

Research Article

Identification of Pathogenic Fungi Associated with Fruit rot of Chilli in Kashmir Valley, India

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Abstract

Chilli is one of the significant crops in the world, grown for its green fruit as vegetable and dry chilli as an important spice and is used for all dishes and cuisines. A survey was carried out in the Kashmir valley of India from 2019-2022 to isolate and identify the different fungi associated with chilli fruit rot. During the survey, 11 species of fungi were isolated and identified which were found associated with rot causing symptoms of chilli fruits. The fungi include *Aspergillus niger*, *A. flavus*, *Alternaria alternata*, *A. tenuissima*, *Colletotrichum truncatum*, *Colletotrichum* sp., *Penicillium oxalicum*, *Fusarium arthrosporioides*, *F. solani*, *F. oxysporum* and *Nigrospora sphaerica*. The work was a base line study for understanding the etiology and epidemiology of chilli rot disease and for development of accurate disease management strategy to prevent huge losses caused by the rot causing fungi.

Key words: *Fusarium*, pathogen, solanaceae, vegetables

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