Title Foliar Application of Acibenzolar-S-Methyl and Protection of Postharvest Rock Melons

and Hami Melons from Disease

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## **Abstract**

A pre-flowering foliar spray of the plant activator acibenzolar-S-methyl at 50 mg/L a.i. combined with a fruit dip in guazatine at 500 mg/L a.i. at harvest substantially decreased disease in stored melons. Major diseases occurring on rock melons and Hami melons were caused by *Fusarium* spp., *Alternaria* spp., *Rhizopus* spp. and *Trichothecium* sp. The treatment with acibenzolar-S-methyl alone was significantly effective in reduction of the disease severity in many but not all situations. The fungicide guazatine alone significantly decreased infection by *Fusarium* spp. but had a lesser effect on that caused by *Alternaria* spp. and *Rhizopus* spp.