



# Biofungicides For Root Disease

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**BioWorks®**

# Why do we need to adapt?



• **Market trends**

• **Resistance**

• **Restrictive REIs**

**PUSH**

**Biofungicides**

# Integrated plant health management



- Cultural practices
- Plant nutrition
- **Use of biofungicides**
- Integration of conventional and biological products



**SAFE. PROVEN. EFFECTIVE.**

# Starting to use biofungicides?

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## Product performance is affected by:

- Selection of the right product for the situation and disease
- Timing and method of application
- Repeat applications being made as-needed

## Will work when:

- Applied *preventatively*
- Disease pressures are low to moderate
- Used with other compatible inputs

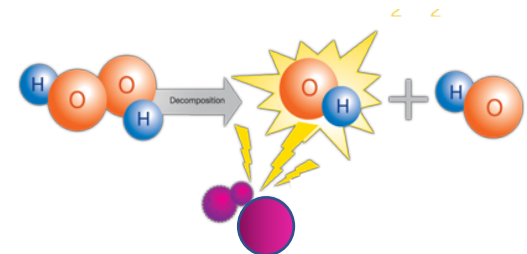
***Right product, right place, right time***

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# Prevention is (so much) better than cure!

## Sanitation and cultural practices are fundamental

- Plant tissue and water analyses, accurate disease diagnoses
- H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (PERpose Plus®, ZeroTol®, Jet-Ag™) is a great tool
  - surfaces, tools, blocks, cuttings, rooting benches
- Limit access to propagation areas to avoid transfer in/out



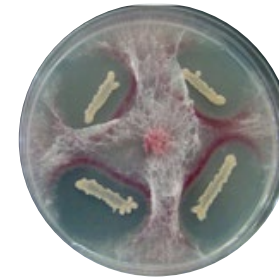
# Biofungicides for root diseases

*Trichoderma* spp. – RootShield *PLUS*<sup>+</sup>, Asperello

*Bacillus* species – Cease, Stargus, Double Nickel

*Streptomyces* species – Actinovate, Mycostop

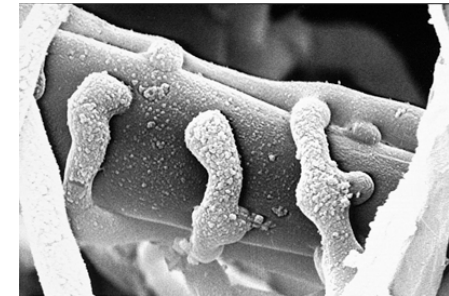
- **Competition:** Colonize roots, outcompete pathogens for space or nutrients
- **Antagonism:** Metabolites/enzymes kill or inhibit other microorganisms
- **Parasitism:** Microbial agent attacks or consumes the pathogen
- **Induced resistance:** Activate plant defenses



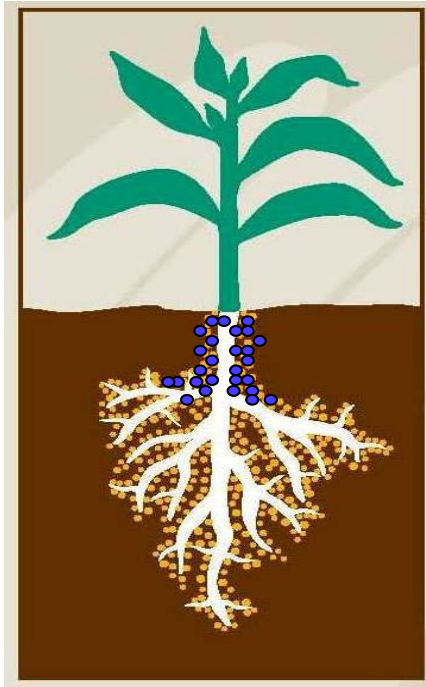
*Bacillus subtilis* vs  
*Fusarium*



Inhibition of *Fusarium*  
by *Trichoderma*



*Gliocladium catenulatum*  
(LalStop®) vs *Rhizoctonia solani*



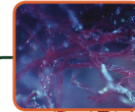
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**ROOTSHIELD PLUS<sup>+</sup>**  
**MODES OF ACTION**

- 1 COMPETES WITH AND EXCLUDES PATHOGENS**  
RootShield PLUS<sup>+</sup> takes up space in the rhizosphere and crowds out pathogens. It not only overtakes that space, it eats nutrients as well - causing pathogens to starve.
- 2 SHIELDS ROOTS**  
Not only does RootShield PLUS<sup>+</sup> grow on the roots, it shields them from pathogens. It acts as a barrier that pathogens cannot get through.
- 3 HUNTS AND EATS PATHOGENIC FUNGI**  
RootShield PLUS<sup>+</sup> seeks out, attacks and eats fungal pathogens.



