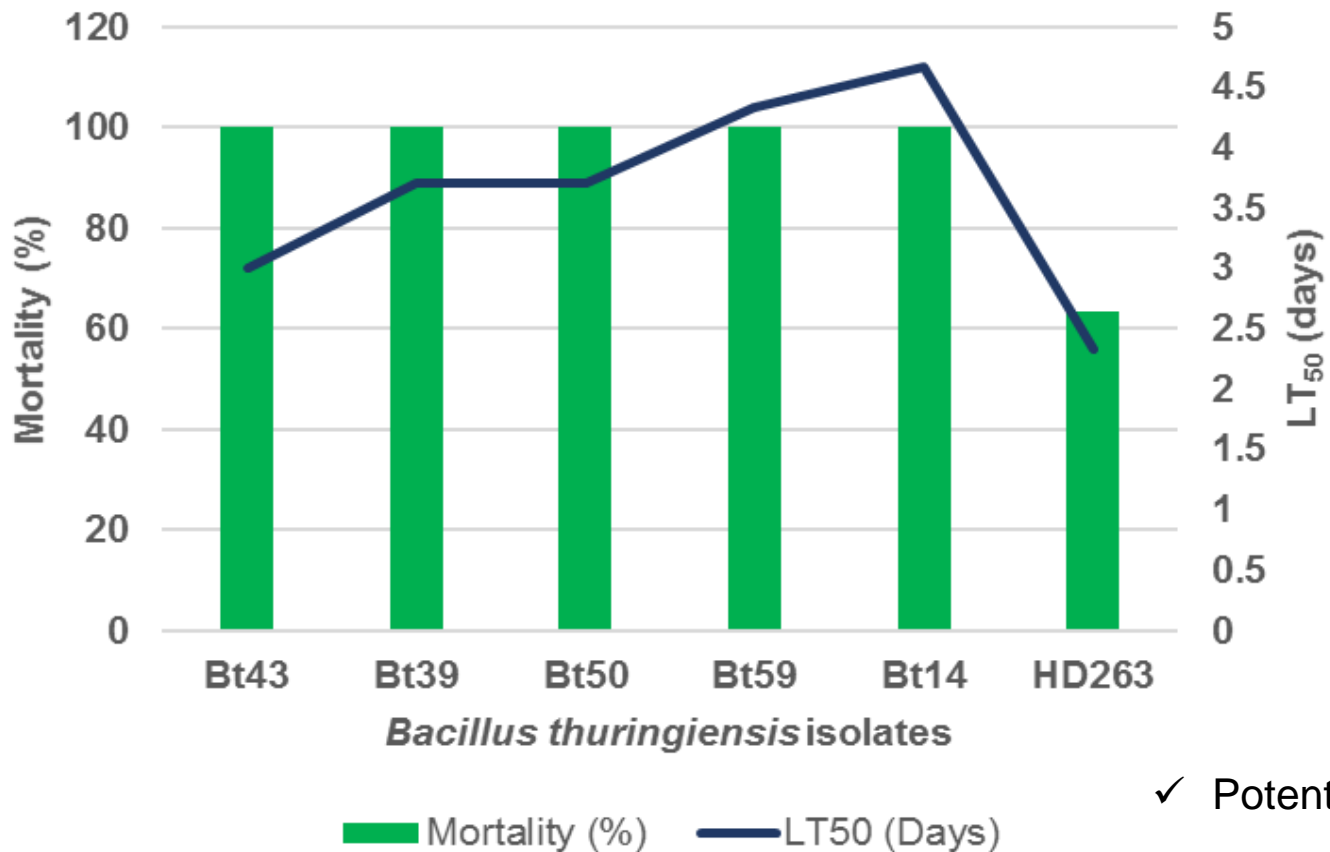


Combining insect pathogenic fungi and a pheromone trap for sustainable management of the fall armyworm, *Spodoptera frugiperda* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae)

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Development of biopesticides – Bt against FAW larvae



- ✓ Potent Bt isolates identified.
- ✓ Bt43, Bt39 and Bt50 holds promise with higher mortality and faster kill of FAW.
- ✓ Field efficacy studies are planned with the private sector partners.



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Baculoviruses for FAW management in Africa

- ❖ Novel baculovirus “Fawligen” tested in Kenya
- ❖ Maize yield advantage of 1.5 t/ha over untreated control
- ❖ Fawligen officially registered in Kenya (Feb 2021)
- ❖ Community small-holder production being tested
- ❖ 95% of farmers willing to pay for biopesticide if available at an agro-dealer near to them, at a price comparable to a synthetic insecticide

Source: Ivan Rwomushana. Senior Scientist,
Invasive Species Management. **CABI**

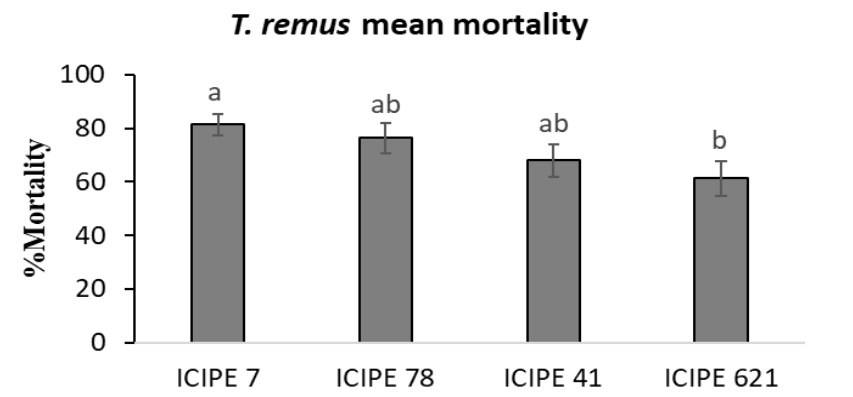


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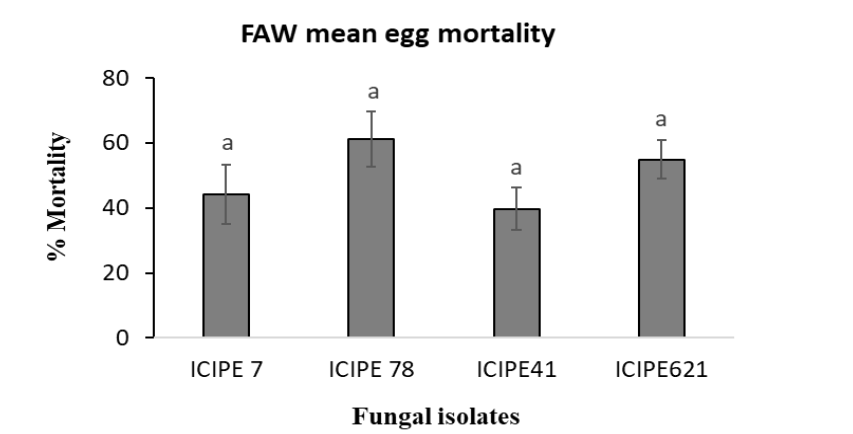


R4D support for enhancing product effectiveness, non-target effects & Capacity building

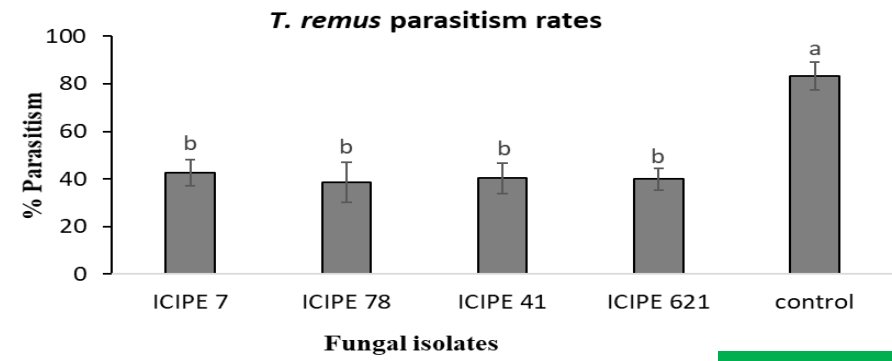
Non target effects on major FAW parasitoids – Direct effects



Fungal isolates
ICIPE 7 caused the highest mortality rate at 81.40%



ICIPE 78 caused the highest (61.25%) FAW eggs mortality



Cotesia icipe

Fungal isolates	Mean mortality%	Larval mortality	Parasitism rates	Sex ratios (F:M)	Cotesia icipe LT ₅₀
M. anisopliae ICIPE 7	73.95±7.49a	55.25±6.74a	35.75±4.80b	2:1	2.3±0.03a
M. anisopliae ICIPE 78	33.63±6.63b	28.25±4.41b	62.00±5.02a	2:1	5.2±0.06c
M. anisopliae ICIPE 41	66.33±7.29a	53.75±3.91a	36.75±3.82b	2:1	2.8±0.04b
B. bassiana ICIPE 621	36.59±6.65b	31.00±5.29b	58.00±5.24a	2:1	5.0±0.06d

