Criteria for Acceptance

Remember to fully edit and proof your abstract before submitting. Early submissions are encouraged to avoid delays on the last day.

- Abstracts must report results of original research or other activity of significant merit that relates to phytopathology and the related industry.
- Abstracts should be reviewed by all authors and peer reviewed by two additional people for scientific merit as well as grammatical, typographical, or factual errors.
- Abstracts must include the following elements: justification, objectives, methods, results, and significance of the research to the science of phytopathology.
- Abstracts must not be simply a review or progress report, but must contain useful and new information. Abstracts must not include references or footnotes.
- Abstracts must be in final form with no grammatical, typographical, or factual errors.
- No abstract that has been presented or is intended to be presented at another meeting shall be submitted for consideration.
- Publication of tables, charts, and graphs projected onto screens or posted at the annual meeting by anyone other than an author or presenter is prohibited unless a release has been requested and received in writing from an author or presenter.

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Amount will be indicated and the fee will be collected on the meeting registration form. The fee applies for your abstract to be published in a Phytopathology supplement issue and will be collected when you register for the meeting. The amount of the fee will be indicated on the meeting registration form.

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Sample Abstract

Watermelon root arbuscular mycorrhizal colonization is enhanced following *Vicia villosa* and *Trifolium incarnatum* cover crops

J. C. HIMMELSTEIN, K. Everts, Y. Balci

Triploid watermelon cultivars, grown on more than 1800 ha in Maryland and Delaware, have little resistance to Fusarium wilt of watermelon (*Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *niveum*). A *Vicia villosa* cover crop suppresses Fusarium wilt of watermelon but the mechanism of suppression is unknown. *Vicia villosa* has been shown to increase mycorrhizal colonization of subsequent crops, which may play a role in suppression. This study examined the effect of *V. villosa* and the biocontrol Actinovate AG (*Streptomyces lydicus* WYEC 108) on arbuscular mycorrhizal colonization in a subsequent watermelon crop. Field experiments at Beltsville and Salisbury, MD in 2010 examined the impact of fall-planted, spring tilled cover crops (*V. villosa*, *Trifolium incarnatum*, *Secale cereale*, *Brassica juncea*), or bare ground, and Actinovate on the mycorrhizal root colonization of the following watermelon crop. Watermelon roots were stained with trypan blue and fine roots were examined for the presence of arbuscules. The percentage of watermelon roots colonized by arbuscular mycorrhizae was significantly higher following *V. villosa* and *T. incarnatum* green manures compared to that of all other treatments, as much as 71% and 44%, respectively. Actinovate had no significant effect on arbuscular mycorrhizal root colonization of watermelon. Enhancement of watermelon root mycorrhizal colonization following a *V. villosa* and *T. incarnatum* green manure may be a factor in Fusarium wilt disease suppression.

*Updated November 10, 2014*