Shelf-life and infectivity study of carrier formulations of entomogenous fungus *Nomuraea rileyi* (Farlow) Samson

Y.V. INGLE

Department of Plant Pathology, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, AKOLA (M.S.) INDIA

Email : yog_ingle@rediffmail.com

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*N. rileyi* formulated in different carriers viz., talc, kaoline, charcol, wheat bran, soil and lignite stored at 4°C and room temperature for six months storage to assess viability and infectiveness against third instars larvae of *H. armigera*. All carriers retained the viability in sufficient numbers for a period of 150 days at 4°C temperature. However, after 180 days of storage significant reduction was observed in all carriers. Kaoline supported maximum propagules i.e. $1.42 \times 10^6$ cfu/g followed by lignite $(11.95 \times 10^6$ cfu/g) after 180 days of storage at 4°C temperature. Viability was drastically reduced when carrier’s formulations stored at room temperature. Kaoline formulation stored at 4°C was efficient as recorded maximum larval mortality of *H. armigera* at 60, 120 and 180 days followed by lignite. However, at room temperature drastic reduction in per cent larval mortality of *H. armigera* (ranged of 16.67 to 43.33%) was observed.

**Key words** : *N. rileyi*, Carrier formulations, Viability, Infectivity