

Effect of Seed Treatment of *Arachis hypogaea* with *Bacillus subtilis* on Nodulation in Biocontrol of Southern Blight (*Sclerotium rolfsii*) Disease

E.F. Abd-Allah^{1*} and G. El-Didamony²

The employment of formulated *Bacillus subtilis* for peanut seeds (*Arachis hypogaea* cv. 'Shulamit') counteracted the destructive effects of the seedborne pathogen *Sclerotium (Athelia) rolfsii* on the nodulation, leghemoglobin and nitrogenase activity of peanuts. Moreover, the changes in crop vigor index, total nitrogen content and survivability of both *Rhizobium* spp. and *B. subtilis* have been related to compatibility and even an occasional synergism between them.

KEY WORDS: Nodulation; *Arachis hypogaea*; *Sclerotium rolfsii*; *Bacillus subtilis*.

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¹Seed Pathology Department, Plant Pathology Research Institute, Agriculture Research Center, Giza, Egypt. Present address: Kasassin Agriculture Research Station, Kasassin, Ismailia, Egypt. *Corresponding author [e-mail: elsayed_22@yahoo.com].

²Botany Department, Faculty of Science, Zagazig University, Zagazig, Egypt.