Abstract

Modern agriculture is faced with the challenge of becoming more productive and yet more sustainable. One important goal toward this end is to boost crop production through proper management of weeds, insect pests, and plant pathogens. These management tactics must be implemented without adversely affecting the ecosystem. Therefore, there is a need to change from the use of pesticides to safer pest management practices, which can be adopted in integrated pest management (IPM) programs. The use of organic soil amendments for the control of plant pathogens or pests may provide a viable alternative.