- 4 ANTAGONIZES PATHOGENS**  
RootShield PLUS<sup>+</sup> releases anti-pathogen substances creating a zone that is inhospitable to pathogens.
- 5 INDUCES HOST RESISTANCE**  
RootShield PLUS<sup>+</sup>, with its presence in the rhizosphere, signals the plant to accumulate defensive gene products, which give the plant a better defense response in subsequent encounters with pathogens.

**Where does it grow?**  
RootShield PLUS<sup>+</sup> grows in the soil and on the roots (rhizosphere). It grows along with the roots as they expand into the soil. It can even coil around the root, securing its position.



KEY:  
 Pathogens  
 RootShield PLUS<sup>+</sup>

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 (800) 877-9443  
 expert@bioworksinc.com

# Biofungicides for root diseases

## Success begins in propagation

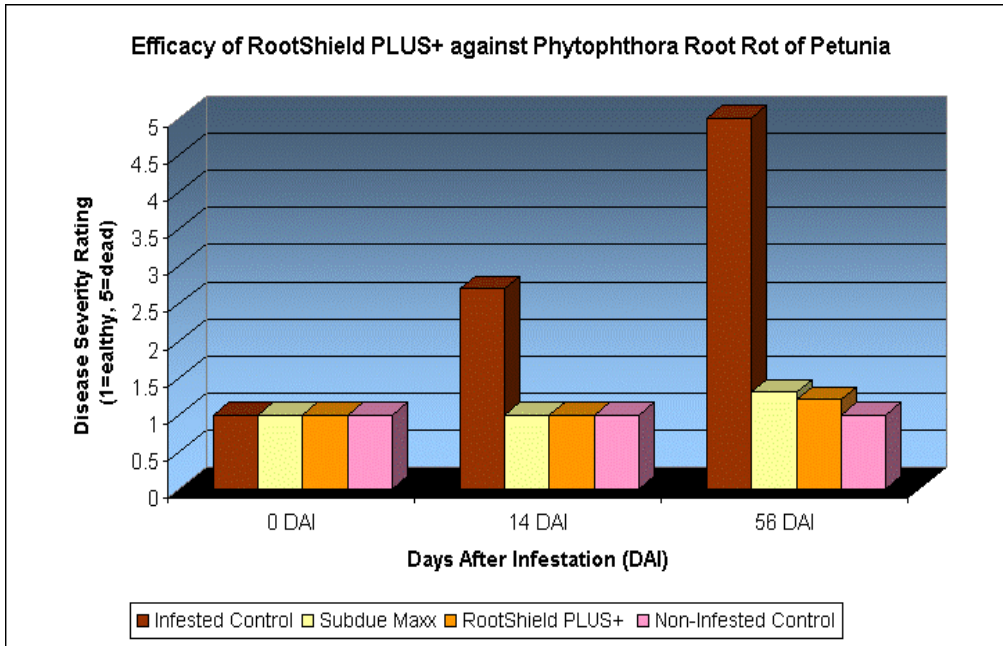
- Drench rooting cubes/wedges, flats, etc., with biofungicide 5 -10 days after sticking
- Pre-incorporate granules into growing medium
- Or Dipping
- Disease protection from the get-go, re-apply according to product

recommendations





# *Trichoderma*: as good as traditional chemistry



RootShield *PLUS*<sup>+</sup> vs Subdue Maxx vs *Phytophthora* root rot on Petunia

Performance comparable to (or better than) chemistry

Compatibility means:

- May be tank-mixed or used in rotation
- When disease pressures are high
- Combination enhances performance

