

Supplementary Table 1. Checklist for appraising the controlled trial ^a

Questions	Answers
Objectives	
1. Do the objectives address the systematic review question?	yes/no
Treatment (Inoculation, treatment allocation)	
2. Prior to the inoculation, were the sampling units tested for the outcome pathogen?	yes/no
3. Was an appropriate control group used?	yes/no
4. Were sampling units randomly allocated to the treatment and control groups?	yes/no
5. Were sampling units randomly allocated to the experiment locations?	yes/no
6. Were the treatment protocols adequately described?	yes/no
Outcome assessment	
7. Were laboratory tests to determine the outcome described and adequate?	yes/no
Withdrawals and loss to follow-up	
8. Were withdrawals and/or losses to follow-up reported?	yes/partial/no
9. Was the proportion of lost to follow-up adequate?	yes/no
Data analysis	
10. Was the statistical analysis used?	yes/no
11. Was the statistical analysis appropriate?	yes/no
12. Were the estimates and measures of variability used to address the research question presented adequately?	yes/no
13. Were confounders appropriately considered?	yes/no
Conclusions	
14. Were conclusions supported by the results?	yes/no

^a Modified version of the checklists for quality appraisal designed by Sargeant et al. (2005).

Supplementary Table 2. Checklist for appraising the observational study ^a

Questions	Answers
Objectives	
1. Do the objectives address the systematic review question?	yes/no
Treatment (treatment, treatment allocation)	
2. Prior to planting, were the sampling units tested for the outcome pathogen?	yes/no
3. Was an appropriate control group used?	yes/no
4. Were sampling units randomly selected?	yes/no
5. Were the treatment protocols adequately described?	yes/no
Outcome assessment	
6. Were laboratory tests to determine the outcome described and adequate?	yes/no
Withdrawals and loss to follow-up	
7. Were withdrawals and/or losses to follow-up reported?	yes/partial/no
8. Was the proportion of lost to follow-up adequate?	yes/no
Data analysis	
9. Was the statistical analysis used?	yes/no
10. Was the statistical analysis appropriate?	yes/no
11. Were the estimates and measures of variability used to address the research question presented adequately?	yes/no
12. Were confounders appropriately considered?	yes/no
Conclusions	
13. Were conclusions supported by the results?	yes/no

^a Modified version of the checklists for quality appraisal designed by Sargeant et al.(2005).

REFERENCE:

Sargeant, J. M., M. R. Amezcua, A. Rajic, and L. Waddell. 2005. A guide to conducting systematic reviews in agri-food public health. Available at: <http://www.fsrn.net/UserFiles/File/conductingsysreviewsenglish%5B1%5D.pdf>. Accessed 26 February 2012.