



RESEARCH ARTICLE :

Potentiality of a new mushroom fungus *Lentinus connatus* Berk on biodegradation of various agro-industrial wastes on the incidence of sheath blight of rice

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SUMMARY : *L. connatus* treated coir waste and urea at all levels significantly reduced the intensity of sheath blight, when compared with *P. sajor-caju*. The treatments coir waste compost (*L. connatus*) @ 18.5 t + urea @ 60 kg N/ha and composted coir waste (*L. connatus*) @ 15.5 t/ha + urea @ 60 kg N / ha were found superior and significantly reduced the intensity of sheath blight (Gr. 3.00 and 3.52), compared to the existing fertilizer recommendation of 12.5t composted + 120 kg N/ha, where maximum disease intensity of Gr. 9.75 (sheath blight). The similar trend was also observed with *P. sajor - caju*. The above said best treatments also significantly reduced the disease intensity of sheath blight (Gr. 5.60 and 6.20). The earlier treatments not significantly reduced the disease intensity and on par with existing recommendation.

KEY WORDS:

L. connatus, *P. sajor-caju*, Coir waste, Urea, Phosphorus, Potassium, *Rhizoctonia solani*

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