



**IDENTIFY THE EFFICACY OF SELECTED BOTANICALS FOR
CONTROLLING MAJOR FUNGAL DISEASES IN GUAVA**

(Psidium guvajava)

BY

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ABSTRACT

Guava is susceptible to diseases: anthracnose, which is caused by *Colletotrichum spp*, and scab disease, which is caused by *Pestalotipsis spp*.

Anthracnose and scab disease are two major diseases among the post-harvest diseases of guava.

Synthetic fungicides are the main method used to address these diseases. Regarding guavas, the primary issue is the residual toxicity of synthetic fungicides that persist post-harvest, subsequently impacting human health. Plant extracts are used to control a variety of plant diseases as a safer alternative to conventional fungicides. The present investigation was conducted to screen the efficacy of several plant extracts against *Colletotrichum spp* and *Pestalotipsis spp* under *in vitro* conditions. Plant extracts of *Azadirachta indica* (Neem), *Ocimum tenuiflorum* (Maduruthala), *Solanum torvum* (Thibbatu), *Helianthus annuus* (Wild Sunflower), *Lantana camara* (Gandhapana), *Phyllanthus emblica* (Nelli), *Cinnamomum verum* (Cinnamon), *Allium sativum* (Garlic) and *Syzygium aromaticum* (Clove) were prepared by using methanol extraction. plant extract was screened *in vitro* by the “poisoned food technique”. The experiment showed that Tospin fungicide showed the highest growth inhibition, with 100% results. when considering the botanicals, the highest growth inhibition was observed in methanolic extracts of *C. verum* extract, followed by *A. indica*, *A. sativum*, and *S. aromaticum* extracts, has a high antifungal potential and can suppress the growth of the guava anthracnose disease pathogen *Colletotrichum spp* When considering the botanicals, the highest growth inhibition was observed in methanolic extracts of *A. sativum* and *S. aromaticum* extracts, followed by *A. indica* and *C. verum* extracts, have high antifungal potential, which can inhibit the growth of the guava scab disease pathogen *Pestalotipsis spp*. Further research is needed to evaluate the effectiveness of plant extracts against the causal organisms of anthracnose and scab diseases of guava under *in vivo* conditions prior to making any recommendation.

Keywords: *Colletotrichum spp*, *Pestalotipsis spp*, Fungicides, Plant Extracts, Poisoned Food Technique, Anthracnose, Scab disease

Table of Contents

DECLARATION	iii
DEDICATION	iv
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	v
ABSTRACT	vi
LIST OF FIGURES	x
LIST OF TABLES	xii
ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS	xiii
CHAPTER 01	1
INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 General	1
1.2 Objective of the study.....	1
CHAPTER 02	2
LITERATURE REVIEW	2
2.1 Guava (<i>Psidium guajava</i>).....	2
2.2 Diseases of guava.....	3
2.3 Anthracnose disease in guava	4
2.3.1 <i>Colletotrichum spp</i>	4
2.3.2 Morphological characteristics of <i>Colletotrichum spp</i>	5
2.3.3 Symptoms of anthracnose disease	5
2.3.4 Abiotic factors affecting the pathogen and disease progression in anthracnose.....	6
2.4 Scab disease in guava	6

2.4.1 <i>Pestalotipsis spp</i>	7
2.4.2 Morphological characteristics of <i>Pestalotipsis spp</i>	7
2.4.3 Symptoms of scab disease	8
2.4.4 Abiotic factors affecting the pathogen and disease progression scab disease	9
2.5 Control measures	9
2.5.1 Control of <i>Colletotrichum spp</i> through chemical measures	9
2.5.2 Control of <i>Pestalotiopsis spp</i> through chemical measures	10
2.5.3 Control of <i>Colletotrichum spp</i> through biological measures	10
2.5.4 Control of <i>Pestalotiopsis spp</i> through biological measures	10
2.5.5 <i>In vitro</i> biological control of <i>Colletotrichum spp</i>	11
2.5.6 <i>In vitro</i> biological control of <i>Pestalotipsis spp</i>	12
2.6 Selected plant species	12
2.6.1 <i>Azadirachta indica</i> (Neem)	12
2.6.2 <i>Ocimum tenuiflorum</i> (Maduruthala)	13
2.6.3 <i>Solanum torvum</i> (Thibbatu)	13
2.6.4 <i>Helianthus annuus</i> (Wild sunflower)	13
2.6.5 <i>Lantana camara</i> (Gandapana)	14
2.6.6 <i>Phyllanthus emblica</i> (Nelli)	14
2.6.7 <i>Cinnamomum verum</i> (Cinnamon)	14
2.6.8 <i>Allium sativum</i> (Garlic) and <i>Syzygium aromaticum</i> (Clove)	15
2.7 Topsin fungicide (Methyl Thiophanate)	17
CHAPTER 03	18
MATERIALS AND METHODOLOGY	18

3.1 Materials.....	18
3.2 Methodology	18
3.2.1 Experimental site.....	18
3.2.2 Isolation of the target pathogen	18
3.2.3 Selection of plant specimen.....	19
3.2.4 Preparation of plant extracts.....	20
3.2.5 <i>In-vitro</i> evaluation of the antifungal activity of plant extracts	22
3.2.6 Experimental design.....	23
3.2.7 Data collection.....	23
CHAPTER 04	25
RESULT AND DISCUSSION.....	25
4.1 Identification of the pathogens	25
4.1.1 Characteristics of colony morphology.....	25
4.1.2 Characteristics of spore morphology.....	26
4.2 <i>In vitro</i> evaluation of the antifungal activity of selected plant extracts.....	29
CHAPTER 05	37
CONCLUSION	37
REFERENCES	38
ANNEXURES	45