

## **Influence of Cucurbitacin-Containing Phytonematicides on Nematode Biocontrol Agent: *Trichoderma harzianum***

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**Abstract :** Cucurbitacin-containing phytonematicides consistently suppress root-knot (*Meloidogyne* species) nematode population densities. However, the impact of these products on nematode biocontrol agents is not documented. The objective of this study was to determine the influence of Nemarioc-AL and Nemafric-BL phytonematicides on growth of *Trichoderma harzianum* under in vitro conditions. The two phytonematicides were separately prepared to concentrations of 3% and used in poison plate assays. After exposure at different times from 0 to 72 h, there was 100% mycelial growth of *T. harzianum*. In conclusion, at the recommended concentrations of phytonematicides used in managing nematode population densities, there was no evidence of suppressive effects on growth of *T. harzianum* by the two phytonematicides.

**Keywords :** botanicals, crude extracts, *cucumis africanus*, *cucumis myriocarpus*, cucurbitacin a, cucurbitacin b, ethnomedicinal plants

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