

# EL ENEMIGO DE MI ENEMIGO ES MI AMIGO

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## ABSTRACT

The use of biological control agents (BCA), alone or in combination with other management measures, has gained attention over the past decades, driven by the need to seek for sustainable and eco-friendly alternatives to confront plant pathogens.

This use is of interest within an integrated management strategy of *Verticillium* wilt of olive (VWO) caused by the soil-borne fungus *Verticillium dahliae* Kleb and Fusarium wilt of banana () caused by soil-borne fungus *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *cubense*. The root/rhizosphere of healthy olive plants is an important reservoir of microorganisms displaying biocontrol activity against VWO and FWB. Different bacterial strains have been used *in vitro* and all strains displayed growth inhibition and biocontrol effectiveness against *Verticillium dahliae* and *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *cubense*.

The strain *Pseudomonas chlororaphis* (102) has been the most effective BCA against *Verticillium dahliae* and against *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *cubense*.

VWO is a disease difficult to control and the use of BCAs can be useful within an integrated control strategy.

**Keywords:** *biocontrol, Pseudomonas, rhizobacteria, fungus, conidia, inhibition.*