



## Bio control:: Mass production::Fungus

### White halo fungus, *Verticillium lecanii*

#### Introduction

- Verticillium lecani commonly called as white halo fungus is found sprouting on the body of coffee green scale Coccus viridis.
- It has been extensively studied against the pest in Lower Pulney Hills in Tamil Nadu.
- The fungus is known to cause epizootic when the environmental conditions are favourable.

#### Production procedure

- The fungus is multiplied on cheap media for large scale production.
- Sorghum grains devoid of pesticide residues (40 g) is washed in potable water and transferred to conical flask (250 ml) and 15 ml of distilled water is added.
- The conical flasks are plugged with cotton and autoclaved for 20 min at 15 psi.
- The flasks are allowed to cool and taken to laminar flow chamber for inoculation.
- From a clean uncontaminated mother culture in slant loopful quantities of *V. lecani* spores are transferred aseptically.
- The flasks are incubated at room temperature. The spores are obtained in a fortnight.