

Original Research Article

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***Invitro* Efficacy of Fungicides against *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *lycopersici* causing Fusarium Wilt of Tomato**

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ABSTRACT

Keywords

Tomato, *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *lycopersici*, Fungicides, Inhibition

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F.oxysporum is so wide spread, it is a significant problem in many crops. It is economically damaging to the banana industry, and the threat of more virulent strains or mutations to damage previously resistant crops is of major concern. *F. oxysporum* also causes damage to many crops from the family Solanaceae, including potato, tomato, and pepper. Yield losses of effected crops can be high, up to 45% yield loss of tomato crop has been reported in India. Therefore, present *in vitro* study was planned and conducted *in vitro*, in 8 treatments replicated thrice, to assess the efficacy of fungicides against *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *lycopersici*, at the Department of Plant Pathology, College of Agriculture, Dhule (MS), during 2018-2020. Results revealed that the fungicides Mancozeb + Carbendazim (0.125% + 0.05%) inhibited 100 per cent growth of pathogen followed by Thiram + Carbendazim (0.15% + 0.05%) which inhibited 93.63 per cent, Carbendazim (0.1%) inhibited 92.13 per cent, Thiram (0.3%) inhibited 89.5 per cent, Carboxin (0.2%) inhibited 87.25 per cent, Captan (0.25%) inhibited 81.13 per cent, Propiconazole (0.2%) inhibited 67.50 per cent and Mancozeb (0.25%) inhibited 62.25 per cent growth of pathogen *F. oxysporum* f.sp. *lycopersici*.

Introduction

Tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum* Mill., *Solanum lycopersicum* L.) from the family solanaceae is one of the most important of the popular vegetables in the world. It is anative of Peru in South America (Rick, 1976). In Europe it absolutely was conjointly reffered as *Poma amoris*-Amorous apple or love apple. It was also known as *Poma peruviana* apple of Peru. Only as late as 1880, did the British finally concede that tomato is edible.

It was Robert Gibbon Johanson, an ordinary farmer in the U.S.A who first ate tomato on a hot day of August, 1820 to describe its edibility. From then onwards, the tomato spread throughout the world. In India, it was introduced from Europe, in the seventeenth century (Kale and Kale, 1984).

India ranks second in the area as well as in production of tomato. The major tomato growing countries are China (30.7%), India (11.5%), USA (8.1%), Turkey (7.0%) and

Egypt (5.3%). In India Andhra Pradesh is the leading state in both area and production of tomato which contributes 25.01% to the total production of tomato in India. MH ranks 8th by contributing 4.82% to the national production (Horticultural Statistics at a Glance 2017). Annual production of tomato in India throughout 2018-19 was 20515.24MT with an area of about 814 thousand ha, and productivity of 27.8 MT/ha (Anonymous, 2018). In Maharashtra state, it is grown on an area of about 43.64 thousand ha with production of 976.58.MT, and productivity of 22.07MT/ha (Anonymous, 2018).

Many plant diseases heavily depend on agrochemicals and mainly rely on fungicides. These fungicides can prevent infection but not all have curative activity; therefore the interval between sprayings is usually short. In addition to the appearances of more aggressive isolates, and isolates that are no longer inhibited by chemical protectants, hence, the burden on the environment is high. Subsequently, plant pathogens are responsible for large amounts of chemical fungicides applied annually exacerbating control strategies. Various practices are effective in reducing the occurrence of *Fusarium oxysporum*. Looking to heavy incidence and huge losses incurred by wilt it was thought worthwhile to study the pathogen and Therefore, present study on *in vitro* efficacy of fungicides against *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *lycopersici*, causing tomato wilt was planned and conducted at the Department of Plant Pathology, College of Agriculture, Dhule, during 2018-2020.

Materials and Methods

Isolation, identification and pathogenicity of *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *lycopersici*

Isolation of pathogen associated with wilt of tomato was done by tissue isolation method

on PDA. The fungus isolated from diseased specimens and maintained in pure form was tentatively identified on the basis of colony characters and morphological characters and later confirmed from the Department of Plant Pathology, College of Agriculture, Dhule. The pathogenicity of *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *lycopersici* was done by soil inoculation technique (sick soil).

In vitro evaluation of fungicides

Experiment were planned to evaluate *in vitro* efficacy of different fungicides and conducted with Completely Randomized Design (CRD) and all the treatments replicated thrice against *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *lycopersici*, fusarium wilt of tomato by applying Poisoned Food Technique (Nene and Thapliyal, 1993) and using Potato Dextrose Agar as basal culture medium.

