

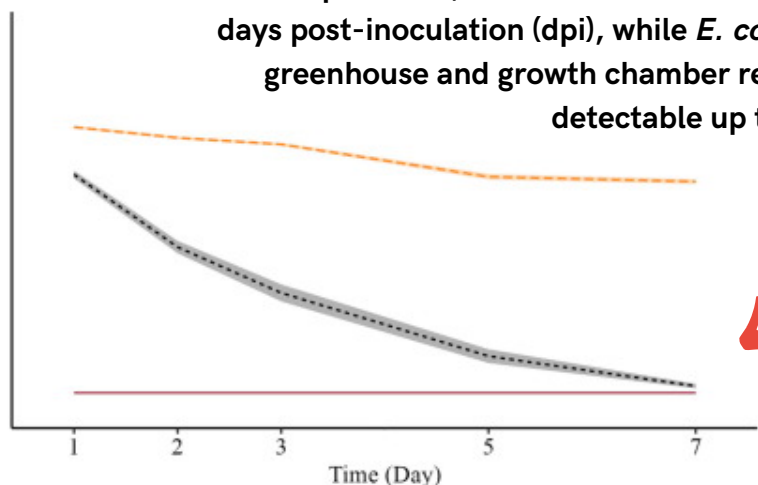
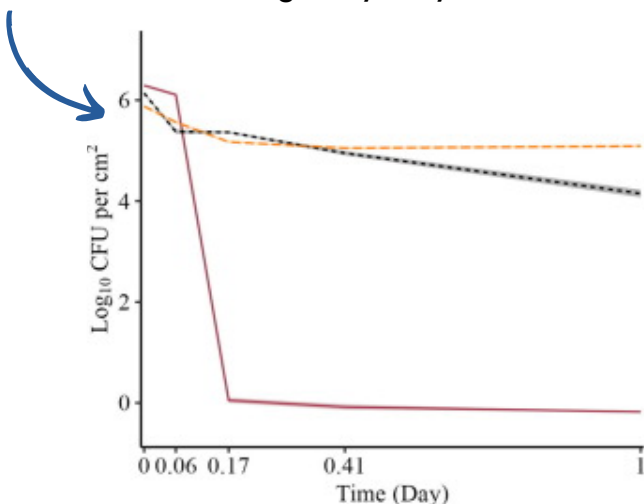


RESEARCH SUMMARIES

SURVIVAL OF GENERIC *ESCHERICHIA COLI* ON PLASTIC MULCH IN OPEN-FIELD, GREENHOUSE, AND GROWTH CHAMBER ENVIRONMENTS

A drastic initial *E. coli* reduction of $-1.65 \log \text{CFU}/\text{cm}^2/\text{hour}$ was observed in the open-field from 0 to 4 h, while the greenhouse environment exhibited a slower and longer period of initial *E. coli* decline at $-0.06 \log \text{CFU}/\text{cm}^2/\text{hour}$ from 0 to 59 h.

In the open-field, *E. coli* was undetectable by 5 days post-inoculation (dpi), while *E. coli* in the greenhouse and growth chamber remained detectable up to 7 dpi.



Open-field - solid, red

Greenhouse - dashed, black

Growth Chamber - long dashed, yellow

These results demonstrate that the survival of *E. coli* on plastic mulch is environment-dependent, indicating not all production environments have the same risk.



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**MORE
INFORMATION**

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