

# Unleashing the Power of *Pseudomonas chlororaphis* ST9:

Transforming Agriculture Sustainably with Bio-Stimulation and Biological Control

# Sierra Sur Group

- The sectors encompass the following industries: agricultural and food, olive oil, wine, electrical, biotechnology, renewable energy, and plastic.
- With a total workforce exceeding 250 professionals, all of whom take great pride in our homeland.
- TOP TEN companies according to the ranking of the largest companies in Andalusia by Andalucía Económica.



**Extraction  
and Refinery  
Plant**

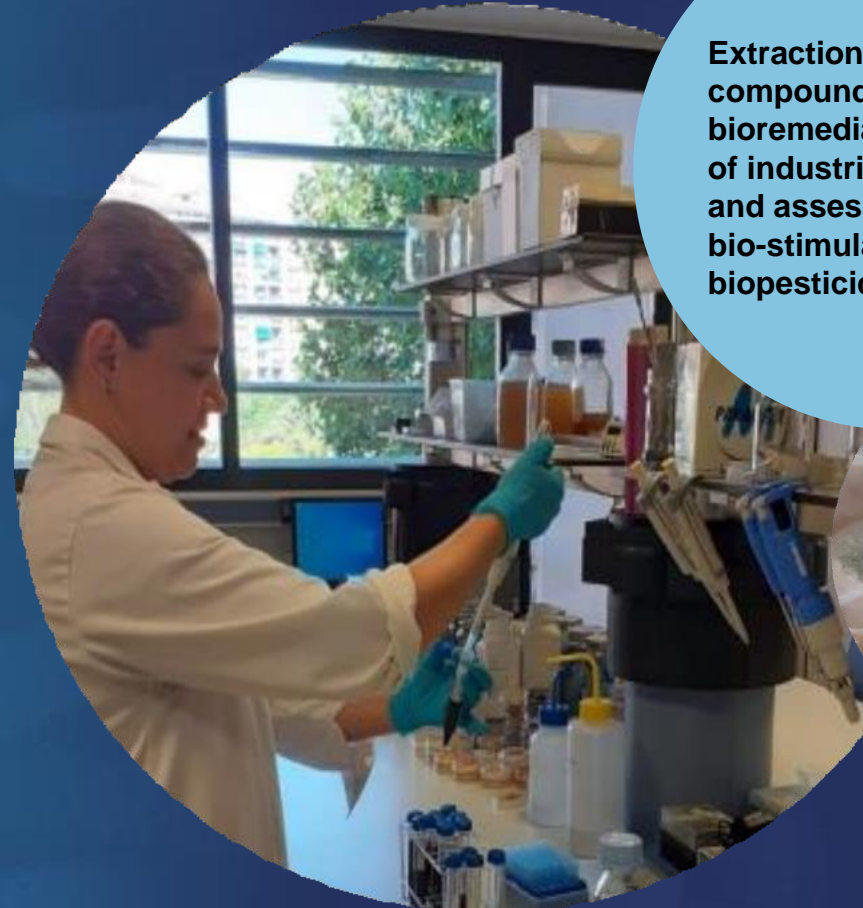
# MAFA Bioscience

- Formulation capacity of 20 metric tons per day.
- Microbiology Department.
- Bacterial Fermentation Plant: 300 liters.
- Fungal Fermentation Plant: 1,000 liters.



# MYCO-BROW

- Microremediation of olive mill wastewater with saprotrophic fungi, eliminating its toxicity.
- Production of molecules with biopesticidal activity.
- Valorization of olive oil waste, yielding a bio-stimulant product.

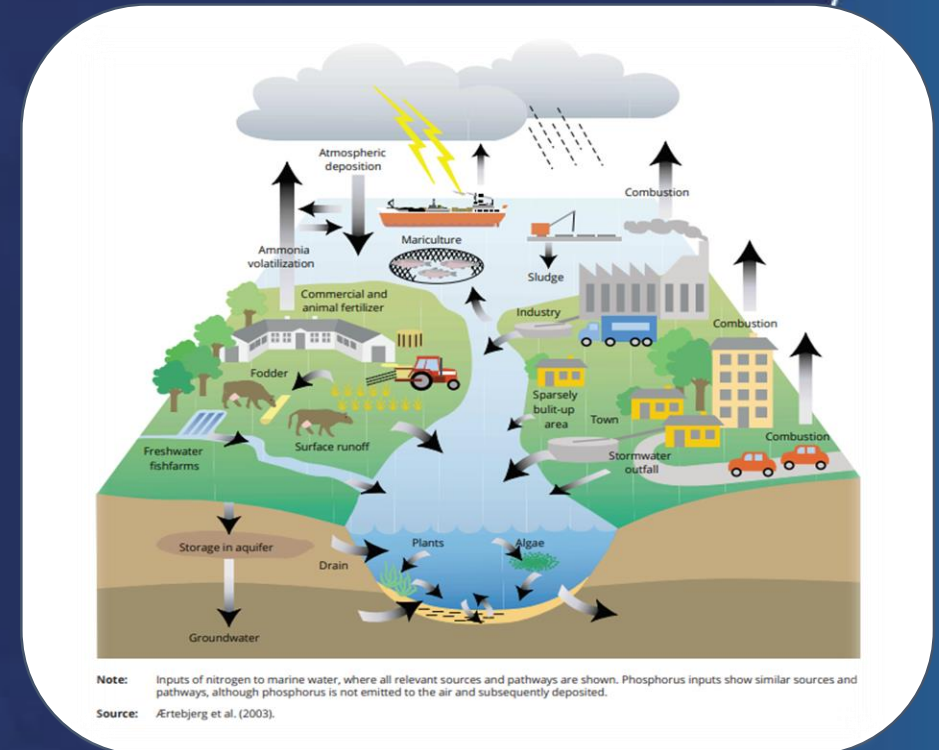


**Extraction of bioactive compounds through bioremediation processes of industrial olive oil waste and assessment of their bio-stimulant and biopesticidal activities.**



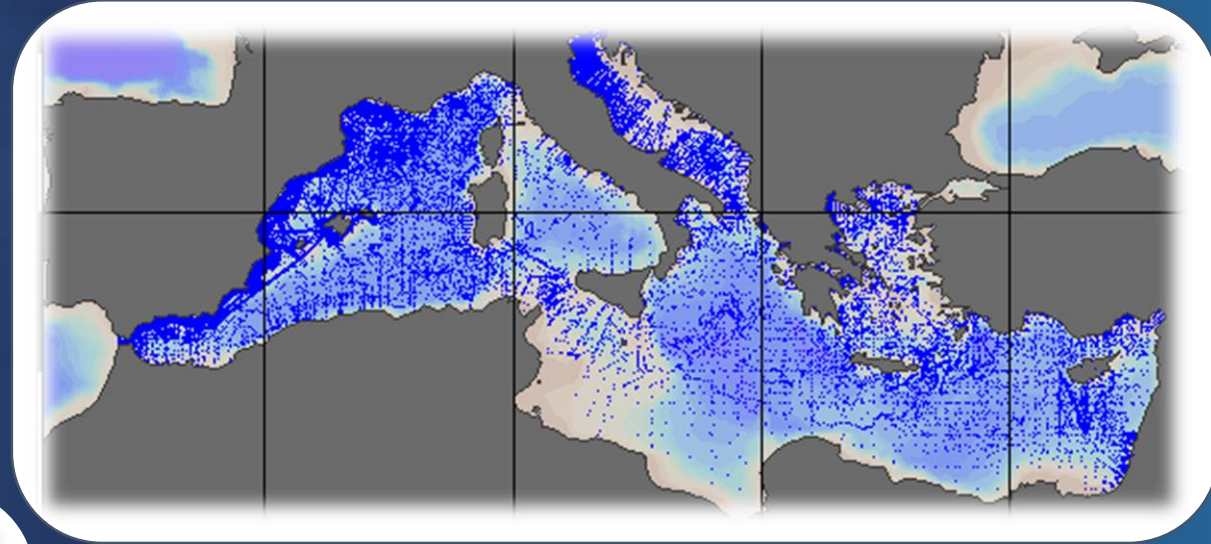
# Traditional Fertilizers and Pesticides

- The excessive/misuse of traditional chemicals harms the environment.
- Eutrophication: Excessive nutrient input, often from agriculture or sewage, causing nutrient overabundance in water.
  - Effects:
    - Harmful algal blooms
    - Oxygen depletion
    - Ecological disruption
- Eutrophication is a major water pollution concern in the EU, emphasized by the EEA report.



