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SOIL : A POTENTIAL RESOURCE OF BIOCONTROL AGENTS AGAINST PEA ROOT ROT CAUSED
BY *APHANOMYCES EUTEICHES*

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ABSTRACT

Pea (*Pisum sativum* L.), one of the most important protein crops cultivated, is also the most susceptible to *Aphanomyces euteiches*, a soilborne oomycete, causing root rot. No effective treatment is known.

Biocontrol agents against *Aphanomyces euteiches*, have been isolated from Normandy soils, under pea (host susceptible), faba bean (host resistant) and rapeseed (non host). Only eight out of one hundred fifty isolated bacteria were obtained as *in vitro* biocontrol, after screening and confrontation tests. The isolated bacteria are being characterized and their efficiency to protect peas against *Aphanomyces euteiches* will be tested in controlled conditions.

Keywords: *Aphanomyces euteiches*, pea, biocontrol, soil, crop.