

## Controlling some cucumber earth-born diseases by "soil Solarization" method

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In soil solarization method, soil is covered with plastic plates and temperature increases by sun energy.

This experiment was conducted on some earth-born diseases such as: *Phytophthora drechleri*, *Pythium aphanidermatum*, *Fusarium spp*, *Meloidogyne javanica* and weeds during 1992-1993 in Isfahan.

Results showed that the fungi population in plastic treatment, plastic plates+animal manure and plastic plates+fungicides (Benomyl and Rhidomyl) treatments was reduced.

The least infection of cucumber plants was related to "plastic plates+animal manure" treatment (8.5%), "Plastic plates+fungicides" (13.5%) and plastic plate respectively. *Meloidogyne* population was also reduced and the best result was related to "plastic plates + animal manure" treatment. Almost all of weeds were destroyed under plastic cover expect *Cyperus rotundus* and *Sonchus asper* that were reduced amounting to 59.53% and 44.64% respectively.

According to the results, this method is useful for controlling disease, nematodes, weeds etc.