

Earthworms affect decomposition of soil-borne plant pathogen *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*

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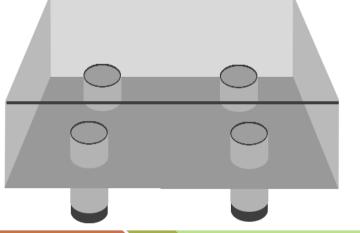


M. & Methods Introduction





4 sclerotia per feeding tube 72h, darkness, 15°C 2 *Lumbricus terrestris*



a Fresh soil (control)

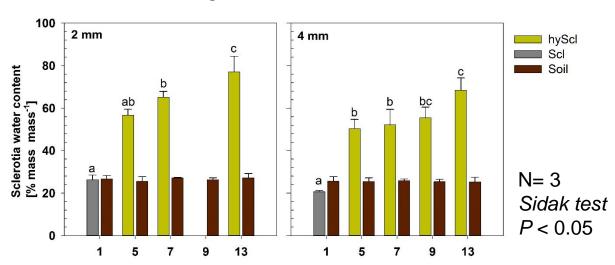
b Soil stored

c Soil + unhydrated sclerotia

d Soil + hydrated sclerotia

Sclerotia hydration

Week

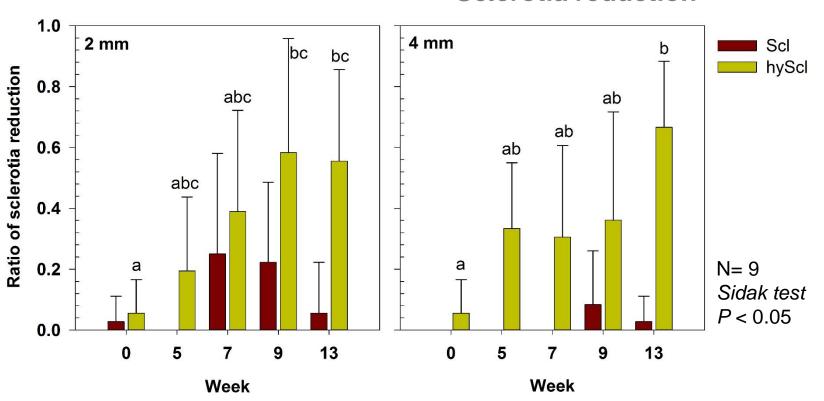


Week





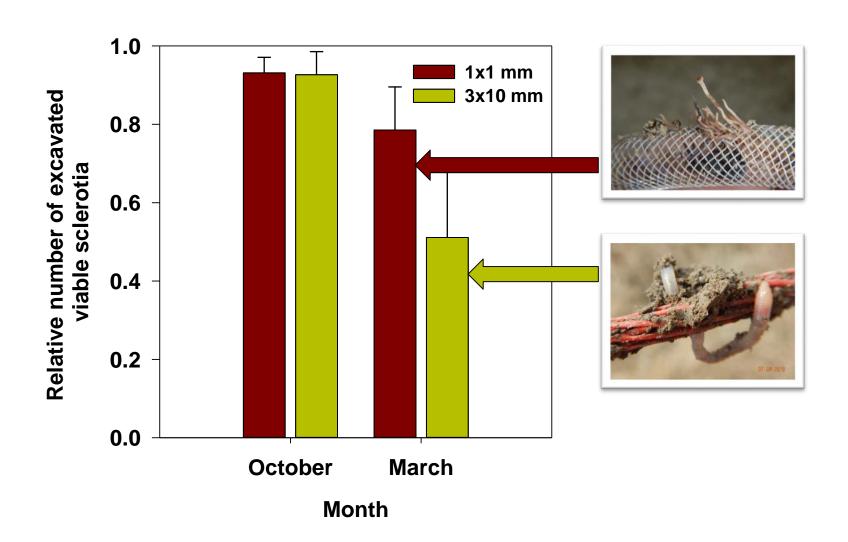
Sclerotia reduction



FIELD: Sclerotia reduction



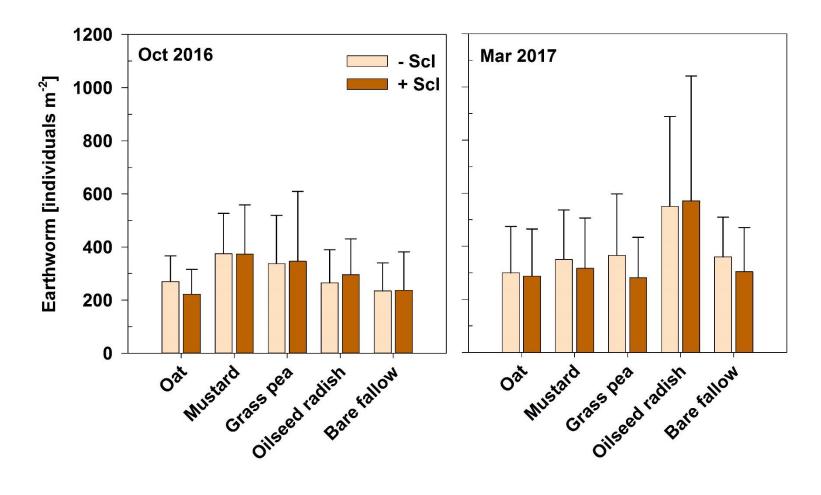




Earthworm abundance







3 subplots sclerotia, 3 sp non-sclerotia N= 6

oilseed radish - oat: oilseed radish - bare fallow: 110.3 SE 31.3 92.6 SE 26.8

indiv. m⁻² (t(86)= 3.5; P=0.007) indiv. m⁻² (t(86)= 3.5; P=0.008)







- soft and firm sclerotia
- 4 mm sclerotia
- With EW access sclerotia reduced
- EW abundance enhanced by cover crops









Thank you for attention

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