## RootShield® PLUS<sup>+</sup>: Compatibility

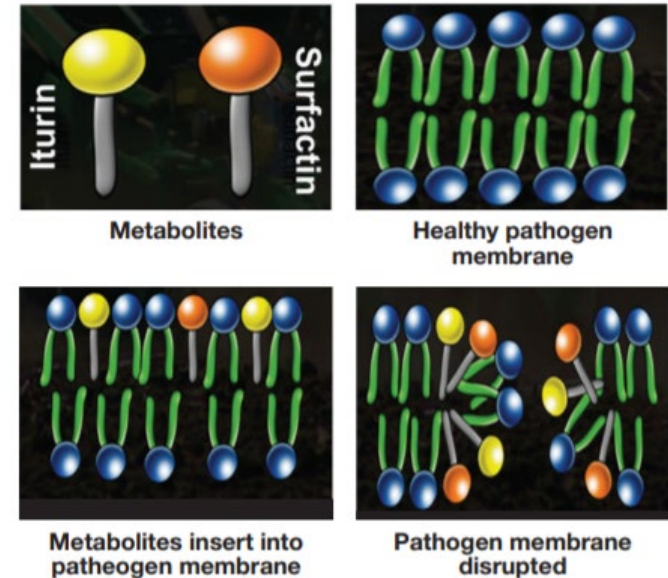
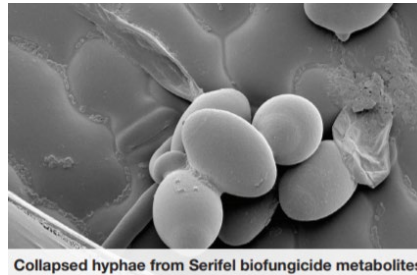
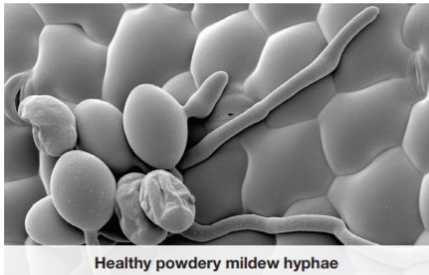
Brand Name	Active Ingredient	Compatibility
CEASE	<i>B. Subtilis</i> QST713	Apply 1-day apart (soil)
Heritage	Azoxystrobin	Yes
Mural	Azoxystrobin + Benzobindiflupyr	Yes
Pageant	Pyraclostrobin + Boscallid	Yes
Daconil	Chlorothalonil	Yes
OHP6672	Thiophanate methyl	Yes
Camelot, Phyton 35	Copper soap, Copper sulfate	NO (apply 1-d apart)
Terrazole, Protect TO	Etridiazole, Mancozeb	NO (apply 1-d apart)
<b>Natural enemies</b>		
NemaShield, Nemasys	<i>Steinernema feltiae</i>	OK to use
Predatory rove beetle	<i>Dalotia coriaria</i>	OK to use
Predatory mite	<i>Stratiolaelaps scimitus</i>	OK to use



# Microbial biofungicides: *Bacillus* spp.

## Primary MOA: Antagonism

- *Bacillus subtilis*, *B. pumilis*, *B. amyloliquefaciens*
- Produce antimicrobial metabolites (lipopeptides) during fermentation
- Metabolites physically disrupt cell membranes, cells collapse; inhibits fungal growth
- Induce plant resistance