# Eutrophication: Damages in EU

- Hypoxia in multiple locations of the Mediterranean and Baltic sea due to advanced eutrophication.
- Resulted in marine fauna mortality.
- Caused by nitrogen and phosphorus influx from intensive agriculture and other human activities.



# The Soil Secret: Unlocking Nature's Powerhouse

## RIZOSPHERE

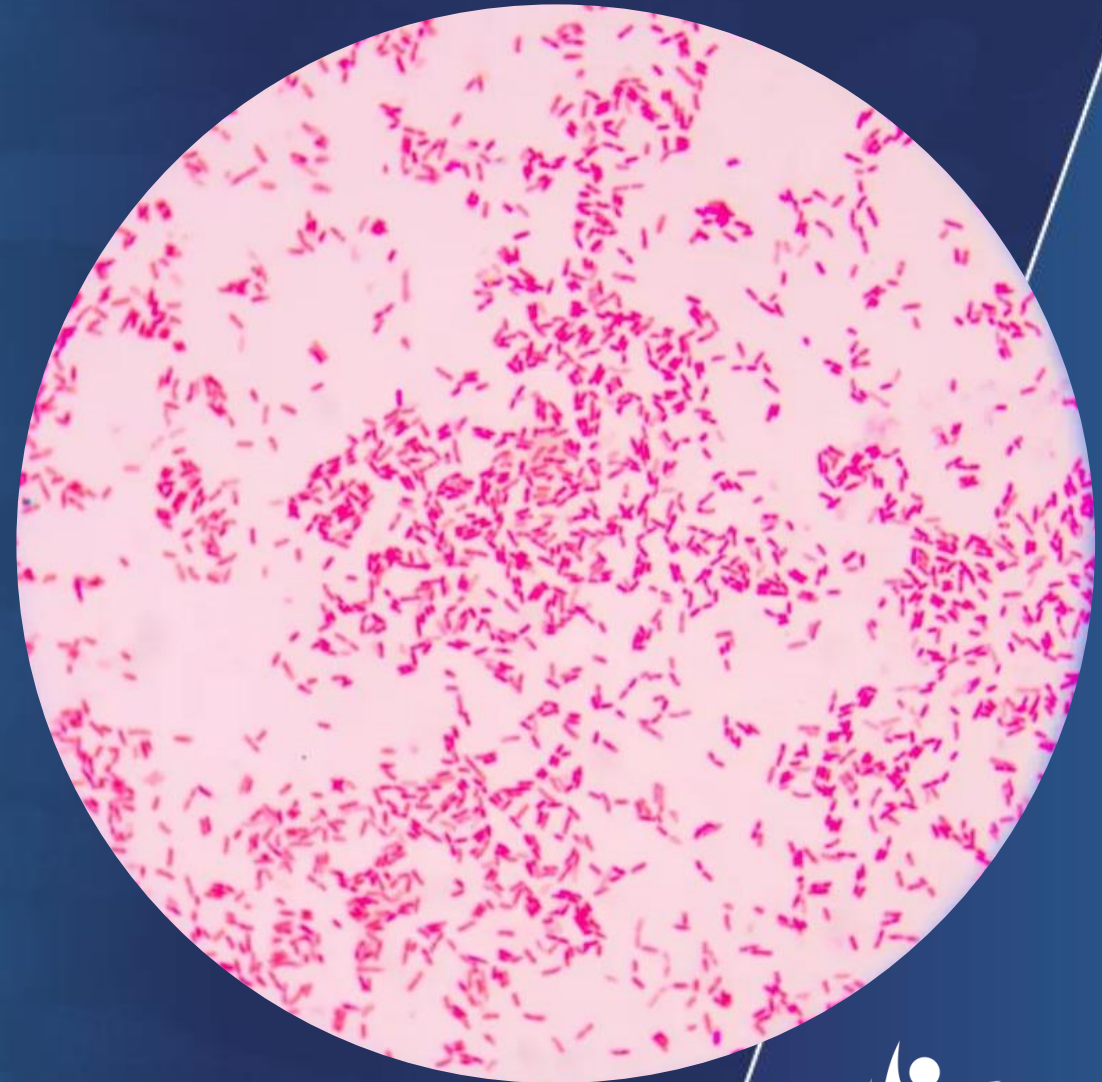
- Influenced by **the roots**.
- 5% of its matter comprises **macro and microorganisms**.
- **Symbiosis** PLANT-Microbiota.



# *Pseudomonas chlororaphis* ST9

## Plant Growth Promotion Rhizobacteria

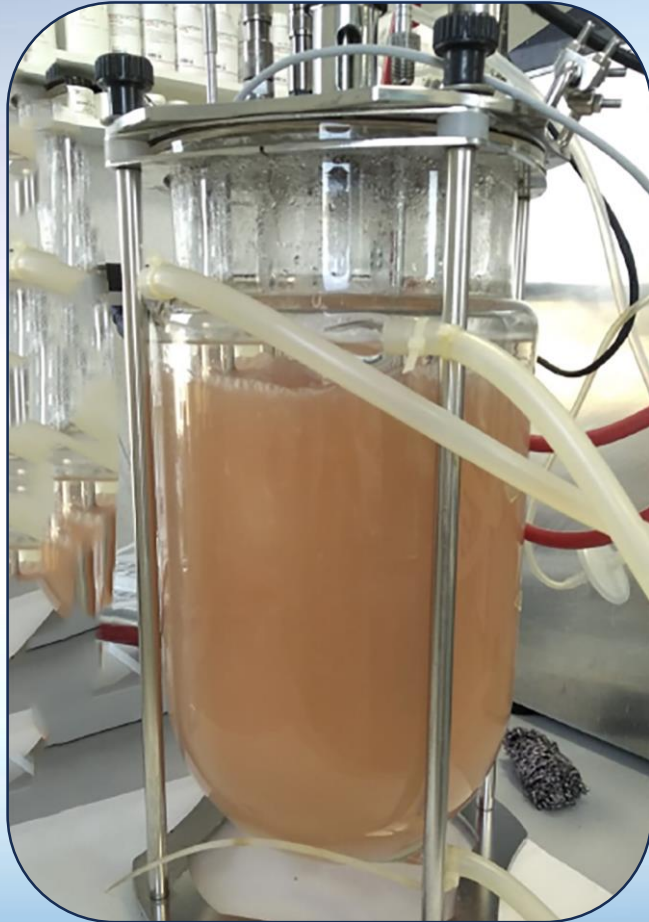
- **Gram negative**
- **Rod shape** (2-4x0,5-1  $\mu\text{M}$ )
- **Motile** (polar flagella)
- **Aerobic** (microaeróbica)
- **Genome:** 6,744,510 pb · G-C: 62,9%.





