

In-vitro evaluation of fungicides against leaf spot and flower blight of marigold

Abstract

Marigold belonging to family Asteraceae, are most common in plant kingdom. It is an important commercial ornamental plant and garden flower. It is found in different colours and different fragrance. Yellow colour is most common. Leaf spot and flower blight is serious disease of marigold causing yield loss in crop. The present investigation was carried out with an objective to study the efficacy of new fungicides available in the market in *in-vitro* condition. Eleven fungicides such as azoxystrobin, tebuconazole, azoxystrobin +tebuconazole, difenoconazole, azoxystrobin + difenoconazole, tebuconazole +sulphur, wet sulphur, mancozeb, metalaxly, chlorothalonil, chlorothalonil + metalaxly were evaluated at the concentration of 0.1%, 0.15%, 0.1%, 0.1%, 0.1%, 0.15%, 0.25%, 0.3%, 0.2%, 0.3%, and 0.3% respectively. It has been found that combination of azoxystrobin + tebuconazole recorded mycelia growth inhibition of (97.30) % followed by tebuconazole + sulphur (95.95%) and Metalaxly of 95.05%. The least inhibition of 18.47% was recorded by wettable sulphur. Further the effectiveness of new fungicides may be tested under field condition against *Alternaria zinniae*.

Keywords : fungicides ,marigold ,alternaria ,odisha ,azoxystrobin+tebuconazole.

INTRODUCTION

Marigold (*Tagetes erecta L.*) is one of the most popular and important annual commercial plant grown for both private and commercial use throughout the year. The native of marigold is considered to be both the central and south America, especially Mexico.

It occupies prominent place in floriculture, both in area and production in comparison to other flowers, marigold gained popularity amongst garden and flower dealers on account of its easy cultivation and wide adaptability to diverse soil and climatic conditions. Its habit of profuse flowering, wide spectrum of attractive colours, shape and size, good keeping quality and long shelf life attracted the attention of flower growers. It is extensively used on religious and social functions.

There are two categories of marigold. African marigold (*Tagetes erecta L.*) and French marigold (*Tagetes patula L.*) Marigold flowers and petals are of economic importance. Flowers are sold loose in the form of garland (Tomar and Singh, 2009) and its petals are used for decoration and extraction of xanthophyll pigment which has become one of the sources of edible colour for processing food products, for poultry feed and also used for extraction of oil which is used in

perfume industry, also its oil act repellent to flies (mainly *Tsignata* and *T. Minuta*). Marigold flower are useful in reducing inflammation, wound healing and as an antiseptic historically, Marigold was used to treat various skin disease, ranging from skin ulcerations to eczema internally. The soothing effects of marigold are used of stomach ulcers and inflammation. Its intercropping has resulted in significant reduction of several phytosanitary problems in some crops and therefore, it is used in crop rotation as well as intercrop to control certain plant parasitic nematodes as trap crop (Tomar and Singh, 2009). Now a day's floriculture is a remunerative avocation for the rural peoples. The income received from a hectare of marigold cultivation is much more than the income either from cereal or pulse crops.

Marigold crop is affected by several diseases caused by fungi, bacteria, and viruses. Major fungal disease of marigold is Alternaria leaf spot (*Alternaria tagetica*, *Alternaria zinnia* or *Alternaria alternata*) wilt or stem rot (*Phytophthora cryptogea*) damping off (*Rhizoctonia solani*), flower bud rot / flower blight (*Alternaria dianthi*) powdery mildew (*Oidium sp.* and *Leveillulataurica*) viral disease are mosaic (cucumber mosaic virus) and aster yellows. Among these disease Alternaria leaf spot / blight incited by *Alternaria tagetica* / *Alternaria* (Shome and Mustafee, 1966) is an economically important and widely distributed disease of marigold and other flowering crop, causing accountable quantitative as well as qualitative losses.

The characteristics and diagnostic symptom of disease are necrotic lesions on leaves initial chlorotic to brown spot (1-3 mm) which gradually enlarge and coalesce and later turn dark brown with brownish purple margins, spots dry after become perforated in the centre, resulting early blight of affected leaves. Similar lesions also develop on stem, pedicels calyx and petals. Plant have numerous lesions under moist condition. Marigold is attacked by Alternaria leaf spot / blight disease causing considerable reduction in yield and quality the affect market value of marigold flowers (Shome and Mustafee 1966; Mondal and Choudhary, 1976 Mazumdar 2000)

The yield losses in the range of the 50 to 60 per cent (Shome and Mustafee, 1966; Neher 1989; Rantna and Shukla, 2002) and 100 per cent reduction in flower pigments due to Alternaria leaf spot by *Alternaria spp.* are reported (Mazumdar 2000; Singh *et al* 2006 Tomar and Singh 2009).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

All the fungicides were tested at specified concentrations by adopting poisoned food technique. The required concentrations of chemicals were prepared and incorporated into sterilized cooled potato dextrose agar medium.

