

***Trichoderma* species Associated with Green Mold Contamination of Cultivated Grey Oyster Mushroom in Malaysia**

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ABSTRACT:

Pleurotus pulmonarius (known as grey oyster mushroom), is the most common commercially grown edible mushroom in Malaysia. However, intensive cultivation of oyster mushroom is often infected by various pathogens which deteriorate the quality of the mushroom and causes dramatic production loss. In recent years, green mold contamination in mushroom cultivation has become one of the most significant crop losses in different countries around the world including Malaysia. A study was conducted to identify the causal agents of green mold contamination in the samples collected from different stage of mushroom cultivation. The isolates were identified by phenotypic, microscopic, and molecular studies. We found that several *Trichoderma* spp. isolated could associated with green mold contamination in grey oyster mushroom cultivation. The findings from this study may help to understand the biodiversity of *Trichoderma* as causal agent of green mold contamination and provide insights to develop management strategies for grey oyster mushroom cultivation.

KEYWORDS:

Pleurotus pulmonarius; mushroom cultivation; *Trichoderma*.