

POTENTIAL FUNGICIDES AND PLANT EXTRACTS AGAINST FUSARIAL WILT OF BRINJAL

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Abstract

Antifungal potentials of nine fungicides and eight plant parts extracts were tested in opposition to *Fusarium oxysporum* Schlecht. and *F. solani* (Mart.) Sacc. – the two pathogens, isolated from wilted roots of brinjal plants. Efficiency gradients observed in the present study expressed that Bavistin and Tall were the best inhibiting agent against the *in vitro* growth of the test pathogenic fungi. Among aqueous extracts of eight plant parts significant inhibition of the growth of the pathogens was observed with *Azadiracta indica* (leaf), *Zingiber officinale* (rhizome) and *Asparagus racemosus* (root) at 20% concentration.

Brinjal (*Solanum melongena* L.) is an important vegetable of Bangladesh and is more or less available round the year. It suffers from more than 20 different diseases, of which fusarial wilt is the most destructive one throughout the world^(1,2). The pathogens are mainly soil borne and presently being used to control by various physical, chemical, biological and cultural methods. Various workers in different countries of the world evaluated the efficacy of various fungicides and plant extracts against *Fusarium* spp. under laboratory and field conditions⁽³⁻⁷⁾. In Bangladesh research information on the control measures of the fusarial wilt of brinjal is insufficient⁽⁸⁾.

Fusarium oxysporum Schlecht. and *F. solani* (Mart.) Sacc.- the two pathogens were isolated from wilted roots of brinjal plants following Blotter and Agar plate methods⁽⁹⁾. Identities of the pathogens were determined following the standard literature⁽¹⁰⁾. The pathogenicity of the pathogens was confirmed by inoculating on seedling of the selected cultivar.

Nine fungicides with 7 different active ingredient(s), were collected from local market of the Dhaka city (Table 1). Amongst the nine fungicides used in the present investigation, Bavistin, Mancozeb and Dithane M are systemic while Mc sulphur, Tall, Limisulpher and Salcox are protectant and Ridomil gold MZ is both systematic and protectant. Fungitoxicity of these nine fungicides at 400 ppm concentration was evaluated against the two test pathogens following poison food technique⁽¹¹⁾. The radial growth of the colonies was measured at the 5th day of incubation.

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Plant parts *viz.* leaves, roots, bulbs or rhizomes of eight plants were collected from the Botanical Garden of Curzon Hall of Dhaka University Campus and New Market, Dhaka for evaluating their fungi toxic potentiality on the vegetative growth of the test pathogens (Table 2). Aqueous plant extracts were prepared following the method of Yasmin *et al.*⁽¹²⁾. The radial growth of the colonies was measured at the 7th day of incubation.

Table 1. Potentiality of fungicides against the radial growth of *Fusarium solani* and *F. oxysporum* at 400 ppm.

Name of fungicides [Active ingredient(s)]	% inhibition of the test fungi	
	<i>F. solani</i>	<i>F. oxysporum</i>
Bavistin 50 WP [50% Carbendazim]	100 ^a	92.98 ^a
Dithane M-45 [80% Mancozeb]	76.93 ^a	71.35 ^b
Limisulpher 80 WP [80% Sulphur]	68.78 ^a	74.65 ^b
Mancozeb 80 WP [80% Mancozeb]	54.48 ^b	53.99 ^b
Mc sulphur 80 WP [50% sulphur]	46.32 ^b	38.98 ^b
Oxyvit 50 WP [Copper oxochloride]	78.36 ^a	32.55 ^b
Ridomil gold MZ 68 WP [64% mancozeb and 4% metalaxyl]	41.63 ^a	58.48 ^b
Salcox 50 WP [50% copper oxichloride]	38.16 ^b	27.00 ^c
Tall 25 EC [25% Propiconazole]	93.23 ^a	100 ^a

Comments: Efficiency gradient against *Fusarium solani* is Bavistin > Tall > Oxyvit > Dithane > Limisulpher > Mancozeb > Mc sulphur > Ridomil and Salcox. and against *F. oxysporum* is Tall > Bavistin > Limisulpher > Dithane > Ridomil > Mancozeb > Mc sulphur > Oxyvit and Salcox.

a, b and c indicate significance at $p = 0.001, 0.01$ and 0.05 , respectively.

For both the cases per cent growth inhibition of each test fungus was calculated following the formula of Yasmin *et al.*⁽¹²⁾. Three replications were maintained and inoculated plates were incubated at $25 \pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ in each case. The results were statistically analyzed by 't' test following Steel and Torrie⁽¹³⁾.

In the Petri plates, all the fungicides causes partial or complete inhibition of *Fusarium solani* and *F. oxysporum* at 400 ppm concentration (Table 1). The complete inhibition of the growth of *F. solani* was observed with Bavistin followed by Tall (93.23%), Oxyvit (78.36%), Dithane M (76.93%), Limisulpher (68.78%), Mancozeb (54.48%), Mc Sulphur (46.32%), Ridomil gold MZ (41.63%) and Salcox (38.16%), respectively.

In 2014, it was reported that Mancozeb inhibit mycelial growth of *Fusarium solani*, the causal agent of coriander rot, completely at 2500 ppm whereas inhibition were only 85.27 and 79.25% by Propiconazole (active ingredient of Tall) and copper oxychloride (active ingredient of Salcox and Oxyvit), respectively⁽¹⁴⁾.