The fungal disc of 5 mm diameter was inoculated at the center of each plate, the plate was incubated in BOD incubator for seven days at temperature of $28^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$. The plates with potato dextrose agar medium without fungicide were served as control. Observations on colony diameter and sporulation were recorded on seventh day after inoculation as per the following formula given by Vincent (1947).

$$I = C - T / C \times 100$$

whereas,

I = Percent inhibition

T = Growth (mm) of test the fungus in treated plates

C=Growth (mm) of the test fungus in untreated control plate

The data obtained was statistically analyzed (Panse and Sukhatme, 1978) and the results were interpreted thereof.

Results and Discussion

In vitro efficacy of different fungicides against the *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *lycopersici*

Eight fungicides were evaluated in *in vitro* condition by employing “poisoned food technique”. The data obtained on the effect of various fungicides *in vitro* on the vegetative growth and spore formation of the test fungus *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *lycopersici* is presented in Table-1 and Plate-1 and

graphically depicted in Fig.1

The results presented Table-1 revealed that the treatment T1 (Mancozeb 63% + Carbendazim 12% WP) was significantly superior than rest of all the treatment whereas treatment T2 (Thiram 37.5% +Carbendazim 50% WP), T8 (Carbendazim 50% WP), T7 (Thiram 75% WP), T3 (Carboxin 75% WP), T4 (Captan 75 %WP), T6 (Propiconazole 25%EC) and treatment T5 (Mancozeb 75%WP) significantly differ from each other..

Table.1 *In vitro* effect of fungicides on growth and inhibition of *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *lycopersici*.

Sr. No.	Fungicides/ Treatment	Concentration (%) used	Mean colony diameter (mm)* after 7 days of inoculation	Sporulation	Percent inhibition of growth**
1	Mancozeb 63% + Carbendazim 12% WP (T1)	0.125% + 0.05%	0.00	-	100.0 (90)
2	Thiram 37.5% + Carbendazim 50% WP (T2)	0.15 % +0.05 %	5.10	-	93.63 (75.38)
3	Carboxin 75% WP (T3)	0.2 %	10.20	-	87.25 (69.07)
4	Captan 75 % WP (T4)	0.25 %	15.10	+	81.13 (64.25)
5	Mancozeb 75% WP (T5)	0.25 %	30.20	++	62.25 (52.09)
6	Propiconazole 25% EC (T6)	0.2 %	26.00	++	67.50 (55.24)
7	Thiram 75% WP (T7)	0.3 %	8.40	++	89.50 (71.09)
8	Carbendazim 50% WP (T8)	0.1 %	6.30	++	92.13 (73.70)
9	Control (T9)	-	80.00	++	-
	SE ±		0.07		0.31
	CD at 1 %		0.20		0.95

Note:*Average of three replication

** Figures in parenthesis are square arc sin value

Whereas, Excellent (+++), Good (++), Medium (+), Poor (+), No sporulation (-)

