

ABSTRACT

A COMPARISON OF FUNGICIDE APPLICATION METHODS FOR THE CONTROL OF BLACK POD DISEASE OF COCOA

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A two year field trial was conducted in Trinidad to evaluate methods of fungicide application for the control of black pod disease (*Phytophthora palmivora* (Butl.) Butler) on cocoa (*Theobroma cacao* L.). The methods compared were, conventional spray, single application, collar and phosphorous acid injection.

Copper sulphate, copper hydroxide and copper I oxide were evaluated for their effectiveness in the reduction of black pod disease. The rates of active ingredient tested on each tree were 2 g/application for the Conventional spray method, 16g for the Single application technique and 3g, 5g and 7g for the Collar method.

The single application resulted in better control of black pod followed by the phosphorous acid injection method. The conventional method was equal in performance to the single application when the interval between successive applications was shortened to two weeks. All the three fungicides were equal in their effectiveness in the reduction of black pod disease.