Serifel® Biofungicide. BASF  
CEASE® Biofungicide, BioWorks

# Botanicals: Plant activators

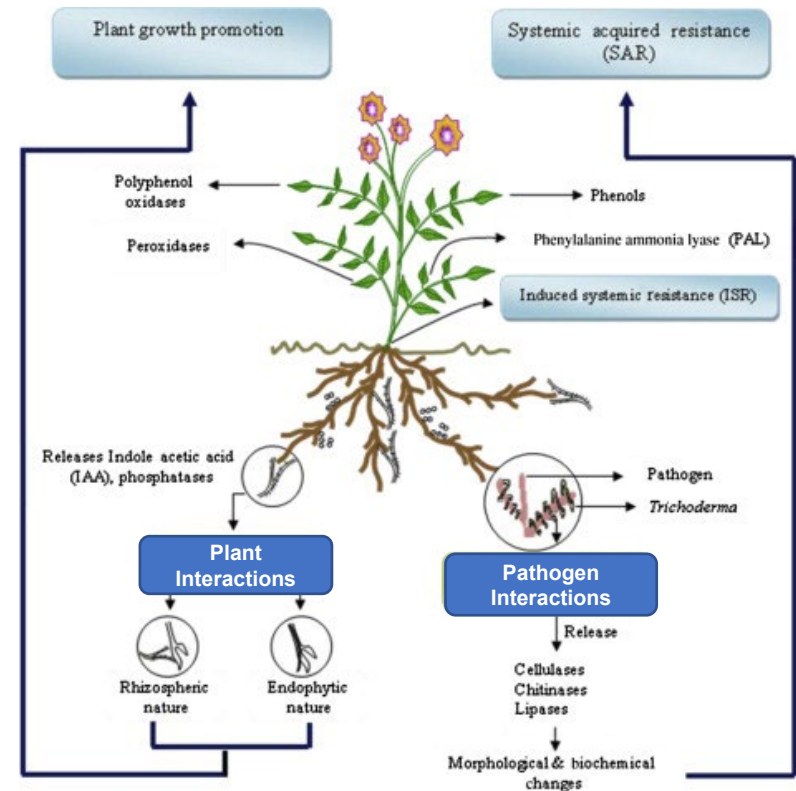
## *Induce plant resistance*

- Regalia® MAXX, extract of giant knotweed
- Activates plant defenses
- Plants produce and accumulate specialized proteins and other compounds known to inhibit fungal diseases.
- Induces production of phytoalexins, cell strengtheners, antioxidants, phenolics and PR proteins, which all inhibit plant pathogens.



# Intrinsic benefits provided by *Trichoderma* and *Bacillus*

- Stimulate root growth
- Induce proliferation of root hairs
- Aid uptake and use of nutrients from soil
- Enhance plant resistance to abiotic/biotic stresses
- Improve crop productivity.



# Improved seed germination

## Ranunculus seed

Products applied as a srench at seeding

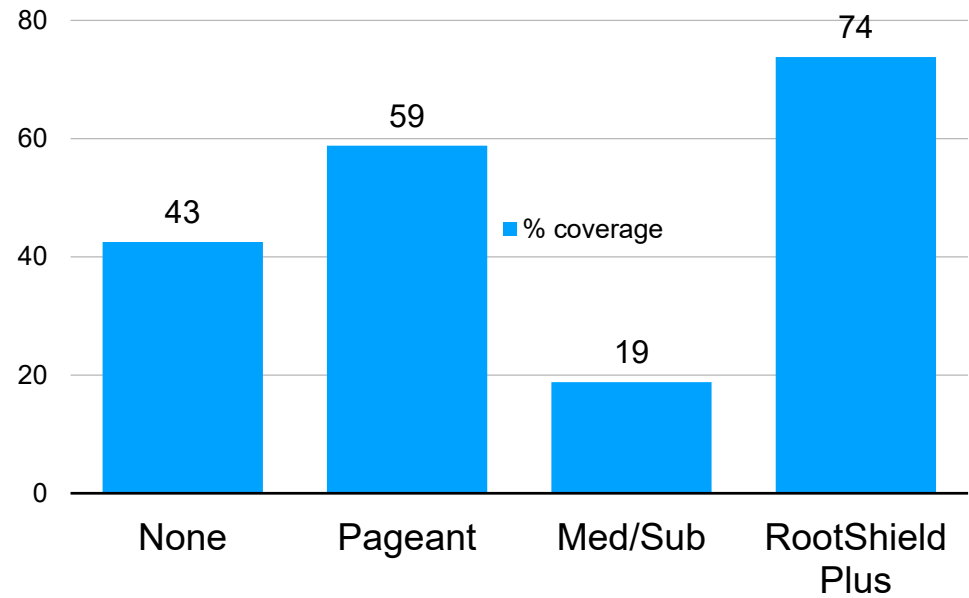
Pageant Intrinsic applied again 14 days later