High parasitism rates were obtained in ICIPE 78 and ICIPE 621 & ICIPE 7 and ICIPE 41 had lowest LT₅₀

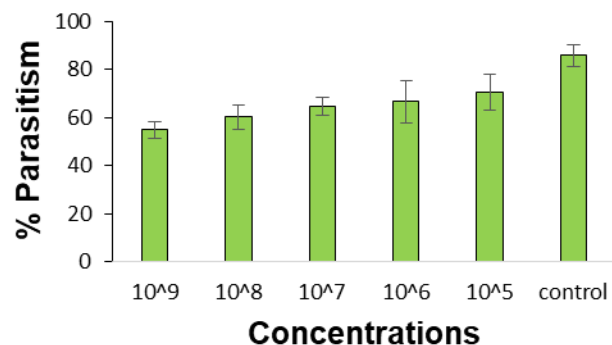


Non target effects on major FAW parasitoids – Indirect effects

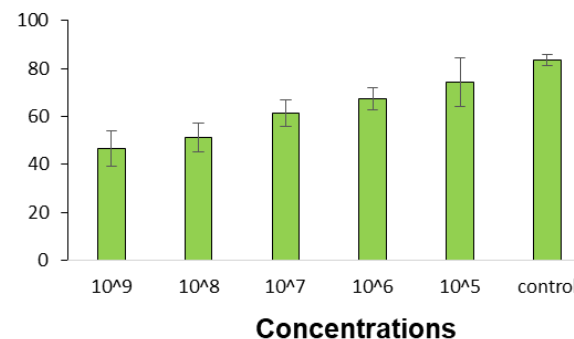


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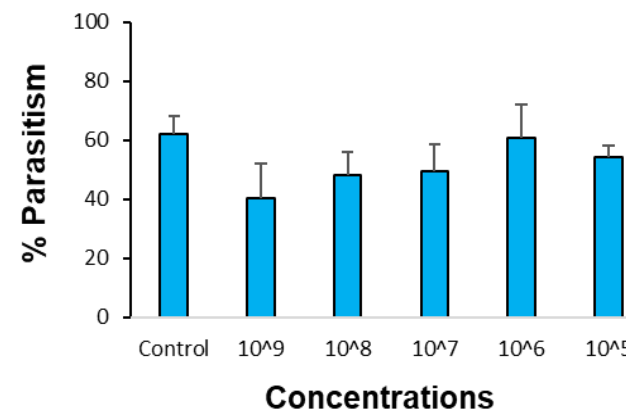
ICIPE 7 - *C. icipe*



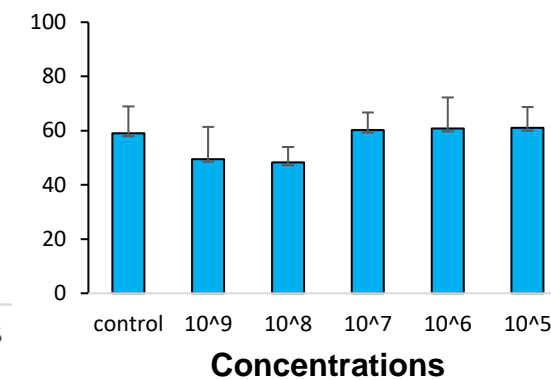
ICIPE 41 - *C. icipe*



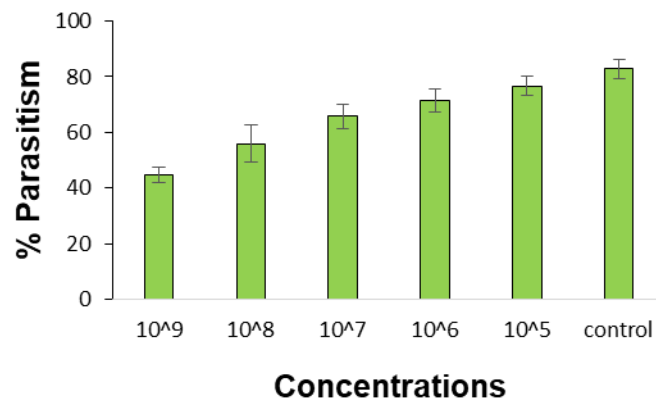
ICIPE 7 - *T. remus*



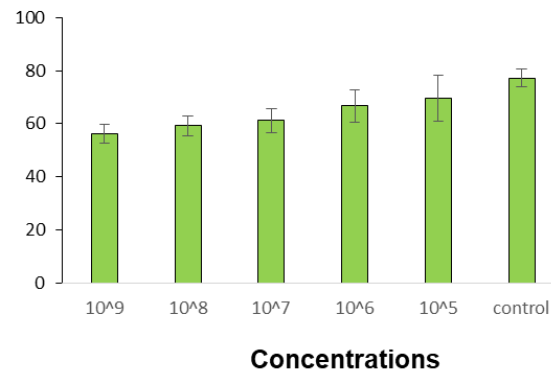
ICIPE 41 - *T. remus*



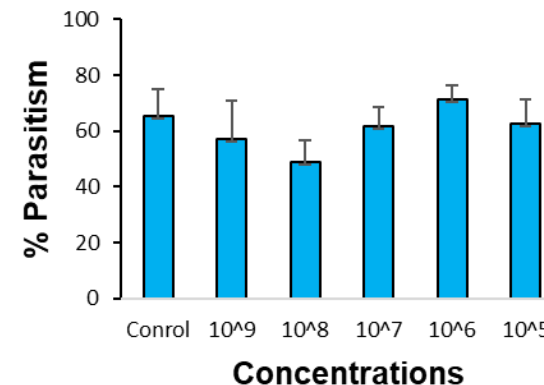
ICIPE 78 - *C. icipe*



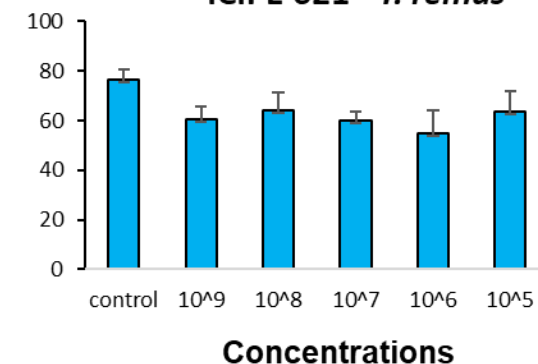
ICIPE 621 - *C. icipe*



ICIPE 78 - *T. remus*



ICIPE 621 - *T. remus*



Cotesia icipe

Indirect application of the biopesticides at lower concentrations could be applied together with the parasitoids without affecting their performance

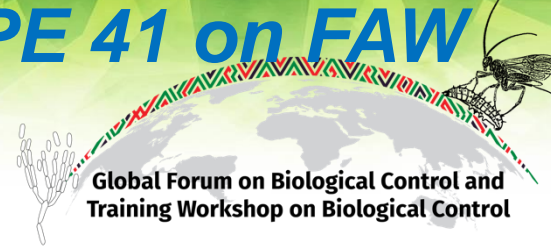
Telenomus remus



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Efficacy of various oil formulations of *M. anisopliae* ICIPE 41 on FAW



Fungal isolate	Fungal formulation	Larvae cumulated mortality (%)	Lethal time 50% (LT ₅₀)
<i>Metarhizium anisopliae</i> ICIPE 41	Canola oil formulation	76.07 ± 6.43b	2.06 ± 0.15b
	Corn oil formulation	72.5 ± 5.58b	2.26 ± 0.36b
	Olive oil formulation	70.36 ± 6.66b	2.52 ± 0.43b
	Aqueous formulation	15.15 ± 2.86a	8.11 ± 1.53a



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Effects of oil formulations of *M. anisopliae* ICIPe 41 on FAW parasitoids



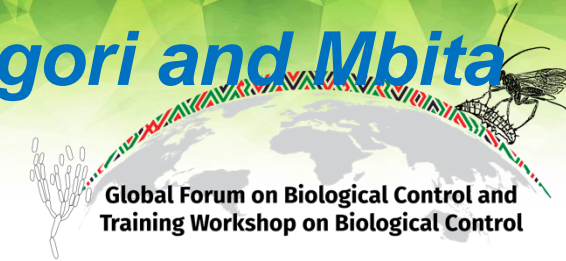
Treatments	<i>Cotesia icipe</i>	<i>Telenomous remus</i>	<i>Trichogramma</i> spp.
Canola oil Formulation	82.5 ± 4.33a	21.3 ± 3.14b	26.3 ± 3.75b
Olive oil Formulation	52.5 ± 9.68b	15.0 ± 2.04b	23.8 ± 2.39b
Corn oil Formulation	12.5 ± 3.23c	2.5 ± 1.44a	8.8 ± 1.25a
Aqueous Formulation	52.5 ± 9.68b	11.3 ± 1.25b	23.8 ± 2.39b
Control	2.5 ± 1.44d	2.5 ± 1.44a	5.0 ± 2.04a

