Proceedings of the 13th ISTRC Symposium, 2007
pp. 345 – 354

Effect of co-formulated fungicides on late blight management in seed and ware potatoes

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Abstract. Late blight caused by *Phytophthora infestans* (Mont.) de Bary is the most important potato disease in Cameroon. Three co-formulated fungicides (Anteor Super, Galben Plus and Ridomil Plus) were evaluated in 2000 for efficacy in suppressing late blight development in seed and ware potato fields. The trial was conducted at Upper-Farm, Bambui (2000 masl). A randomised complete block design was used with four replicates. Three potato varieties (Desirée, Cipira and Tubira) were treated twice with the fungicides at manufacturers' recommended rates. The first treatments were applied at the appearance of the first late blight symptoms (35 DAP) and the second sprays were applied 21 days later. Control plots were not sprayed. Late blight severity varied with fungicide treatment and variety. Low disease intensities and high seed and ware potato yields were obtained in sprayed plots. The highest yields and net returns were obtained generally in plots treated with Ridomil Plus, followed by Galben Plus. Tuber yields and net returns from fungicidal control varied with fungicidal treatments and variety. Ridomil Plus was the most profitable fungicide, while Anteor Super was the least. Net returns to Ridomil Plus applications varied from US$ 1,649.27 to 6,949.27/ha for seed potatoes and US$ 1,400.70 to 2,494.98/ha for ware potatoes. Results show that the co-formulated fungicides used have a potential to suppress potato late blight severity and increase seed and ware potato yields and consequently net farm incomes.