EVALUATION OF FUNGICIDAL PROPERTIES OF SOME SELECTED PLANTS AGAINST Fusarium moniliforme Sheldon IN CORN

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ABSTRACT

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In vitro screening of 11 plant extracts for their fungicidal properties was done against Fusarium moniliforme.

Extracts from nine plants namely: Vitex negundo, Lantana camara, Tagetes erecta, Curcuma longa, Allium sativum, Azidarachta indica, Gliricidia sepium, Tithonia diversifolia and Tinospora rumphii proved active against the test fungi. They all inhibited the growth of F. moniliforme in vitro.

The extract of A. sativum was further assayed to test the activity at different dilutions. The concentrated crude extract of A. sativum was significantly more active than its diluted forms. However, the Lethal Concentration at LC_{50} of A. sativum extracts was computed to be 0.1861. This means that as low as 18.61% of A. sativum extract could be lethal to F. moniliforme. Generally, the activity of the plant extracts decreased with time.

Results indicate that the plant extracts tested could be used to control the growth of *F. moniliforme* in corn.

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