Mortality rates of the parasitoid species induced by indirect application of ICIPe 41 formulations

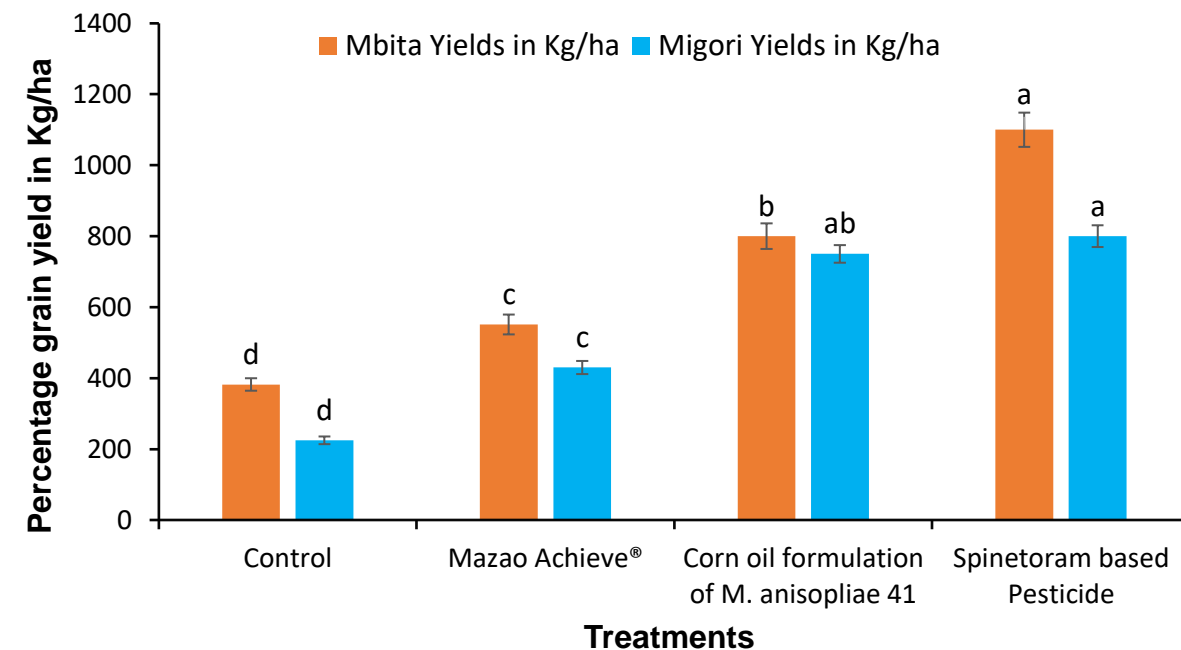
Parasitism rates obtained after indirect application of ICIPe 41 formulations

Parasitoids Treatments	<i>Cotesia icipe</i>	<i>Telenomous remus</i>	<i>Trichogramma</i> spp.
Canola oil Formulation	31.5 ± 2.85a	30.2 ± 2.65a	33.5 ± 2.85a
Olive oil Formulation	44.1 ± 7.23ab	38.8 ± 8.43ab	40.0 ± 5.21ab
Corn oil Formulation	79.3 ± 2.94c	87.3 ± 2.50c	82.3 ± 2.34c
Aqueous Formulation	54.3 ± 4.12b	49.1 ± 4.42b	47.1 ± 7.23b
Control	84.3 ± 3.74c	87.3 ± 2.50c	85.2 ± 3.98c

Efficacy of ICIPE 41 on FAW and maize grain yield at Migori and Mbita



Treatments	% FAW larvae mortality	% Mycosis	Lethal time 50% \pm SE
Migori			
Spinetoram-based pesticide/ Radiant	96.1 \pm 2.5 a	0.0 \pm 0.0 c	3.8 (3.80–3.90) b
Mazao Achieve®	73.0 \pm 1.3 c	30.0 \pm 0.7 b	5.1 (5.12–5.26) a
Corn oil formulation of <i>M. anisopliae</i> ICIPE 41	81.3 \pm 2.6 b	70.0 \pm 0.5 a	5.2 (5.22–5.32) a
Control	-	0.0 \pm 0.0 c	-
Mbita			
Spinetoram-based pesticide/ Radiant	98.7 \pm 1.3 a	0.0 \pm 0.0 c	3.8 (3.80–3.88) b
Mazao Achive®	74.3 \pm 2.5 c	25.0 \pm 0.4 b	4.7 (4.70–4.82) a
Corn oil formulation of <i>M. anisopliae</i> ICIPE 41	83.6 \pm 1.5 b	66.3 \pm 0.7 a	4.6 (4.56–4.68) a
Control	-	0.0 \pm 0.0 c	-



Article

Performance of *Metarhizium anisopliae* Isolate ICIPE 41 in the Laboratory and Field in Comparison to Another Fungal Biopesticide and a Chemical Product to Sustainably Control the Invasive Fall Armyworm *Spodoptera frugiperda* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae)

Joseph Munywoki ^{1,2}, Leonidah Kerubo Omosa ³, Sevgan Subramanian ¹, David Kupesa Mfuti ¹, Ezekiel Mugendi Njeru ², Vaderament-A. Nchiozem-Ngnitedem ³ and Komivi Senyo Akutse ^{1,*}



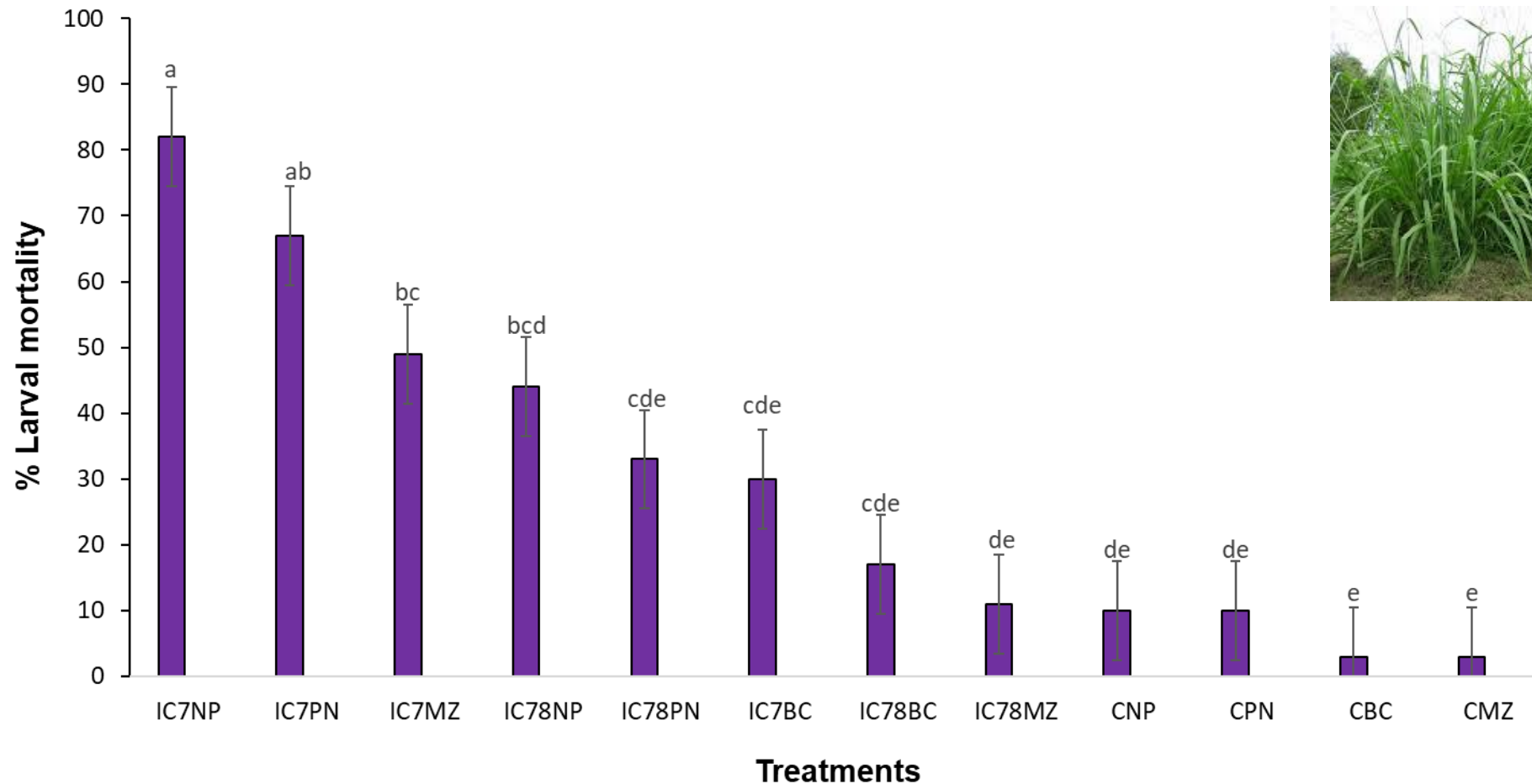
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Cumulated larval mortality induced by different treatments and their lethal time 50% (LT₅₀) after applications

