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RESEARCH PAPER

Use of plant products (Extracts) as a natural fungicide against *Rhizoctonia solani* Kuhn.

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Eleven commonly available plant species *Acalypha indica* L., *Achyranthes aspera* L., *Anisomeles indica* L., *Curcuma malabarica* Velay., *Dendrophthoe falcata* L., *Hedychium spicatum* Buch., *Lantana indica* Roxb., *Lantana camara* L., *Leucas aspera* Willd., *Oxalis corniculata* L., *Psidium guajava* L. were tested for *in vitro* fungicidal activity on *Rhizoctonia solani* Kuhn., a causative agent of Black Scurf disease of potato. Out of eleven, the products of four plants showed significant fungicidal activity against the test pathogen by poisoned food technique. *Curcuma malabarica* Velay. and *Hedychium spicatum* Buch. showed 100 per cent inhibition of mycelial growth at 0.5 ml concentration. Results of the present investigation indicate that the selected plant species possess fungicidal activity and can be exploited as natural fungitoxicants to control the growth of *Rhizoctonia solani* Kuhn.

Key words : Fungicidal activity, Plant extract, *Rhizoctonia solani*, Black Scurf disease, Poisoned food technique

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