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(57) Abrégé/Abstract:
The subject disclosure concerns Bacillus thuringiensis strains which can be used to control lepidopteran pests. The strains were previously known to control coleopteran pests. The discovery of lepidopteran activity was totally unexpected. These B.t. strains can be formulated using standard lepidopteran formulation procedures. Means of administration are also standard. The genes encoding lepidopteran-active toxins can be isolated from the B.t. isolates and used to transform other microbes or plants for use to control lepidopteran pests.

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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR CONTROLLING LEPIDOPTERAN PESTS

(57) Abstract

The subject disclosure concerns *Bacillus thuringiensis* strains which can be used to control lepidopteran pests. The strains were previously known to control coleopteran pests. The discovery of lepidopteran activity was totally unexpected. These *B.t.* strains can be formulated using standard lepidopteran formulation procedures. Means of administration are also standard. The genes encoding lepidopteran-active toxins can be isolated from the *B.t.* isolates and used to transform other microbes or plants for use to control lepidopteran pests.

DESCRIPTION

PROCESS FOR CONTROLLING LEPIDOPTERAN PESTS

Background of the Invention

The soil microbe *Bacillus thuringiensis* (*B.t.*) is a Gram-positive, spore-forming bacterium characterized by parasporal crystalline protein inclusions. These often appear microscopically as distinctively shaped crystals. The proteins are highly toxic to pests and specific in their activity. The toxin genes have been isolated and sequenced, and recombinant DNA-based *B.t.* products produced and approved. In addition, with the use of genetic engineering techniques, new approaches for delivering *B.t.* endotoxins to agricultural environments are under development, including the use of plants genetically engineered with endotoxin genes for insect resistance and the use of stabilized intact microbial cells as *B.t.* endotoxin delivery vehicles (Gaertner, F.H., L. Kim [1988] *TIBTECH* 6:S4-S7). Thus, isolated *B.t.* endotoxin genes are becoming commercially valuable.

Bacillus thuringiensis produces a proteinaceous paraspore or crystal which is toxic upon ingestion by a susceptible insect host. Over the past 30 years, commercial use of *B.t.* pesticides has been largely restricted to a narrow range of lepidopteran (caterpillar) pests. Preparations of the spores and crystals of *B. thuringiensis* subsp. *kurstaki* have been used for many years as commercial insecticides for lepidopteran pests. For example, *B. thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* HD-1 produces a crystal called a delta endotoxin which is toxic to the larvae of a number of lepidopteran insects.

In recent years, however, investigators have discovered *B.t.* pesticides with specificities for a much broader range of pests. For example, other species of *B.t.*, namely *israelensis* and *san diego* (a.k.a. *B.t. tenebrionis*, a.k.a. M-7), have been used commercially to control insects of the orders Diptera and Coleoptera, respectively (Gaertner, F.H. [1989] "Cellular Delivery Systems for Insecticidal Proteins: Living and Non-Living Microorganisms," in *Controlled Delivery of Crop Protection Agents*, R.M. Wilkins, ed., Taylor and Francis, New York and London, 1990, pp. 245-255). See also Couch, T.L. (1980) "Mosquito Pathogenicity of *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *israelensis*," *Developments in Industrial Microbiology* 22:61-76; Beegle, C.C., (1978) "Use of Entomogenous Bacteria in Agroecosystems," *Developments in Industrial Microbiology* 20:97-104.

Krieg, A., A.M. Huger, G.A. Langenbruch, W. Schnetter (1983) *Z. ang. Ent.* 96:500-508, describe a *B.t.* isolate named *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *tenebrionis*, which is reportedly active against two beetles in the order Coleoptera. These are the Colorado potato beetle, *Leptinotarsa decemlineata*, and *Agelastica alni*.

Recently, many new subspecies of *B.t.* have been identified, and many genes responsible for active δ-endotoxin proteins have been isolated (Höfte, H., H.R. Whiteley [1989] *Microbiological Reviews* 52(2):242-255). Höfte and Whiteley classified 42 *B.t.* crystal protein genes into 14 distinct genes, grouped into 4 major classes based on amino-acid sequence and host range. The classes were CryI (Lepidoptera-specific), CryII (Lepidoptera- and Diptera-specific), CryIII (Coleoptera-specific), and CryIV (Diptera-specific). The discovery of strains specifically toxic to protozoan pathogens, animal-parasitic liver flukes (Trematoda), or mites (Acari) has broadened the potential *B.t.* product spectrum even further. With activities against unique targets, these novel strains retain their very high biological specificity; nontarget organisms remain unaffected. The availability of a large number of diverse *B.t.* toxins may also enable farmers to adopt product-use strategies that minimize the risk that *B.t.*-resistant pests will arise.

The cloning and expression of a *B.t.* crystal protein gene in *Escherichia coli* has been described in the published literature (Schnepf, H.E., H.R. Whitely [1981] *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 78:2893-2897). U.S. Patent 4,448,885 and U.S. Patent 4,467,036 both disclose the expression of *B.t.* crystal protein in *E. coli*. U.S. Patent 4,853,331 discloses *B. thuringiensis* strain *san diego* (a.k.a. *B.t. tenebrionis*, a.k.a. M-7) which can be used to control coleopteran pests in various environments. U.S. Patent No. 4,849,217 discloses *Bacillus thuringiensis* isolates active against the alfalfa weevil. One of the isolates disclosed is *B. thuringiensis* PS86A1 (NRRL B-18400).

Brief Summary of the Invention

The subject invention concerns a novel process for controlling lepidopteran pests. This process results from the unexpected discovery that certain coleopteran-active *B.t.* isolates also have activity against lepidopteran pests, e.g., the diamondback moth (*Plutella xylostella*). This discovery was particularly surprising because known coleopteran-active isolates such as *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *tenebrionis* (Krieg *et al., supra*) (hereinafter referrred to as M-7) are not toxic to Lepidoptera.

More specifically, the subject invention process uses *B.t.* microbes, or variants thereof, and/or their toxins, to control lepidopteran pests. Specific *B.t.* microbes useful according to the invention are *B.t.* PS86A1, *B.t.* PS50C, and *B.t.* PS43F. Further, the subject invention also includes the use of variants of the *B.t.* isolates of the invention which have substantially the same lepidopteran-active properties as the specifically exemplified *B.t.* isolates. Procedures for making mutants are well known in the microbiological art. Ultraviolet light and nitrosoguanidine are used extensively toward this end.

The subject invention also includes the use of genes from the *B.t.* isolates of the invention which genes encode the lepidopteran-active toxins.

Still further, the invention also includes the treatment of substantially intact *B.t.* cells, and recombinant cells containing the genes of the invention, to prolong the lepidopteran activity when the substantially intact cells are applied to the environment of a target pest. Such treatment can be by chemical or physical means, or a combination of chemical and physical means, so long as the technique does not deleteriously affect the properties of the pesticide, nor diminish the cellular capability in protecting the pesticide. The treated cell acts as a protective coating for the pesticidal toxin. The toxin becomes available to act as such upon ingestion by a target insect.

Finally, the subject invention further concerns plants which have been transformed with genes encoding lepidopteran-active toxins.

Brief Description of the Sequences

SEQ ID NO. 1 is the nucleotide sequence (open reading frame only) of the gene designated 50C.

SEQ ID NO. 2 is the predicted amino acid sequence of the toxin 50C.

SEQ ID NO. 3 is the composite nucleotide and amino acid sequences of the gene designated 43F.

SEQ ID NO. 4 is the predicted amino acid sequence of the toxin 43F.

SEQ ID NO. 5 is the nucleotide sequence (open reading frame only) of the gene designated 86A1.

SEQ ID NO. 6 is the predicted amino acid sequence of the toxin 86A1.

SEQ ID NO. 7 is an oligonucleotide probe designated 86A1-A.

Detailed Disclosure of the Invention

The *Bacillus thuringiensis* isolates useful according to the subject invention have the following characteristics in their biologically pure form:

Characteristics of *B.t.* PS50C

Colony morphology--Large colony, dull surface, typical *B.t.*

Vegetative cell morphology--typical *B.t.*

Culture methods--typical for *B.t.*

Flagellar serotyping--PS50C belongs to serotype 18, kumamotoensis.

Crystal morphology--a sphere.

RFLP analysis--Southern hybridization of total DNA distinguishes *B.t.* PS50C from *B.t.s.d.* and other *B.t.* isolates.

Alkali-soluble proteins--SDS polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) shows a 130 kDa doublet protein.

The characteristics of *B.t.* PS86A1 with regard to colony morphology, vegetative cell morphology and culture methods are as given above for *B.t.* PS50C. However, these isolates differ, as shown in Table 1, with respect to inclusions, serotype, and molecular weights of toxins.

B.t. PS43F is disclosed in U.S. Patent 4,996,155.

A comparison of the characteristics of the *B. thuringiensis* strains of the subject invention to the characteristics of the known *B.t.* strains *B. thuringiensis* var. *tenebrionis* (M-7) and *B. thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (HD-1) is shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Comparison of *B.t.* PS50C, *B.t.* PS86A1, *B.t.* PS43F, *B.t.t.* (M-7) and *B.t.* HD-1

	B.t. PS50C	*B.t.* PS86A1	*B.t.* PS43F	*B.t.* HD-1	M-7
Inclusions:	Sphere	Multiple attached	Flat, pointed, ellipse, plus small inclusions	Bipyramid	Flat square
Approximate molecular wt. of proteins by SDS-PAGE (kDa)	130,000 doublet	58,000 45,000	75,000 68,000 61,000	130,000 68,000	72,000 64,000
Serotype	kumamotoensis	wuhenensis	tolworthi	kurstaki	morrisoni

B.t. isolates useful according to the subject invention have been deposited. Also deposited are recombinant microbes comprising the *B.t.* genes of interest.

Culture	Accession Number	Deposit Date
Bacillus thuringiensis PS50C	NRRL B-18746	January 9, 1991
E. coli NM522(pMYC1638)	NRRL B-18751	January 11, 1991
Bacillus thuringiensis PS86A1	NRRL B-18400	August 16, 1988
E. coli NM522(pMYC2320)	NRRL B-18769	February 14, 1991
Bacillus thuringiensis PS43F	NRRL B-18298	February 2, 1988
E. coli XL1-Blue (pM1,98-4)	NRRL B-18291	January 15, 1988

The cultures are on deposit in the permanent collection of the Northern Research Laboratory, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Peoria, IL, USA.

The subject cultures have been deposited under conditions that assure that access to the cultures will be available during the pendency of this patent application to one determined by the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to be entitled thereto under 37 CFR 1.14 and 35 USC 122. The deposits are available as required by foreign patent laws in countries wherein

counterparts of the subject application, or its progeny, are filed. However, it should be understood that the availability of a deposit does not constitute a license to practice the subject invention in derogation of patent rights granted by governmental action.

Further, the subject culture deposits will be stored and made available to the public in accord with the provisions of the Budapest Treaty for the Deposit of Microorganisms, i.e., they will be stored with all the care necessary to keep them viable and uncontaminated for a period of at least five years after the most recent request for the furnishing of a sample of the deposit, and in any case, for a period of at least 30 (thirty) years after the date of deposit or for the enforceable life of any patent which may issue disclosing the cultures. The depositor acknowledges the duty to replace the deposits should the depository be unable to furnish a sample when requested, due to the condition of the deposit(s). All restrictions on the availability to the public of the subject culture deposits will be irrevocably removed upon the granting of a patent disclosing them.

The lepidopteran toxin genes of the subject invention can be isolated by known procedures and can be be introduced into a wide variety of microbial hosts. Expression of the toxin gene results, directly or indirectly, in the intracellular production and maintenance of the pesticide. With suitable hosts, e.g., *Pseudomonas*, the microbes can be applied to the situs of lepidopteran insects where they will proliferate and be ingested by the insects. The result is a control of the unwanted insects. Alternatively, the microbe hosting the toxin gene can be treated under conditions that prolong the activity of the toxin produced in the cell. The treated cell then can be applied to the environment of target pest(s). The resulting product retains the toxicity of the *B.t.* toxin.

