

ABSTRACT

FRAGO, JENNIFER M. Isolation and Identification of Endophytic Fungi Associated with Coffee in Selected Areas of Cavite. Undergraduate Thesis. Bachelor of Science in Biology (Major in Microbiology). Cavite State University. October 2012. Thesis Adviser: Dr. Yolanda A. Ilagan.

This study was conducted to determine the endophytic fungi associated with the leaves and stems of coffee. Specifically, the study sought to: (1) determine the endophytic fungi present in selected parts of four varieties of coffee and; (2) determine if there are differences in the kinds of endophytes present in four varieties of coffee.

Leaves and stem samples of four varieties of coffee were carefully and randomly collected in coffee farms of Indang, Silang and Mendez. The method for isolation of endophytes described by Arnold et al (2001) was adopted and modified. To confirm the identities of the fungi, keys to some genera of moulds were also used.

Eighteen endophytic fungi (14 from the leaves and 4 from the stem) out of 43 isolates were identified up to the genus level. Results showed that *Nigrospora* and *Curvularia* were the most dominant genera of fungi associated with the leaves and stem of coffee. *Acremonium* and *Scopulariopsis* showed host specificity. Liberica harbored the most number of endophytic fungi while Excelsa has the least.