# *P.Chlororaphis* -Benefits:

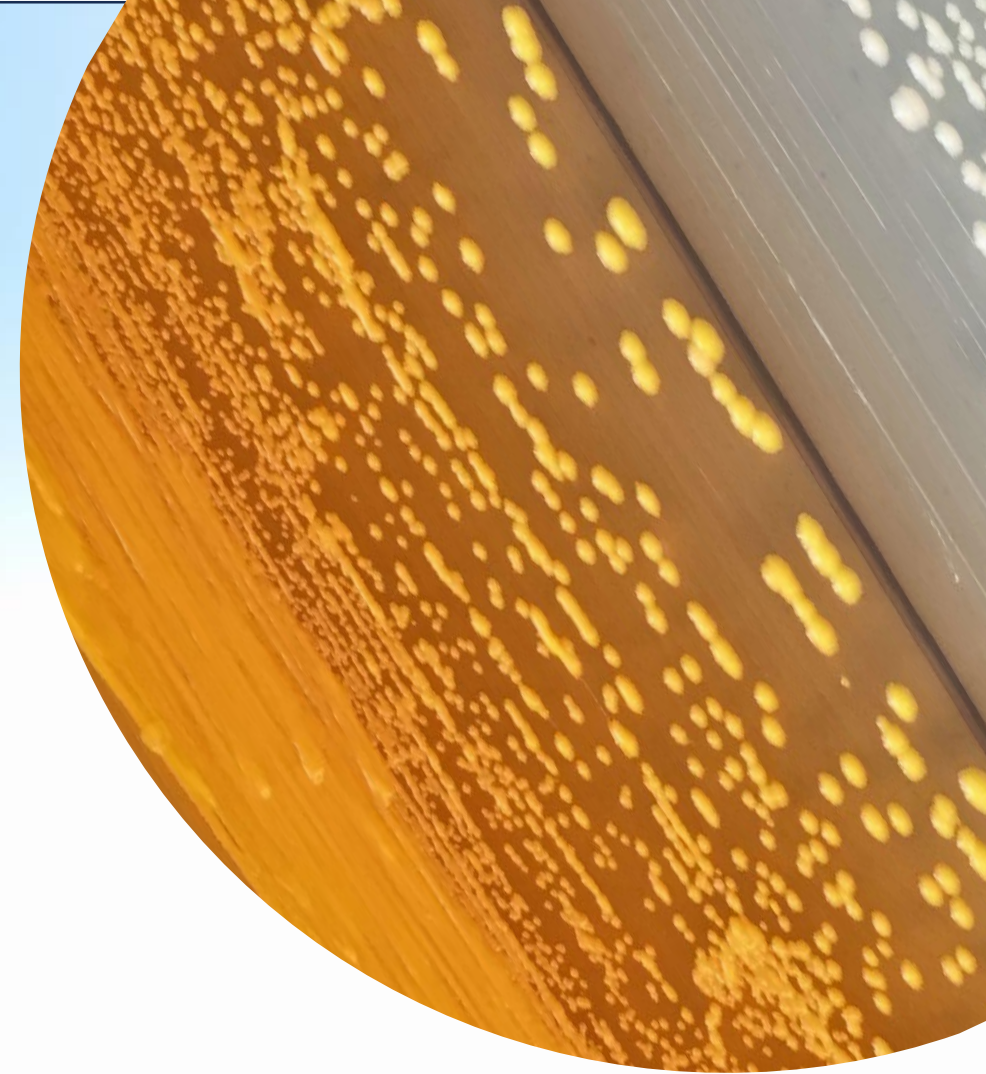
Plant Growth Promotion Rhizobacteria



- Improvement of nutrients absorption
- Biological control agent.
- Production of biologically significant substances:

Auxins (IAA)

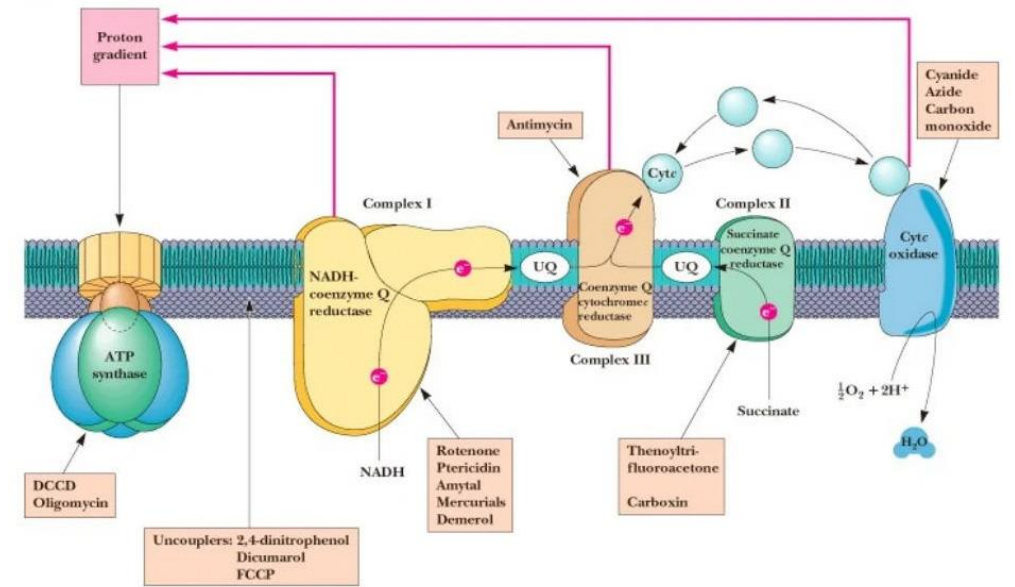
Exopolysaccharides (EPS)



# Ferrous Chelators (FE)

- Fe<sup>+</sup> is a primordial ion
- Form complex structures (siderophores), which increase the Fe bioavailability.
- Functional Group: O<sub>2</sub> or N<sub>2</sub>.
- ST9 produce pioverdin among other compounds.

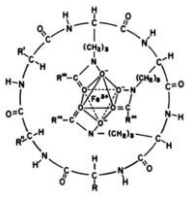
Garrett & Grisham: Biochemistry, 2/e  
Figure 21.30



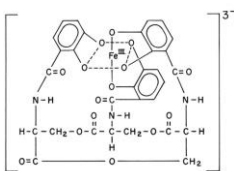
Saunders College Publishing

## Functional Groups:

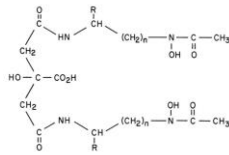
Ferricromo



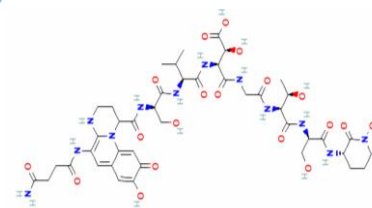
Enterobactina



Citrato monoxadato

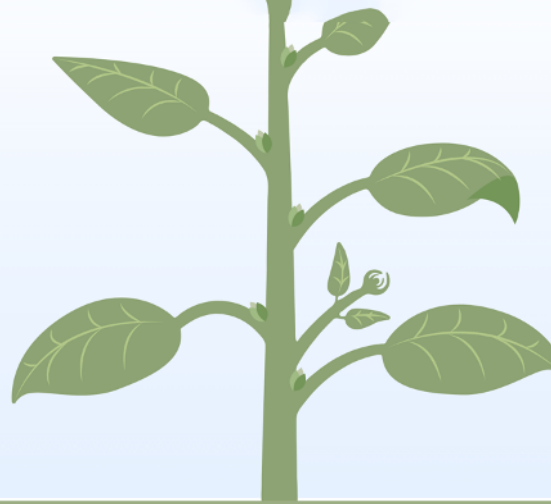


Pioverdina



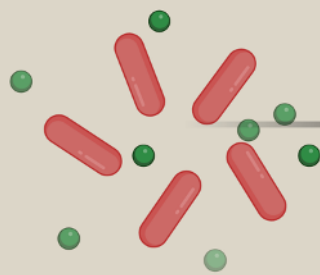


# PIOVERDIN'S ACTION IN CROPS



Significant growth.  
Vigorosity.

