5.8 GIOVANNI CAMPAGNA[1], FRANCO CIONI[2]
[1] COPROB, Via Mora 56, I – 40061 Minerbio
[2] BETA-Italia, Via Conca 75, I – 44100 Ferrara

INTEGRATED STRATEGIES FOR CERCOSPORA LEAF SPOT (CLS) CONTROL

ABSTRACT

CLS is the most important leaf disease for the Italian sugar beet crop. Crop protection strategies reached a new balance in Italy after the uprising of CLS strain resistant to strobilurins (QoI inhibitors) and the decrease of efficacy of the triazoles (DMI), though the recovery of active ingredients not used for long time as Clortalonil, Thyophanate Methyl, Mancozeb (Manganese Ethylenebis Dithiocarbamate) and the optimization of the use of new compounds based on copper and sulfur.

Without the introduction of new active ingredients against CLS, a valid alternative would be improving the defense mechanisms versus fungal pathologies stimulating the natural self defenses of the plant or otherwise improving the fitness of the crop using specific products in foliar nutrition. Among these products, Phosphites showed an improving of the yield although no reduction of the Affected Leaf Area has been reported, but only a vegetative state in better condition. Results obtained in 2 years of experimentation with these products give rise to points of reflection on the use of such substances.