Host plants effects on efficacy of entomopathogenic fungal-based biopesticides in the management of Fall armyworm

Global Forum on Biological Control and
Training Workshop on Biological Control



On forage plants, *M. anisopliae* ICIPE 7 caused highest mortality of 82% to larvae fed on Napier grass, followed by 67% larvae fed on Panicum as compared to Maize and Brachiaria



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Determining effectiveness of nature-based solutions to manage FAW

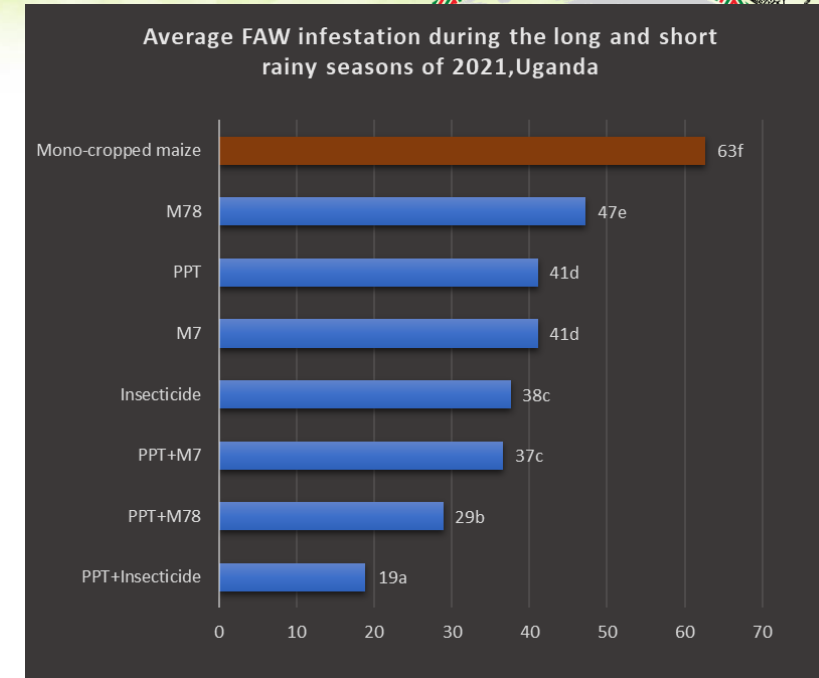
An on-station and on-farm validation trial conducted in Uganda

The treatments

- 1) M7,
- 2) M78,
- 3) Climate-smart PPT
- 4) M78 + PPT,
- 5) M7 + PPT,
- 6) Insecticide control,
- 7) PPT + insecticide,
- 8) Mono-cropped maize

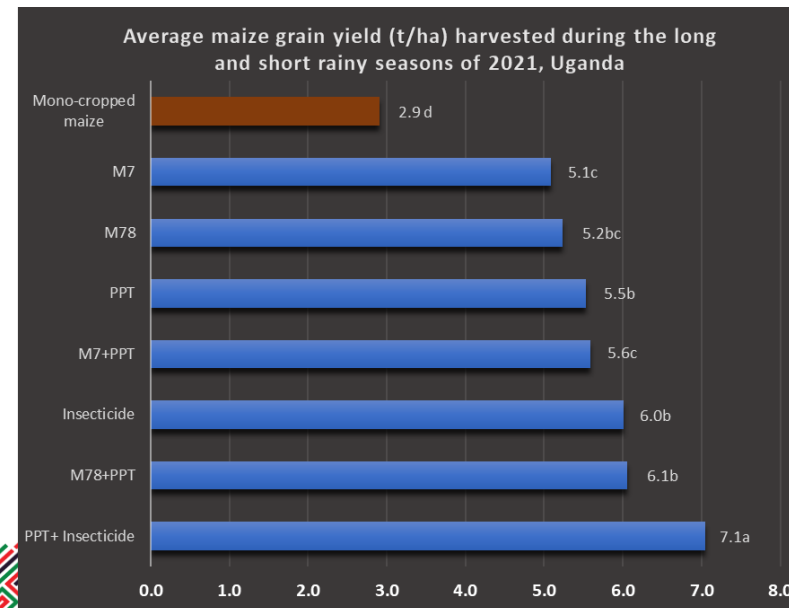
Trial setup

- 1) Treatments replicated 3 times RCBD at the station and farmer as replicate on-station.
- 2) Treatment applied at 3, 6, and 9 WAP



The findings

- 1) The biopesticide treatments reduced the FAW infestation significantly compared with mono-cropped maize
- 2) The yield obtained from different treatments significantly differed from mono-cropped maize.
- 3) The combined effect of Biopesticides and PPT were more effective in enhancing the maize yield
- 4) If treatments were applied based on FAW abundance not with fixed dates, the impact of the biopesticide would have been better



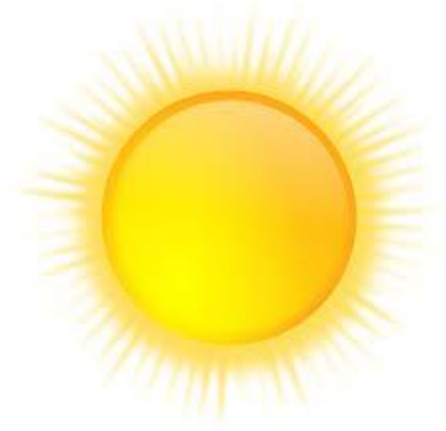
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Key points to consider in biopesticides or mycoinsecticides development

