

GROWERTALKS

GT in Brief

8/25/2011

Becker Underwood Introduces New Bio Fungicide

Jennifer Zurko

Becker Underwood has introduced a new biological fungicide called Subtilex NG. It's aimed at soil-borne pathogens such as rhizoctonia and fusarium. Subtilex NG is based on the hardy MBI 600 strain of *Bacillus subtilis*, which produces an endospore that allows the bacteria to survive extreme environmental conditions like heat and desiccation.

"Unlike a number of other biological products on the market, Subtilex NG offers growers a more flexible application window and also doesn't require special storage or refrigeration," says Joe Lara, product manager at Becker Underwood.

He added that it has a long self life and it complements a wide variety of chemical and biological products used in integrated pest management programs. Subtilex NG works through two modes of action: it colonizes plant roots to exclude soil-borne pathogens, and it produces a metabolite that destroys the pathogen's cell wall.

Visit www.beckerunderwood.com for more. **GT**