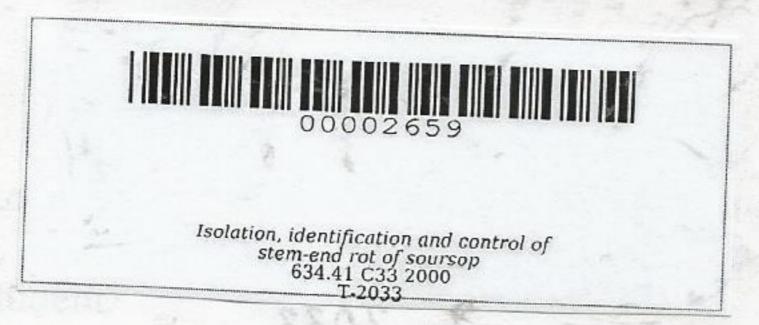
ISOLATION, IDENTIFICATION AND CONTROL OF STEM-END ROT OF SOURSOP (Annona muricata L.)

Undergraduate Thesis
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ALDRIN HERNANDEZ CENIZAL March 2000

ABSTRACT

CENIZAL, ALDRIN HERNANDEZ. Cavite State University, Indang, Cavite. March 2000. "Isolation, Identification and Control of Stem-end Rot of Soursop". Adviser: Dr. Adelaida E. Sangalang.

This study was conducted to isolate, identify, and control the causal organism of stem-end rot of soursop. The pathogen was isolated from infected fruits and stems. The isolated organism was inoculated to healthy soursop fruits to determine its pathogenicity. Reisolation was done after the disease symptom appeared.

The causal organism of stem-end rot of soursop was identified as fungus Botryodiplodia theobromae Pap. The disease may attack at any development stage of the fruit. Rotting begins at the stem-end and soon spreads to the whole fruit causing complete discoloration.

Six potential antagonists namely: *Trichoderma* sp.1, *Trichoderma* sp.2, *Acrasis* sp.1, *Acrasis* sp.2, *Bacillus cereus* and *B. megaterium* were screened. Among the six screened biological control agents, only *Trichoderma* sp.2 isolated from healthy soursop fruit inhibited the normal growth and development of the pathogen.

In-vitro and in-vivo tests for antagonism of Trichoderma sp.2 was conducted. The antagonist destroyed the established colony of the pathogen in both experiments.

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