Where the *B.t.* toxin gene is introduced via a suitable vector into a microbial host, and said host is applied to the environment in a living state, it is important that certain host microbes be used. Microorganism hosts are selected which are known to occupy the "phytosphere" (phylloplane, phyllosphere, rhizosphere, and/or rhizoplane) of one or more crops of interest. These microorganisms are selected so as to be capable of successfully competing in the particular environment (crop and other insect habitats) with the wild-type microorganisms, provide for stable maintenance and expression of the gene expressing the polypeptide pesticide, and, desirably, provide for improved protection of the pesticide from environmental degradation and inactivation.

A large number of microorganisms are known to inhabit the phylloplane (the surface of the plant leaves) and/or the rhizosphere (the soil surrounding plant roots) of a wide variety of important crops. These microorganisms include bacteria, algae, and fungi. Of particular interest are microorganisms, such as bacteria, e.g., genera *Pseudomonas*, *Erwinia*, *Serratia*, *Klebsiella*, *Xanthomonas*, *Streptomyces*, *Rhizobium*, *Rhodopseudomonas*, *Methylophilius*, *Agrobacterium*, *Acetobacter*, *Lactobacillus*, *Arthrobacter*, *Azotobacter*, *Leuconostoc*, and *Alcaligenes*; fungi, particularly yeast, e.g., genera *Saccharomyces*, *Cryptococcus*, *Kluyveromyces*, *Sporobolomyces*,

Rhodotorula, and *Aureobasidium*. Of particular interest are such phytosphere bacterial species as *Pseudomonas syringae*, *Pseudomonas fluorescens*, *Serratia marcescens*, *Acetobacter xylinum*, *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*, *Rhodopseudomonas spheroides*, *Xanthomonas campestris*, *Rhizobium melioti*, *Alcaligenes entrophus*, and *Azotobacter vinlandii*; and phytosphere yeast species such as *Rhodotorula rubra*, *R. glutinis*, *R. marina*, *R. aurantiaca*, *Cryptococcus albidus*, *C. diffluens*, *C. laurentii*, *Saccharomyces rosei*, *S. pretoriensis*, *S. cerevisiae*, *Sporobolomyces roseus*, *S. odorus*, *Kluyveromyces veronae*, and *Aureobasidium pollulans*. Of particular interest are the pigmented microorganisms.

A wide variety of ways are available for introducing the *B.t.* gene expressing the toxin into the microorganism host under conditions which allow for stable maintenance and expression of the gene. One can provide for DNA constructs which include the transcriptional and translational regulatory signals for expression of the toxin gene, the toxin gene under their regulatory control and a DNA sequence homologous with a sequence in the host organism, whereby integration will occur, and/or a replication system which is functional in the host, whereby integration or stable maintenance will occur.

The transcriptional initiation signals will include a promoter and a transcriptional initiation start site. In some instances, it may be desirable to provide for regulative expression of the toxin, where expression of the toxin will only occur after release into the environment. This can be achieved with operators or a region binding to an activator or enhancers, which are capable of induction upon a change in the physical or chemical environment of the microorganisms. For example, a temperature sensitive regulatory region may be employed, where the organisms may be grown up in the laboratory without expression of a toxin, but upon release into the environment, expression begins. Other techniques may employ a specific nutrient medium in the laboratory, which inhibits the expression of the toxin, where the nutrient medium in the environment allows for expression of the toxin. For translational initiation, a ribosomal binding site and an initiation codon will be present.

Various manipulations may be employed for enhancing the expression of the messenger, particularly by using an active promoter, as well as by employing sequences, which enhance the stability of the messenger RNA. The initiation and translational termination region will involve stop codon(s), a terminator region, and optionally, a polyadenylation signal.

In the direction of transcription, namely in the 5′ to 3′ direction of the coding or sense sequence, the construct can involve the transcriptional regulatory region, if any, and the promoter, where the regulatory region may be either 5′ or 3′ of the promoter, the ribosomal binding site, the initiation codon, the structural gene having an open reading frame in phase with the initiation codon, the stop codon(s), the polyadenylation signal sequence, if any, and the terminator region. This sequence as a double strand may be used by itself for transformation of a microorganism host, but will usually be included with a DNA sequence involving a marker, where the second

DNA sequence may be joined to the toxin expression construct during introduction of the DNA into the host.

By a marker is intended a structural gene which provides for selection of those hosts which have been modified or transformed. The marker will normally provide for selective advantage, for example, providing for biocide resistance, e.g., resistance to antibiotics or heavy metals; complementation, so as to provide prototropy to an auxotrophic host, or the like. Preferably, complementation is employed, so that the modified host may not only be selected, but may also be competitive in the field. One or more markers may be employed in the development of the constructs, as well as for modifying the host. The organisms may be further modified by providing for a competitive advantage against other wild-type microorganisms in the field. For example, genes expressing metal chelating agents, e.g., siderophores, may be introduced into the host along with the structural gene expressing the toxin. In this manner, the enhanced expression of a siderophore may provide for a competitive advantage for the toxin-producing host, so that it may effectively compete with the wild-type microorganisms and stably occupy a niche in the environment.

Where stable episomal maintenance or integration is desired, a plasmid will be employed which has a replication system which is functional in the host. The replication system may be derived from the chromosome, an episomal element normally present in the host or a different host, or a replication system from a virus which is stable in the host. A large number of plasmids are available, such as pBR322, pACYC184, RSF1010, pRO1614, and the like. See for example, Olson *et al.* (1982) *J. Bacteriol.* 150:6069, and Bagdasarian *et al.* (1981) *Gene* 16:237, and U.S. Patent Nos. 4,356,270, 4,362,817, and 4,371,625.

Where no functional replication system is present, the construct will also include a sequence of at least 50 basepairs (bp), preferably at least about 100 bp, and usually not more than about 1000 bp of a sequence homologous with a sequence in the host. In this way, the probability of legitimate recombination is enhanced, so that the gene will be integrated into the host and stably maintained by the host. Desirably, the toxin gene will be in close proximity to the gene providing for complementation as well as the gene providing for the competitive advantage. Therefore, in the event that a toxin gene is lost, the resulting organism will be likely to also lose the complementing gene and/or the gene providing for the competitive advantage, so that it will be unable to compete in the environment with the gene retaining the intact construct.

A large number of transcriptional regulatory regions are available from a wide variety of microorganism hosts, such as bacteria, bacteriophage, cyanobacteria, algae, fungi, and the like. Various transcriptional regulatory regions include the regions associated with the *trp* gene, *lac* gene, *gal* gene, the lambda left and right promoters, the *tac* promoter, and the naturally-occurring promoters associated with the toxin gene, where functional in the host. See for example, U.S. Patent Nos. 4,332,898, 4,342,832 and 4,356,270. The termination region may be the termination

region normally associated with the transcriptional initiation region or a different transcriptional initiation region, so long as the two regions are compatible and functional in the host.

The *B.t.* gene can be introduced between the transcriptional and translational initiation region and the transcriptional and translational termination region, so as to be under the regulatory control of the initiation region. This construct can be included in a plasmid, which could include at least one replication system, but may include more than one, where one replication system is employed for cloning during the development of the plasmid and the second replication system is necessary for functioning in the ultimate host. In addition, one or more markers may be present, which have been described previously. Where integration is desired, the plasmid will desirably include a sequence homologous with the host genome.

The transformants can be isolated in accordance with conventional ways, usually employing a selection technique, which allows for selection of the desired organism as against unmodified organisms or transferring organisms, when present. The transformants then can be tested for pesticidal activity.

Suitable host cells, where the pesticide-containing cells will be treated to prolong the activity of the toxin in the cell when the then treated cell is applied to the environment of target pest(s), may include either prokaryotes or eukaryotes, normally being limited to those cells which do not produce substances toxic to higher organisms, such as mammals. However, organisms which produce substances toxic to higher organisms could be used, where the toxin is unstable or the level of application sufficiently low as to avoid any possibility of toxicity to a mammalian host. As hosts, of particular interest will be the prokaryotes and the lower eukaryotes, such as fungi. Illustrative prokaryotes, both Gram-negative and -positive, include Enterobacteriaceae, such as *Escherichia*, *Erwinia*, *Shigella*, *Salmonella*, and *Proteus*; Bacillaceae; Rhizobiceae, such as *Rhizobium*; Spirillaceae, such as photobacterium, *Zymomonas*, *Serratia*, *Aeromonas*, *Vibrio*, *Desulfovibrio*, *Spirillum*; Lactobacillaceae; Pseudomonadaceae, such as *Pseudomonas* and *Acetobacter*; Azotobacteraceae and Nitrobacteraceae. Among eukaryotes are fungi, such as Phycomycetes and Ascomycetes, which includes yeast, such as *Saccharomyces* and *Schizosaccharomyces*; and Basidiomycetes yeast, such as *Rhodotorula*, *Aureobasidium*, *Sporobolomyces*, and the like.

The cell will usually be intact and be substantially in the proliferative form when treated, rather than in a spore form, although in some instances spores may be employed.

Treatment of the microbial cell, e.g., a microbe containing the *B.t.* lepidopteran toxin gene, can be by chemical or physical means, or by a combination of chemical and/or physical means, so long as the technique does not deleteriously affect the properties of the toxin, nor diminish the cellular capability in protecting the toxin. Examples of chemical reagents are halogenating agents, particularly halogens of atomic no. 17-80. More particularly, iodine can be used under mild conditions and for sufficient time to achieve the desired results. Other suitable

techniques include treatment with aldehydes, such as formaldehyde and glutaraldehyde; anti-infectives, such as zephiran chloride and cetylpyridinium chloride; alcohols, such as isopropyl and ethanol; various histologic fixatives, such as Bouin's fixative and Helly's fixative (See: Humason, Gretchen L. [1967] *Animal Tissue Techniques*, W.H. Freeman and Company); or a combination of physical (heat) and chemical agents that preserve and prolong the activity of the toxin produced in the cell when the cell is administered to the host animal. Examples of physical means are short wavelength radiation such as gamma-radiation and X-radiation, freezing, UV irradiation, lyophilization, and the like.

The cells generally will have enhanced structural stability which will enhance resistance to environmental conditions. Where the pesticide is in a proform, the method of inactivation should be selected so as not to inhibit processing of the proform to the mature form of the pesticide by the target pest pathogen. For example, formaldehyde will crosslink proteins and could inhibit processing of the proform of a polypeptide pesticide. The method of inactivation or killing retains at least a substantial portion of the bio-availability or bioactivity of the toxin.

Characteristics of particular interest in selecting a host cell for purposes of production include ease of introducing the *B.t.* gene into the host, availability of expression systems, efficiency of expression, stability of the pesticide in the host, and the presence of auxiliary genetic capabilities. Characteristics of interest for use as a pesticide microcapsule include protective qualities for the pesticide, such as thick cell walls, pigmentation, and intracellular packaging or formation of inclusion bodies; leaf affinity; lack of mammalian toxicity; attractiveness to pests for ingestion; ease of killing and fixing without damage to the toxin; and the like. Other considerations include ease of formulation and handling, economics, storage stability, and the like.

Host organisms of particular interest include yeast, such as *Rhodotorula* sp., *Aureobasidium* sp., *Saccharomyces* sp., and *Sporobolomyces* sp.; phylloplane organisms such as *Pseudomonas* sp., *Erwinia* sp. and *Flavobacterium* sp.; or such other organisms as *Escherichia*, *Lactobacillus* sp., *Bacillus* sp., and the like. Specific organisms include *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Pseudomonas fluorescens*, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, *Bacillus thuringiensis*, *Escherichia coli*, *Bacillus subtilis*, and the like.

The cellular host containing the *B.t.* lepidopteran gene may be grown in any convenient nutrient medium, where the DNA construct provides a selective advantage, providing for a selective medium so that substantially all or all of the cells retain the *B.t.* gene. These cells may then be harvested in accordance with conventional ways. Alternatively, the cells can be treated prior to harvesting.

