

# Wet bubble: identification, prevention and effective management

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## The problem

**Wet bubble**, caused by the fungal pathogen Mycogone perniciosa, reduces productivity of mushroom crops. Its spores are dispersed through vectors (flies and mites).

## The solution

Growers can treat wet bubble with phytosanitary products, based on *Bacillus subtilis* and *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens*. Correct management and sanitation remain the only preventive measures.

## Benefits

Preventive measures can reduce economic losses due to low production and costs of phytosanitary products.



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## Practical recommendations

**Identify disease outbreaks early: visit the crop regularly with a flashlight to check the casing.**



### **(1) Recommendations on specific measures to apply once the disease has appeared:**

- Remove large bubbles using hand protection.
- Cover with salt affected mushrooms and holes from bubble removal.
- Avoid excessively wet casing soil and irrigating the bubbles (that would disperse spores).
- Avoid touching the bubbles. If you do, change your gloves immediately.
- As a harvester, disinfect your hands with hand sanitizer before and after putting on gloves.



### **(2) Recommendations to prevent appearance:**

#### Maintenance:

- Disinfect your work tools before and after use.
- Work from the most recent to the oldest crop.
- Discard leftover casing material from previous crops.
- Store casing containers in a clean area to prevent contamination.

#### Vectors:

- Use air filters to prevent vector entrance.
- Use black lights in the gates and plastic treated with insecticide/paraffin oil.
- Use adhesive plates with pheromones.



#### **About BIOSCHAMP and this Practice Abstract**

This practice abstract was elaborated in the **BIOSCHAMP project**, based on the EIP AGRI practice abstract format. © 2024

**Project dates:** from October 2020 to September 2024.

**Goal:** develop an integrated approach to tackle the mushroom cultivation challenges, improving the mushroom sector industrial profitability while reducing the agronomical need for pesticides by 90 %.

