Abstract

Blue mold (Peronospora tabacina Adam) is considered the most important disease of tobacco (Nicotiana tabacum L.), in Cuba. Susceptible varieties require up to ten fungicides applications during culture cycle, which inside on cost production and environmental contamination. In order to introduce new alternatives the effectivity of biological product Gluticid was evaluated, in laboratory and in field conditions in Pinar del Rio and Havana provinces. Weekly treatments started since the appearance of the first symptoms and the incidence of the blue mold was evaluated by Coresta scale. P. tabacina infection diminished 50% or more in laboratory tobacco plants, with a single 200 ppm application of the biological product, compared with the control. Experimental fields protected with Gluticid at 0.09 kg/ha a.i. in Pinar del Río province showed an attack index of 5.1%, and mancozeb 80 PH variant showed 5.8%, without significant difference between treatments. Product applied in Havana province at similar dose maintained the incidence of blue mold in 2.07% and showed a similar effectiveness to mancozeb with 2.04% of infection. Results indicate the possibility of using biological product like mancozeb, under a moderate incidence of blue mold, within the management strategy of this disease.

Keywords

Biological control, Peronospora tabacina, tobacco.