Twenty ml of medium was poured into 90 mm sterilized Petri dishes and all plates inoculated with actively growing 5 mm mycelia disc of test fungus. Three replications were maintained for each treatment. These plates were incubated at 25 ± 1 °C for seven days and then colony diameter was

recorded. The per cent inhibition over control was calculated according to formula given by Vincent (1947).

$$I = \frac{(C - T) \times 100}{C}$$

I = Per cent inhibition of mycelium

C = Growth of mycelium in control

T = Growth of mycelium in treatment

Table 1: Different fungicides with their concentration

| Sl. No. | Chemical name | Concentration (%) |
|---------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| T1 | Azoxystrobin | 0.1 |
| T2 | Tebuconazole | 0.15 |
| T3 | Azoxystrobin+tebuconazole | 0.1 |
| T4 | Difenoconazole | 0.1 |
| T5 | Azoxystrobin+difenoconazole | 0.1 |
| T6 | Tebuconazole +sulphur | 0.15 |
| T7 | Wet sulphur | 0.25 |
| T8 | Mancozeb | 0.3 |
| T9 | Metalaxyl | 0.2 |
| T10 | Chlorothalonil | 0.3 |
| T11 | Chlorothalonil+metalxyl | 0.3 |

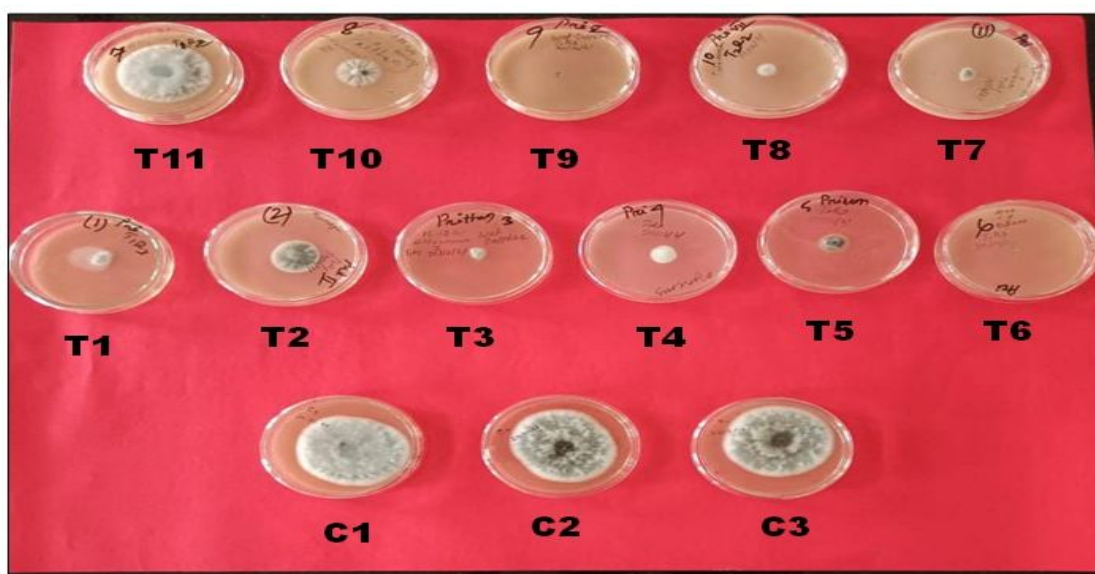
RESULT

It was seen from the table 2 that azoxystrobin +tebuconazole recorded maximum mycelia growth inhibition of 97.30% followed by tebuconazole +sulphur 95.95%. however, the both the fungicides are at par. wet sulphur recorded the least inhibition of 18.47%.

Table2: in vitro bio-assay of fungicides

| Sl.no | Chemical name | Concentration | Growth inhibition (5%) |
|-------|-----------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| T1 | Azoxystrobin | 0.1 | 87.38 |
| T2 | Tebuconazole | 0.15 | 58.11 |
| T3 | Azoxystrobin+tebuconazole | 0.1 | 97.03 |
| T4 | Difenoconazole | 0.1 | 81.98 |
| T5 | Azoxystrobin+difenoconazole | 0.1 | 75.23 |
| T6 | Tebuconazole +sulphur | 0.15 | 95.95 |
| T7 | Wet sulphur | 0.25 | 18.47 |
| T8 | Mancozeb | 0.3 | 64.41 |
| T9 | Metalaxyl | 0.2 | 95.05 |
| T10 | Chlorothalonil | 0.3 | 76.58 |
| T11 | Chlorothalonil+metalxyl | 0.3 | 85.14 |
| | CD | 15.977 | |
| | SE (M) | 5.413 | |

Fig 1: in vitro bio-assay of fungicides



DISCUSSION

The percentage mycelial growth inhibition recorded with all the fungicides tested (azoxystrobin +tebuconazole , tebuconazole +sulphur , metalaxyl), however , azoxystrobin +tebuconazole ,sulphur +metalaxyl were most effective and recorded significantly highest mean mycelial growth inhibition (100.00%) the third and fourth fungicides were metalaxyl (87.38%) and difenconazole (81.98%) .rest of the fungicides also recorded significant inhibition of the test pathogen which ranged form 58.11% (tebuconazole)to 76.58% (Chlorothalonil).

CONCLUSION

The *in vitro* study on the effect of fungicides on the mycelia growth of *Alternaria zinniae* revealed that azoxystrobin + tebuconazole (0.1%) recorded maximum inhibition (97.30%) followed by tebuconazole + sulphur (95.95%) followed by metalxyl (95.05%). Wet sulphur recorded least inhibition (18.47%). These; fungicides may be trailed under field condition to know more about its efficacy against the pathogen so that it can be recommended in the farmer field condition.

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