ST9

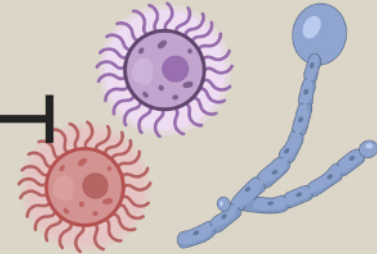


Pioverdin

Biostimulation



Inhibition of pathogens



Fe assimilation

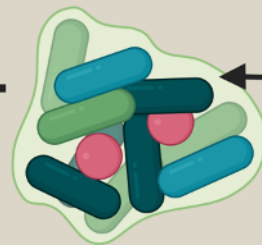
Fe

Insoluble iron

Fe-Pioverdin Complex

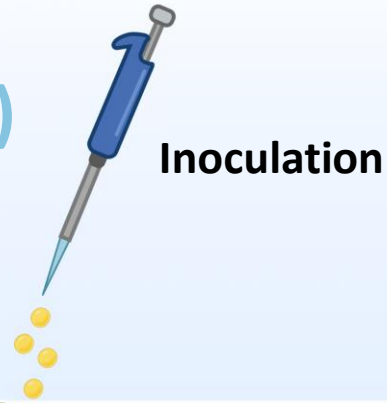
Pathogen suppression

+ Microbiote  
Biofilm induction

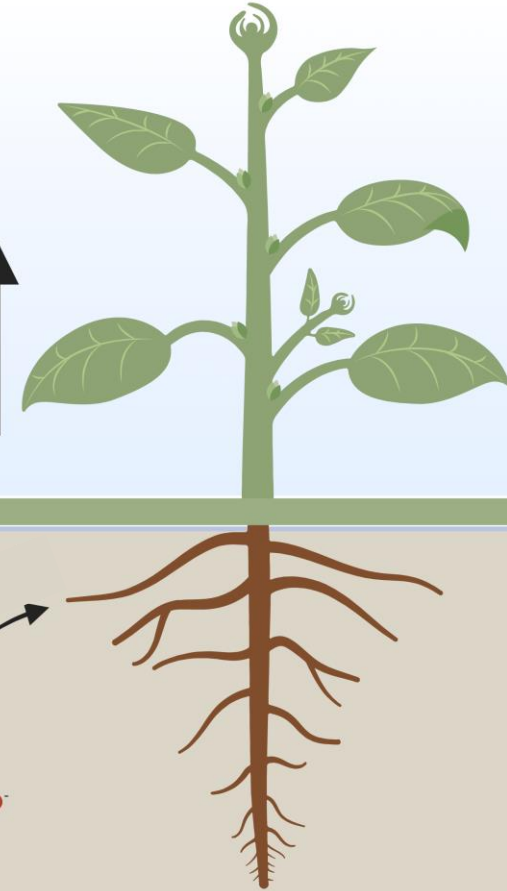


*"Pioverdins, Siderophores with Antifungal Activity, from Pseudomonas fluorescens"* de M. Miethke y M. A. Marahiel, publicado en el *Journal of Bacteriology* en 2007. *"Iron acquisition by Pseudomonas aeruginosa in the lungs of patients with cystic fibrosis"* de M. E. Meyer et al., publicado en *Molecular Microbiology* en 2016 *"Pioverdina, el sideróforo estrella en el biocontrol de patógenos de plantas"* de A. V. Sánchez-Sánchez, publicado en la revista *Agrosfera* en 2018.

# PHOSPHORUS SOLUBILIZATION (P)



Greater growth  
Vigor  
Photosynthesis



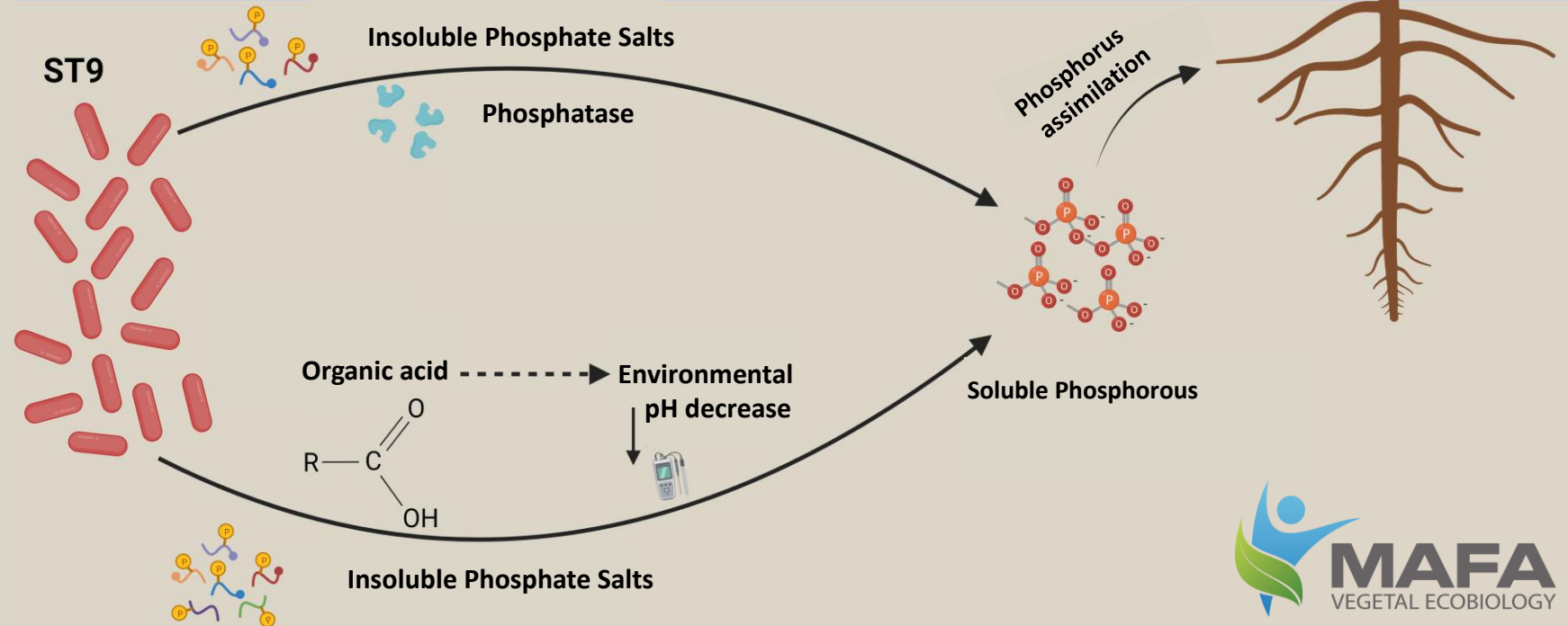
## Essential element:

Nucleic Acids.

Key energy molecule (ATP).

Photosynthesis.

Lipid bilayers.



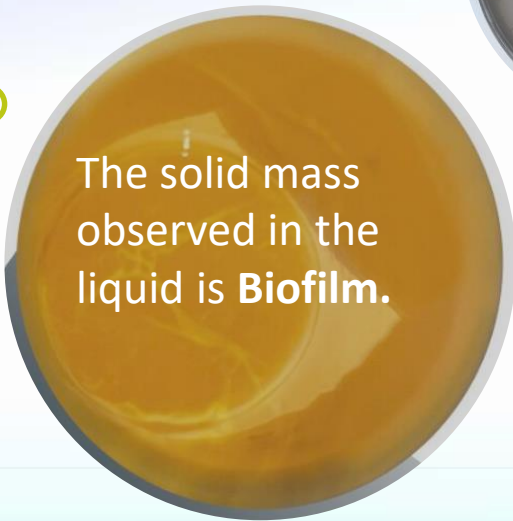
# Results ST9

Plant Growth Promotion Rhizobacteria

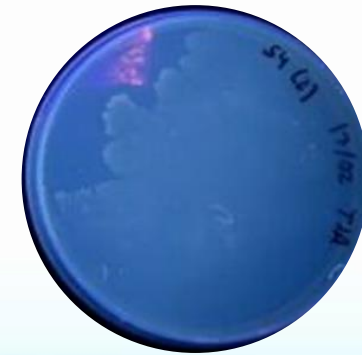
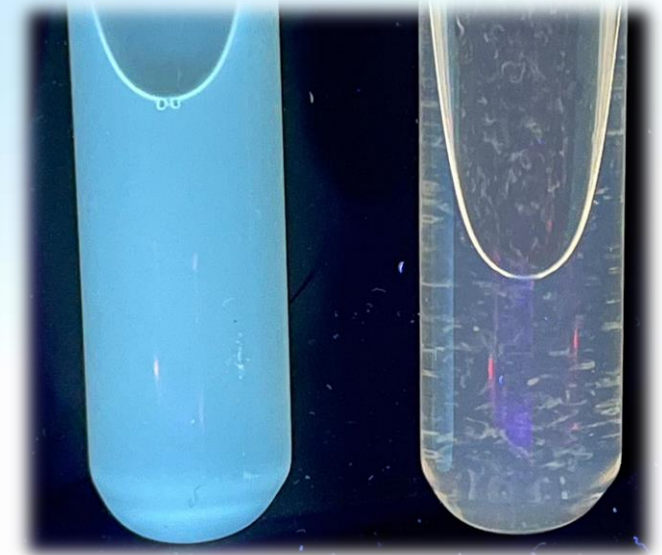
- The solubilization of P creates **phosphate clearing zones** in this specific medium.



- The solid mass observed in the liquid is **Biofilm**.



- **Pioverdin** imparts a fluorescent green coloration.



# Exopolysaccharide biosynthesis (EPS), Biofilm y Quorum Sensing

- High molecular weight glucidic polymers

- **Functional groups:** amino/phosphate/ acetyl

- Constructs an **extracellular matrix.**

## Facilitates functionality:

- **Biofilm:** Physical protective barrier, stimulates the solubilization of P and siderophores.