The *B.t.* cells may be formulated in a variety of ways. They may be employed as wettable powders, granules or dusts, by mixing with various inert materials, such as inorganic minerals (phyllosilicates, carbonates, sulfates, phosphates, and the like) or botanical materials (powdered corncobs, rice hulls, walnut shells, and the like). The formulations may include spreader-sticker

adjuvants, stabilizing agents, other pesticidal additives, or surfactants. Liquid formulations may be aqueous-based or non-aqueous and employed as foams, gels, suspensions, emulsifiable concentrates, or the like. The ingredients may include rheological agents, surfactants, emulsifiers, dispersants, or polymers.

The pesticidal concentration will vary widely depending upon the nature of the particular formulation, particularly whether it is a concentrate or to be used directly. The pesticide will be present in at least about 1% by weight and may be about 100% by weight. The dry formulations will have from about 1-95% by weight of the pesticide while the liquid formulations will generally be from about 1-60% by weight of the solids in the liquid phase. The formulations will generally have from about 10^2 to about 10^4 cells/mg. These formulations will be administered at about 50 mg (liquid or dry) to 1 kg or more per hectare.

The formulations can be applied to the environment of the lepidopteran pest(s), e.g., plants, soil or water, by spraying, dusting, sprinkling, or the like.

Following are examples which illustrate procedures, including the best mode, for practicing the invention. These examples should not be construed as limiting. All percentages are by weight and all solvent mixture proportions are by volume unless otherwise noted.

Example 1 – Culturing *Bacillus thuringiensis* Isolates

A subculture of a *B.t.* isolate of the invention can be used to inoculate the following medium, a peptone, glucose, salts medium.

Bacto Peptone	7.50 g/l
Glucose	1.00 g/l
KH_2PO_4	3.40 g/l
K_2HPO_4	4.35 g/l
Salt Solution	5.00 ml/l
$CaCl_2$ Solution	5.00 ml/l

pH 7.2

Salts Solution (100 ml)	
$MgSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$	2.46 g
$MnSO_4 \cdot H_2O$	0.04 g
$ZnSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$	0.28 g
$FeSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$	0.40 g

$CaCl_2$ Solution (100 ml)	
$CaCl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$	3.66 g

The salts solution and $CaCl_2$ solution are filter-sterilized and added to the autoclaved and cooked broth at the time of inoculation. Flasks are incubated at 30°C on a rotary shaker at 200 rpm for 64 hr.

The above procedure can be readily scaled up to large fermentors by procedures well known in the art.

The *B.t.* spores and crystals, obtained in the above fermentation, can be isolated by procedures well known in the art. A frequently-used procedure is to subject the harvested fermentation broth to separation techniques, e.g., centrifugation.

Example 2 – Cloning of a Toxin Gene from *B.t.* Isolate PS50C

Total cellular DNA was prepared from *Bacillus thuringiensis* (*B.t.*) cells grown to an optical density, at 600 nm, of 1.0. The cells were recovered by centrifugation and protoplasts were prepared in TES buffer (30 mM Tris-HCl, 10 mM EDTA, 50 mM NaCl, pH = 8.0) containing 20% sucrose and 50 mg/ml lysozyme. The protoplasts were lysed by addition of SDS to a final concentration of 4%. The cellular material was precipitated overnight at 4°C in 100 mM (final concentration) neutral potassium chloride. The supernate was extracted twice with phenol/chloroform (1:1). Nucleic acids were precipitated with ethanol and DNA was purified by isopycnic banding on cesium chloride-ethidium bromide gradients.

Total cellular DNA from *B.t.* subsp. kumamotoensis (*B.t.* kum.), isolate PS50C, was digested with *Hin*dIII and fractionated by electrophoresis on a 0.8% (w/v) agarose-TAE (50 mM Tris-HCl, 20 mM NaOAc, 2.5 mM EDTA, pH = 8.0) buffered gel. A Southern blot of the gel was hybridized with a [^{32}P]-radiolabeled oligonucleotide probe. Results showed that the hybridizing fragments of PS50C are approximately 12 kb and 1.7 kb in size.

A library was constructed from PS50C total cellular DNA partially digested with *Sau*3A and size fractionated by gel electrophoresis. The 9-23 kb region of the gel was excised and the DNA was electroeluted and then concentrated using an Elutip-d™ ion exchange column (Schleicher and Schuel, Keene, NH). The isolated *Sau*3A fragments were ligated into *Bam*HI-digested LambdaGEM-11™ (PROMEGA). The packaged phage were plated on *E. coli* KW251

cells (PROMEGA) at a high titer and screened using the radiolabeled oligonucleotide probe. Hybridizing plaques were purified and rescreened at a lower plaque density. Single isolated, purified plaques that hybridized with the probe were used to infect *E. coli* KW251 cells in liquid culture for preparation of phage for DNA isolation. DNA was isolated by standard procedures. Preparative amounts of DNA were digested with *Xho*I (to release the inserted DNA from lambda sequences) and separated by electrophoresis on a 0.6% agarose-TAE gel. The large fragments were purified by ion exchange chromatography as above and ligated to *Xho*I-digested, dephosphorylated pHTBlueII (an *E. coli/B. thuringiensis* shuttle vector comprised of pBluescript s/k [Stratagene] and the replication origin from a resident *B.t.* plasmid [D. Lereclus *et al.* [1989] *FEMS Microbiology Letters* 60:211-218]). The ligation mix was introduced by transformation into competent *E. coli* NM522 cells (ATCC 47000) and plated on LB agar containing ampicillin, isopropyl-(β)-D-thiogalactoside (IPTG) and 5-bromo-4-chloro-4-indolyl-(β)-D-galactoside (XGAL). White colonies, with putative restriction fragment insertions in the (β)-galactosidase gene of pHTBlueII, were subjected to standard rapid plasmid purification procedures. Plasmids were analyzed by *Xho*I digestion and agarose gel electrophoresis. The desired plasmid construct, pMYC1638, contains an approximately 12 kb *Xho*I insert. The nucleotide sequence (open reading frame only) is shown in SEQ ID NO. 1. The predicted amino acid sequence of the toxin is shown in SEQ ID NO. 2.

Plasmid pMYC1638 was introduced into an acrystalliferous (Cry$^-$) *B.t.* host (HD-1 cryB obtained from A. Aronson, Purdue University) by electroporation. Expression of an approximately 130 kDa protein was verified by SDS-PAGE.

Plasmid pMYC1638 containing the *B.t.* toxin gene, can be removed from the transformed host microbe by use of standard well-known procedures. For example, *E. coli* NM522[pMYC1638] NRRL B-18751 can be subjected to cleared lysate isopycnic density gradient procedures, and the like, to recover pMYC1638.

Example 3 – Cloning of Toxin Gene From *B.t.* Isolate PS43F and Transformation into *Pseudomonas*

Total cellular DNA was prepared by growing the cells of *B.t.* isolate PS43F and M-7 to a low optical density (OD_{600} = 1.0) and recovering the cells by centrifugation. The cells were protoplasted in a buffer containing 20% sucrose and 50 mg/ml lysozyme. The protoplasts were lysed by addition of SDS to a final concentration of 4%. The cellular material was precipitated overnight at 4°C in 100 mM neutral potassium chloride. The supernate was phenol/chloroform extracted twice and the DNA precipitated in 68% ethanol. The DNA was purified on a cesium chloride gradient. DNAs from strains 43F and M-7 (as a standard of reference) were digested with *Eco*RI and run out on a 0.8% agarose gel. The gel was Southern blotted and probed with the nick translated ORF *Xmn*I to *Pst*I fragment of the toxin encoding gene isolated from M-7 (this

will be subsequently referred to as Probe). The results showed 43F to hybridize to Probe at 7.5 kb which is different than the standard.

Preparative amounts of 43F DNA were digested with *Eco*RI and run out on a 0.8% agarose gel. The 7.5 kb region of the preparative gel was isolated and the DNA electroeluted and concentrated using an ELUTIP^{TM}-d (Schleicher and Schuell, Keene, NH) ion exchange column. A sample was blotted and probed to verify the fragment was indeed isolated. The 7.5 kb *Eco*RI fragment was ligated to Lambda ZAP^{TM} *Eco*RI arms. The packaged recombinant phage were plated out with *E. coli* strain BB4 (Stratagene Cloning Systems, La Jolla, CA) to give high plaque density.

The plaques were screened by standard procedures with Probe. The plaques that hybridized were purified and re-screened at a lower plaque density. The resulting phage were grown with M13 helper phage (Stratagene) and the recombinant BLUESCRIPT^{TM} plasmid was automatically excised and packaged. The "phagemid" was re-infected in XL1-blue *E. coli* cells (Stratagene) as part of the automatic excision process. The infected XL1-blue cells were screened for ampicillin resistance and the resulting colonies were miniprepped to find the desired plasmid pM1,98-4. The recombinant *E. coli* XL1-Blue (pM1,98-4) strain is called MR381.

The plasmid pM1,98-4 contained a 7.5 kb EcoRI insert. To verify that this insert was the one of interest, a Southern blot was performed and probed. The 7.5 kb band hybridized with Probe, confirming that the fragment had been cloned. Restriction endonuclease analysis of the 7.5 kb *Eco*RI fragment with the enzymes *Hin*dIII, *Pst*I, *Spe*I, *Bam*HI and *Xba*I was done to show that a gene different from M-7 had been cloned. The enzymes which cut inside the 7.5 kb EcoRI fragment were *Hin*dIII (twice) *Spe*I (twice) and *Pst*I (once). The open reading frame (ORF) of the 43F gene cut once with *Hin*dIII, twice with *Spe*I and did not cut with *Xba*I, *Eco*RI, or *Bam*HI. Sequence data showed an open reading frame of 1963 bp with at best 70% sequence similarity to the toxin encoding gene of M-7.

The cloned toxin gene from PS43F can be modified for expression in *P. fluorescens* in the following way:

(1) A plasmid containing the P*tac*-promoted cryIA(b)-like toxin gene can be made using a 3-way ligation involving the P*tac* promoter and toxin gene on a *Bam*HI-*Pst*I fragment of about 4500 bp from pM3,130-7 (from MR420, NRRL B-18332, disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,055,294), a *Not*I-*Bam*HI fragment of about 5500 bp from pTJS260 (containing the tetracycline resistance genes, available from Dr. Donald Helinski, U.C. San Diego), and a *Not*I-*Pst*I fragment of about 6100 bp from pTJS260 (containing the replication region). The assembled plasmid is recovered following transformation of *E. coli* and growth under tetracycline selection.

(2) A plasmid containing the P*tac*-promoted 43F toxin gene can be made by ligating the toxin gene-containing *Fsp*I-*Ssp*I fragment of about 2200 bp from pM1,98-4 (from MR381(pM1,98-4), NRRL B-18291) into the *Sma*I site of the *E. coli* vector, pKK223-3 (Pharmacia). The P*tac*-

promoted 43F toxin plasmid can be recovered following transformation of *E. coli*, growth under ampicillin selection, and screening for plasmids with inserts in the proper orientation for expression from the *tac* promoter by techniques well known in the art.

(3) The P*tac*-promoted 43F toxin can be assembled into, for example, the pTJS260-derived vector in a three-way ligation using the 12.6 kb DNA fragment having *Bam*HI and filled-in *Nsi*I ends from the plasmid resulting from step 1 above, to the *Bam*HI-*Nsi*I P*tac*-containing fragment of about 1.2 kb and the *Nsi*I-*Sca*I fragment of about 2.1 kb containing the 3′ end of the 43F toxin gene and adjacent vector DNA from the plasmid resulting from step 2 above.

The resulting pTJS260-derived 43F toxin expression plasmid can be introduced into *Pseudomonas fluorescens* by electroporation.

The above cloning procedures were conducted using standard procedures unless otherwise noted.

The various methods employed in the preparation of the plasmids and transformation of host organisms are well known in the art. These procedures are described in Maniatis, T., E.F. Fritsch, J. Sambrook (1982) *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, New York. Thus, it is within the skill of those in the genetic engineering art to extract DNA from microbial cells, perform restriction enzyme digestions, electrophorese DNA fragments, tail and anneal plasmid and insert DNA, ligate DNA, transform cells, prepare plasmid DNA, electrophorese proteins, and sequence DNA.

