

**PROGRESS REPORT
TO
THE NEW YORK STATE SWEET CORN RESEARCH ASSOCIATION**

November 10, 1997

Project Title: Improving performance of *sh2* sweet corn using *Trichoderma* as a bioprotectant and growth enhancer.

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Introduction:

Trichoderma harzianum (T-22) often increases growth and yield in *sh2* sweet corn and many other crops. The effect is most often observed in fields where the control yields are average or below. We have frequently observed that the treated plots appear greener. In several crops we have observed larger plants even where yield was not increased appreciably. While there are several potential reasons for increased growth, a likely one is more efficient uptake of nitrogen as a result of a larger root system.

This project was designed to test the hypothesis that *Trichoderma* colonization results in better nitrogen uptake when growth is limited by N availability. Corn, in general, responds to differences in nitrogen nutrition up to high levels of nitrogen.

Objectives:

- 1. Determine the effect of *Trichoderma* colonization on total N uptake at different levels of applied nitrogen fertilizer.**
- 2. Do a more precise determination of the effect of soil temperature on early colonization.**

For a printed copy of the entire report, please contact the NYS IPM office at:

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