### Treatments

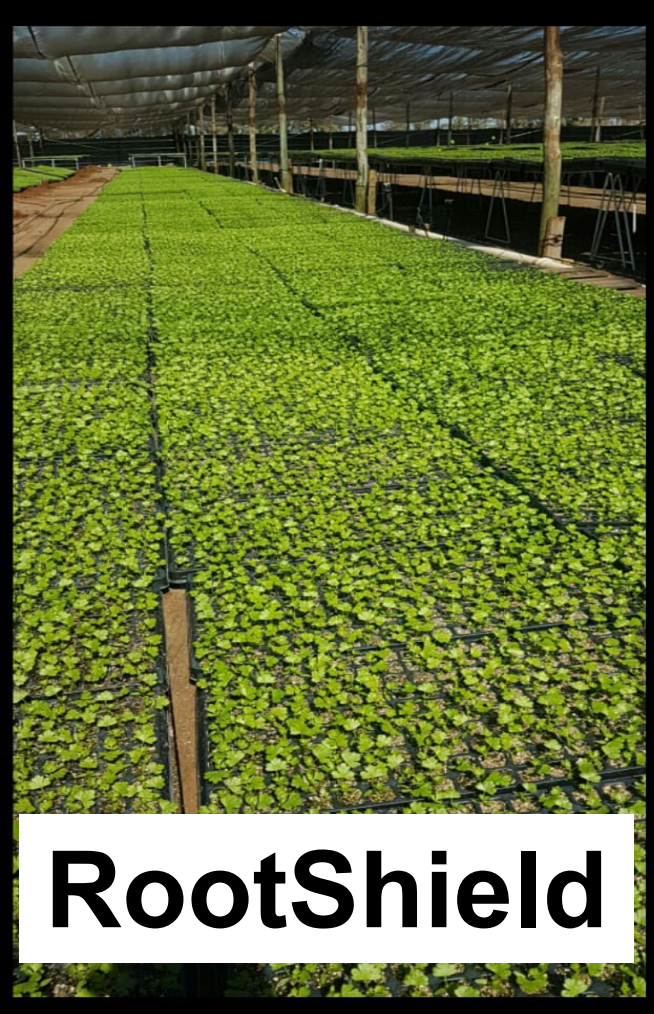
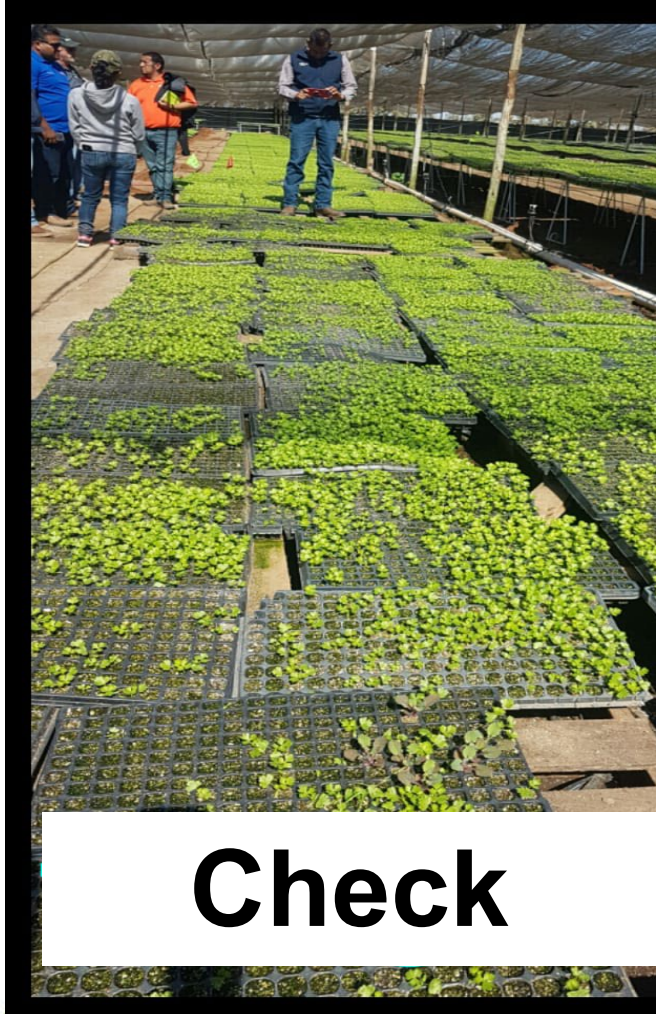
- A. None
- B. Pageant Intrinsic (4 oz/100 gal)
- C. Medallion/Subdue Maxx (ea. 1 oz/100 gal)
- D. RootShield Plus (8 oz/100 gal)

### Conclusions

- **Highest germination/growth with RootShield Plus** applied at seeding
- Better than Pageant
- Lowest growth with the fungicide standard treatment



