

## **Interaction between *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* and *Coniothyrium minitans* Strains with Different Aggressiveness**

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The effects of *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* live and autoclaved sclerotia, and sclerotial exudates, and commercial oxalic acid were tested *in vitro* on seven *Coniothyrium minitans* strains differing in aggressiveness towards *S. sclerotiorum*. Only sclerotial exudates and autoclaved sclerotia affected the mycelial growth rate of almost all the strains tested, whereas a change in the *C. minitans* mycelial growth pattern was observed in the presence of autoclaved sclerotia and live sclerotia germinating by the myceliogenic eruptive germination. In addition, sclerotial exudates had a stimulatory effect on spore germination. These findings indicate that the various treatments could influence the *C. minitans* strains regardless of their aggressiveness.

**KEY WORDS:** *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*; *Coniothyrium minitans*; interaction.

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