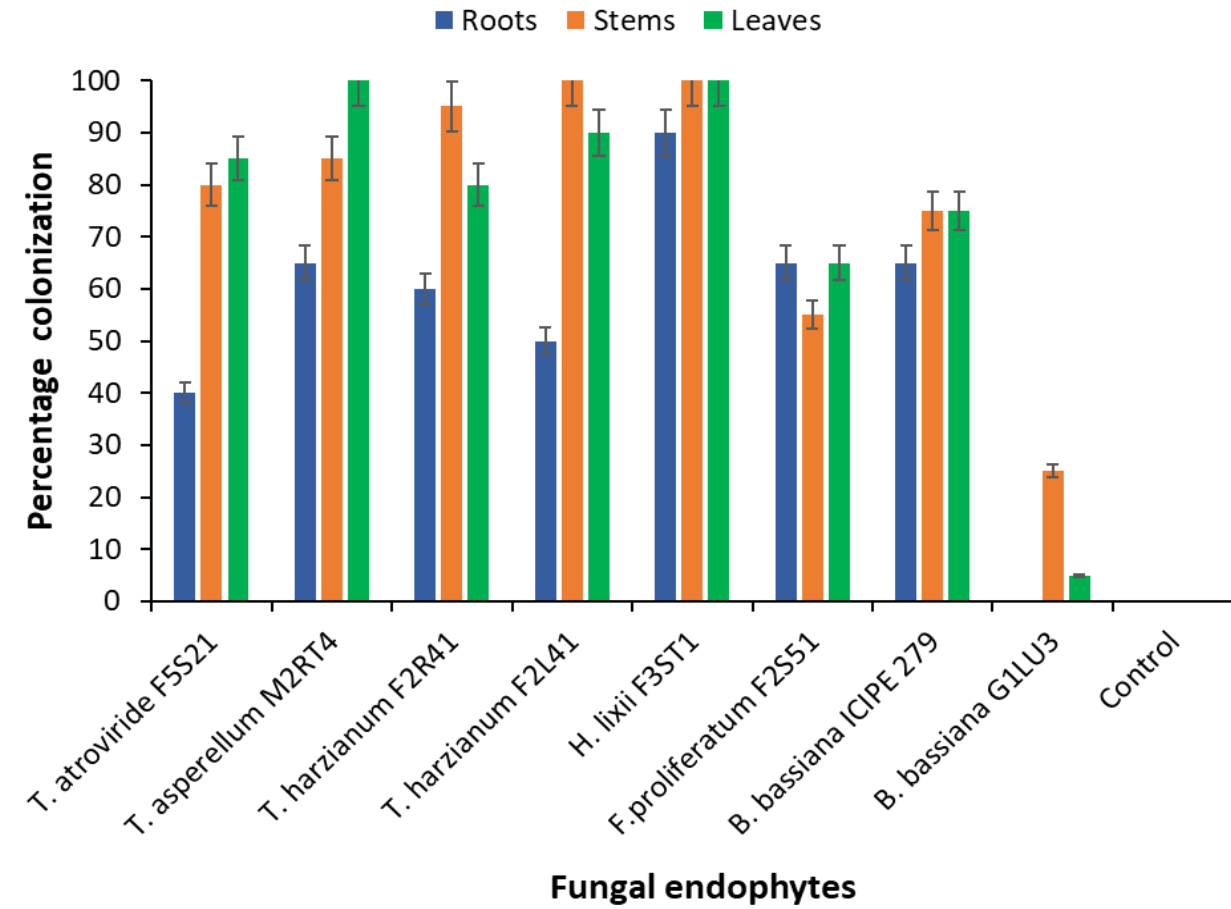
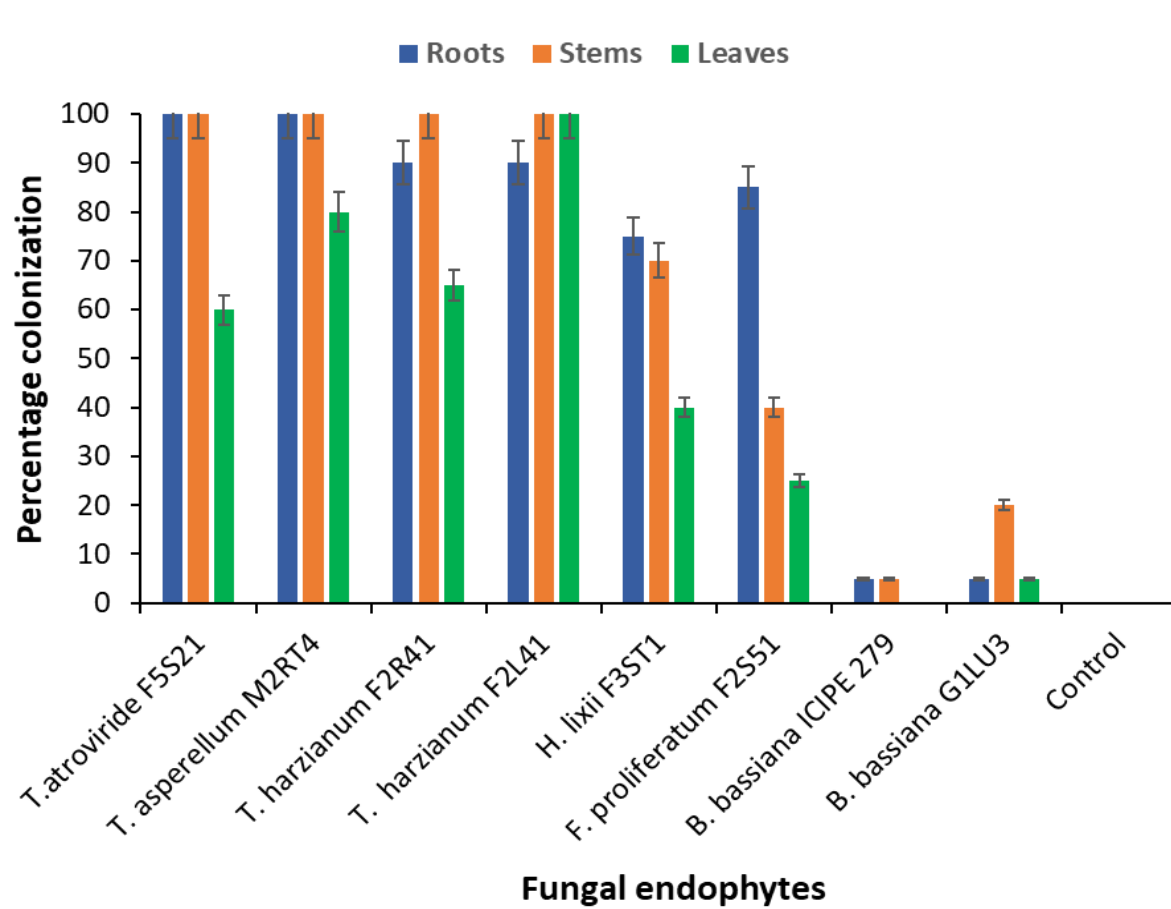
- ✓ Biology & Ecology of the pest & the biocontrol agent
- ✓ Interactions between the pest & other organisms – **Non target effects**
- ✓ Availability & Accessibility of the biocontrol agent
- ✓ Easy to formulate and apply & can be easily incorporated into IPM strategies
- ✓ Sustainable & environmentally friendly
- ✓ Low production cost & Cost-effective applications
- ✓ Pathogenic & virulent to the pest
- ✓ UV-tolerant isolates & Develop products that meet farmers' needs
- ✓ **Not detrimental to the non target agents / Natural enemies & Pollinators**
- ✓ Commercialization networks establishment
- ✓ Shelf life and storage conditions

Formulations, packaging, applications and factors that affect the viability or efficacy of EPF



- ✓ Temperature
- ✓ UV
- ✓ Humidity
- ✓ Some chemical lures are also not compatible with fungal viability and virulence
- Glycerin (0.1 %), nutrient agar (0.1% and molasses (0.5%) could be added to each formulation as protectants against UV light
- Ecological engineering could also be explored to overcome environmental factors
- Endophytes could overcome environmental abiotic challenges associated with EPF applications
- Genetic engineering provides useful strategies to either increase fungal virulence or enhance fungal resistance to different stress factors - (Virulence & Environmental stability)

Endophytes for PGP & FAW management



Endophytic colonization of maize seedlings through seed inoculation

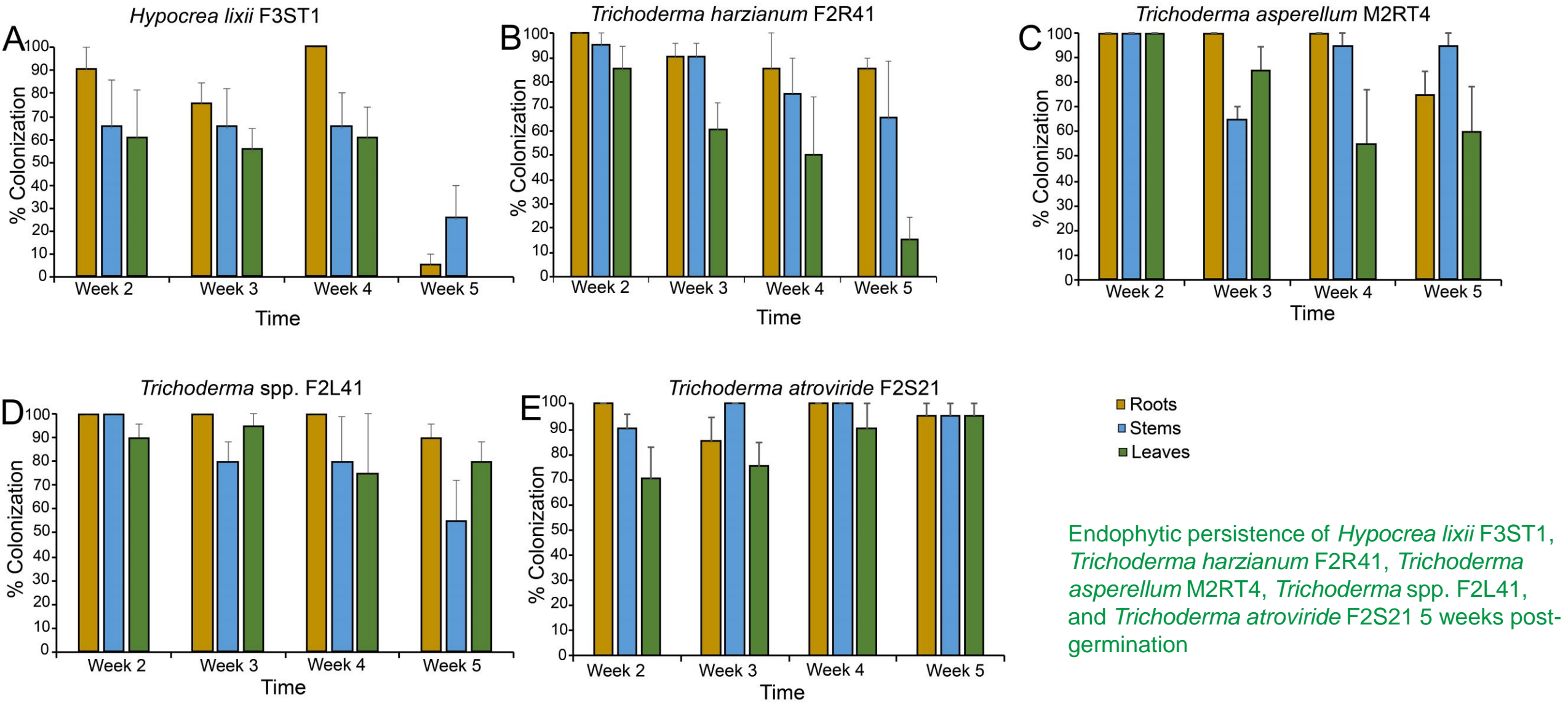
Endophytic colonization of maize seedlings through foliar application



