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HOCHSCHULE WÄDENSWIL

Hochschule für  
Life Sciences  
und Facility Management

# Achievement in EPN research and use in biological control in Switzerland

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## 3 systemes

**Cherry fruit fly**

**Kirschenfliege**

*Rhagoletis cerasi*



**Chest nut weevil**

**Kastanienbohrer**

*Curculio elephas*



**Hazel nut borer**

**Haselnussbohrer**

*Balaninus nucum*



## VIDEO STAR

Stefan Kuske and his Chest nut weevils

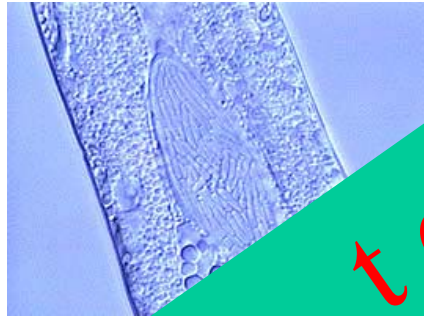




## COST-Action 850: Bio-Control Symbiosis

### Symbiotic Complexes for Biological Control of Pests

The main objective of COST 850 is to develop a better understanding of the place in those symbioses that may be used against insect and slug pests in Europe and to exploit them for biological control.



Biocontrol symbiosis involves nematodes (*Steinernema*,

*Heterorhynchus*) and associated symbiotic bacteria (*Xenorhabdus*, *Photorhabdus*) that live with the nematodes and are essential for their survival. Some nematodes kill their prey. Another nematode *Phasmarhabditis hermaphrodita* is associated with more than 100 species of slugs for killing slugs. Other bacteria living intimately with those same nematodes or insect hosts (e.g. *Xenorhabdus*) influence sex ratios or otherwise manipulate nematode and insect life histories.

The project brings together bacteriologists, nematologists, entomologists, malacologists, biochemists, molecular biologists and industry with the aim to integrate their efforts to understand and exploit the peculiar attributes of symbioses.

COST-Action 850 Sponsors:



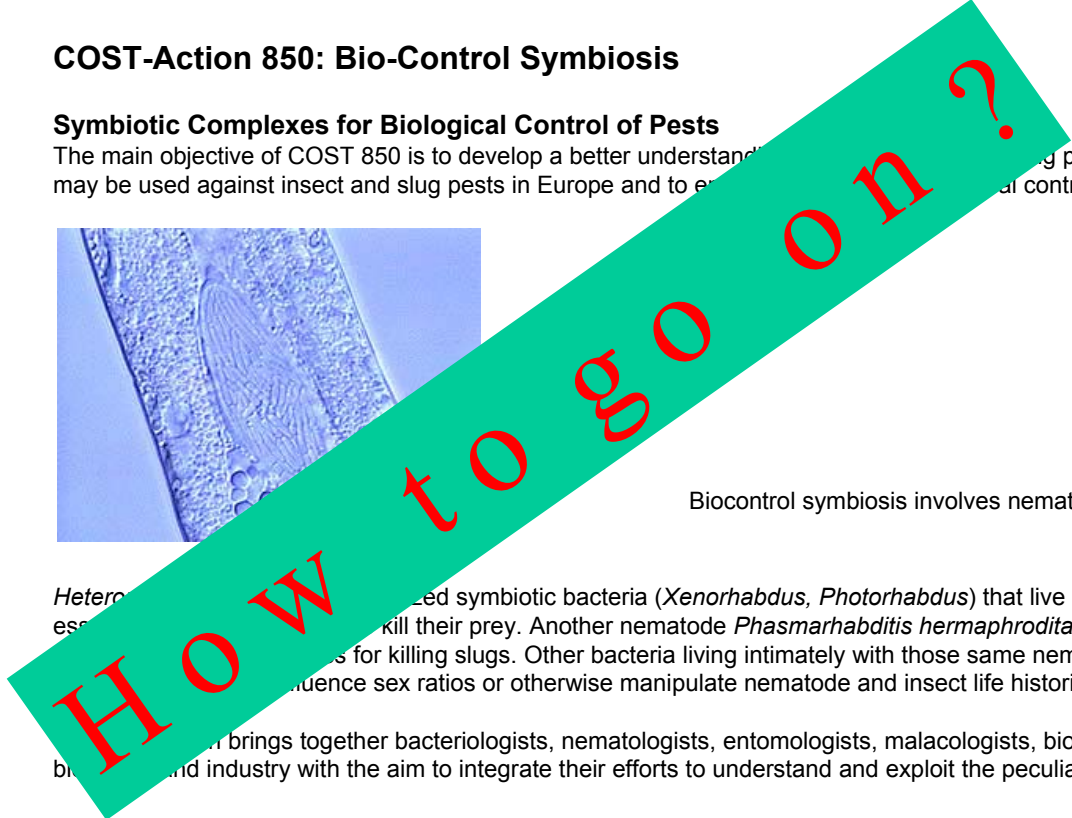
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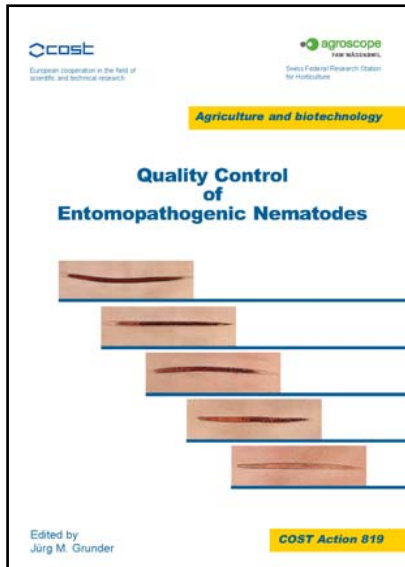
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Contact COST850 Chairman, Ralf-Udo Ehlers





# Quality control



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- As a result of all these discussions and concepts
- collaboration with the industry we could raise distinctly the standard of quality of the nematode products.
- concepts on quality control with standardized procedures.
- 2 potential niche products (Hazelnuts, Chest nut, new software)
- scientific TV program
- several articles for the newspapers and technical journals
- IBMA; Lobbying in registration procedures
- Good promotion for Biocontrol, especially EPN's