The restriction enzymes disclosed herein can be purchased from Boehringer Mannheim, Indianapolis, IN, or New England BioLabs, Beverly, MA. The enzymes were used according to the instructions provided by the supplier.

Plasmid pM1,98-4 containing the *B.t.* toxin gene, can be removed from the transformed host microbe by use of standard well-known procedures. For example, *E. coli* XL1-Blue (pM1,98-4) can be subjected to cleared lysate isopycnic density gradient procedures, and the like, to recover pM1,98-4.

Example 4 – Molecular Cloning of Gene Encoding a Toxin from *Bacillus thuringiensis* Strain PS86A1

Total cellular DNA was prepared from PS86A1 cells grown to an optical density, at 600 nm, of 1.0. Cells were pelleted by centrifugation and resuspended in protoplast buffer (20 mg/ml lysozyme in 0.3 M sucrose, 25 mM Tris-Cl, pH 8.0, 25 mM EDTA). After incubation at 37°C for 1 hour, protoplasts were lysed by two cycles of freezing and thawing. Nine volumes of a solution of 0.1 M NaCl, 0.1% SDS, 0.1 M Tris-Cl were added to complete lysis. The cleared lysate was extracted twice with phenol:chloroform (1:1). Nucleic acids were precipitated with two volumes of ethanol and pelleted by centrifugation. The pellet was resuspended in 10 mM Tris-Cl, 1 mM EDTA (TE), pH 8.0, and RNAse was added to a final concentration of 50 μg/ml. After

incubation at 37°C for 1 hour, the solution was extracted once each with phenol:chloroform (1:1) and TE-saturated chloroform. DNA was precipitated from the aqueous phase by the addition of one-tenth volume of 3 M NaOAc and two volumes of ethanol. DNA was pelleted by centrifugation, washed with 70% ethanol, dried, and resuspended in TE.

Restriction fragment length polymorphism (RFLP) analyses were performed by standard hybridization of southern blots of PS86A1 DNA with a ^{32}P-labeled oligonucleotide probe designated as 86A1-A. The sequence of the 86A1-A probe was:

5' ATG ATT GAT TCT AAA ACA ACA TTA CCA AGA CAT TCT/A TTA ATT/A CAT ACT/A ATT/A AA 3' (SEQ ID NO. 7)

The probe was mixed at four positions, as shown. Hybridizing bands included an approximately 3.6 kbp *Hin*dIII fragment and an approximately 9.3 kbp *Eco*RV fragment.

A gene library was constructed from PS86A1 DNA partially digested with *Sau*3A. Partial restriction digests were fractionated by agarose gel electrophoresis. DNA fragments 6.6 to 23 kbp in size were excised from the gel, electroeluted from the gel slice, and recovered by ethanol precipitation after purification on an Elutip-D ion exchange column. The *Sau*3A inserts were ligated into *Bam*HI-digested LambdaGem-11 (Promega, Madison, WI). Recombinant phage were packaged and plated on *E. coli* KW251 cells (Promega). Plaques were screened by hybridization with the radiolabeled 86A1-A oligonucleotide probe. Hybridizing phage were plaque-purified and used to infect liquid cultures of *E. coli* KW251 cells for isolation of phage DNA by standard procedures (Maniatis et al. [1982] *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, NY). For subcloning, preparative amounts of DNA were digested with *Eco*RI and *Sal*I, and electrophoresed on an agarose gel. The approximately 2.9 kbp band containing the toxin gene was excised from the gel, electroeluted from the gel slice, and purified by ion exchange chromatography as above. The purified DNA insert was ligated into *Eco*RI + *Sal*I-digested pHTBluell (an *E. coli/B.t.* shuttle vector comprised of pBlueScript S/K, Stratagene, San Diego, CA) and the replication origin from a resident *B.t.* plasmid (D. Lereclus *et al.* [1989] *FEMS Microbiol. Lett.* 60:211-218). The ligation mix was used to transform frozen, competent *E. coli* NM522 cells (ATCC 47000). Transformants were plated on LB agar (Maniatis *et al.*, *supra*) containing ampicillin, isopropyl-(β)-D-thiogalactoside (IPTG), and 5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl-(β)-D-galactoside (XGAL). Plasmids were purified from putative recombinants by alkaline lysis (Maniatis *et al.*, *supra*) and analyzed by electrophoresis of *Eco*RI and *Sal*I digests on agarose gels. The desired plasmid construct, pMYC2320, contains the toxin gene of the invention. The DNA sequence of this gene is shown in SEQ ID NO. 5. The toxin expressed by this gene is shown in SEQ ID NO. 6.

Plasmid pMYC2320 was introduced into an acrystalliferous (Cry$^-$) *B.t.* host (*B.t.* HD-1 Cry B, A.I. Aronson, Purdue University, West Lafayatte, IN) by electroporation. Expression of an approximately 58 kDa protein is verified by SDS-PAGE analysis.

Plasmid pMYC2320 containing the *B.t.* toxin gene, can be removed from the transformed host microbe by use of standard well-known procedures. For example, *E. coli* NM522(pMYC2320) can be subjected to cleared lysate isopycnic density gradient procedures, and the like, to recover pMYC2320.

Example 5 – 43F Toxin Production by a Transformed *Pseudomonas fluorescens* Host

A transformed *Pseudomonas fluorescens* containing the PS43F gene was grown in the following medium using a 1% inoculum grown in LB medium with 30 μg/ml tetracycline:

Glycerol	65 g/L
Na citrate·$2H_2O$	7.14
HCT	20
Amberex 1003	20
$NaNO_3$	5
$(NH_4)_2SO_4$	2.3

32°C at 300 rpm.

These were 72 hour fermentations with induction and supplementation taking place at 24 hours. They were induced with 2 mM IPTG and supplemented with the following:

Amisoy	20.0 g/L
$MgSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$	0.4
K_2HPO_4	1.6
KCl	1.6

The toxin concentration can be determined using laser densitometry (LKB) to quantify the approximately 70 kDa toxin protein found in the *P. fluorescens* host after Coomassie staining of polyacrylamide gels containing SDS.

Example 6 – Testing of *B.t.* Toxins Against the Diamondback Moth

(A) A spore crystal preparation of a *B.t.* clone comprising the PS86A1 gene was toxic to the lepidopteran pest, diamondback moth *Plutella xylostella*, in a 1.5% agar artificial diet assay. The *B.t.* clone was grown as disclosed in Example 1. Rates greater than 100 microgram protein/gram diet gave 100% control of this pest in 6 days.

(B) A spore crystal preparation of a *B.t.* clone comprising the PS50C gene was toxic to the lepidopteran pest, diamondback moth, in a 1.5% agar artificial diet assay. The *B.t.* clone was grown as disclosed in Example 1. Rates greater than 100 microgram protein/gram diet gave 100% control of this pest in 6 days.

(C) A *Pseudomonas fluorescens* clone comprising the PS43F gene was toxic to the lepidopteran pest, diamondback moth, in a 1.5% agar artificial diet assay. Rates greater than 40 microgram protein/gram diet gave 100% control of this pest in 6 days.

Example 7 – Further Testing of *B.t.* Toxins Against the Diamondback Moth

Toxins of the subject invention were produced by recombinant cells which had been transformed with genes according to the subject invention. The toxins produced by the recombinant cells were then tested for their activity against diamondback moths. The results of these experiments are shown in Table 2. These experiments were conducted as described in Example 6.

Table 2

Source strain	Cloned Toxin Gene	Host	Clone	Diamondback Moth LC_{50} (μg toxin/g diet)
PS86A1	86A1	*B. thuringiensis*	MR506	79
PS50C	50C	*B. thuringiensis*	MR505	19
PS43F	43F	*P. fluorescens*	MR816	11

Example 8 – Insertion of Toxin Genes Into Plants

One aspect of the subject invention is the transformation of plants with genes encoding a lepidopteran toxin. The transformed plants are resistant to attack by lepidopterans.

Genes encoding lepidopteran-active toxins, as disclosed herein, can be inserted into plant cells using a variety of techniques which are well known in the art. For example, a large number of cloning vectors comprising a replication system in *E. coli* and a marker that permits selection of the transformed cells are available for preparation for the insertion of foreign genes into higher plants. The vectors comprise, for example, pBR322, pUC series, M13mp series, pACYC184, etc. Accordingly, the sequence encoding the *B.t.* toxin can be inserted into the vector at a suitable restriction site. The resulting plasmid is used for transformation into *E. coli*. The *E. coli* cells are cultivated in a suitable nutrient medium, then harvested and lysed. The plasmid is recovered. Sequence analysis, restriction analysis, electrophoresis, and other biochemical-molecular biological methods are generally carried out as methods of analysis. After each manipulation, the DNA sequence used can be cleaved and joined to the next DNA sequence. Each plasmid sequence can be cloned in the same or other plasmids. Depending on the method of inserting desired genes into the plant, other DNA sequences may be necessary. If, for example, the Ti or Ri plasmid is

used for the transformation of the plant cell, then at least the right border, but often the right and the left border of the Ti or Ri plasmid T-DNA, has to be joined as the flanking region of the genes to be inserted.

The use of T-DNA for the transformation of plant cells has been intensively researched and sufficiently described in EP 120 516; Hoekema (1985) In: *The Binary Plant Vector System*, Offset-durkkerij Kanters B.V., Alblasserdam, Chapter 5; Fraley *et al.*, *Crit. Rev. Plant Sci.* 4:1-46; and An *et al.* (1985) *EMBO J.* 4:277-287.

Once the inserted DNA has been integrated in the genome, it is relatively stable there and, as a rule, does not come out again. It normally contains a selection marker that confers on the transformed plant cells resistance to a biocide or an antibiotic, such as kanamycin, G 418, bleomycin, hygromycin, or chloramphenicol, *inter alia*. The individually employed marker should accordingly permit the selection of transformed cells rather than cells that do not contain the inserted DNA.

A large number of techniques are available for inserting DNA into a plant host cell. Those techniques include transformation with T-DNA using *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* or *Agrobacterium rhizogenes* as transformation agent, fusion, injection, or electroporation as well as other possible methods. If agrobacteria are used for the transformation, the DNA to be inserted has to be cloned into special plasmids, namely either into an intermediate vector or into a binary vector. The intermediate vectors can be integrated into the Ti or Ri plasmid by homologous recombination owing to sequences that are homologous to sequences in the T-DNA. The Ti or Ri plasmid also comprises the *vir* region necessary for the transfer of the T-DNA. Intermediate vectors cannot replicate themselves in agrobacteria. The intermediate vector can be transferred into *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* by means of a helper plasmid (conjugation). Binary vectors can replicate themselves both in *E. coli* and in agrobacteria. They comprise a selection marker gene and a linker or polylinker which are framed by the right and left T-DNA border regions. They can be transformed directly into agrobacteria (Holsters *et al.* [1978] *Mol. Gen. Genet.* 163:181-187). The agrobacterium used as host cell is to comprise a plasmid carrying a *vir* region. The *vir* region is necessary for the transfer of the T-DNA into the plant cell. Additional T-DNA may be contained. The bacterium so transformed is used for the transformation of plant cells. Plant explants can advantageously be cultivated with *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* or *Agrobacterium rhizogenes* for the transfer of the DNA into the plant cell. Whole plants can then be regenerated from the infected plant material (for example, pieces of leaf, segments of stalk, roots, but also protoplasts or suspension-cultivated cells) in a suitable medium, which may contain antibiotics or biocides for selection. The plants so obtained can then be tested for the presence of the inserted DNA. No special demands are made of the plasmids in the case of injection and electroporation. It is possible to use ordinary plasmids, such as, for example, pUC derivatives.

The transformed cells grow inside the plants in the usual manner. They can form germ cells and transmit the transformed trait(s) to progeny plants. Such plants can be grown in the normal manner and crossed with plants that have the same transformed hereditary factors or other hereditary factors. The resulting hybrid individuals have the corresponding phenotypic properties.