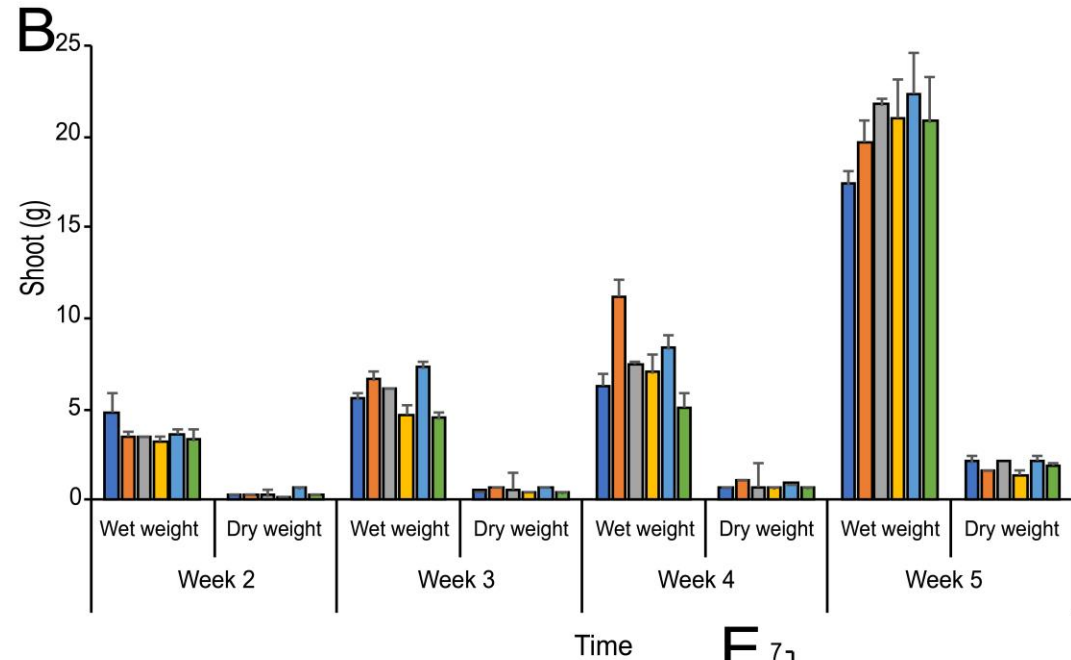
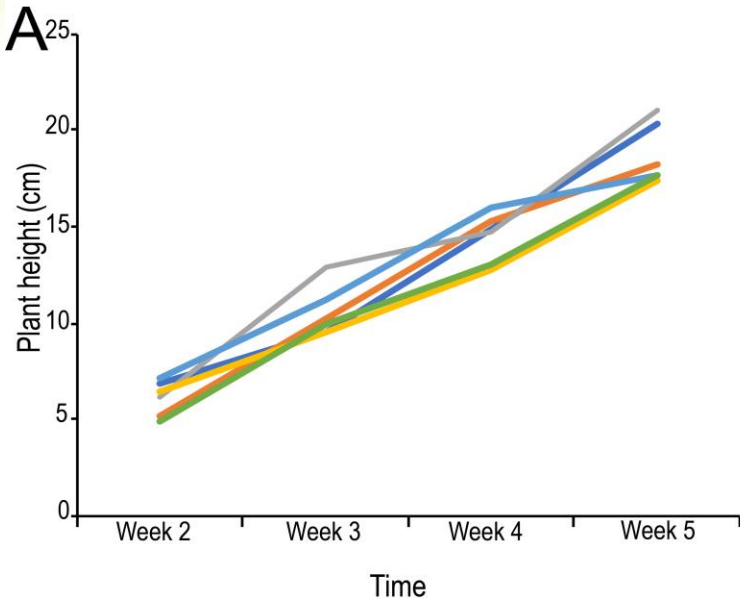
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Endophytes colonization persistence

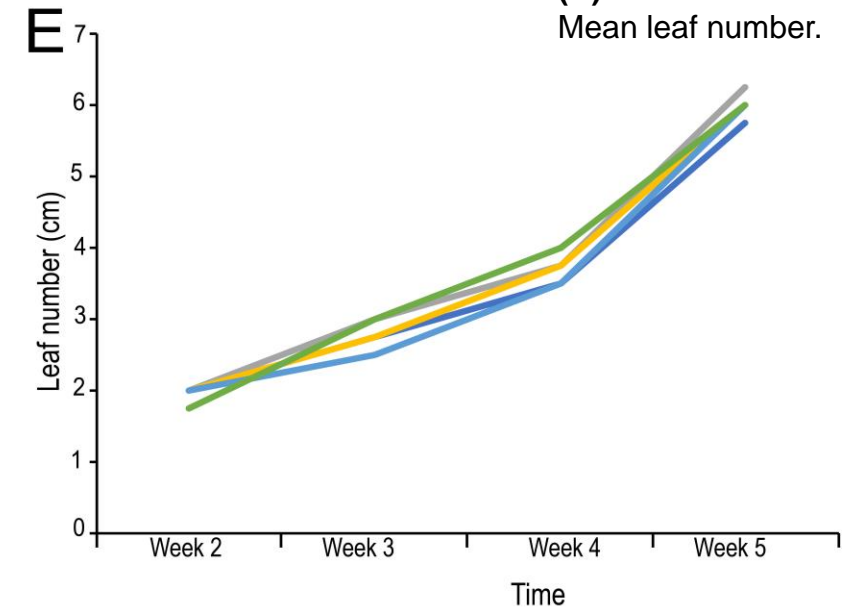
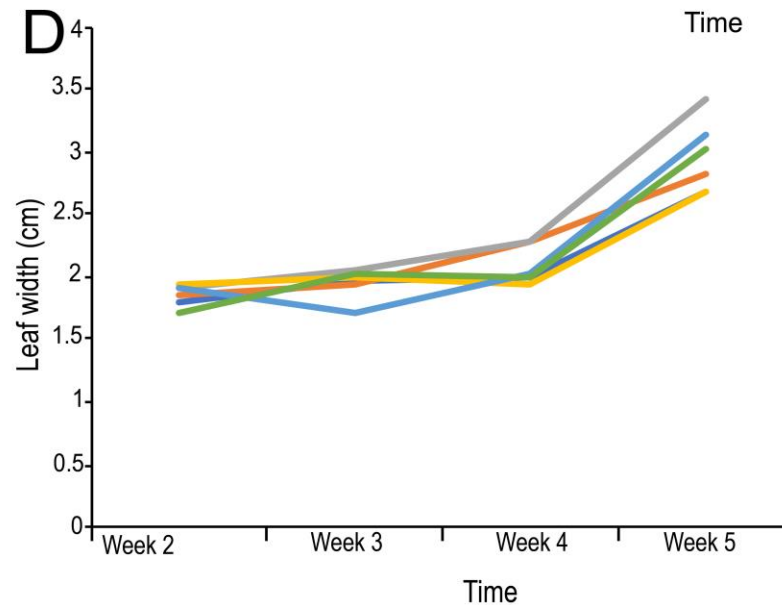
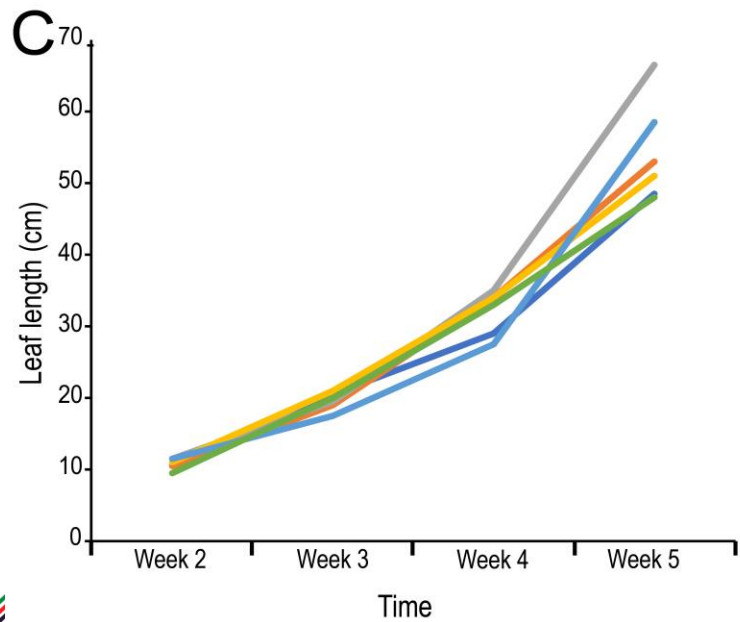


