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Newsletter



An alternative approach to bacteria, fungi and nematodes

Bacteria and fungi in the ground can suppress diseases and pests, acting as so-called defence mechanisms, and can be activated by organic matter and supplemented with micro-organisms. Micro-organisms are inextricably linked to the soil and normally exist in equilibrium with it in terms of species and numbers. Billions of bacteria, fungi, nematodes and other soil organisms are active in soil and live in symbiosis with one another and with plants. They all belong here and all have a role to play in the soil environment as a whole. Pathogenic bacteria, fungi and nematodes are given a chance when the balance in the soil environment is disturbed. They are never the cause of problems in soil, but are always the result of a loss of its defensive properties.

“Nature never violates its own laws”

During the growth process, plants absorb nutrients from the soil. These are converted into solids (incl. sugars and proteins) with the help of sunlight (photosynthesis). Some of

these solids are sent back into the soil through the roots and serve as nutrients for micro-organisms. In this way, an exchange system (symbiosis) develops between plants and the soil. If this cycle is interrupted, plant roots secrete insufficient or no nutrients (sugars) into the soil. As a result, a negative reaction develops amongst the micro flora, with roots secreting substances that attract bacteria as opposed to nutritious substances. Resistance decreases and harmful bacteria and fungi grow in strength and eventually affect the plant. In their fight to survive, nematodes also feed on plant roots. Results, in the form of pathogenic bacteria, fungi and harmful nematodes, are plain to see.

Negative factors that influence the soil environment

Factors with a negative effect on the soil environment include the application of monoculture, chemical and pharmaceutical treatments, imported plant matter, soil fumigation and – of course – climatic conditions. Although nature has the capability to correct imbalances or to recover, it is important to know what causes a loss of

resistance in soil when something does go wrong.

How to monitor resistance

“Prevention is better than cure” means taking all necessary preventive steps in order to increase resistance to disease. Furthermore, it is important to frequently check your crops. More than enough (monitoring) tools are available to supplement your own expertise. If well-managed, the soil and your crops will retain their resistance to disease, and insect infestation levels will remain manageable. In case of an imbalance, your plants will secrete fragrant substances, thereby attracting more insects. This also applies to the root area. The consequences are easy to predict.

A few responses from growers

Paul van Kester, an Amaryllis cultivator from Poeldijk, regularly uses Orgentis Micro-organisms and is extremely satisfied with the condition of his plants and their quality. Within his operation, levels of resistance are high, while insect infestation levels are low and well-manageable.

Nic van Os, a Strelitzia grower from Rijswijk, battled nematode infestation for years. “I’ve been using Orgentis products for 3 years. Now, I no longer suffer damage caused by nematodes. I still apply light preventive doses, but I don’t use any chemical substances whatsoever. I’m very pleased with the results.”

We wish you a healthy, successful and sustainable 2011

More information?

For more information about the functioning and application of our products, please visit www.orgentis.nl. Here, you will also find plenty of useful information about the other products supplied by Orgentis, such as Biomentor. Our products are ideal for application in combination- or in conjunction with one another.



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