Example 9 – Cloning of Novel *B.t.* Genes Into Insect Viruses

A number of viruses are known to infect insects. These viruses include, for example, baculoviruses and entomopoxviruses. In one embodiment of the subject invention, lepidopteran-active genes, as described herein, can be placed with the genome of the insect virus, thus enhancing the pathogenicity of the virus. Methods for constructing insect viruses which comprise *B.t.* toxin genes are well known and readily practiced by those skilled in the art. These procedures are described, for example, in Merryweather *et al.* (Merryweather, A.T., U. Weyer, M.P.G. Harris, M. Hirst, T. Booth, R.D. Possee [1990] *J. Gen. Virol. 71*:1535-1544) and Martens *et al.* (Martens, J.W.M., G. Honee, D. Zuidema, J.W.M. van Lent, B. Visser, J.M. Vlak [1990] *Appl. Environmental Microbiol. 56*(9):2764-2770).

It should be understood that the examples and embodiments described herein are for illustrative purposes only and that various modifications or changes in light thereof will be suggested to persons skilled in the art and are to be included within the spirit and purview of this application and the scope of the appended claims.

SEQUENCE LISTING

(1) GENERAL INFORMATION:

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Bradfisch, Gregory A.

(ii) TITLE OF INVENTION: Process for Controlling Lepidopteran Pests

(iii) NUMBER OF SEQUENCES: 7

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(v) COMPUTER READABLE FORM:
(A) MEDIUM TYPE: Floppy disk
(B) COMPUTER: IBM PC compatible
(C) OPERATING SYSTEM: PC-DOS/MS-DOS
(D) SOFTWARE: PatentIn Release #1.0, Version #1.25

(vi) CURRENT APPLICATION DATA:
(A) APPLICATION NUMBER:
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(C) CLASSIFICATION:

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(B) FILING DATE: 21-FEB-1991
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(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:1:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 3471 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: double
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO

(iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
(A) ORGANISM: Bacillus thuringiensis
(B) STRAIN: kumamotoensis
(C) INDIVIDUAL ISOLATE: PS50C

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
(B) CLONE: E. coli NM522(pMYC1638), NRRL B-18751

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

ATGAGTCCAA ATAATCAAAA TGAATATGAA ATTATAGATG CGACACCTTC TACATCTGTA 60

TCCAGTGATT CTAACAGATA CCCTTTTGCG AATGAGCCAA CAGATGCGTT ACAAAATATG 120

AATTATAAAG ATTATCTGAA AATGTCTGGG GGAGAGAATC CTGAATTATT TGGAAATCCG 180

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GAGACGTTTA TTAGTTCATC CACGATTCAA ACTGGAATTG GCATTGTTGG TCGAATACTA   240
GGAGCTTTAG GGGTTCCATT TGCTAGTCAG ATAGCTAGTT TCTATAGTTT CATTGTTGGT   300
CAATTATGGC CGTCAAAGAG CGTAGATATA TGGGGAGAAA TTATGGAACG AGTGGAAGAA   360
CTCGTTGATC AAAAAATAGA AAAATATGTA AAAGATAAGG CTCTTGCTGA ATTAAAAGGG   420
CTAGGAAATG CTTTGGATGT ATATCAGCAG TCACTTGAAG ATTGGCTGGA AAATCGCAAT   480
GATGCAAGAA CTAGAAGTGT TGTTTCTAAT CAATTTATAG CTTTAGATCT TAACTTTGTT   540
AGTTCAATTC CATCTTTTGC AGTATCCGGA CACGAAGTAC TATTATTAGC AGTATATGCA   600
CAGGCTGTGA ACCTACATTT ATTGTTATTA AGAGATGCTT CTATTTTTGG AGAAGAGTGG   660
GGATTTACAC CAGGTGAAAT TTCTAGATTT TATAATCGTC AAGTGCAACT TACCGCTGAA   720
TATTCAGACT ATTGTGTAAA GTGGTATAAA ATCGGCTTAG ATAAATTGAA AGGTACCACT   780
TCTAAAAGTT GGCTGAATTA TCATCAGTTC CGTAGAGAGA TGACATTACT GGTATTAGAT   840
TTGGTGGCGT TATTTCCAAA CTATGACACA CATATGTATC CAATCGAAAC AACAGCTCAA   900
CTTACACGGG ATGTGTATAC AGATCCGATA GCATTTAACA TAGTGACAAG TACTGGATTC   960
TGCAACCCTT GGTCAACCCA CAGTGGTATT CTTTTTTATG AAGTTGAAAA CAACGTAATT  1020
CGTCCGCCAC ACTTGTTTGA TATACTCAGC TCAGTAGAAA TTAATACAAG TAGAGGGGGT  1080
ATTACGTTAA ATAATGATGC ATATATAAAC TACTGGTCAG GACATACCCT AAAATATCGT  1140
AGAACAGCTG ATTCGACCGT AACATACACA GCTAATTACG GTCGAATCAC TTCAGAAAAG  1200
AATTCATTTG CACTTGAGGA TAGGGATATT TTTGAAATTA ATTCAACTGT GGCAAACCTA  1260
GCTAATTACT ACCAAAAGGC ATATGGTGTG CCGGGATCTT GGTTCCATAT GGTAAAAAGG  1320
GGAACCTCAT CAACAACAGC GTATTTATAT TCAAAAACAC ATACAGCTCT CCAAGGGTGT  1380
ACACAGGTTT ATGAATCAAG TGATGAAATA CCTCTAGATA GAACTGTACC GGTAGCTGAA  1440
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ATATATTCAG ATAAAATCAC TCAAATTCCA GCGGTAAAGG GAGACATGTT ATATCTAGGG  1620
GGTTCCGTAG TACAGGGTCC TGGATTTACA GGAGGAGATA TATTAAAAAG AACCAATCCT  1680
AGCATATTAG GGACCTTTGC GGTTACAGTA AATGGGTCGT TATCACAAAG ATATCGTGTA  1740
AGAATTCGCT ATGCCTCTAC AACAGATTTT GAATTTACTC TATACCTTGG CGACACAATA  1800
GAAAAAAATA GATTTAACAA AACTATGGAT AATGGGGCAT CTTTAACGTA TGAAACATTT  1860
AAATTCGCAA GTTTCATTAC TGATTTCCAA TTCAGAGAAA CACAAGATAA AATACTCCTA  1920
TCCATGGGTG ATTTTAGCTC CGGTCAAGAA GTTTATATAG ACCGAATCGA ATTCATCCCA  1980
GTAGATGAGA CATATGAGGC GGAACAAGAT TTAGAAGCGG CGAAGAAAGC AGTGAATGCC  2040
TTGTTTACGA ATACAAAAGA TGGCTTACGA CCAGGTGTAA CGGATTATGA AGTAAATCAA  2100
GCGGCAAACT TAGTGGAATG CCTATCGGAT GATTTATATC CAAATGAAAA ACGATTGTTA  2160
TTTGATGCGG TGAGAGAGGC AAAACGCCTC AGTGGGGCAC GTAACTTACT ACAAGATCCA  2220
GATTTCCAAG AGATAAACGG AGAAAATGGA TGGGCGGCAA GTACGGGAAT TGAGATTGTA  2280
GAAGGGGATG CTGTATTTAA AGGACGTTAT CTACGCCTAC CAGGTGCACG AGAAATTGAT  2340
ACGGAAACGT ATCCAACGTA TCTGTATCAA AAAGTAGAGG AAGGTGTATT AAAACCATAC  2400
ACAAGATATA GACTGAGAGG GTTTGTGGGA AGTAGTCAAG GATTAGAAAT TTATACGATA  2460
CGTCACCAAA CGAATCGAAT TGTAAAGAAT GTACCAGATG ATTTATTGCC AGATGTATCT  2520
CCTGTAAACT CTGATGGCAG TATCAATCGA TGCAGCGAAC AAAAGTATGT GAATAGCCGT  2580
TTAGAAGGAG AAAACCGTTC TGGTGATGCA CATGAGTTCT CGCTCCCTAT CGATATAGGA  2640
GAGCTGGATT ACAATGAAAA TGCAGGAATA TGGGTTGGAT TTAAGATTAC GGACCCAGAG  2700
```

GGATACGCAA CACTTGGAAA TCTTGAATTA GTCGAAGAGG GACCTTTGTC AGGAGACGCA 2760

TTAGAGCGCT TGCAAAGAGA AGAACAACAG TGGAAGATTC AAATGACAAG AAGACGTGAA 2820

GAGACAGATA GAAGATACAT GGCATCGAAA CAAGCGGTAG ATCGTTTATA TGCCGATTAT 2880

CAGGATCAAC AACTGAATCC TGATGTAGAG ATTACAGATC TTACTGCGGC TCAAGATCTG 2940

ATACAGTCCA TTCCTTACGT ATATAACGAA ATGTTCCCAG AAATACCAGG GATGAACTAT 3000

ACGAAGTTTA CAGAATTAAC AGATCGACTC CAACAAGCGT GGAATTTGTA TGATCAGCGA 3060

AATGCCATAC CAAATGGTGA TTTTCGAAAT GGGTTAAGTA ATTGGAATGC AACGCCTGGC 3120

GTAGAAGTAC AACAAATCAA TCATACATCT GTCCTTGTGA TTCCAAACTG GGATGAACAA 3180

GTTTCACAAC AGTTTACAGT TCAACCGAAT CAAAGATATG TATTACGAGT TACTGCAAGA 3240

AAAGAAGGGG TAGGAAATGG ATATGTAAGT ATTCGTGATG GTGGAAATCA ATCAGAAACG 3300

CTTACTTTTA GTGCAAGCGA TTATGATACA AATGGTGTGT ATAATGACCA AACCGGCTAT 3360

ATCACAAAAA CAGTGACATT CATCCCGTAT ACAGATCAAA TGTGGATTGA AATAAGTGAA 3420

ACAGAAGGTA CGTTCTATAT AGAAAGTGTA GAATTGATTG TAGACGTAGA G 3471

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 1157 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: YES

(iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
(A) ORGANISM: Bacillus thuringiensis
(B) STRAIN: kumamotoensis
(C) INDIVIDUAL ISOLATE: PS50C

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
(B) CLONE: E. coli NM522(pMYC1638), NRRL B-18751

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

Met Ser Pro Asn Asn Gln Asn Glu Tyr Glu Ile Ile Asp Ala Thr Pro
1 5 10 15

Ser Thr Ser Val Ser Ser Asp Ser Asn Arg Tyr Pro Phe Ala Asn Glu
20 25 30

Pro Thr Asp Ala Leu Gln Asn Met Asn Tyr Lys Asp Tyr Leu Lys Met
35 40 45

Ser Gly Gly Glu Asn Pro Glu Leu Phe Gly Asn Pro Glu Thr Phe Ile
50 55 60

Ser Ser Ser Thr Ile Gln Thr Gly Ile Gly Ile Val Gly Arg Ile Leu
65 70 75 80

Gly Ala Leu Gly Val Pro Phe Ala Ser Gln Ile Ala Ser Phe Tyr Ser
85 90 95

Phe Ile Val Gly Gln Leu Trp Pro Ser Lys Ser Val Asp Ile Trp Gly
100 105 110

Glu Ile Met Glu Arg Val Glu Glu Leu Val Asp Gln Lys Ile Glu Lys
115 120 125

Tyr Val Lys Asp Lys Ala Leu Ala Glu Leu Lys Gly Leu Gly Asn Ala
130 135 140

Leu Asp Val Tyr Gln Gln Ser Leu Glu Asp Trp Leu Glu Asn Arg Asn
145 150 155 160

Asp Ala Arg Thr Arg Ser Val Val Ser Asn Gln Phe Ile Ala Leu Asp
165 170 175

Leu Asn Phe Val Ser Ser Ile Pro Ser Phe Ala Val Ser Gly His Glu
180 185 190

Val Leu Leu Leu Ala Val Tyr Ala Gln Ala Val Asn Leu His Leu Leu
195 200 205

Leu Leu Arg Asp Ala Ser Ile Phe Gly Glu Glu Trp Gly Phe Thr Pro
210 215 220

Gly Glu Ile Ser Arg Phe Tyr Asn Arg Gln Val Gln Leu Thr Ala Glu
225 230 235 240

Tyr Ser Asp Tyr Cys Val Lys Trp Tyr Lys Ile Gly Leu Asp Lys Leu
245 250 255

Lys Gly Thr Thr Ser Lys Ser Trp Leu Asn Tyr His Gln Phe Arg Arg
260 265 270

Glu Met Thr Leu Leu Val Leu Asp Leu Val Ala Leu Phe Pro Asn Tyr
275 280 285

Asp Thr His Met Tyr Pro Ile Glu Thr Thr Ala Gln Leu Thr Arg Asp
290 295 300

Val Tyr Thr Asp Pro Ile Ala Phe Asn Ile Val Thr Ser Thr Gly Phe
305 310 315 320

Cys Asn Pro Trp Ser Thr His Ser Gly Ile Leu Phe Tyr Glu Val Glu
325 330 335

Asn Asn Val Ile Arg Pro Pro His Leu Phe Asp Ile Leu Ser Ser Val
340 345 350

Glu Ile Asn Thr Ser Arg Gly Gly Ile Thr Leu Asn Asn Asp Ala Tyr
355 360 365

Ile Asn Tyr Trp Ser Gly His Thr Leu Lys Tyr Arg Arg Thr Ala Asp
370 375 380

Ser Thr Val Thr Tyr Thr Ala Asn Tyr Gly Arg Ile Thr Ser Glu Lys
385 390 395 400

Asn Ser Phe Ala Leu Glu Asp Arg Asp Ile Phe Glu Ile Asn Ser Thr
405 410 415

Val Ala Asn Leu Ala Asn Tyr Tyr Gln Lys Ala Tyr Gly Val Pro Gly
420 425 430

Ser Trp Phe His Met Val Lys Arg Gly Thr Ser Ser Thr Thr Ala Tyr
435 440 445

Leu Tyr Ser Lys Thr His Thr Ala Leu Gln Gly Cys Thr Gln Val Tyr
450 455 460

Glu Ser Ser Asp Glu Ile Pro Leu Asp Arg Thr Val Pro Val Ala Glu
465 470 475 480

Ser Tyr Ser His Arg Leu Ser His Ile Thr Ser His Ser Phe Ser Lys
485 490 495

Asn Gly Ser Ala Tyr Tyr Gly Ser Phe Pro Val Phe Val Trp Thr His
500 505 510

Thr Ser Ala Asp Leu Asn Asn Thr Ile Tyr Ser Asp Lys Ile Thr Gln
515 520 525

Ile Pro Ala Val Lys Gly Asp Met Leu Tyr Leu Gly Gly Ser Val Val
530 535 540

Gln Gly Pro Gly Phe Thr Gly Gly Asp Ile Leu Lys Arg Thr Asn Pro
545 550 555 560

Ser Ile Leu Gly Thr Phe Ala Val Thr Val Asn Gly Ser Leu Ser Gln
565 570 575

Arg Tyr Arg Val Arg Ile Arg Tyr Ala Ser Thr Thr Asp Phe Glu Phe
580 585 590

Thr Leu Tyr Leu Gly Asp Thr Ile Glu Lys Asn Arg Phe Asn Lys Thr
595 600 605

Met Asp Asn Gly Ala Ser Leu Thr Tyr Glu Thr Phe Lys Phe Ala Ser
610 615 620

Phe Ile Thr Asp Phe Gln Phe Arg Glu Thr Gln Asp Lys Ile Leu Leu
625 630 635 640

Ser Met Gly Asp Phe Ser Ser Gly Gln Glu Val Tyr Ile Asp Arg Ile
645 650 655

Glu Phe Ile Pro Val Asp Glu Thr Tyr Glu Ala Glu Gln Asp Leu Glu
660 665 670

Ala Ala Lys Lys Ala Val Asn Ala Leu Phe Thr Asn Thr Lys Asp Gly
675 680 685

Leu Arg Pro Gly Val Thr Asp Tyr Glu Val Asn Gln Ala Ala Asn Leu
690 695 700

Val Glu Cys Leu Ser Asp Asp Leu Tyr Pro Asn Glu Lys Arg Leu Leu
705 710 715 720

Phe Asp Ala Val Arg Glu Ala Lys Arg Leu Ser Gly Ala Arg Asn Leu
725 730 735

Leu Gln Asp Pro Asp Phe Gln Glu Ile Asn Gly Glu Asn Gly Trp Ala
740 745 750

Ala Ser Thr Gly Ile Glu Ile Val Glu Gly Asp Ala Val Phe Lys Gly
755 760 765

Arg Tyr Leu Arg Leu Pro Gly Ala Arg Glu Ile Asp Thr Glu Thr Tyr
770 775 780

Pro Thr Tyr Leu Tyr Gln Lys Val Glu Glu Gly Val Leu Lys Pro Tyr
785 790 795 800

Thr Arg Tyr Arg Leu Arg Gly Phe Val Gly Ser Ser Gln Gly Leu Glu
805 810 815

Ile Tyr Thr Ile Arg His Gln Thr Asn Arg Ile Val Lys Asn Val Pro
820 825 830

Asp Asp Leu Leu Pro Asp Val Ser Pro Val Asn Ser Asp Gly Ser Ile
835 840 845

Asn Arg Cys Ser Glu Gln Lys Tyr Val Asn Ser Arg Leu Glu Gly Glu
850 855 860

Asn Arg Ser Gly Asp Ala His Glu Phe Ser Leu Pro Ile Asp Ile Gly
865 870 875 830

Glu Leu Asp Tyr Asn Glu Asn Ala Gly Ile Trp Val Gly Phe Lys Ile
885 890 895

Thr Asp Pro Glu Gly Tyr Ala Thr Leu Gly Asn Leu Glu Leu Val Glu
900 905 910

Glu Gly Pro Leu Ser Gly Asp Ala Leu Glu Arg Leu Gln Arg Glu Glu
915 920 925

Gln Gln Trp Lys Ile Gln Met Thr Arg Arg Arg Glu Glu Thr Asp Arg
930 935 940

Arg Tyr Met Ala Ser Lys Gln Ala Val Asp Arg Leu Tyr Ala Asp Tyr
945 950 955 960

Gln Asp Gln Gln Leu Asn Pro Asp Val Glu Ile Thr Asp Leu Thr Ala
965 970 975

Ala Gln Asp Leu Ile Gln Ser Ile Pro Tyr Val Tyr Asn Glu Met Phe
980 985 990

Pro Glu Ile Pro Gly Met Asn Tyr Thr Lys Phe Thr Glu Leu Thr Asp
995 1000 1005

Arg Leu Gln Gln Ala Trp Asn Leu Tyr Asp Gln Arg Asn Ala Ile Pro
1010 1015 1020

Asn Gly Asp Phe Arg Asn Gly Leu Ser Asn Trp Asn Ala Thr Pro Gly
1025 1030 1035 1040

Val Glu Val Gln Gln Ile Asn His Thr Ser Val Leu Val Ile Pro Asn
1045 1050 1055

Trp Asp Glu Gln Val Ser Gln Gln Phe Thr Val Gln Pro Asn Gln Arg
1060 1065 1070

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Tyr Val Leu Arg Val Thr Ala Arg Lys Glu Gly Val Gly Asn Gly Tyr
        1075                1080                1085

Val Ser Ile Arg Asp Gly Gly Asn Gln Ser Glu Thr Leu Thr Phe Ser
    1090                1095                1100

Ala Ser Asp Tyr Asp Thr Asn Gly Val Tyr Asn Asp Gln Thr Gly Tyr
1105                1110                1115                1120

Ile Thr Lys Thr Val Thr Phe Ile Pro Tyr Thr Asp Gln Met Trp Ile
                1125                1130                1135

Glu Ile Ser Glu Thr Glu Gly Thr Phe Tyr Ile Glu Ser Val Glu Leu
            1140                1145                1150

Ile Val Asp Val Glu
        1155
```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:3:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 1953 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: double
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO

(iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
(A) ORGANISM: Bacillus thuringiensis
(B) STRAIN: tolworthi
(C) INDIVIDUAL ISOLATE: 43F

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
(B) CLONE: E. coli XL1-Blue (pM1,98-4), NRRL B-18291

(ix) FEATURE:
(A) NAME/KEY: CDS
(B) LOCATION: 1..1953

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:

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ATG AAT CCA AAC AAT CGA AGT GAA TAT GAT ACG ATA AAG GTT ACA CCT      48
Met Asn Pro Asn Asn Arg Ser Glu Tyr Asp Thr Ile Lys Val Thr Pro
 1               5                  10                  15

AAC AGT GAA TTG CCA ACT AAC CAT AAT CAA TAT CCT TTA GCT GAC AAT      96
Asn Ser Glu Leu Pro Thr Asn His Asn Gln Tyr Pro Leu Ala Asp Asn
            20                  25                  30

CCA AAT TCG ACA CTA GAA GAA TTA AAT TAT AAA GAA TTT TTA AGA ATG     144
Pro Asn Ser Thr Leu Glu Glu Leu Asn Tyr Lys Glu Phe Leu Arg Met
        35                  40                  45

ACT GCA GAC AAT TCT ACG GAA GTG CTA GAC AGC TCT ACA GTA AAA GAT     192
Thr Ala Asp Asn Ser Thr Glu Val Leu Asp Ser Ser Thr Val Lys Asp
    50                  55                  60

GCA GTT GGG ACA GGA ATT TCT GTT GTA GGA CAG ATT TTA GGT GTT GTA     240
Ala Val Gly Thr Gly Ile Ser Val Val Gly Gln Ile Leu Gly Val Val
65                  70                  75                  80

GGG GTT CCA TTT GCT GGG GCG CTC ACT TCA TTT TAT CAA TCA TTT CTT     288
Gly Val Pro Phe Ala Gly Ala Leu Thr Ser Phe Tyr Gln Ser Phe Leu
                85                  90                  95

AAC GCT ATA TGG CCA AGT GAT GCT GAC CCA TGG AAG GCT TTT ATG GCA     336
Asn Ala Ile Trp Pro Ser Asp Ala Asp Pro Trp Lys Ala Phe Met Ala
            100                 105                 110

CAA GTG GAA GTA CTG ATA GAT AAG AAA ATA GAG GAG TAT GCT AAA AGT     384
Gln Val Glu Val Leu Ile Asp Lys Lys Ile Glu Glu Tyr Ala Lys Ser
        115                 120                 125

AAA GCT CTT GCA GAG TTA CAG GGT CTT CAA AAT AAT TTT GAA GAT TAT     432
Lys Ala Leu Ala Glu Leu Gln Gly Leu Gln Asn Asn Phe Glu Asp Tyr
    130                 135                 140
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GTA AAT GCG TTG GAT TCC TGG AAG AAA GCG CCT GTA AAT TTA CGA AGT          480
Val Asn Ala Leu Asp Ser Trp Lys Lys Ala Pro Val Asn Leu Arg Ser
145                 150                 155                 160

CGA AGA AGC CAA GAT CGA ATA AGA GAA CTT TTT TCT CAA GCA GAA AGC          528
Arg Arg Ser Gln Asp Arg Ile Arg Glu Leu Phe Ser Gln Ala Glu Ser
                165                 170                 175

CAT TTT CGT AAT TCC ATG CCG TCA TTT GCG GTT TCC AAA TTC GAA GTT          576
His Phe Arg Asn Ser Met Pro Ser Phe Ala Val Ser Lys Phe Glu Val
            180                 185                 190

CTG TTT CTA CCA ACA TAT GCA CAA GCT GCA AAT ACA CAT TTA TTG CTA          624
Leu Phe Leu Pro Thr Tyr Ala Gln Ala Ala Asn Thr His Leu Leu Leu
        195                 200                 205

TTA AAA GAT GCT CAA GTT TTT GGA GAA GAA TGG GGA TAT TCT TCA GAA          672
Leu Lys Asp Ala Gln Val Phe Gly Glu Glu Trp Gly Tyr Ser Ser Glu
    210                 215                 220

GAT ATT GCT GAA TTT TAT CAA AGA CAA TTA AAA CTT ACG CAA CAA TAC          720
Asp Ile Ala Glu Phe Tyr Gln Arg Gln Leu Lys Leu Thr Gln Gln Tyr
225                 230                 235                 240