- **Quorum sensing:** Autoinducers (AHL).

Communication:

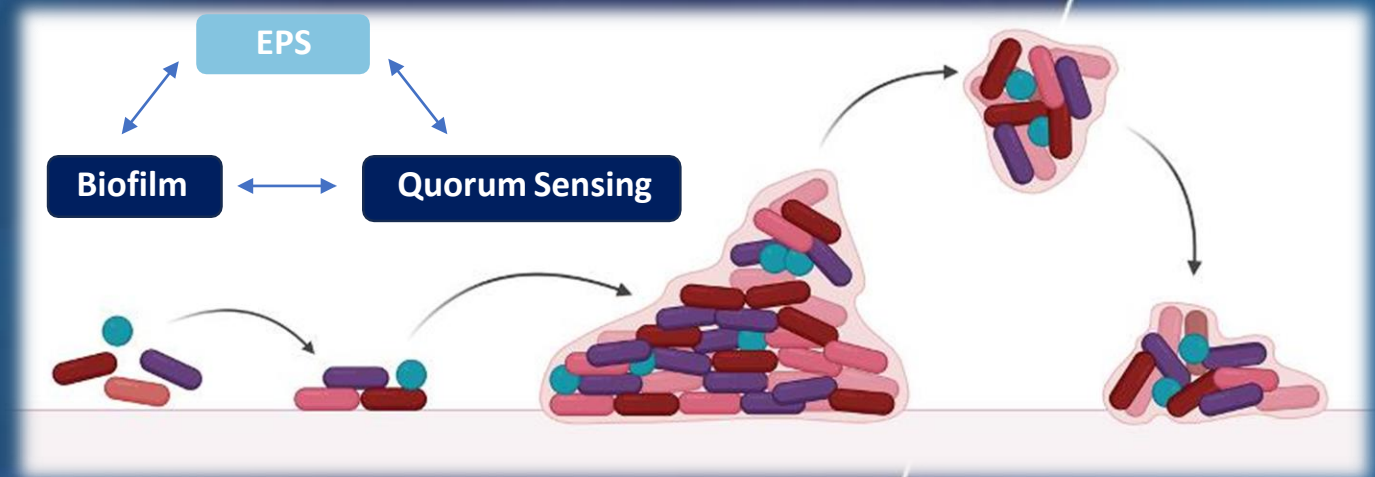
Microorganism-Microorganism.

Microorganism- Environment.

Coordinates:

Microbial growth.

Collective metabolic function.

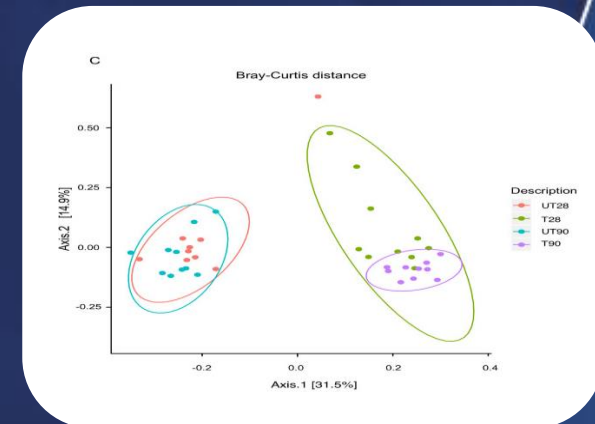
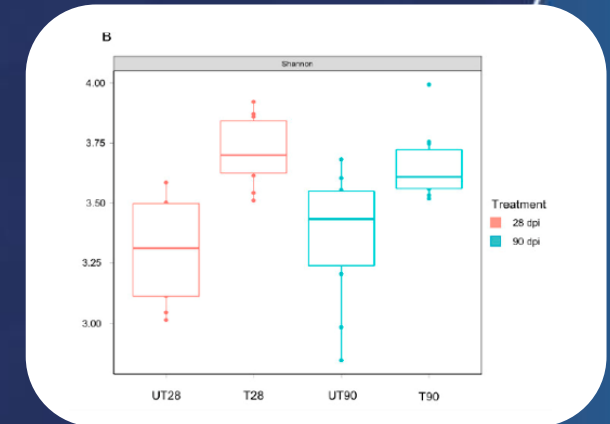
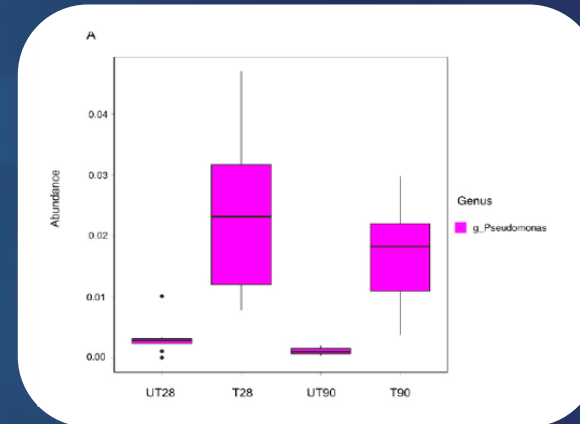




# Microbiological results of ST9 (Metagenomics)

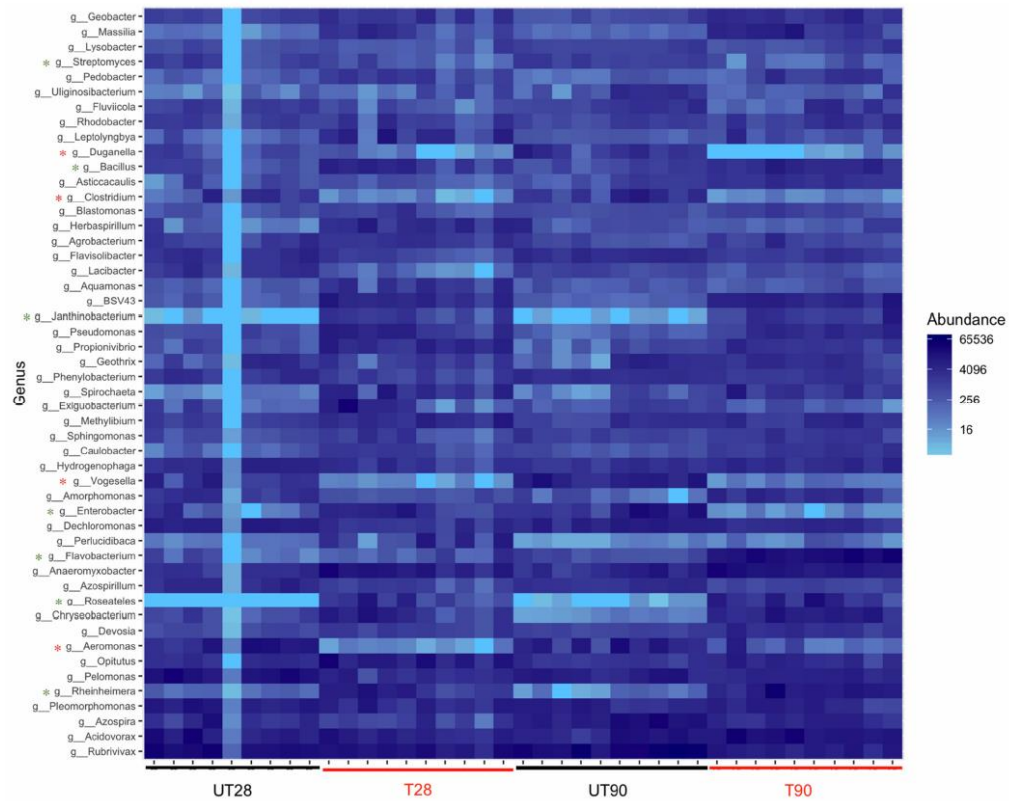
## Statistically significant results:

- A** High Pseudomonas concentration is maintained up to 90 days post-inoculation
- B** **Shannon test:** Higher alpha-diversity in treated microbial populations.
- C** Bray Curtis:  
Two distinct populations are observed.  
Enhanced diversity is observed in the treated ones  
Following that, an optimization takes place.





