**Table 1.** Scoring system for rating microbial growth on test samples of plastic films.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Score | Appearance of microbial growth |
| 0 | No growth apparent by eye or by microscopy |
| 1 | Germinated spores but no apparent subsequent growth |
| 2 | Growth covering ­< 25% of test surface or medium |
| 3 | Growth covering < 50% of test surface or medium |
| 4 | Growth covering ­< 75% of test surface or medium |
| 5 | Growth covering >75% of test surface or medium |

**Table 2.** Observations and growth ratings for fungal isolates obtained from weathered BDM films buried in field plots from fall 2010 until spring 2011 (7 months) at Mount Vernon, later inoculated onto unweathered BDM material and incubated for 68 days at 20oC in darkness. WG = WeedGuard Plus; BA = BioAgri. See Table 1 for growth rating scheme.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Isolate | BDM | FMM  only  control (score) | FMM containing 0.0175 g BDM  (score and/or comments) | | |
|  |  |  | **Visual assessment** | **Light microscopy** | **SEM** |
| SS | WG | 0 | Hyphae and BDM fibers indistiguishable | Hyphae and BDM fibers indistiguishable | 2; Fungal hyphae visible |
| TT | WG | 0 | Hyphae and BDM fibers indistiguishable | Hyphae and BDM fibers indistiguishable | 2; Fungal hyphae visible |
| XX | WG | 0 | Broth cloudy | Few cells observed in broth | 2; Rod-shaped cells on surface |
| VV | BA | 1 | Fine mycelia visible at edge | Mycelia and spore chains observed at edge | 4; Prolific hyphae and conidiophores |
| YY | BA | 0 | Broth cloudy | Few cells observed in broth | 2; Rod-shaped cells on surface |
| ZZ | BA | 1 | Luxurious mycelial growth on entire surface | Hyphae visible at edge | 5; Prolific hyphae |