

Pathogenicity of *Beauveria bassiana* and *Metarhizium anisopliae* on the Asiatic palm weevil, *Rhabdoscelus lineatocollis* (Heller)(Coleoptera : Rhynchophoridae)

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Abstract

The Asiatic palm weevil, *Rhabdoscelus lineatocollis* (Heller), was first discovered in Chaughua, Taiwan. Its larvae damaged stems, reduced yield or killed seedlings and young palms. In Kao-Ping area, large acreage of yellow palms was found damaged by this pest. In February 1998 Recently, damage incidences were also reported on the betelnut Except palm plants, no other plants have been reported damaged by this weevil To determine the pathogenicity on this weevil 7 strains of *Metarhizium anisopliae* and 2 strains of *Beauveria bassiana* were tested and the results showed that *M. anisopliae* MA-1 and 683, and *B. bassiana* F121 had significantly higher pathogenicity; hence, would be more effective in the control of the weevil.

Key words : Asiatic palm weevil (*Rhabdoscelus lineatocollis* (Heller)), Life history, Biocontrol

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