# ST9 results in the microbiota (Metagenomics)



- Higher presence of the microbial group
- Lower presence of the microbial group

Heatmap Poblaciones microbianas en el suelo (%  
secuencias leídas).  
UT: sin tratar T:tratado a 28 y 90 días de la inoculación

# ST9 results in the microbiota

We highlight the significant distinctions



Higher Presence in treated (samples)

Flavobacterium  
 Bacillus  
 Paenibacillus  
 Bradyrhizobium

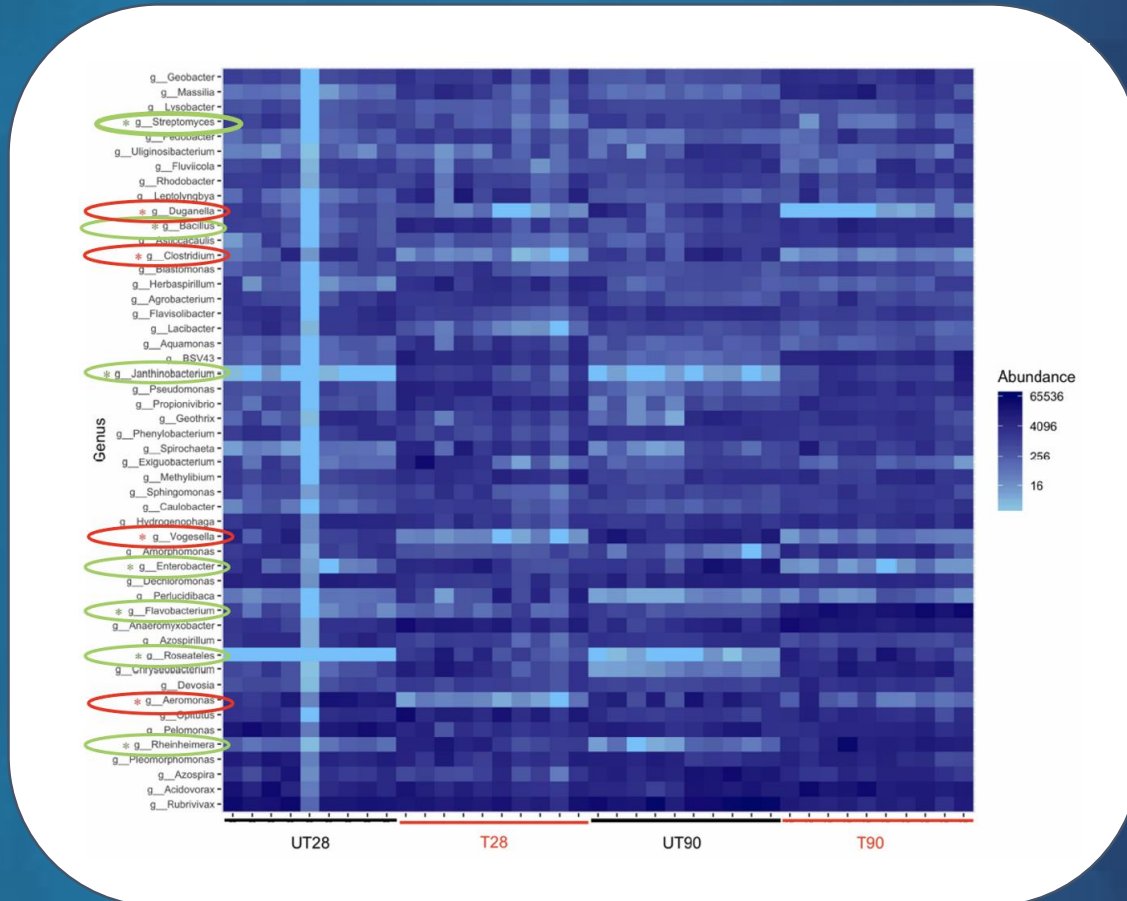
PGPRs ✓



Higher Presence in untreated (samples)

Clostridium  
 Duganella  
 Vogesella  
 Aeromonas

Patógenos ✗



Heatmap Poblaciones microbianas en el suelo (% secuencias leídas).

UT: sin tratar T:tratado a 28 y 90 días de la inoculación

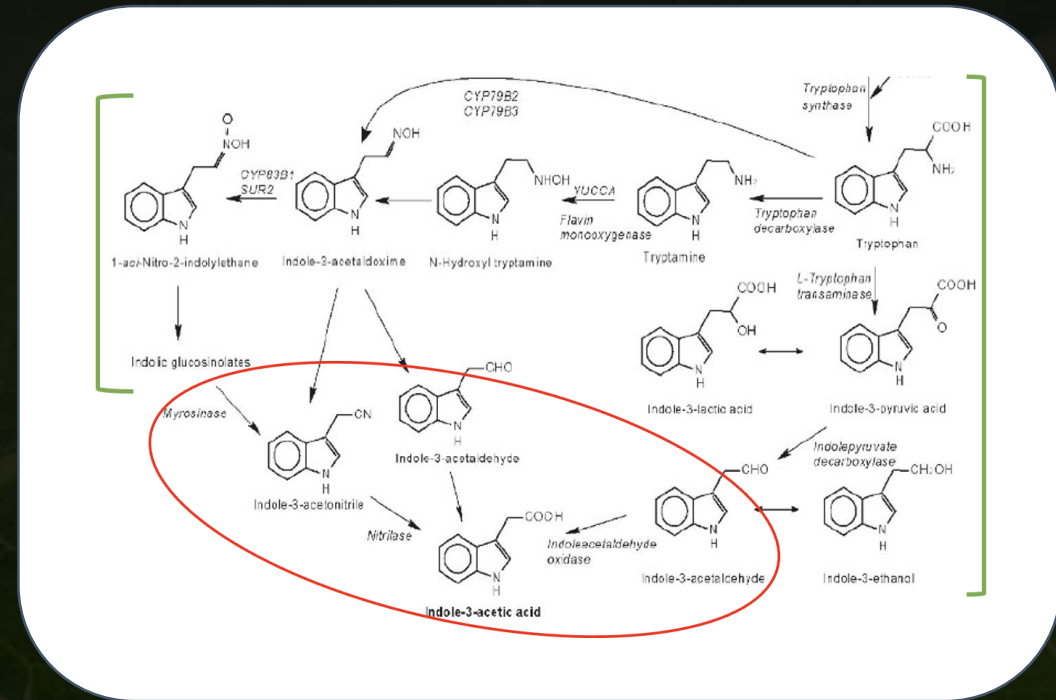
# Auxins

## Production and Induction

- There are multiple pathways
- ST9 utilizes tryptophan as a precursor

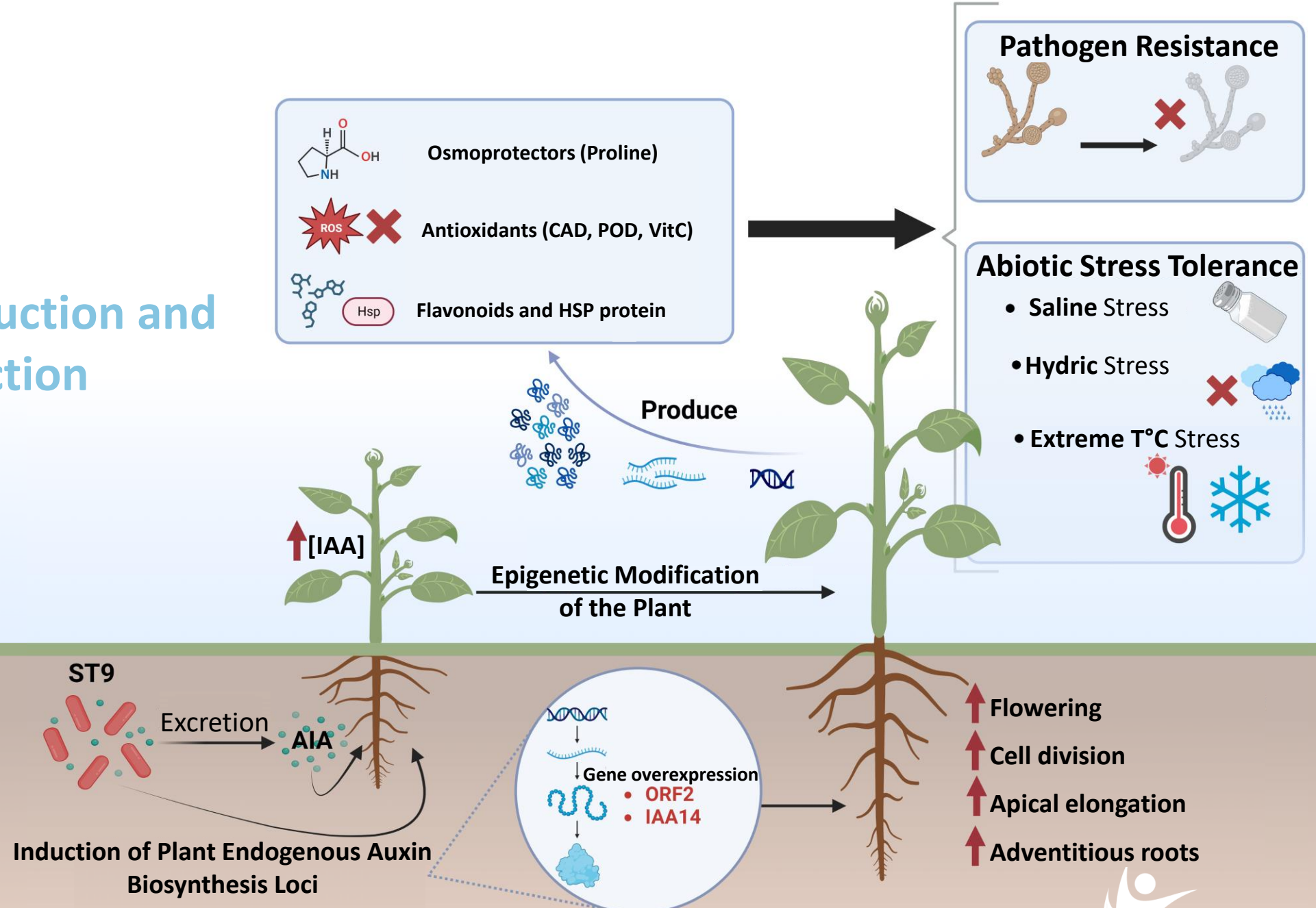
① Trp. Indol (derivates)

