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### Management studies on *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* (Lib.) de Bary, causing sclerotinia rot of cauliflower through plant extracts, and amendments

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#### Abstract

Among six plant extracts tested under *in vivo* condition by seedling-cum-foliar application against the Sclerotinia rot, the garlic extract (48.44%) followed by neem extract (42.94%) was found in maximum percent disease control. Among the six amendments studied under pot condition, poultry manure (37.43%) was found most effective in reducing plant disease incidence followed by goat manure (36.36%).

Keywords: Plant extracts, incidence, Mycelial growth, Sclerotinia, physical parameters, amendments, temperature, *in vivo* 

#### Introduction

Cauliflower (Brassica oleracea var. botrytis L.) belonging to family Brassicaceae is one of the important cole crops and has obtained a popular place in vegetable crops because of its delightfull taste, flavour and nutritive value (Mitra et al. 1990) [6]. It has been rightly designated as the aristocrat of cole crops. It is cultivated for tender succulent thick profused and underdeveloped flower stalks (curd). It contains ten times as much as calcium as meat. head is eaten while the stalk and surrounding thick, green leaves are used in vegetable broth or for feeding animals. Cauliflower is rich source of vitamins, especially A and C. It contains about 70 mg of vitamin A and about 75 mg of vitamin C per 100 gm of sample and is deviant in stability of vitamin C after cooking (Singh, 1987)<sup>[10]</sup>. Curd of Cauliflower is used in curries, soups and pickles. Leaves are used as feeding cattle and also for animals and birds. Cauliflower is reported to have 91.7% water and the food values per 100 g of edible portion are: energy 31 calories, protein 2.4 g, calcium 2.2 g and vitamin A 40 I.U. Cauliflower is rich in minerals like Potassium, Sodium, Iron, Copper, Phosphorous, Magnesium, carbohydrates and amino acids such as Arginine, Histidine, Lysine, Tryptophan, Tyrosine, Cystine, Methionine, Threonine, Leucine and Valine. It contains ten times as much as calcium as meat. Important diseases are white rust caused by *Albugo candida*, powdery mildew caused by Erysiphe polygoni, damping off caused by Pythium debaryanum, downy mildew caused by Pernospora parasitica, sclerotinia rot caused by Sclerotinia sclerotiorum, black rot caused by Xanthomonas campestris pv. Campestris bacterial soft rot or curd rot caused by Erwinia caratovora pv. caratovora, cauliflower mosaic caused by cauliflower mosaic virus etc.

Sclerotinia rot is more common and severe in temperate and subtropical regions of cool and wet seasons (Willetts and Wong, 1980 and Saharan and Mehta, 2008)<sup>[12, 8]</sup>. Among these sclerotinia rot of cauliflower caused by *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* (Lib.) de Bary is one of the major soil borne fungal diseases of cauliflower causing losses both in field, especially in the seed crop and in storage. Management of sclerotinia rot cauliflower mainly depends on fungicides (Triphati and Triphati, 2010)<sup>[11]</sup>.

#### **Material and Methods**

#### Efficacy of plant extracts against Sclerotinia sclerotiorum (in vivo)

The experiment was carried out in earthen pots (30 cm dia.) with host cultivar Early Kunwari. The pathogen multiplied on sorghum grains at  $20\pm1$  <sup>0</sup>C for one week was used as soil inoculum. Prior to transplanting, pots were filled with sterilized soil. The soil was sterilized at 1.045 kg/cm<sup>2</sup> for one hour for three consecutive days. Early Kunwari variety of cauliflower was sown in these pots as susceptible check with three replications. Six plant extracts (Table-1) were tested by applying as seedling dip application (for 15 min.), and foliar application (25

days after transplanting).Seedlings were raised in pots filled with sterilized soil for all experiments and one month old seedlings were transplanted in all experiments.