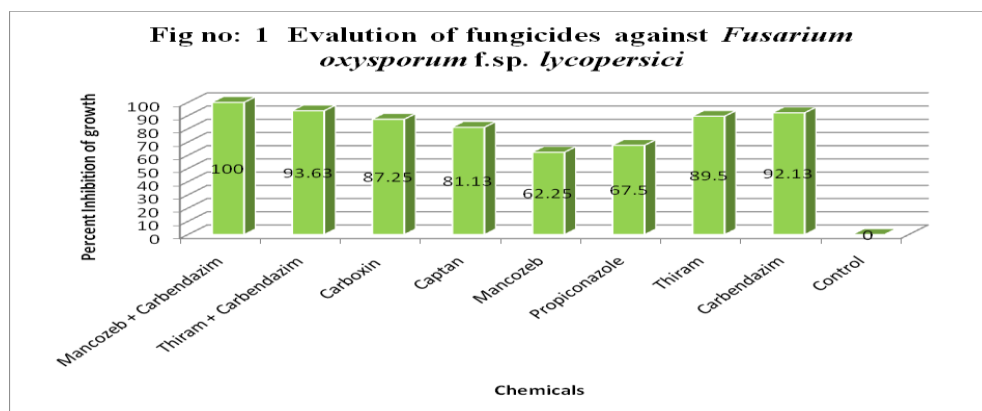
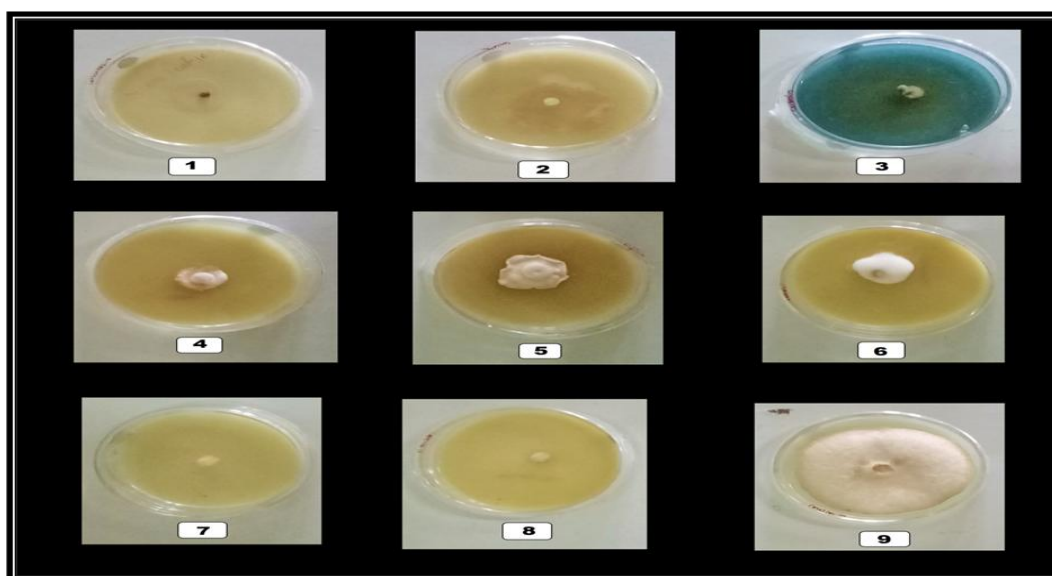


Plate.1 *In vitro* evaluation of fungicides against *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *lycopersici* by poison food technique



1)Mancozeb + Carbendazim 2) Thiram + Carbendazim 3) Carboxin 4) Captan
5) Mancozeb 6) Propiconazole 7) Thiram 8) Carbendazim 9) Control

Fungicide Mancozeb + Carbendazim (0.125 % + 0.05%) completely inhibited the growth of the pathogen *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *lycopersici* on the potato dextrose agar media. This shows that the fungicide Mancozeb + Carbendazim of the given concentration were 100 per cent effective against to the rest of fungicides regarding inhibiting the growth of pathogen. This was followed by Thiram + Carbendazim (0.15% + 0.05%) inhibited 93.63 per cent growth, then Carbendazim (0.1%) inhibited 92.13 per cent growth of pathogen.

However, the fungicides namely Thiram (0.3%), Carboxin (0.2%), Captan (0.25%), Propiconazole (0.2%) and Mancozeb (0.25 %) alone inhibited 89.5 per cent, 87.25 per cent, 81.13 per cent, 67.50 per cent and 62.25 per cent growth of pathogen respectively. This shows that, the fungicide Mancozeb was less effective than Mancozeb + Carbendazim and other fungicides

In the treatment Mancozeb + Carbendazim (0.125% + 0.05%), Thiram + Carbendazim (0.15% + 0.05%), Carboxin (0.2%), there was

no sporulation, while Captan(0.25%) had poor sporulation. Propiconazole (0.2%), Mancozeb (0.25%), Thiram (0.3%) and Carbendazim (0.1%) had medium sporulation.

From the results it was concluded that, the fungicide Mancozeb + Carbendazim (0.125 % + 0.05%) was proved most effective in inhibiting the growth of *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *lycopersici* as compared to other fungicides.

The results are conformity with reports of Quadri *et al.*, (1982), Kalra and Sohi (1984), Etebarian (1992), Poddar (2004), Musmade *et al.*, (2009) and Barhate *et al.*, (2015).

Hence, from ongoing results and discussion, it is concluded that *in vitro* testing of fungicides against *Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *lycopersici* revealed that the fungicide Mancozeb + Carbendazim (0.125 % + 0.05%), exhibited maximum growth inhibition (100 %) of the test pathogen and it was found significantly superior over rest of the fungicidal treatments

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