② Indol. Indol Acetico Acid (IAA)



Moreno Casco, J. (2010). Biorremediación de suelos contaminados con hidrocarburos. En *Biotecnología ambiental* (pp. 145-165). Pearson Educación

# Auxin Production and Induction



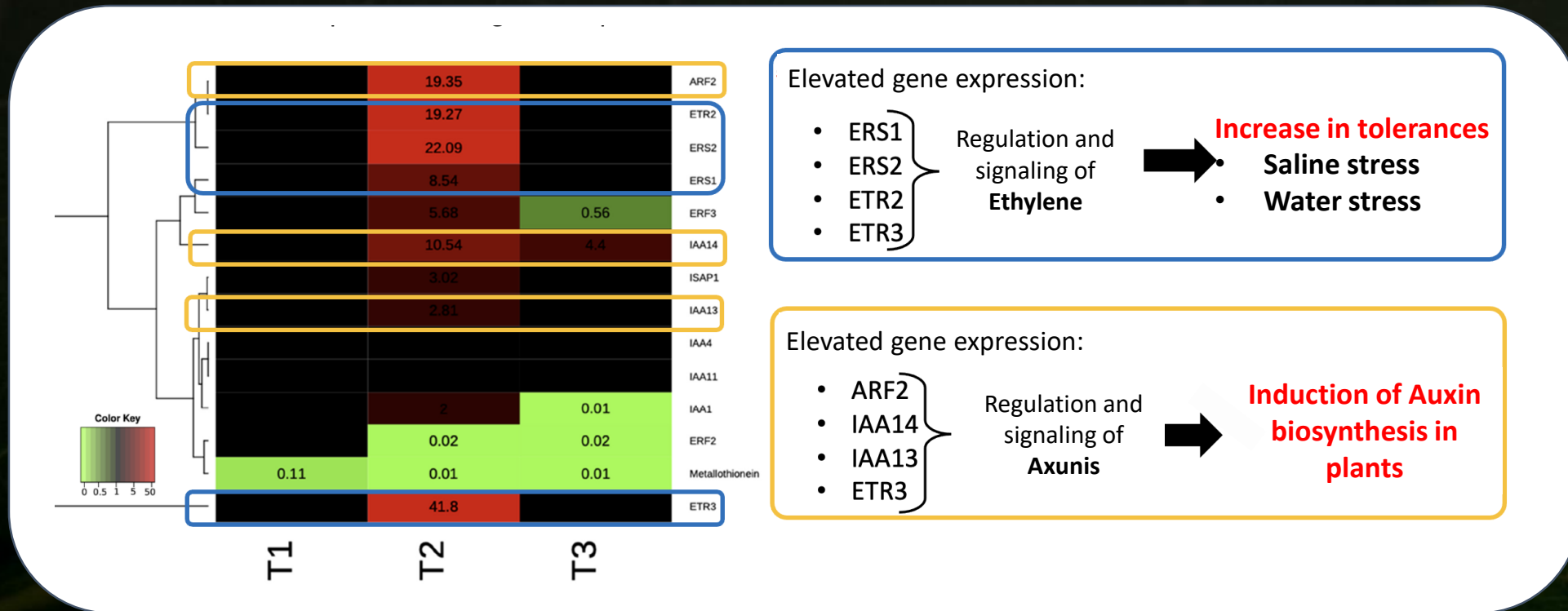
# RESULTS Auxins-ST9

- Stimulation of the radicular growth



# Differential epigenetic study in crops

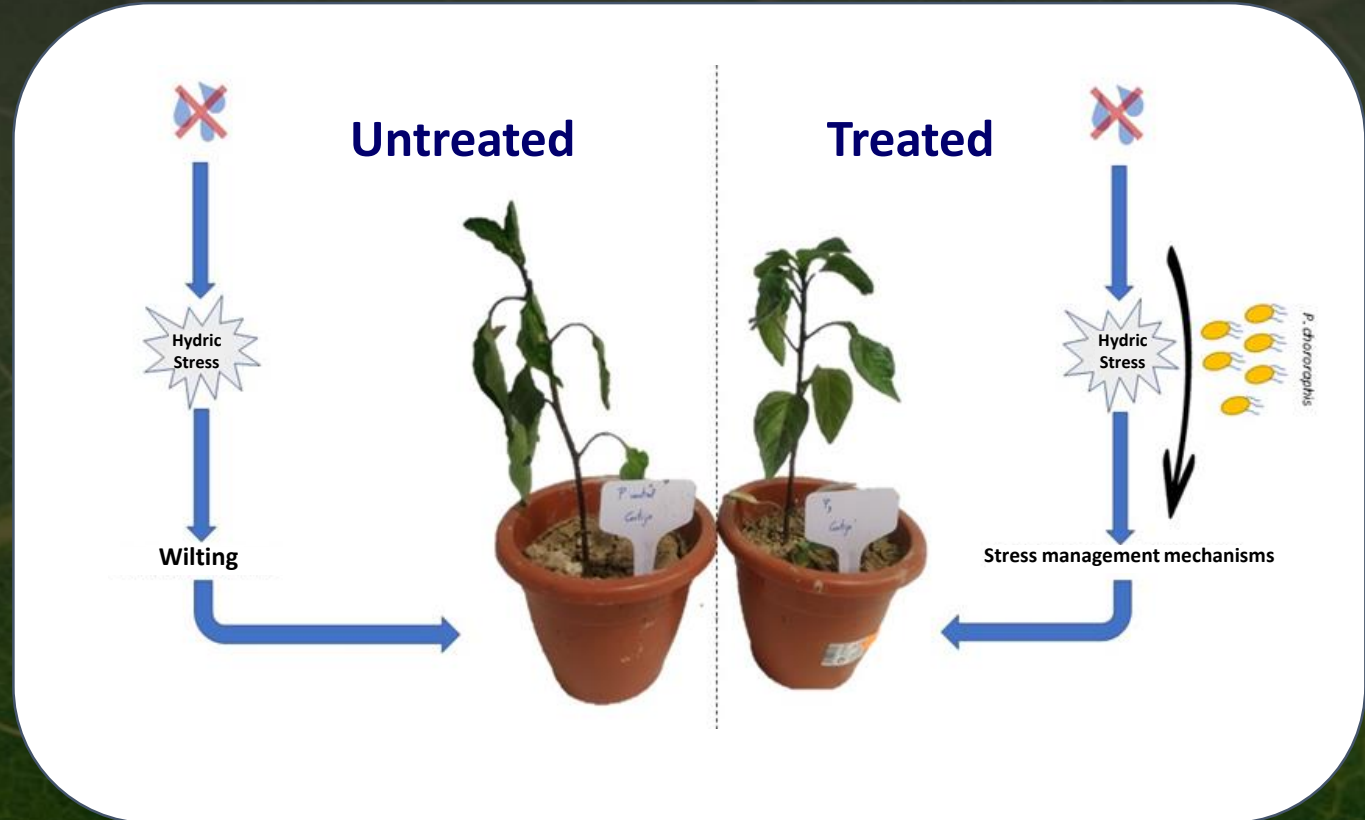
- Analysis of the expression of 14 plant genes inoculated with ST9.