ACT GAC CAT TGT GTC AAT TGG TAT AAT GTT GGA TTA AAT AGT TTA AGA          768
Thr Asp His Cys Val Asn Trp Tyr Asn Val Gly Leu Asn Ser Leu Arg
                245                 250                 255

GGT TCA ACT TAT GAT GCA TGG GTC AAA TTT AAC CGT TTT CGC AGA GAA          816
Gly Ser Thr Tyr Asp Ala Trp Val Lys Phe Asn Arg Phe Arg Arg Glu
            260                 265                 270

ATG ACA TTA ACT GTA TTA GAT CTA ATT GTA TTA TTC CCA TTT TAT GAT          864
Met Thr Leu Thr Val Leu Asp Leu Ile Val Leu Phe Pro Phe Tyr Asp
        275                 280                 285

GTT CGG TTA TAC TCA AAA GGA GTT AAA ACA GAA CTA ACA AGA GAC ATT          912
Val Arg Leu Tyr Ser Lys Gly Val Lys Thr Glu Leu Thr Arg Asp Ile
    290                 295                 300

TTT ACA GAT CCA ATT TTT ACA CTC AAT GCT CTT CAA GAG TAT GGA CCA          960
Phe Thr Asp Pro Ile Phe Thr Leu Asn Ala Leu Gln Glu Tyr Gly Pro
305                 310                 315                 320

ACT TTT TCG AGT ATA GAA AAC TCT ATT CGA AAA CCT CAT TTA TTT GAT         1008
Thr Phe Ser Ser Ile Glu Asn Ser Ile Arg Lys Pro His Leu Phe Asp
                325                 330                 335

TAT TTG CGT GGG ATT GAA TTT CAT ACG CGT CTT CGA CCT GGT TAC TCT         1056
Tyr Leu Arg Gly Ile Glu Phe His Thr Arg Leu Arg Pro Gly Tyr Ser
            340                 345                 350

GGG AAA GAT TCT TTC AAT TAT TGG TCT GGT AAT TAT GTA GAA ACT AGA         1104
Gly Lys Asp Ser Phe Asn Tyr Trp Ser Gly Asn Tyr Val Glu Thr Arg
        355                 360                 365

CCT AGT ATA GGA TCT AAT GAT ACA ATC ACT TCC CCA TTT TAT GGA GAT         1152
Pro Ser Ile Gly Ser Asn Asp Thr Ile Thr Ser Pro Phe Tyr Gly Asp
    370                 375                 380

AAA TCT ATT GAA CCT ATA CAA AAG CTA AGC TTT GAT GGA CAA AAA GTT         1200
Lys Ser Ile Glu Pro Ile Gln Lys Leu Ser Phe Asp Gly Gln Lys Val
385                 390                 395                 400

TAT CGA ACT ATA GCT AAT ACA GAC ATA GCG GCT TTT CCG GAT GGC AAG         1248
Tyr Arg Thr Ile Ala Asn Thr Asp Ile Ala Ala Phe Pro Asp Gly Lys
                405                 410                 415

ATA TAT TTT GGT GTT ACG AAA GTT GAT TTT AGT CAA TAT GAT GAT CAA         1296
Ile Tyr Phe Gly Val Thr Lys Val Asp Phe Ser Gln Tyr Asp Asp Gln
            420                 425                 430

AAA AAT GAA ACT AGT ACA CAA ACA TAT GAT TCA AAA AGA TAC AAT GGC         1344
Lys Asn Glu Thr Ser Thr Gln Thr Tyr Asp Ser Lys Arg Tyr Asn Gly
        435                 440                 445

TAT TTA GGT GCA CAG GAT TCT ATC GAC CAA TTA CCA CCA GAA ACA ACA         1392
Tyr Leu Gly Ala Gln Asp Ser Ile Asp Gln Leu Pro Pro Glu Thr Thr
    450                 455                 460

GAT GAA CCA CTT GAA AAA GCA TAT AGT CAT CAG CTT AAT TAC GCA GAA         1440
Asp Glu Pro Leu Glu Lys Ala Tyr Ser His Gln Leu Asn Tyr Ala Glu
465                 470                 475                 480
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TGT TTC TTA ATG CAG GAC CGT CGT GGA ACA ATT CCA TTT TTT ACT TGG          1488
Cys Phe Leu Met Gln Asp Arg Arg Gly Thr Ile Pro Phe Phe Thr Trp
                485                 490                 495

ACA CAT AGA AGT GTA GAC TTT TTT AAT ACA ATT GAT GCT GAA AAA ATT          1536
Thr His Arg Ser Val Asp Phe Phe Asn Thr Ile Asp Ala Glu Lys Ile
            500                 505                 510

ACT CAA CTT CCA GTA GTG AAA GCA TAT GCC TTG TCT TCA GGC GCT TCC          1584
Thr Gln Leu Pro Val Val Lys Ala Tyr Ala Leu Ser Ser Gly Ala Ser
        515                 520                 525

ATT ATT GAA GGT CCA GGA TTC ACA GGA GGA AAT TTA CTA TTC CTA AAA          1632
Ile Ile Glu Gly Pro Gly Phe Thr Gly Gly Asn Leu Leu Phe Leu Lys
    530                 535                 540

GAA TCT AGT AAT TCA ATT GCT AAA TTT AAA GTT ACC TTA AAT TCA GCA          1680
Glu Ser Ser Asn Ser Ile Ala Lys Phe Lys Val Thr Leu Asn Ser Ala
545                 550                 555                 560

GCC TTG TTA CAA CGA TAT CGC GTA AGA ATA CGC TAT GCT TCA ACC ACT          1728
Ala Leu Leu Gln Arg Tyr Arg Val Arg Ile Arg Tyr Ala Ser Thr Thr
                565                 570                 575

AAC CTA CGA CTT TTC GTG CAA AAT TCA AAC AAT GAT TTT CTT GTC ATC          1776
Asn Leu Arg Leu Phe Val Gln Asn Ser Asn Asn Asp Phe Leu Val Ile
            580                 585                 590

TAC ATT AAT AAA ACT ATG AAT ATA GAT GGT GAT TTA ACA TAT CAA ACA          1824
Tyr Ile Asn Lys Thr Met Asn Ile Asp Gly Asp Leu Thr Tyr Gln Thr
        595                 600                 605

TTT GAT TTC GCA ACT AGT AAT TCT AAT ATG GGA TTC TCT GGT GAT ACA          1872
Phe Asp Phe Ala Thr Ser Asn Ser Asn Met Gly Phe Ser Gly Asp Thr
    610                 615                 620

AAT GAC TTT ATA ATA GGA GCA GAA TCT TTC GTT TCT AAT GAA AAA ATC          1920
Asn Asp Phe Ile Ile Gly Ala Glu Ser Phe Val Ser Asn Glu Lys Ile
625                 630                 635                 640

