

Original Research Article

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Effect of Different Herbicides on the Mycelial Growth of *Rhizoctonia solani* in vitro

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ABSTRACT

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Rice sheath blight pathogen *Rhizoctonia solani* was isolated from the diseased samples obtained from Agricultural Research Station, Nellore. Pathogenicity of *R. solani* on rice leaves was assessed following detached leaf technique. The herbicides viz., Glyphosate, 2,4-D Sodium salt, Butachlor, Pretilachlor, Oxadiargyl, Pyrazosulfuron ethyl, Bensulfuron methyl 0.6% + Pretilachlor 6%, Cyhalofop-butyl, Bispyribac sodium and Ethoxy sulfuron were tested at recommended concentrations by poisoned food technique were significantly superior over control in checking the mycelial growth of *R. solani*. Glyphosate, Butachlor, Pretilachlor showed 100 per cent inhibition.

Introduction

The pathogen is known to cause the damage at different stages viz., seed germination, seedling establishment and vegetative growth phase. As a result, productivity and quality of grains and seeds are reduced considerably. Besides the disease management, practice through cultural methods, chemical control, is the net promising method. Herbicides also have shown to increase or decrease some plant diseases especially those caused by soil borne pathogens (Kathan and Eshel, 1973; Papavizas and Lewis, 1979). There was decrease in the

mycelial growth of *R. solani* by the herbicide Paraquat (Pathak *et al.*, 1996). As an interesting nontarget effect, the biological activity of herbicides extends beyond their effect on target organisms and herbicides may influence plant-pathogen interactions through their effect on the pathogen, the plant, or on the surrounding soil organisms including symbiotic interactions.

Hence, in the present study herbicides were used to evaluate their efficacy in controlling sheath blight.

Materials and Methods

The present experiments were carried out in the Department of Plant Pathology, S.V. Agricultural College, Tirupati, and Agricultural Research Station, Nellore, of Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh. The test pathogen *R. solani* was isolated from sclerotial bodies attached to the diseased portion of rice plants.

Proving pathogenicity of the pathogen *R. solani* by Detached Leaf Technique

Rice cv NLR34449 was sown in the pots under greenhouse conditions. When the seedlings were of Forty days old, the leaves were detached from the plants, cut in to 6 cm segments, surface sterilized with 70% ethyl alcohol, washed 3-4 times with sterile distilled water and placed in the moist chamber. Two days old culture disc (2 mm) of *R. solani* was inoculated on the rice leaf segments. Control was maintained without inoculation. The cotton swabs dipped in sterile water were placed on both sides of leaf segments. The moist chamber was maintained. Observations were recorded on development of sheath blight lesions Figure 1.

Effect of different herbicides on the mycelial growth of *R. solani* in vitro

Effect of herbicides on mycelial growth of *R. solani* was tested by poisoned food technique (Nene and Thapliyal, 1986) by measuring the radial growth of the fungus. The list of herbicides with their concentrations used in the study is presented in the Table 1.

Poisoned food technique

For each treatment, 30 ml of double strength potato dextrose agar (PDA) medium was taken in 100 ml conical flask and autoclaved. To this medium, specified herbicide concentration was dissolved in 30 ml distilled water was

added to the medium at lukewarm temperature and mixed thoroughly. The poisoned medium was equally distributed in three petriplates, which were treated as three replications and allowed to solidify. The test pathogen *R. solani* was cut into 5mm discs from the periphery of actively growing colony with sterilized cork borer and transferred to the centre of the each plate containing poisoned medium. Control was maintained by placing fungal discs in plates containing untreated (non poisoned) medium. The inoculated petriplates were incubated at 28±2°C in BOD incubator. The radial growth of fungus in the treatments was measured when growth in the control plate attained maximum. Per cent inhibition of the radial growth was calculated using the following formula (Vincent *et al.*, 1927).

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

Where,

I = Inhibition per centage,

C = Growth in Control (cm)

T = Growth in Treatment (cm).

Per cent inhibition of the organism in different chemical treatments over the control was recorded.

