

**IMPACT OF DRY SEASON APPLICATION OF *Trichoderma harzianum* and *Lecanicillium lecanii* FUNGI ON COFFEE LEAF RUST (*Hemileia vastatrix*) AS POTENTIAL BIOLOGICAL CONTROLS IN THE LOS SANTOS REGION OF COSTA RICA**

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The Los Santos region of Costa Rica produces internationally-renowned coffee. Since 2012 an outbreak of *Hemileia vastatrix*, also called coffee rust, has afflicted coffee crops throughout Costa Rica. This study took place in March and April of 2015 during Costa Rica's dry season on one single coffee farm. The objective was to determine the efficacy of two different biological fungicides, *Trichoderma harzianum* and *Lecanicillium lecanii*, at controlling coffee rust. To this end, the mortality and change in infection area of each leaf were measured for twenty-nine days after application. Overall, *T. harzianum* and *L. lecanii* had no impact on leaf mortality or rust coverage than did control plants.