# Improved seed germination



# Improved rooting in woody ornamentals

## Crepe Myrtle

Products applied as a srench at sticking

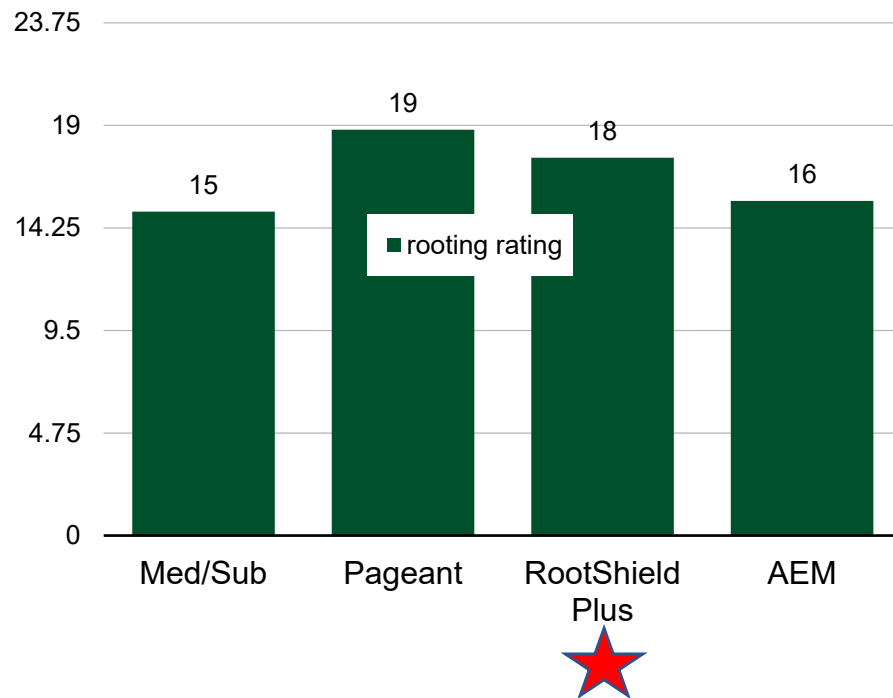
Pageant Intrinsic applied again 14 days later

### Treatments

- A. Medallion and Subdue Maxx (ea. 1 oz/100 gal)
- B. Pageant Intrinsic (4 oz/100 gal)
- C. RootShield Plus (8 oz/100 gal)
- D. AEM1 (25 oz/100 gal) (Efficient Microorganisms)

### Conclusions

- At the end of the trial, the best rooting was seen with Pageant Intrinsic
- **Closely followed by RootShield Plus.**