The pots were inoculated with fungal inoculum multiplied on sorghum grains before transplanting and seedlings were also dipped in inoculum suspension of pathogen. For inoculation, the upper 5 cm layer of soil of each pot was thoroughly mixed with inoculum @20 g/pot. Five seedlings were transplanted after dipping in 15% concentration of each plant extract. At 25 days after transplanting (DAT), each extract of the 15 per cent concentration was used as single foliar spray. For comparison inoculated control was maintained without plant extract application. The disease incidence and per cent disease control were calculated 45 DAT and 60 DAT with the help of following formulae.

Per cent Disease Incidence = 
$$\frac{\text{No. of infected plants}}{\text{Total No. of plants}} \times 100$$

The per cent disease control was calculated by using the following formula: -

Per cent Disease control = 
$$\frac{\text{Disease in control} - \text{Disease in treatment}}{\text{Disease in control}} x 100$$

 
 Table 1: Name of plant extract used against Sclerotinia sclerotiorum (in vivo)

S. No.	Common Name	Botanical Name	Plant Part used	Concentration (%)
1.	Neem	Azadirachta indica	Leaves	15
2.	Garlic	Allium sativum	Cloves	15
3.	Turmeric	Curcuma longa	Rhizome	15
4.	Hing	Ferula assa-foetida	Leaves and young shoots	15
5.	Ginger	Zingiber officinale	Rhizome	15
6.	Tulsi	Ocimum sanctum	Leaves	15

## Efficacy of amendments against Sclerotinia rot of cauliflower (*in vivo*)

The experiment was carried out in pots (30 cm diameter) with cultivar Early kunwari. The pathogen multiplied on sorghum grains at  $20\pm1$  <sup>0</sup>C for one week was used as the soil inoculum as well as for seedling dip. Six amendments (Table-2) were used by applying as soil application in four replications.

These pots were inoculated with fungal inoculum multiplied on sorghum grains before sowing. For inoculation the upper 5 cm layer of soil of each pot was thoroughly mixed with inoculum @ 20g/pot. Five seedlings were transplanted per pot. For comparison inoculated control was maintained without applying different amendments. The disease incidence and per cent disease control were calculated 45 DAT and 60 DAT.

 Table 2: Amendments used against sclerotinia rot of cauliflower (in vivo)

S. No.	Amendments	Dose (g/pot)
1.	Vermicompost	100
2.	Poultry manure	100
3.	Farm yard manure	150
4.	Wool waste	100
5.	Goat manure	150
6.	Gypsum	150
7.	Control	-

#### **Results and Discussion**

Efficacy of plant extracts against Sclerotinia rot of cauliflower through seedling-cum-foliar application (*In vivo*)

Among the six plant extract evaluated against the disease data (Table: 3 and Fig: 1) revealed that minimum disease incidence was observed with garlic (32.12 and 36.25% at 45 and 60 days after transplanting, respectively) followed by neem (35.30 and 40.12% at 45 and 60 DAT, respectively) as compared to control 55.38 and, 70.32% at 45 DAT and 60 DAT, respectively. Maximum reduction in disease incidence over control was observed with garlic (42.00 and 48.44% at 45 and 60 DAT, respectively) followed by neem (36.16 and 42.94% at 45 DAT and 60 DAS, respectively. Percent disease incidence of tulsi (49.35% at 45 DAT and 55.20% at 60 DAT) was found at par with turmeric 47.10%, 50.21% at 45 DAT and 60 DAT, respectively. Minimum reduction in disease was observed in tulsi (10.88 and 21.50% at 45 DAT and 60 DAT, respectively.

To manage, the disease, six plant extracts namely neem, garlic, turmeric, hing, ginger and tulsi were tested at 15 per cent concentration through seedling-cum foliar application in a pot experiment under in vivo condition. All plant extracts were able to reduce the disease incidence significantly over control. Garlic clove extracts was found most effective in reducing disease incidence followed by neem. Garlic has been known for its antifungal and antibacterial activities for decades due to the presence of chemical compound such as allicin *i.e.* well known to be effective against bacteria and fungi. These results are in closeness with the results of Chattopadhyay et al. (2004)<sup>[3]</sup>, Chattopadhyay et al. (2007) <sup>[2]</sup>, Prasad and Kumar (2007) <sup>[7]</sup>, Meena et al. (2013) <sup>[5]</sup> and Sharma *et al.* (2016)<sup>[9]</sup>. Effectiveness of garlic clove extract in disease control against S. sclerotiorum in mustard crop was reported by them.