TAT ATA GAT AAG ATA GAA TTT ATC CCA GTA CAA                              1953
Tyr Ile Asp Lys Ile Glu Phe Ile Pro Val Gln
                645                 650
```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:4:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 651 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: YES

(iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
(A) ORGANISM: Bacillus thuringiensis
(B) STRAIN: tolworthi
(C) INDIVIDUAL ISOLATE: 43F

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
(B) CLONE: E. coli XL1-Blue (pM1,98-4), NRRL B-18291

(ix) FEATURE:
(A) NAME/KEY: Protein
(B) LOCATION: 1..651

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:4:

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Met Asn Pro Asn Asn Arg Ser Glu Tyr Asp Thr Ile Lys Val Thr Pro
1               5                  10                  15

Asn Ser Glu Leu Pro Thr Asn His Asn Gln Tyr Pro Leu Ala Asp Asn
            20                  25                  30

Pro Asn Ser Thr Leu Glu Glu Leu Asn Tyr Lys Glu Phe Leu Arg Met
        35                  40                  45
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Thr Ala Asp Asn Ser Thr Glu Val Leu Asp Ser Ser Thr Val Lys Asp
50 55 60

Ala Val Gly Thr Gly Ile Ser Val Val Gly Gln Ile Leu Gly Val Val
65 70 75 80

Gly Val Pro Phe Ala Gly Ala Leu Thr Ser Phe Tyr Gln Ser Phe Leu
85 90 95

Asn Ala Ile Trp Pro Ser Asp Ala Asp Pro Trp Lys Ala Phe Met Ala
100 105 110

Gln Val Glu Val Leu Ile Asp Lys Lys Ile Glu Glu Tyr Ala Lys Ser
115 120 125

Lys Ala Leu Ala Glu Leu Gln Gly Leu Gln Asn Asn Phe Glu Asp Tyr
130 135 140

Val Asn Ala Leu Asp Ser Trp Lys Lys Ala Pro Val Asn Leu Arg Ser
145 150 155 160

Arg Arg Ser Gln Asp Arg Ile Arg Glu Leu Phe Ser Gln Ala Glu Ser
165 170 175

His Phe Arg Asn Ser Met Pro Ser Phe Ala Val Ser Lys Phe Glu Val
180 185 190

Leu Phe Leu Pro Thr Tyr Ala Gln Ala Ala Asn Thr His Leu Leu Leu
195 200 205

Leu Lys Asp Ala Gln Val Phe Gly Glu Glu Trp Gly Tyr Ser Ser Glu
210 215 220

Asp Ile Ala Glu Phe Tyr Gln Arg Gln Leu Lys Leu Thr Gln Gln Tyr
225 230 235 240

Thr Asp His Cys Val Asn Trp Tyr Asn Val Gly Leu Asn Ser Leu Arg
245 250 255

Gly Ser Thr Tyr Asp Ala Trp Val Lys Phe Asn Arg Phe Arg Arg Glu
260 265 270

Met Thr Leu Thr Val Leu Asp Leu Ile Val Leu Phe Pro Phe Tyr Asp
275 280 285

Val Arg Leu Tyr Ser Lys Gly Val Lys Thr Glu Leu Thr Arg Asp Ile
290 295 300

Phe Thr Asp Pro Ile Phe Thr Leu Asn Ala Leu Gln Glu Tyr Gly Pro
305 310 315 320

Thr Phe Ser Ser Ile Glu Asn Ser Ile Arg Lys Pro His Leu Phe Asp
325 330 335

Tyr Leu Arg Gly Ile Glu Phe His Thr Arg Leu Arg Pro Gly Tyr Ser
340 345 350

Gly Lys Asp Ser Phe Asn Tyr Trp Ser Gly Asn Tyr Val Glu Thr Arg
355 360 365

Pro Ser Ile Gly Ser Asn Asp Thr Ile Thr Ser Pro Phe Tyr Gly Asp
370 375 380

Lys Ser Ile Glu Pro Ile Gln Lys Leu Ser Phe Asp Gly Gln Lys Val
385 390 395 400

Tyr Arg Thr Ile Ala Asn Thr Asp Ile Ala Ala Phe Pro Asp Gly Lys
405 410 415

Ile Tyr Phe Gly Val Thr Lys Val Asp Phe Ser Gln Tyr Asp Asp Gln
420 425 430

Lys Asn Glu Thr Ser Thr Gln Thr Tyr Asp Ser Lys Arg Tyr Asn Gly
435 440 445

Tyr Leu Gly Ala Gln Asp Ser Ile Asp Gln Leu Pro Pro Glu Thr Thr
450 455 460

Asp Glu Pro Leu Glu Lys Ala Tyr Ser His Gln Leu Asn Tyr Ala Glu
465 470 475 480

Cys Phe Leu Met Gln Asp Arg Arg Gly Thr Ile Pro Phe Phe Thr Trp
485 490 495

Thr His Arg Ser Val Asp Phe Phe Asn Thr Ile Asp Ala Glu Lys Ile
500 505 510

Thr Gln Leu Pro Val Val Lys Ala Tyr Ala Leu Ser Ser Gly Ala Ser
515 520 525

Ile Ile Glu Gly Pro Gly Phe Thr Gly Gly Asn Leu Leu Phe Leu Lys
530 535 540

Glu Ser Ser Asn Ser Ile Ala Lys Phe Lys Val Thr Leu Asn Ser Ala
545 550 555 560

Ala Leu Leu Gln Arg Tyr Arg Val Arg Ile Arg Tyr Ala Ser Thr Thr
565 570 575

Asn Leu Arg Leu Phe Val Gln Asn Ser Asn Asn Asp Phe Leu Val Ile
580 585 590

Tyr Ile Asn Lys Thr Met Asn Ile Asp Gly Asp Leu Thr Tyr Gln Thr
595 600 605

Phe Asp Phe Ala Thr Ser Asn Ser Asn Met Gly Phe Ser Gly Asp Thr
610 615 620

Asn Asp Phe Ile Ile Gly Ala Glu Ser Phe Val Ser Asn Glu Lys Ile
625 630 635 640

Tyr Ile Asp Lys Ile Glu Phe Ile Pro Val Gln
645 650

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:5:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 1425 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: double
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: NO

(iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
(A) ORGANISM: BACILLUS THURINGIENSIS
(C) INDIVIDUAL ISOLATE: PS86A1

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
(B) CLONE: E. coli NM522(pMYC2320) NRRL B-18769

(ix) FEATURE:
(A) NAME/KEY: mat_peptide
(B) LOCATION: 1..1425

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:1:

ATGATTATTG ATAGTAAAAC GACTTTACCT AGACATTCAC TTATTCATAC AATTAAATTA 60

AATTCTAATA AGAAATATGG TCCTGGTGAT ATGACTAATG GAAATCAATT TATTATTTCA 120

AAACAAGAAT GGGCTACGAT TGGAGCATAT ATTCAGACTG GATTAGGTTT ACCAGTAAAT 180

GAACAACAAT TAAGAACACA TGTTAATTTA AGTCAGGATA TATCAATACC TAGTGATTTT 240

TCTCAATTAT ATGATGTTTA TTGTTCTGAT AAAACTTCAG CAGAATGGTG GAATAAAAAT 300

TTATATCCTT TAATTATTAA ATCTGCTAAT GATATTGCTT CATATGGTTT TAAAGTTGCT 360

GGTGATCCTT CTATTAAGAA AGATGGATAT TTTAAAAAAT TGCAAGATGA ATTAGATAAT 420

ATTGTTGATA ATAATTCCGA TGATGATGCA ATAGCTAAAG CTATTAAAGA TTTTAAAGCG 480

CGATGTGGTA TTTTAATTAA AGAAGCTAAA CAATATGAAG AAGCTGCAAA AAATATTGTA 540

ACATCTTTAG ATCAATTTTT ACATGGTGAT CAGAAAAAAT TAGAAGGTGT TATCAATATT 600

CAAAAACGTT TAAAAGAAGT TCAAACAGCT CTTAATCAAG CCCATGGGGA AAGTAGTCCA 660

GCTCATAAAG AGTTATTAGA AAAAGTAAAA AATTTAAAAA CAACATTAGA AAGGACTATT 720

AAAGCTGAAC AAGATTTAGA GAAAAAAGTA GAATATAGTT TTCTATTAGG ACCATTGTTA 780

GGATTTGTTG TTTATGAAAT TCTTGAAAAT ACTGCTGTTC AGCATATAAA AAATCAAATT 840
GATGAGATAA AGAAACAATT AGATTCTGCT CAGCATGATT TGGATAGAGA TGTTAAAATT 900
ATAGGAATGT TAAATAGTAT TAATACAGAT ATTGATAATT TATATAGTCA AGGACAAGAA 960
GCAATTAAAG TTTTCCAAAA GTTACAAGGT ATTTGGGCTA CTATTGGAGC TCAAATAGAA 1020
AATCTTAGAA CAACGTCGTT ACAAGAAGTT CAAGATTCTG ATGATGCTGA TGAGATACAA 1080
ATTGAACTTG AGGACGCTTC TGATGCTTGG TTAGTTGTGG CTCAAGAAGC TCGTGATTTT 1140
ACACTAAATG CTTATTCAAC TAATAGTAGA CAAAATTTAC CGATTAATGT TATATCAGAT 1200
TCATGTAATT GTTCAACAAC AAATATGACA TCAAATCAAT ACAGTAATCC AACAACAAAT 1260
ATGACATCAA ATCAATATAT GATTTCACAT GAATATACAA GTTTACCAAA TAATTTTATG 1320
TTATCAAGAA ATAGTAATTT AGAATATAAA TGTCCTGAAA ATAATTTTAT GATATATTGG 1380
TATAATAATT CGGATTGGTA TAATAATTCG GATTGGTATA ATAAT 1425

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:2:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 475 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(iii) HYPOTHETICAL: YES

(iv) ANTI-SENSE: NO

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
(A) ORGANISM: BACILLUS THURINGIENSIS
(C) INDIVIDUAL ISOLATE: PS86A1

(vii) IMMEDIATE SOURCE:
(B) CLONE: E. coli NM522(pMYC2320) NRRL B-18769

(ix) FEATURE:
(A) NAME/KEY: Protein
(B) LOCATION: 1..475

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:2:

Met Ile Ile Asp Ser Lys Thr Thr Leu Pro Arg His Ser Leu Ile His
1 5 10 15

Thr Ile Lys Leu Asn Ser Asn Lys Lys Tyr Gly Pro Gly Asp Met Thr
20 25 30

Asn Gly Asn Gln Phe Ile Ile Ser Lys Gln Glu Trp Ala Thr Ile Gly
35 40 45

Ala Tyr Ile Gln Thr Gly Leu Gly Leu Pro Val Asn Glu Gln Gln Leu
50 55 60

Arg Thr His Val Asn Leu Ser Gln Asp Ile Ser Ile Pro Ser Asp Phe
65 70 75 80

Ser Gln Leu Tyr Asp Val Tyr Cys Ser Asp Lys Thr Ser Ala Glu Trp
85 90 95

Trp Asn Lys Asn Leu Tyr Pro Leu Ile Ile Lys Ser Ala Asn Asp Ile
100 105 110

Ala Ser Tyr Gly Phe Lys Val Ala Gly Asp Pro Ser Ile Lys Lys Asp
115 120 125

Gly Tyr Phe Lys Lys Leu Gln Asp Glu Leu Asp Asn Ile Val Asp Asn
130 135 140

Asn Ser Asp Asp Asp Ala Ile Ala Lys Ala Ile Lys Asp Phe Lys Ala
145 150 155 160

Arg Cys Gly Ile Leu Ile Lys Glu Ala Lys Gln Tyr Glu Glu Ala Ala
165 170 175

Lys Asn Ile Val Thr Ser Leu Asp Gln Phe Leu His Gly Asp Gln Lys

180 185 190

Lys Leu Glu Gly Val Ile Asn Ile Gln Lys Arg Leu Lys Glu Val Gln
195 200 205

Thr Ala Leu Asn Gln Ala His Gly Glu Ser Ser Pro Ala His Lys Glu
210 215 220

Leu Leu Glu Lys Val Lys Asn Leu Lys Thr Thr Leu Glu Arg Thr Ile
225 230 235 240

Lys Ala Glu Gln Asp Leu Glu Lys Lys Val Glu Tyr Ser Phe Leu Leu
245 250 255

Gly Pro Leu Leu Gly Phe Val Val Tyr Glu Ile Leu Glu Asn Thr Ala
260 265 270

Val Gln His Ile Lys Asn Gln Ile Asp Glu Ile Lys Lys Gln Leu Asp
275 280 285

Ser Ala Gln His Asp Leu Asp Arg Asp Val Lys Ile Ile Gly Met Leu
290 295 300

Asn Ser Ile Asn Thr Asp Ile Asp Asn Leu Tyr Ser Gln Gly Gln Glu
305 310 315 320

Ala Ile Lys Val Phe Gln Lys Leu Gln Gly Ile Trp Ala Thr Ile Gly
325 330 335

Ala Gln Ile Glu Asn Leu Arg Thr Thr Ser Leu Gln Glu Val Gln Asp
340 345 350

Ser Asp Asp Ala Asp Glu Ile Gln Ile Glu Leu Glu Asp Ala Ser Asp
355 360 365

Ala Trp Leu Val Val Ala Gln Glu Ala Arg Asp Phe Thr Leu Asn Ala
370 375 380

Tyr Ser Thr Asn Ser Arg Gln Asn Leu Pro Ile Asn Val Ile Ser Asp
385 390 395 400

Ser Cys Asn Cys Ser Thr Thr Asn Met Thr Ser Asn Gln Tyr Ser Asn
405 410 415

Pro Thr Thr Asn Met Thr Ser Asn Gln Tyr Met Ile Ser His Glu Tyr
420 425 430

Thr Ser Leu Pro Asn Asn Phe Met Leu Ser Arg Asn Ser Asn Leu Glu
435 440 445

Tyr Lys Cys Pro Glu Asn Asn Phe Met Ile Tyr Trp Tyr Asn Asn Ser
450 455 460

Asp Trp Tyr Asn Asn Ser Asp Trp Tyr Asn Asn
465 470 475

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 53 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA (genomic)

(vi) ORIGINAL SOURCE:
(A) ORGANISM: Bacillus thuringiensis
(B) STRAIN: PS86A1

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:

ATGATTGATT CTAAAACAAC ATTACCAAGA CATTCWTTAA TWCATACWAT WAA 53

Claims

1. A method for controlling lepidopteran insect pests which comprises contacting said insect pests with an insect-controlling effective amount of a *Bacillus thuringiensis* isolate selected from the group consisting of *B.t.* PS43F, *B.t.* PS50C and *B.t.* PS86A1, and variants thereof.

2. The method, according to claim 1, wherein said *Bacillus thuringiensis* is *B.t.* PS43F.

3. The method, according to claim 1, wherein said *Bacillus thuringiensis* is *B.t.* PS50C.

4. The method, according to claim 1, wherein said *Bacillus thuringiensis* is *B.t.* PS86A1.

5. The method, according to claim 1, wherein said insect pest is the diamondback moth (*Plutella xylostella*).

6. The method, according to claim 1, which comprises applying an insecticidal composition comprising *Bacillus thuringiensis* to plants or soil.

7. The method, according to claim 6, wherein said insecticidal composition is a liquid.

8. The method, according to claim 6, wherein said insecticidal composition is in granular form.

9. The method, according to claim 6, wherein said insecticidal composition is applied when corn or soybean seed is planted.

10. The method, according to claim 1, wherein said *Bacillus thuringiensis* are treated to prolong their pesticidal activity in the environment of a target pest.

11. A method for controlling lepidopteran pests which comprises exposing said pests to a plant transformed by a gene obtainable from a *Bacillus thuringiensis* isolate selected from the group consisting of *B.t.* PS43F, *B.t.* PS50C and *B.t.* PS86A1, and variants thereof, wherein said gene encodes a toxin active against lepidopteran pests.

12. The method, according to claim 11, wherein said gene comprises the DNA of SEQ ID NO. 1 or a portion thereof which encodes a lepidopteran-active toxin.

13. The method, according to claim 11, wherein said gene comprises the DNA of SEQ ID NO. 3 or a portion thereof which encodes a lepidopteran-active toxin.

14. The method, according to claim 11, wherein said gene comprises the DNA of SEQ ID NO. 5 or a portion thereof which encodes a lepidopteran-active toxin.

15. A method for controlling lepidopteran insects which comprises administering to said insects or to the environment of said insects a microorganism transformed by a gene obtainable from a *Bacillus thuringiensis* isolate selected from the group consisting of *B.t.* PS43F, *B.t.* PS50C and *B.t.* PS86A1, and variants thereof, wherein said gene encodes a toxin active against lepidopteran pests.

16. The method, according to claim 15, wherein said gene comprises the DNA of SEQ ID NO. 1 or a portion thereof which encodes a lepidopteran-active toxin.

17. The method, according to claim 15, wherein said gene comprises the DNA of SEQ ID NO. 3 or a portion thereof which encodes a lepidopteran-active toxin.

18. The method, according to claim 15, wherein said gene comprises the DNA of SEQ ID NO. 5 or a portion thereof which encodes a lepidopteran-active toxin.

19. The method, according to claim 15, wherein said microorganism is a *Pseudomonas*.

20. The method, according to claim 15, wherein said transformed microorganism is treated to prolong its pesticidal activity in the environment of a target pest.