# Biologicals do best when applied early



Viburnum 'Spring Lace' – 6/18



Illicium parviflorum 'BananAppeal' – 8/20

**Start Clean - Stay Clean**

# Improved survival after transplanting

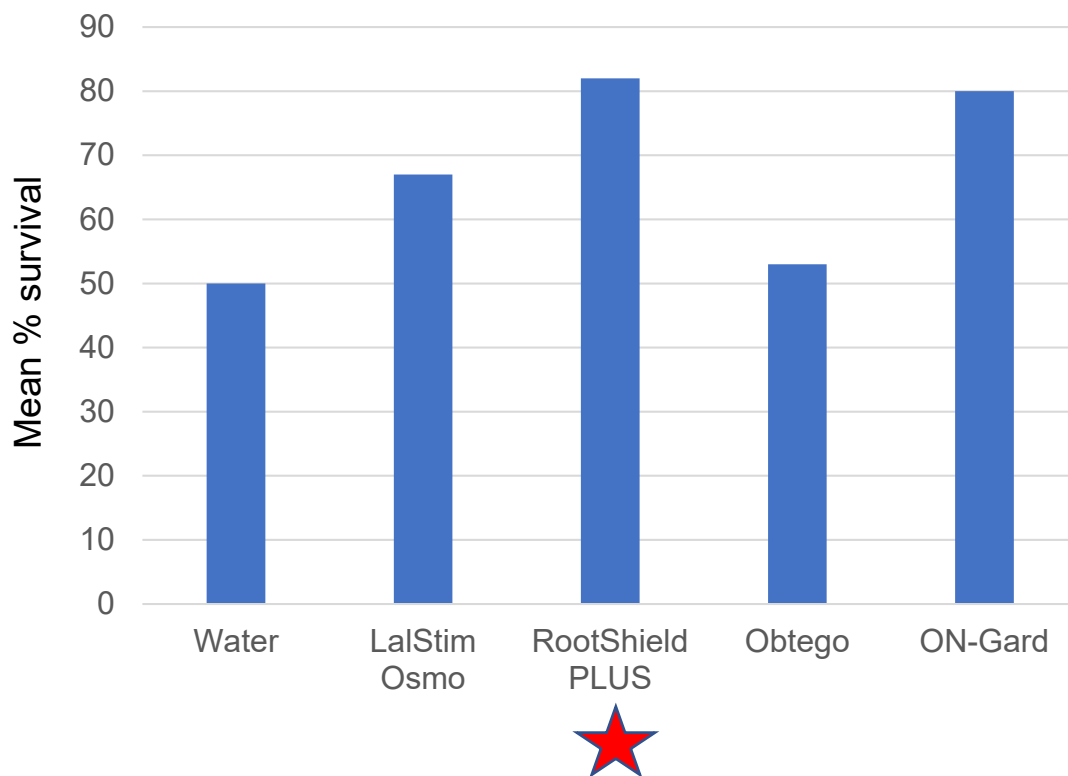
## Trial conditions very stressful

- Dry, hot days to cool/ cold nights

## Best treatments for top quality were

- RootShield Plus
- ON-GARD
- All other treatments did not promote plant growth over the water control.

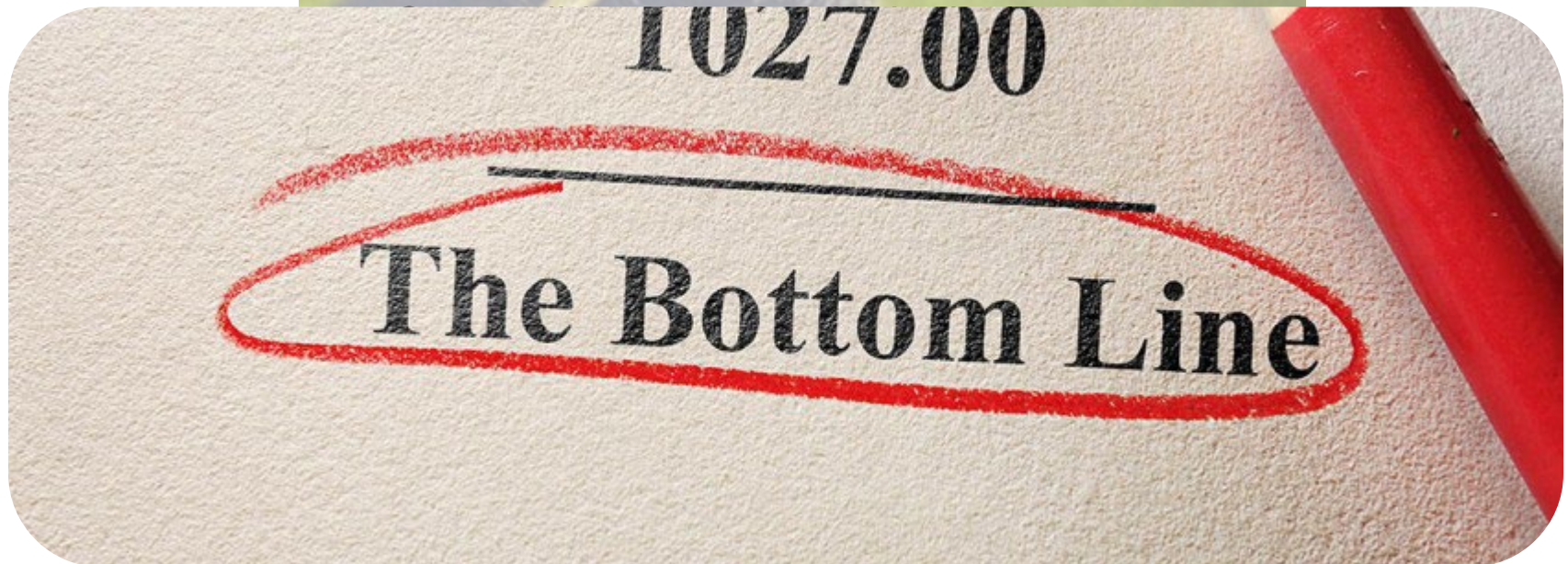
Effect of post-transplanting products on survival of *Pittosporum tenuifolium*



# Benefits of biofungicides

## Biocontrol benefits

- Stronger plant disease resistance
- Reduced need for fungicide soil drenches



# Thank you

Advances (and Opportunities) in Biofungicides

