

NOTE: Identification of *Trichoderma* Biocontrol Isolates to Clades According to ap-PCR and ITS Sequence Analyses

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A collection of *Trichoderma* isolates, with different biocontrol capabilities, were identified by molecular methods. Arbitrarily-primed PCR (ap-PCR) using repeat motif primers was performed on DNA from a *Trichoderma* spp. collection of 76 isolates, and representative isolates were further characterized into three main clades by internal transcribed spacer (ITS) sequence analysis. Consequently, a reliable phylogenetic tree was constructed containing isolates belonging to the *T. harzianum* clade (comprising *T. aureoviride*, *T. inhamatum*, and *T. virens*), the *T. longibrachiatum* and *T. saturnisporum* cluster, and that including the species *T. asperellum*, *T. atroviride*, *T. koningii* and *T. viride*.

KEY WORDS: Anthracnose; *Fragaria* × *ananassa*; gray mold; internal transcribed spacer (ITS) region; arbitrarily-primed polymerase chain reaction (ap-PCR); ribosomal DNA.

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