Table 3: Efficacy of plant extracts against Sclerotinia rot of cauliflower through seedling-cum-foliar application (In vivo)

Diant ovtraat	Dose (%)	45 DAT		60 DAT	
r faitt extract		Disease incidence* (%)	Per cent disease control	Disease incidence* (%)	Per cent disease control
Name	15	35.30	36.16	40.12	42.04
Incent		(36.45)		(39.30)	42.94
Garlic	15	32.12	42.00	36.25	18 11
		(34.52)		(37.02)	40.44
Turmeric	15	47.10	14.95	50.21	28.59
		(43.34)		(45.12)	
Hing	15	39.22	29.18	44.33	26.05
		(38.77)		(41.74)	30.95
Tulsi	15	49.35	10.88	55.2	21.50
		(44.63)		(47.98)	

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Ginger	15	42.52 (40.70)	23.22	48.05 (43.88)	31.66
Control	-	55.38 (48.09)	-	70.32 (56.99)	
S.Em±		2.02		2.19	
CD		6.22		6.75	

\*Average of three replications

Figures given in the parenthesis are angular transformed values



Fig 1: Efficacy of plant extracts against Sclerotinia rot of cauliflower through seedling-cum-foliar application (In vivo)

## Efficacy of amendments against Sclerotinia rot of cauliflower (In vivo)

A perusal of data (Table: 4 and Fig: 2) revealed that minimum disease incidence was observed with poultry manure (37.30 and 44.36% at 45 and 60 DAT, respectively) followed by goat manure (41.25 45.12% at 45 and 60 DAT, respectively) as compared to control 58.98 and 70.90% at 45 DAT and 60 DAT, respectively.

Maximum reduction in disease incidence over control was observed with poultry manure (36.75 and 37.43% at 45 and 60 DAT, respectively) followed by goat manure (30.06 and 36.36% at 45 and 60 DAT, respectively. Percent disease incidence of wool waste (54.22 and 59.09% at 45 and 60 DAT, respectively) was found at par with gypsum (51.55 and 54.24% at 45 and 60 DAT, respectively). Minimum reduction in disease was observed in wool waste (8.07 and 16.65% at 45 and 60 DAT, respectively).

Six amendments were used *in vivo* condition through soil application in pot experiment. Among them, poultry manure was found most effective to control the disease for reducing disease incidence, followed by goat manure. These results are in similarity with the with the results of Aujla *et al.* (2001)<sup>[1]</sup> and Handoro *et al.* (2001)<sup>[4]</sup>.

Treatment	Dose (g/pot)	45 DAT		60 DAT	
Treatment		Disease incidence* (%)	Per cent disease control	Disease incidence* (%)	Per cent disease control
EVM	150	49.66	15.80	51.03	28.02
1, 1 1/1		(44.81)		(45.59)	
Goat manura	150	41.25	30.06	45.12	36.36
Goat manufe	150	(39.96)		(42.20)	
Commun	150	51.55	12.59	54.24	23.49
Gypsuin		(45.89)		(47.43)	
Doultry manura	100	37.3	36.75	44.36	37.43
routiny manufe		(37.64)		(41.76)	
Vermicompost	100	46.18	21.70	49.50	30.18
		(42.81)		(44.71)	
Weelweste	100	54.22	8.07	59.09	16.65
woor waste		(47.42)		(50.24)	10.03

Table 4: Efficacy of amendments against Sclerotinia rot of cauliflower (In vivo)

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Control	-	58.98 (50.17)	70.90 (57.35)	
S.Em ±		1.80	2.36	
CD		5.36	7.28	

\*Average of three replications

Figures given in the parenthesis are angular transformed values



Fig 2: Efficacy of amendments against Sclerotinia rot of cauliflower (In vivo)

#### Conclusion

Plant extracts and amendments were evaluated *in vivo* conditions against *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*. Result showed that garlic clove extract and poultry manure was found effective respectively.

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