

**Evaluation of in-furrow and banded fungicide applications to manage *Rhizoctonia* root and crown rot, 2024**

Chris Bloomingdale and Jaime Willbur, Michigan State University

|                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Location:</b> Frankenmuth (SVREC) | <b>Treatment Timings:</b> In-Furrow & Banded (6-8 leaf stage) |
| <b>Planting Dates:</b> May 31, 2024  | <b>Pesticides:</b> see table                                  |
| <b>Soil Type:</b> Loam               | <b>O.M.:</b> 5.08 <b>pH:</b> 7.9                              |
| <b>Replicates:</b> 4                 | <b>Variety:</b> BTS-1122                                      |

**Summary:** Significant differences in the percent stand loss were observed among tested program ( $P < 0.0001$ ). Programs 7-10 and the non-inoculated control (No. 2) had lower rates of stand loss, ranging from 0.2 to 2.7%, than the inoculated control, which had a 23.1% stand loss. Root disease index values also differed significantly among fungicide programs ( $P < 0.0001$ ). Programs 6-10 and the non-inoculated control had lower disease indices than the inoculated control. Yield estimates were significantly different among programs ( $P < 0.01$ ). Programs 7-10 and the non-inoculated control had significantly greater yield than the inoculated control. No differences were detected among RWST values. It was noted that programs with a banded application resulted in lower disease and greater yield parameters.

**Table 1.** End-of-season stand loss, *Rhizoctonia* root rot index, yield, and RWST from the tested fungicide programs.

| No. | Treatment; Rate <sup>a</sup> ; Timing <sup>b</sup>          | Stand Loss (%) <sup>c,d</sup> | Disease Index (%) <sup>e</sup> | Yield (t/A) | RWST <sup>f</sup> |
|-----|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| 1   | Inoculated Control <sup>g</sup>                             | 23.07 a-c                     | 39.48 ab                       | 1.70 cd     | 218.0             |
| 2   | Non-Inoculated Control <sup>g</sup>                         | 2.71 d                        | 0.00 d                         | 4.30 ab     | 230.1             |
| 3   | GWN-12047; 32 fl oz; IF                                     | 13.38 b-d                     | 24.43 bc                       | 1.68 cd     | 222.3             |
| 4   | GWN-12047; 48 fl oz; IF                                     | 29.75 a                       | 44.83 a                        | 2.05 b-d    | 225.3             |
| 5   | GWN-12047; 64 fl oz; IF                                     | 20.04 a-c                     | 25.50 bc                       | 2.15 b-d    | 213.0             |
| 6   | Quadris; 13.9 fl oz; IF                                     | 8.90 cd                       | 13.95 cd                       | 3.98 a-c    | 230.4             |
| 7   | GWN-12047; 48 fl oz; IF<br>GWN-12047; 48 fl oz; B           | 0.62 d                        | 3.75 d                         | 4.95 a      | 232.3             |
| 8   | GWN-12047; 48 fl oz; IF<br>Quadris; 13.9 fl oz; B           | 0.16 d                        | 6.60 d                         | 4.50 ab     | 226.9             |
| 9   | Quadris; 13.9 fl oz; IF<br>GWN-12047; 48 fl oz; B           | 0.16 d                        | 3.38 d                         | 4.93 a      | 234.8             |
| 10  | Quadris; 13.9 fl oz; IF<br>Quadris; 13.9 fl oz; B           | 0.44 d                        | 1.05 d                         | 4.50 ab     | 241.1             |
| 11  | EXP Biocontrol; 14 fl oz; IF                                | 24.88 ab                      | 32.33 ab                       | 1.30 d      | 215.2             |
| 12  | EXP Biocontrol; 14 fl oz; IF<br>EXP Biocontrol; 14 fl oz; B | 29.20 a                       | 32.05 ab                       | 1.20 d      | 225.1             |

<sup>a</sup> All rates are listed as a measure of a product per acre.

<sup>b</sup> In-furrow treatments (IF) were applied at planting (May 31), banded applications (B) were applied at the 6-8 leaf stage (Jul 9).

<sup>c</sup> Stand loss percentages calculated from initial stand counts collected Jun 17 and final dead beet counts collected Sep 10.

<sup>d</sup> Column values followed by the same letter were not significantly different based on Fisher's Protected LSD ( $\alpha=0.05$ ).

<sup>e</sup> Disease index was calculated by multiplying the *Rhizoctonia* root rot incidence (0-100%) by the mean symptomatic root severity (1-7) and dividing by 7.

<sup>f</sup> Recoverable white sugar per ton of beets.

<sup>g</sup> Non-treated control.