



Horticultural
Development
Company

New Project

SF 99

Sustainable control of crown rot
(*Phytophthora cactorum*) in
strawberry

Project Number: SF 99

Title: Sustainable control of crown rot (*Phytophthora cactorum*) in strawberry

Start and end dates: 1 April 2009 to 31st March 2011

Project Leader: Dr Angela Berrie, EMR

Project Co-ordinator: Mrs Harriet Duncalfe, H & H Duncalfe

Location: East Malling Research, Kent

Background and project objectives

Crown rot, caused by the fungus *Phytophthora cactorum*, is an important disease of strawberry both in propagation and in fruit production. Failure to control the disease in fruit production with a susceptible cultivar can result in severe losses or even complete crop loss. Once the disease is established on a farm eradication is difficult. Clean planting material is vital in the integrated approach to disease control but effective fungicides are also important to prevent infection in the fruiting plantation. Currently only Aliette (fosetyl-AI) and Paraat (dimethomorph) can be used in fruit production and the industry is very dependent on the availability of these fungicides. This project will identify effective alternative fungicides to Aliette and Paraat and explore the use of alternative chemicals or biocontrol agents for crown rot control. The best method of application and timing will also be identified. The information generated will form the basis of an integrated approach to crown rot control which could be evaluated in a future project.

Further information

Email the HDC office (hdc@hdc.org.uk), quoting your HDC number, alternatively contact the HDC at the address below.

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