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Eric Hill
Organica

Dear Eric:

I am writing to give you some interpretative comments on the final report that details my evaluations of CWT. Overall, the results with CWT were excellent for plant growth promotion. The design of every experiment compared the product with a formulation control. This means that we could clearly determine if the bacteria in CWT were responsible for stimulating plant growth, and the results show that the bacteria clearly were responsible.

Transplants of tomato were evaluated in three experiments, two with field soil (nos. 1 and 8) and one in soilless mix (no. 5). All three experiments showed consistent strong growth promotion of overall plant size over time and a significant increase in root weight. Similar strong overall growth promotion and significant root weight increases were noted in three experiments with transplants of pepper (nos. 2 and 9 in field soil and no. 6). In my experience, it is rare to find a biological product that demonstrates such a consistent promotion of overall plant growth and root growth on two crops in two different field soils.

CWT also promoted growth of various ornamental plants grown in soilless mix. Two experiments (nos. 3 and 7) evaluated snapdragon, and one experiment (no. 4) evaluated dianthus. In all three experiments CWT promoted overall plant growth during the experiment and significantly increased root weight.

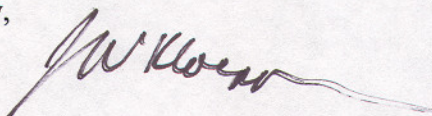
Hence, in all experiments with transplants, CWT promoted plant growth throughout each experiment and specifically caused a significant increase in root weight.

Finally, I conducted six experiments (nos. 10 – 15) testing the effects of CWT directly on seeds. These tests were included because some treatments that promote growth of transplants can damage seedlings. However, there were no harmful effects of CWT on seedlings. Indeed, CWT significantly promoted root growth on all crops except marigold, where the results were neither promotive nor deleterious. In addition, CWT enhanced stem caliper, which is an indication of overall seedling strength and development, on tomato, cucumber, and sunflower.

In conclusion, my results indicate that CWT consistently causes a significant growth increase of multiple plants grown in field soil and soilless mix. Moreover, the product consistently stimulates root growth, which would be expected to result in better nutrient uptake, tolerance to soilborne diseases, and yield increases.

Based on my results, I recommend that you continue evaluations of CWT for practical applications on vegetables and ornamentals grown in the field and in soilless mixes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J W Kloepper", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joseph W. Kloepper
Professor, Auburn University