Plant growth promotion parameters

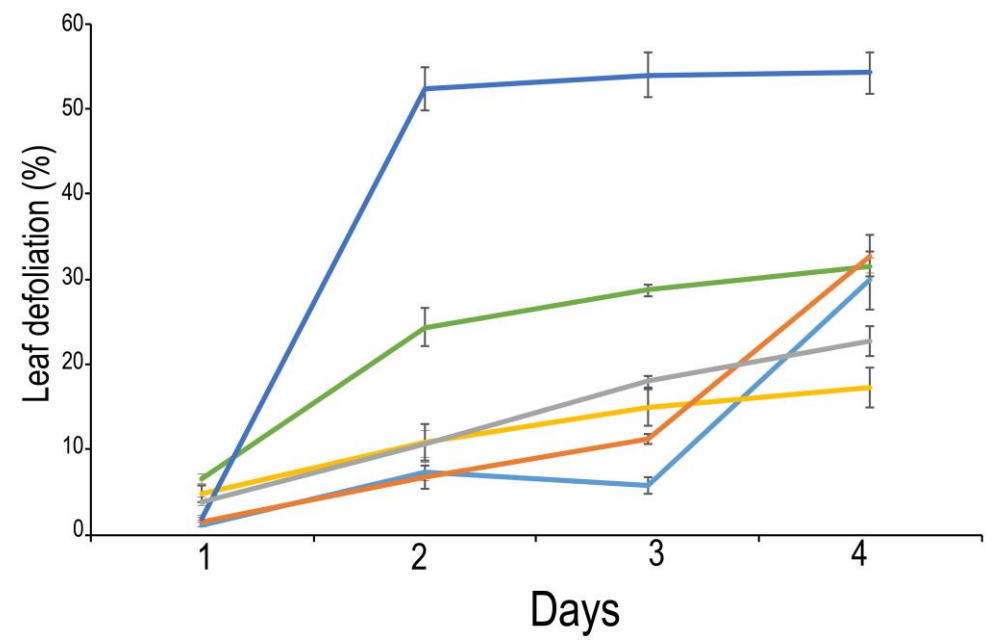
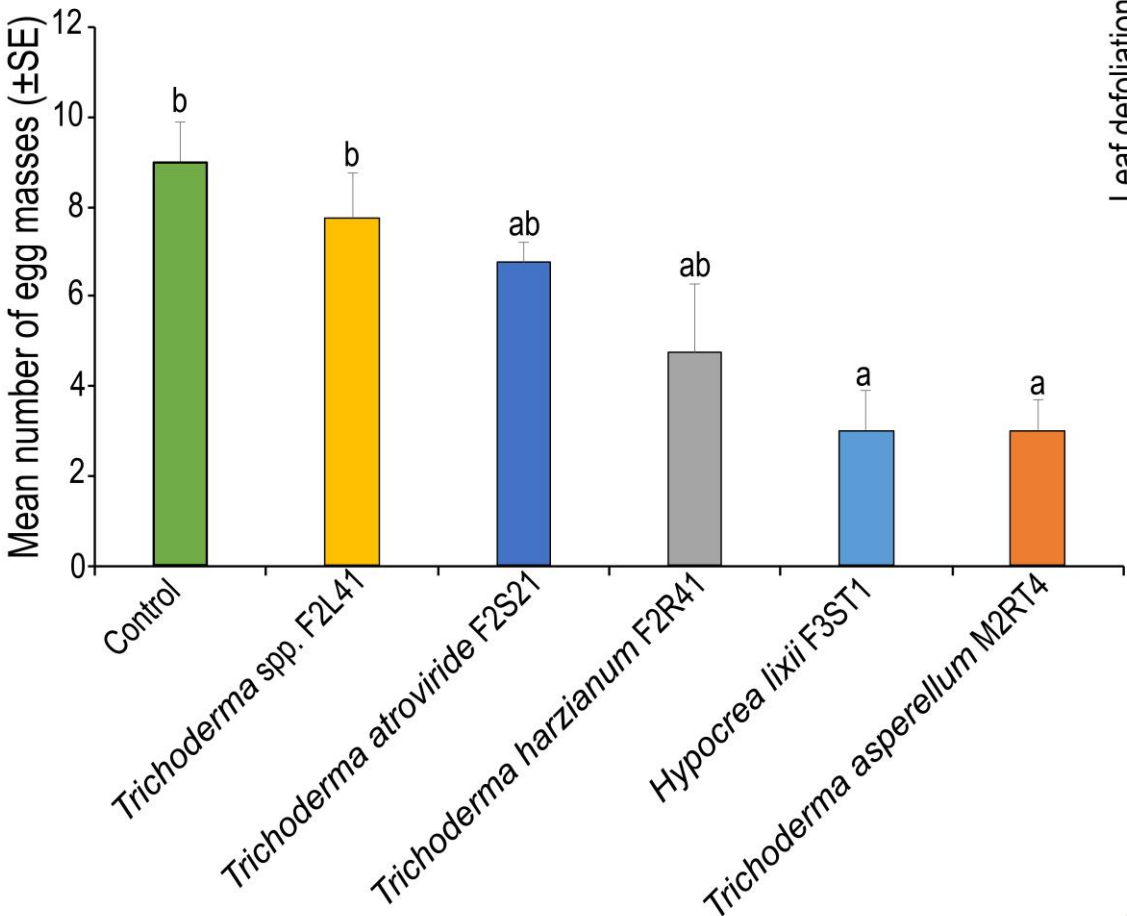


— *Trichoderma atroviride* F2S21
 — *Trichoderma asperellum* M2RT4
 — *Trichoderma harzianum* F2R41
 — *Trichoderma* spp. F2L41
 — *Hypocrea lixii* F3ST1
 — Control

Effect of endophytic colonization on maize seedling growth parameters. **(A)** Mean plant height. **(B)** Mean wet and dry shoot weight. **(C)** Mean leaf length. **(D)** Mean leaf width and **(E)** Mean leaf number.



