

## Further Suppression of *Botrytis cinerea* Disease in Cucumber Seedlings by Chitosan–Copper Complex as Compared with Chitosan Alone

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Chitosan–copper complex compared with chitosan alone enhanced suppression of *Botrytis cinerea* rot development on four-true-leaf cucumber seedlings in controlled growth chambers. This paper constitutes the first report of such enhancement. The optimal concentrations for the most effective suppression of *Botrytis* development were 0.2 g l<sup>-1</sup> chitosan and 1.6 mmole copper. After 12 days' incubation, marked and significantly better disease suppression was obtained with chitosan–copper complex (75% suppression) than with chitosan alone. The chitosan–copper complex could be a very promising decay control agent for use in both conventional and organic agriculture.

KEY WORDS: *Cucumis sativus*; gray mold; *Botrytis cinerea* suppression; chitosan; copper.

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