

Agriculture Update_____ Volume 12 | TECHSEAR-1 | 2017 | 105-108

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RESEARCH ARTICLE: Correlation of weather factors with downy mildew of cucumber

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ARTICLE CHRONICLE : Received : 05.07.2017; Accepted : 22.07.2017

SUMMARY : Downy mildew of cucumber caused by *Pseudoperonospora cubensis* is the economically most important and widespread in India and the world. As the rate of disease increase is dependent on weather factors, weather-based forewarning system enable to guide farmers to take protection measures timely. The objective of this experiment was to find out the influence of weather parameters on the initiation and spread of the cucumber downy mildew disease and develop a suitable weather based disease forewarning equation. The correlation study revealed that cucumber downy mildew disease intensity showed significantly negative correlations with minimum temperature (-0.721) and wind velocity (-0.690). In Best fit linear regression equation, intensity of downy mildew decreased with rise in Min temperature (-4.163) and evaporation (-0.882). Co-efficient of determination R^2 value (0.63) represent that 63 per cent influence on the intensity of downy mildew by two independent variables *viz.*, min temperature and evaporation.

How to cite this article : Daunde, A.T., Magar, S.P. and Navgire, K.D. (2017). Correlation of weather factors with downy mildew of cucumber. *Agric. Update*, **12**(TECHSEAR-1) : **105-108; DOI: 10.15740/HAS/AU/ 12.TECHSEAR(1)2017/105-108.**

KEY WORDS: Downy mildew, Cucumber, Correlation, Regression, Weather

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