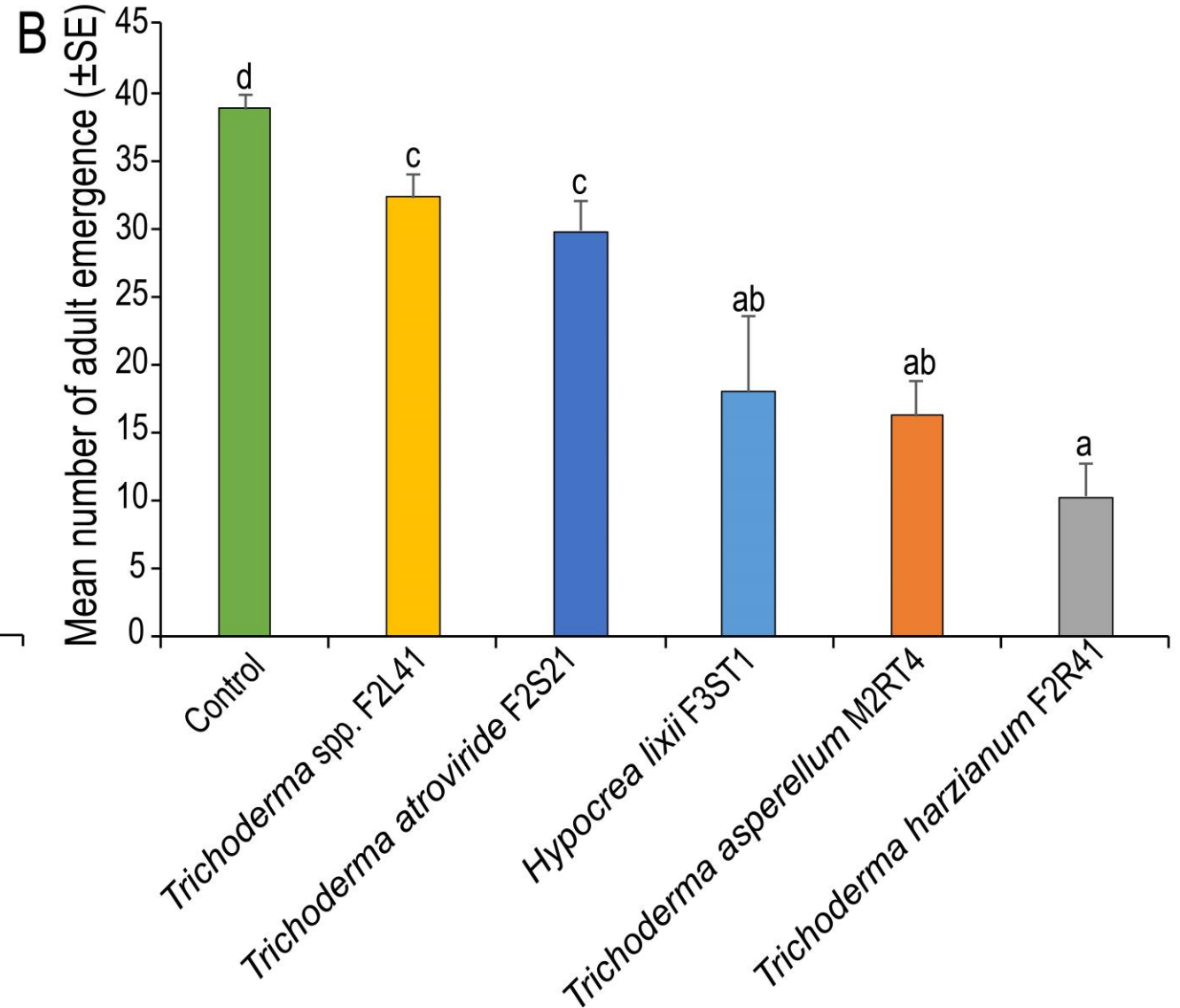
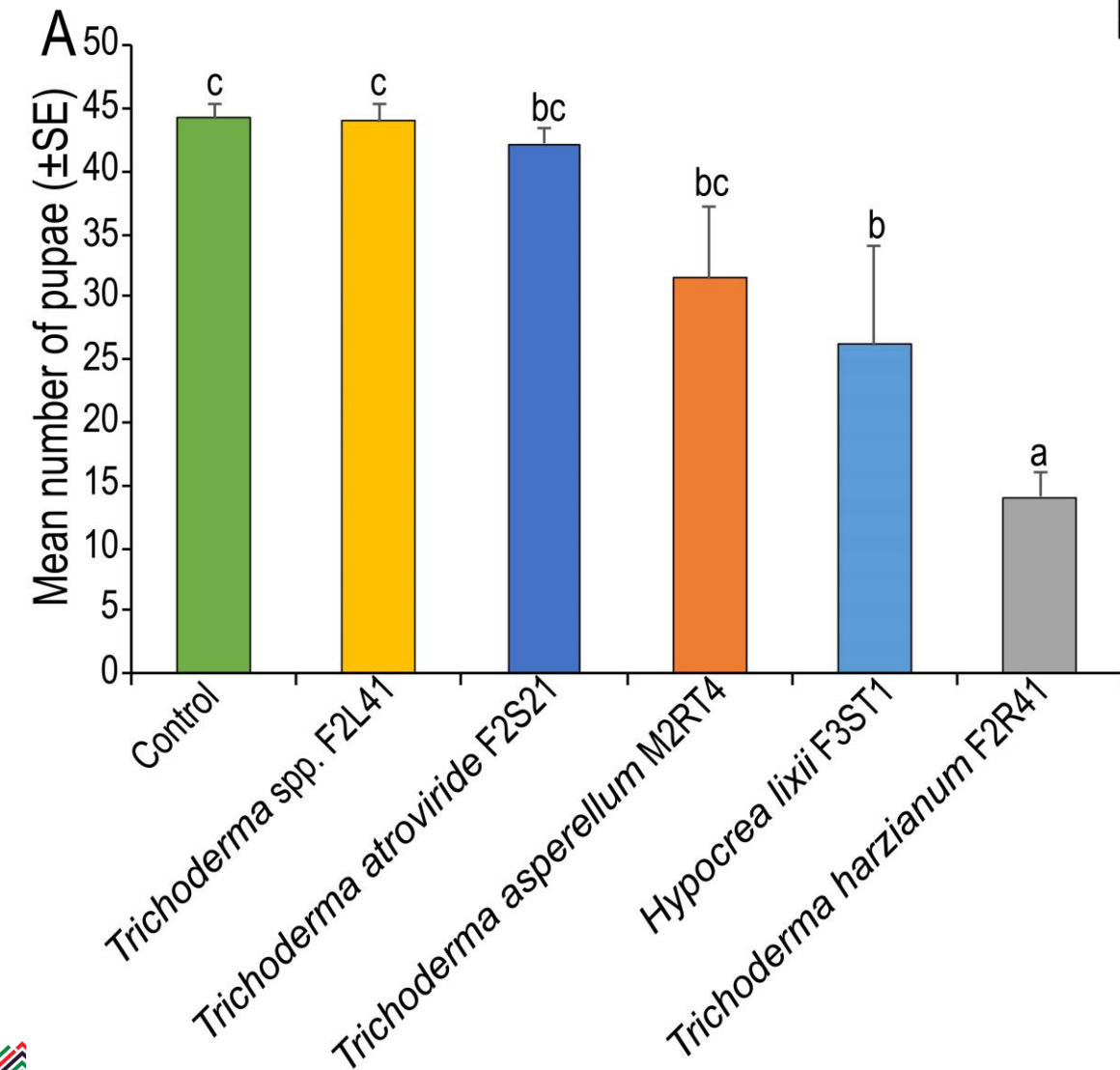
Endophytes effects on reproduction traits and feeding/defoliation



- Trichoderma atroviride F2S21
- Trichoderma asperellum M2RT4
- Trichoderma harzianum F2R41
- Trichoderma spp. F2L41
- Hypocrea lixii F3ST1
- Control



Endophytes effects on pupation and adult emergence



Building capacity of production entomopathogenic fungi



Biological Control and
n Biological Control

Business incubation for small-scale farmers on biopesticide production

Arthropod Pathology Unit, *icipe*, 21-27 March 2020



Training facility for small-scale production of entomopathogenic fungi



Fall armyworm biopesticides

7 videos • 68 views • Last updated on Jan 26, 2021

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- 6 Slide culture EPF for identification
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- 7 EPF mass production
ICIPE - International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology
12:03

Video-tutorial on basic entomopathological procedures and fungus production



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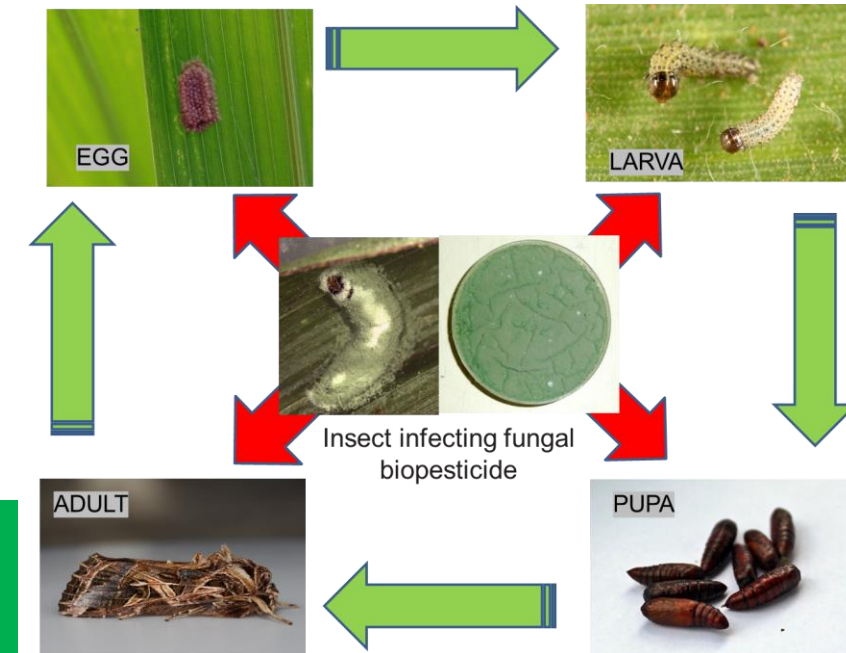
Expanding public-private-partnership for biopesticide scaling



- ❖ Interaction between - regulatory authorities from Tanzania, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and East African Community; 4 Biopesticides companies; National partners and researchers
- ❖ Strengthen **external partnerships and collaborations** - from different part of the world



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