



SDI Review Form 1.6

PART 1:

Journal Name:	International Journal of Plant & Soil Science
Manuscript Number:	2012_IJPSS_2772
Title of the Manuscript:	Factors involved in the early events of spore germination and host colonization by <i>Botrytis cinerea</i>

General guideline for Peer Review process is available in this link:

(<http://www.sciencedomain.org/page.php?id=sdi-general-editorial-policy#Peer-Review-Guideline>)

- This form has total 9 parts. Kindly note that you should use all the parts of this review form.



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PART 2: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Compulsory REVISION comments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Host colonization" should be omitted from the title since the experiments deal only with spore germination in vitro and do not address the infection process. 2. Fig. 7: The SDW treatment should be given as a single histogram bar. Why are there 4 bars? 3. Explain all abbreviations, e.g. "SDW". 4. Most experiments employed a spore concentration of 2.5×10^4/ml. Why was 1×10^3/ml used for the salt cation experiment? Please explain. 5. Figs. 7 and 8. Values on X-axis are mislabeled – 0.001 M and 0.01 M are the same as 1 mM and 10 mM. Values given on p. 7, line 160 are also wrong and differ from those given in Fig. 6. The conclusion that all sugars can induce about 100% germination after 24 h (p. 9, lines 213-214) is not consistent with the data in Fig. 5. 7. It is not clear why different media were used to examine the various parameters: 10 mM fructose to examine effect of spore concentration, 10 mM fructose in GB5 medium to examine effect of 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Done, the title was changed to: Factors involved in the early events of spore germination by Botrytis cinerea.</i> 2. <i>Done.</i> 3. <i>Done.</i> 4. <i>This concentration was used according to previously published investigation on salt cation.</i> 5. <i>Done</i> 6. <i>Agreed and changed in the text to: "...Two sugars (sucrose and glucose) have induced high germination rates (>90%) after 24 hours of incubation at the highest concentration used (10mM)".</i> 7. <i>Media and concentrations was decided according to preliminary unpublished data to fine tune procedure.</i> 8. <i>The NH4 source was NH4Cl, the nitrate source was NaNO3. Was also updated in the text as follows: "...NH4 (NH4Cl), NO3 (NaNO3) was used as source of the cations. The spore concentration was set to 1×10^3 conidia/ml.."</i>



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	<p>spore age, 1 mM fructose to examine effect of pH, SDW to examine effect of cations. Please explain rationale.</p> <p>8. The methods used to examine effect of inorganic nitrogen sources on germination lack key information. What ammonium and nitrate salts were used? What was the spore concentration, and medium?</p>	
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Minor REVISION comments	9. What is “medium amended with 10% homogenized bean leaves”? Is this w/v, i.e. 10 g leaves homogenized in 100 ml medium? Please clarify.	<i>It is W/V, yes 10gs leaves homogenized into 100ml medium. The bean leaves as well as tomato leaves were known in recent literature to enrich the medium and enhance sporulation of Botrytis. This note was also updated in methodology section.</i>
Optional/General comments	<p>10. The paper lacks clearly stated objectives. What is the reason for studying Botrytis spore germination? Improved understanding of environmental factors required for germination? Perhaps to gain insights into methods for control by understanding requirements for germination?</p> <p>11. Fig. 2 can be omitted since key information is in Fig. 1 and in text.</p> <p>12. Fig. 4 can be omitted since key information is in Fig. 3.</p> <p>13. Fig. 6 can be omitted since key information is in Fig 5.</p> <p>14. Tables 1 and 2 should be combined in a single table.</p> <p>15. Description of the definition of germination on p. 5, line 105 is poorly written and confusing. One could simply say “... considered as germination when germ tube is visible”.</p>	<p>9. <i>The objective of early event studies usually is set into broad titles, we stated in the abstract that the aim of this study is to investigate the effect of various physical, chemical and nutritional factors on germination of Botrytis cinerea conidia in vitro. So yes as you said it is in another way improving the understanding of the interaction of environmental factors required for germination. In fact, the ambiguity and variability of the results and effort needed to standardize procedures makes it so difficult to clear cut your very definite targets but rather than characterize the sum of effects of different elements via different inculcation procedures, concentrations, etc..</i></p> <p>10. <i>We suggest to keep the germination images in the figures, 2, 4 and 6. They are good and required us massive effort and technology to get (2 years).</i></p> <p>11.</p> <p>12.</p> <p>13. ...</p> <p>14. <i>Yes you might be correct, when we reviewed extensive literature about conidial germination many researchers assumed conidium as germinated when the GT</i></p>



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		<i>length was less than conidial diameter, many others considered it when GT length was longer than conidial diameter, we simplified it all and included both cases... I agree again and already changed it in its location.</i>
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