

Review Form 1.7

Journal Name:	International Journal of Plant & Soil Science
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJPSS_109261
Title of the Manuscript:	Unravelling the fungal bioagents and botanicals efficacy for the invitro management of leaf blight disease of Stevia rebaudiana caused by Alternaria alternata (Fr.) KEISSLER
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<p>Compulsory REVISION comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the manuscript important for scientific community? (Please write few sentences on this manuscript) 2. Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title) 3. Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? 4. Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate? 5. Do you think the manuscript is scientifically correct? 6. Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestion of additional references, please mention in the review form. <p><u>(Apart from above mentioned 6 points, reviewers are free to provide additional suggestions/comments)</u></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The paper introduces a significant scientific methodology addressing environmental, ecological, and human health concerns. 2. The title may be correct, but it is clearly lacking in scientific language. I strongly recommend refining the language, ensuring that it meets the appropriate scientific standards. Here is my suggestion: "Fungal bioagents and botanicals efficacy against <i>Alternaria alternata</i> responsible for leaf blight disease of <i>Stevia rebaudiana</i>" 3. The abstract accurately summarizes the content of the rest of the paper. There are no discrepancies between the abstract and the main body of the paper. 4. The paper structure and subsections are correct. However, could be improved by moving tables and figures. 5. The manuscript is not only accurate scientifically, but it is also necessary from a scientific perspective. 6. The bibliography is adequate for this issue. However, it is of utmost importance to enrich the bibliography of your work by including review articles. Not only will they provide more elements to enhance the discussion, but they will also add depth to your introduction. Therefore, I strongly recommend the inclusion of the following references. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A Heydari, M Pessarakli. A review on biological control of fungal plant pathogens using microbial antagonists. Journal of Biological Sciences, 10(4):273-290, 2010. - Brenda Sánchez-Montesinos, Mila Santos, Alejandro Moreno-Gavira, Teresa Marín-Rodulfo, Francisco J. Gea and Fernando Diánez. Biological Control of Fungal Diseases by <i>Trichoderma aggressivum</i> f. <i>europaeum</i> and Its Compatibility with Fungicides. J. Fungi 7, 598, 2021. https://doi.org/10.3390/jof7080598. - J Xie, D Jiang. New insights into mycoviruses and exploration for the biological control of crop fungal diseases. Annual Review of Phytopathology,52:45-68, 2014. <p><u>ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS / COMMENTS</u></p> <p><u>Introduction</u> Pag.1. Replace the word "viz." using "such as, specifically, in particular, namely". Pag. 2 L.7. Remember to capitalize the first letter of the genus name when writing it (<i>Alternaria</i>). L.9. Replace the word "viz." using "such as, specifically, in particular, namely".</p> <p><u>Metodology</u> 2.1. Describe the tissue culture procedure to isolate (media culture composition; where it was spread? Petri dishes or glassware or baby jars). 2.2. Do the same in item 2.1 (describe the entire <i>in vitro</i> culture condition), i.e. what kind of media salts, pH, the amount of sucrose, agar, light intensity and temperature.</p> <p><u>Results</u> Pag.4. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An abbreviation point for the word figure must be included, i.e. Fig. </p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that there is a space between the word "plate" and the number 1. <p>Pag.7. Review and rewrite the whole sentence highlighted.</p> <p>Conclusion Pag. 7. Make sure you do not miss out on including the absolute best result achieved during the experiment.</p> <p>References I couldn't understand why the references weren't in numerical order in the text. It started from number 5 instead the number 1. Additionally, only the reference "Naik et al., 2020" was cited in full instead of using the number, breaking the standard rules for bibliographic references in this scientific paper.</p> <p>General Observations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The references are pertinent to the issue of the paper. - Bibliographic references can be enhanced by providing detailed discussions and comparisons with tables and figures. <p>Also, kindly check for any spelling, grammar, or punctuation errors and correct them.</p>	
<p>Minor REVISION comments</p> <p>1. Is language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</p>	<p>Although the language used in the paper is appropriate for scholarly communication, it would be beneficial to proofread the entire document to correct any minor spelling, grammar, or punctuation errors. This will help ensure that the paper is polished and ready to convey its intended message effectively.</p>	
<p>Optional/General comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This paper presents relevant results for various scientific fields. Biological pest control is an urgent global demand that contributes to improving human life quality and environmental health in planetary ecosystems. - The references are pertinent to the issue of the paper. - Bibliographic references can be enhanced by providing detailed discussions and comparisons with tables and figures. 	

PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<p>Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?</p>	<p><i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i></p>	

Reviewer Details:

<p>Name:</p>	<p>Aline Castellar Duarte</p>
<p>Department, University & Country</p>	<p>University of British Columbia, Canada</p>