

# Biological management of diseases of crops

## volume 2 integration of biological

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**What is the biological control method of plant disease management?** The terms biological control or biocontrol used extensively in scientific literature, cause tremendous confusion. Biological control, in its most basic form, is the employment of any living organism to combat a specific plant disease or pest through parasitism, antibiosis, or competition for resources or space [9].

**What are examples of biological control in plants?** Often, the natural enemies are found in the home range of the invasive pest. Some notable examples of classical biological control include the use of decapitating flies (several *Pseudacteon* species) against red imported fire ants, and a group of flea beetles, thrips, and stem borers used against alligator weed.

**What are biological control methods?** There are three primary methods of using biological control in the field: 1) conservation of existing natural enemies, 2) introducing new natural enemies and establishing a permanent population (called "classical biological control"), and 3) mass rearing and periodic release, either on a seasonal basis or inundatively.

**What is an example of a biological control strategy?** Periodic releases of the parasitoidal wasp, *Encarsia formosa*, are used to control greenhouse whitefly, while the predatory mite *Phytoseiulus persimilis* is used for control of the two-spotted spider mite. The egg parasite *Trichogramma* is frequently released inundatively to control harmful moths.

**What are the methods of disease control in plants?** A variety of chemicals are available that have been designed to control plant diseases by inhibiting the growth of or by killing the disease-causing pathogens. Chemicals used to control bacteria (bactericides), fungi (fungicides), and nematodes (nematicides) may be applied to seeds, foliage, flowers, fruit, or soil.

**What is integrated disease management?** Integrated disease management is the practice of using a range of measures to prevent and manage diseases in crops. Hazard analysis is used to identify the potential for infection so that preventative or curative measures can be put in place to minimise the risk of disease infection and spread.

**What is an example of successful biological control?** There are many examples of successful classical biological control programs. One of the earliest successes was with the cottony cushion scale, a pest that was devastating the California citrus industry in the late 1800s. A predatory insect, the vedalia beetle, and a parasitoid fly were introduced from Australia.

**What is the first step in integrated pest management?** Step 1: Identify the Pest  
This often-overlooked step is important. Most species of living things are NOT pests, but are contributing members of the broader ecosystem. By taking the time to ensure that a suspected pest is an actual pest, you can eliminate a lot of unnecessary pest control efforts.

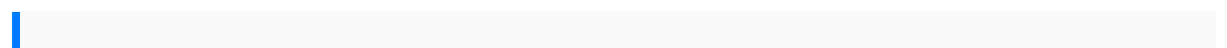
**How does integrated pest management work?** It uses long-term prevention of pests or their damage through a combination of techniques such as biological control, habitat manipulation, change of cultural practices, and uses resistant plant varieties.

**What are the methods of controlling plant disease?** Traditional Principles of Plant Disease Control. Avoidance—prevent disease by selecting a time of the year or a site where there is no inoculum or where the environment is not favorable for infection. Exclusion—prevent the introduction of inoculum. Eradication—eliminate, destroy, or inactivate the inoculum.

**What are biocontrol agents for disease management?** Biological control agents are living organisms, including parasites, predators and disease causing fungi, bacteria and viruses. These are the natural enemies of pests, which can intervene the life cycle of insect pests in such a way that the crop damage is minimized.

**What are the biological control methods for invasive plants?** Biological controls include the use of invertebrates (including insects, mites, midges, nematodes, and spiders), livestock (such as sheep, goats, or cattle), fish, birds, or pathogens (including viruses, bacteria, and fungi) to control the spread of either pests in crops or noxious weeds in crops or in natural ...

**What are the biological methods of controlling disease vector?** Biological control Using fish that eat mosquito larvae, the use of cat fish to eat up mosquito larvae in ponds can eradicate the mosquito population, or reducing breeding rates by introducing sterilized male tsetse flies have been shown to control vector populations and reduce infection risks.



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