In the present investigation, growth of *Fusarium oxysporum* was completely inhibited with Tall at 400 ppm. Bavistin, Limisulpher, Dithane - M, Ridomil gold MZ, Mancozeb, Mc sulphur, Oxyvit, and Salcox were responsible for 92.98, 74.65, 71.35, 58.48, 53.99, 38.98, 32.55 and 27.00% growth inhibition of *F. oxysporum*, respectively at the same concentration (Table 1). Jatav *et al.* (2013)⁽⁵⁾ while reporting the results of laboratory evaluation of six fungicides on *F. oxysporum* f. sp. *melongenae* causing wilt of brinjal found that Bavistin, Ridomil and Diathen M were inhibited 90.00, 44.26 and 45.76% growth of the pathogen, respectively at 500 ppm.

Efficiency gradients observed in the present study expressed that Bavistin, Tall, Dithane M-45 and Ridomil gold MZ were the best inhibiting agent against the *in vitro* growth of the test pathogenic fungi. The differences between these reports and the present study might be owing to the difference in strains of the causal organism.

Table 2. Effect of plant extracts at different concentrations on the radial growth of *Fusarium oxysporum* (FO) and *Fusarium solani* (FS).

Name of plant (used plant part)	% inhibition at different concentration (%)					
	5		10		20	
	FO	FS	FO	FS	FO	FS
<i>Adhatoda vasica</i> Nees (Leaf)	29.82 ^b	33.94 ^a	54.58 ^b	58.48 ^a	71.35 ^a	79.33 ^a
<i>Allium cepa</i> L. (Bulb)	20.85 ^c	23.97 ^b	41.52 ^b	44.83 ^a	66.86 ^a	72.70 ^a
<i>Allium sativum</i> L. (Bulb)	28.46 ^b	33.13 ^a	50.68 ^b	59.84 ^a	74.66 ^a	81.87 ^a
<i>Asparagus racemosus</i> L. (Root)	64.20 ^a	64.00 ^a	75.39 ^a	71.00 ^b	93.85 ^a	91.10 ^a
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> A Juss (Leaf)	58.00 ^a	40.00 ^b	73.42 ^a	77.11 ^a	95.50 ^a	96.00 ^a
<i>Cassia alata</i> L. (Leaf)	40.26 ^a	35.00 ^b	58.10 ^a	66.66 ^a	86.57 ^a	86.00 ^a
<i>Ocimum sanctum</i> L. (Leaf)	18.12 ^c	22.02 ^b	40.00 ^b	43.46 ^a	66.27 ^b	73.29 ^a
<i>Zingiber officinale</i> Rosc. (Rhizome)	67.11 ^a	54.00 ^a	76.06 ^a	71.00 ^a	94.85 ^a	93.00 ^a

^{a,b} and ^c indicate significance at p = 0.001, 0.01 and 0.05, respectively.

Results of plant extracts on the radial growth of *Fusarium solani* is presented in Table 2. All the plant extracts showed varied degree of growth inhibition of the pathogen at different concentrations. Out of the eight plant extracts, *Azadirachta indica* showed 96% radial growth inhibition of the pathogen at 20% concentration which was followed by *Zingiber officinale* (93%) and *Asparagus racemosus* (91.10%). The inhibition of the pathogen increases with the increase of the concentration of the plant extracts in culture medium.

The order of effectiveness against *F. solani* at 20% concentration was *Azadirachta indica* (96%) > *Zingiber officinale* (93%) > *Asparagus racemosus* (91.10%) > *Cassia alata* (86%) > *Allium sativum* (81.87%) > *Adhatoda vasica* (79.33%) > *Ocimum sanctum* (73.29%) > *A. cepa* (72.70%) (Table 2).

The highest (95.50%) inhibition of the growth of *Fusarium oxysporum* was observed with *Azadiracta indica* at 20% concentration which was followed by *Zingiber officinale* (94.85%) and *Asparagus racemosus* (93.85%). The inhibition of the pathogen increases with the increase of the concentration of the treatments (Table 2). The order of effectiveness against *F. oxysporum* at 20% concentration was *Azadiracta indica* (95.50%) > *Zingiber officinale* (94.85%) > *Asparagus racemosus* (93.85%) > *Cassia alata* (86.57%) > *Allium sativum* (74.66%) > *Adhatoda vasica* (71.35%) > *Allium cepa* (66.86%) > *Ocimum sanctum* (66.27%).

Plant parts and their constituents of some higher plants have already been reported to be of successful nature of fungitoxicants because of their lesser phytotoxicity, systemicity, easily biodegradability and favourable effects for the growth of the host^(3,4). Antifungal potentiality of different plant extract have been reported earlier by several investigators. Joseph *et al.*⁽³⁾ reported that leaf extracts of *Azardiachta indica* at 20% concentration was found most effective (53.22%) against *Fusarium solani* f. sp. *melongenae* and *Ocimum sanctum* arrested 38.38% growth of the pathogen at same concentration.

Out of seven aqueous extracts of plant parts, *Datura metel* and *Cassia alata* and *Azadiracta indica* were found most efficient inhibitor of *Fusarium solani* and *F. oxysporum*, the causative agent of brinjal wilt by Bashar and Chakma⁽⁸⁾.

Chakraborty *et al.*⁽¹⁵⁾ reported the efficacy of various cell free extracts of the plants against the growth inhibition of the pathogen. The effectiveness of extracts varied significantly with dosage, where 100% inhibition of the pathogen was achieved both with *Azadiracta indica* and *Allium sativum* extracts.

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