

Effect of plant extracts on the growth and spore germination of *Alternaria porri*



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SUMMARY

The results revealed that all the plant extracts viz., *Azadirachta indica* (Neem), *Clerodendron inerme* (Clerodendron) and *Pongamia pinnata* (Pongamia) were significantly effective in inhibiting the growth and spore germination of *A. porri* except the extract of *Sitaphal*. Irrespective of the concentrations, neem leaf extract was observed to be the most effective botanical recording the highest reduction of growth (56 %). The next best treatments were the extract of pongamia (54 %) and clerodendron (51.10 %). *Sitaphal* was least effective in reducing the fungal growth (12 %). The plant extracts (leaf) irrespective of the species were found to be most effective at 15 per cent concentration. Maximum reduction of mycelial growth (74 %) was observed at 15 per cent concentration which was significantly superior to 41 per cent reduction in the mycelial growth at 5 per cent concentration and 53.00 % reduction in the mycelial growth at 10 per cent concentration. Similarly, all the plant extracts were significantly effective in inhibiting the spore germination of *A. porri*. Irrespective of the concentrations, neem leaf extract proved to be the most effective botanical and recorded the highest spore inhibition (56 %) followed by the extracts of pongamia (67.70 %) and clerodendron (58.40 %). *Sitaphal* was least effective in inhibiting the spore germination (14.40 %). The plants extracts irrespective of the species were found to be most effective at 15 per cent concentration. Maximum inhibition of spore germination (92.30 %) was observed at 15 per cent concentration which was significantly superior over 5 per cent (48.60 %) and 10 per cent (71.60 %).

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