

Paid Master Thesis Environmental Biotechnology TU Graz



Plant risk assessment for potential insect pest biocontrol strains

Biological control of pests and pathogens is a key research area to achieve environmentally friendly plant protection and sustainable agriculture. Still, there is an urgent need for developing methods, strategies and/or substances to effectively control the increasing incidences of yield losses due to insect pests. Pest- and plant-associated microorganisms play an important role in the interplay between these partners, affecting both growth and health and consequently yield. Using microbe-based applications in agriculture results in the reduction of xenobiotica, thus laying foundations for self-controlling ecosystem services and biodiversity in agroecosystems.

In this thesis we want to evaluate the effects of pest-controlling microbes on plant performance of different sugar beet cultivars as well as compatible microbial organism for field trials.

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