Heatmap: ST9 induce Differential Plant Genetics expresión ( $2^{-\Delta\Delta CT}$ )

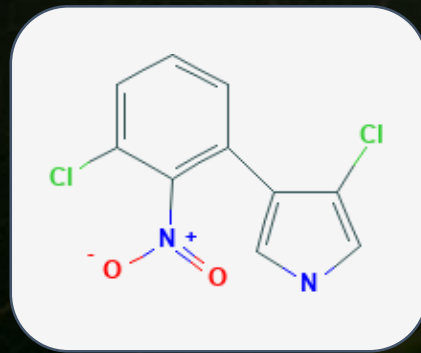
# Reduction of water/saline stress

- Induction of water/saline stress.
- Results after treatment with ST9.



# Biologic Control

- In addition to microbiota stimulation, biofilm, pioverdin production, proteases, and chitinases.
- Production of antifungal substances.



Pirrolnitrin

## Nomenclature

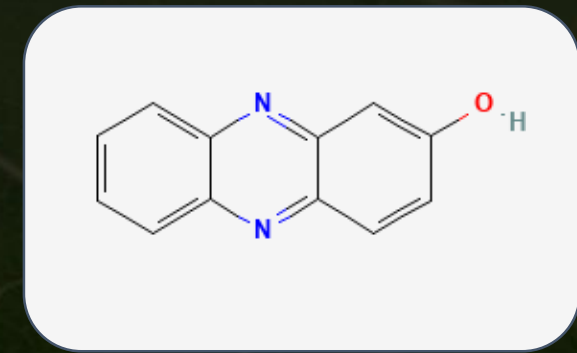
2-hydroxy phenazine

Pirrolnitrin

2-hexyl, 5-propyl  
resorcinol (HRP)

Phenazine 1-carboxylic  
acid (PCA)

**Antimicrobics**  
Provide biological  
control agent  
function



2-hydroxy phenazine



# Biologic Control

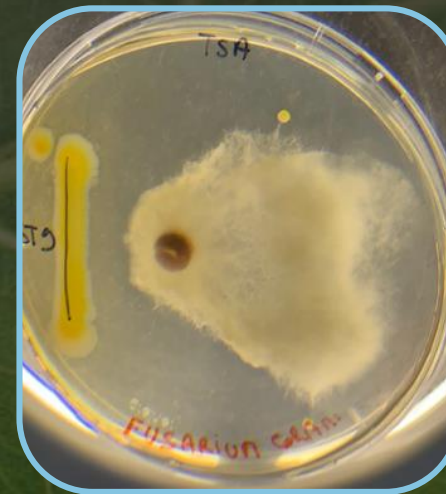
- Proven effective biological control against



*Aspergillus nodulans*



*Magnaporthe grisea*



*Fusarium graminearum*

# Biologic Control

○ Proven effective biological control against:

*Botrytis cinerea*.

*Phytium*.

*Penicillium*.

Control

8 Days

Antibiosis *Botryti* cinérea vs. Bacteria



Antibiosis *Phytium* vs. Bacteria



Antibiosis *Penicillium* vs. Bacteria

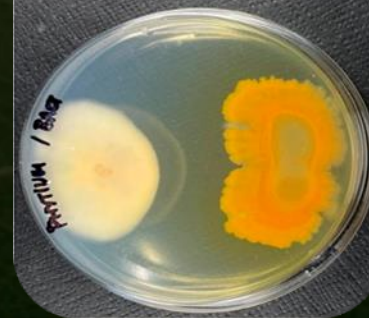


Treateds

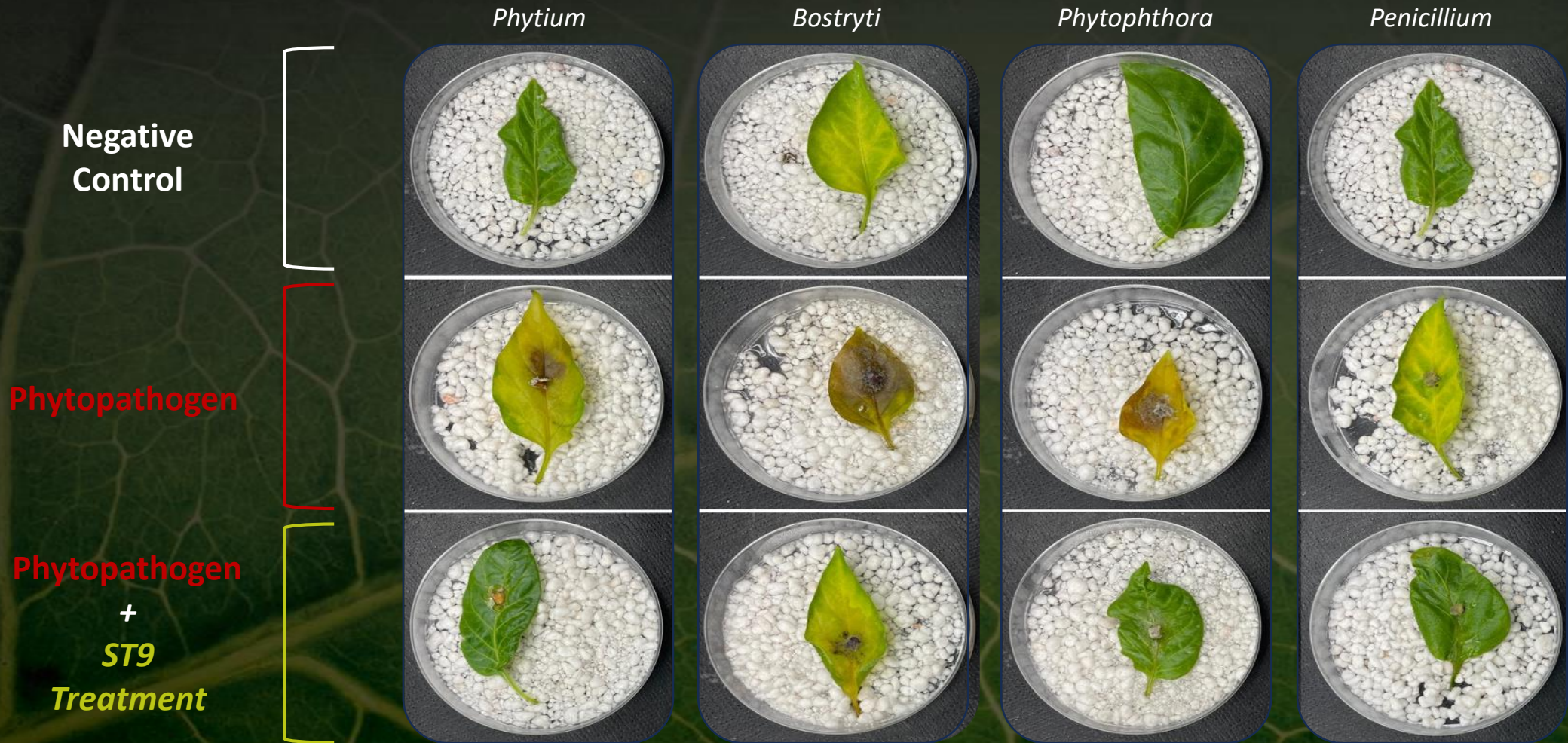
6 Days



8 Days



# Biologic Control



# CONCLUSIONS

- The soil is a living entity.
- It is essential to mitigate the environmental harm caused by agriculture through the adoption of innovative technologies.
- PGPRs, a solution to current challenges
- ST9 demonstrates the characteristics to be the solution to the new challenges in agriculture.



**Thank you for  
your  
attention**

**Ibrahim Tunc**