Results and Discussion

Effect of different herbicides on the mycelial growth of *R. solani* in vitro

The effect of ten herbicides viz., Glyphosate, 2,4-D Sodium salt, Butachlor, Pretilachlor, Oxadiargyl, Pyrazosulfuron ethyl, Bensulfuron methyl 0.6% + Pretilachlor 6%, Cyhalofop- butyl, Bispyribac sodium and Ethoxy sulfuron were tested on the mycelial growth of *R. solani* in vitro by following poisoned food technique and per cent growth inhibition was calculated. The data presented in Table 2 revealed that all the herbicides tested at recommended concentrations were

significantly superior over control in checking the mycelial growth of the test pathogen (Graph1). However significant difference among the treatments was observed. Glyphosate, Butachlor, Pretilachlor showed 100 % inhibition followed by Bispyribac - sodium (89.27 %), Cyhalofop - butyl (85.83 %), Bensulfuron methyl 0.6% + Pretilachlor 6% (84.90 %), 2,4-D Sodium salt (41.83 %), Ethoxy sulfuron (31.63 %), Pyrazosulfuron ethyl (24.20 %) and Oxadiargyl (18.47 %)

(Fig.2 and 3). Pathak *et al.*, (1996) observed the effect of herbicides on *R. solani*. Paraquat was most potent in reducing the mycelial growth followed by thiobencarb, Butachlor and 2,4-D. Similarly herbicide Pretilachlor belonging to same group as Butachlor has also been reported to suppress the growth of *R. solani*. The results of the present study on Glyphosate are in agreement with the work of Black *et al.*, (1996).

Fig.1 Pathogenicity of *R. solani* by detached leaf technique

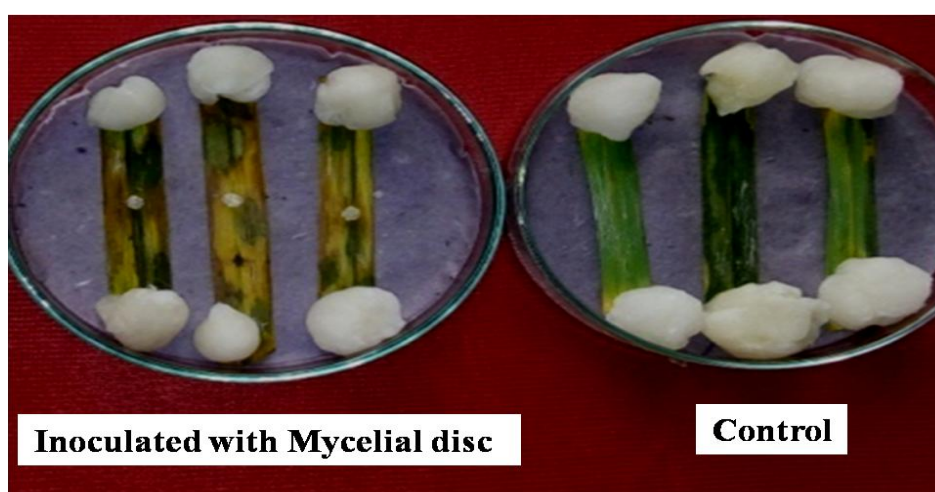


Fig.2 *In vitro* efficacy of herbicides on mycelial growth of *R. solani* by poisoned food technique

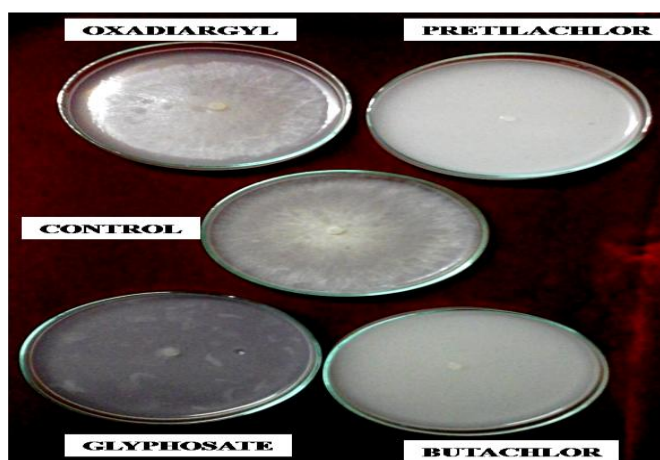


Table.1 List of the herbicides and their concentrations tested

TREATMENT NUMBER	HERBICIDE	DOSAGE
1	Glyphosate 41SL	10 ml /l
2	2,4-D Sodium Salt 80WP	2 g /l
3	Butachlor 60EC	6.25ml/l
4	Pretilachlor 50EC	2.5 ml /l
5	Oxadiargyl 80WP	0.2g /l
6	Pyrazosulfuron ethyl 75WDG	4 g /l
7	Bensulfuron methyl 0.6% + Pretilachlor 6% GR (Londax)	20g /l
8	Cyhalofop- butyl 10EC	2 ml /l
9	Bispyribac- sodium 10SC	0.6 ml /l
10	Ethoxysulfuron 15WDG	0.25 g /l
11	Untreated control	-

Graph.1 *In vitro* efficacy of herbicides on the mycelial growth of *Rhizoctonia solani*

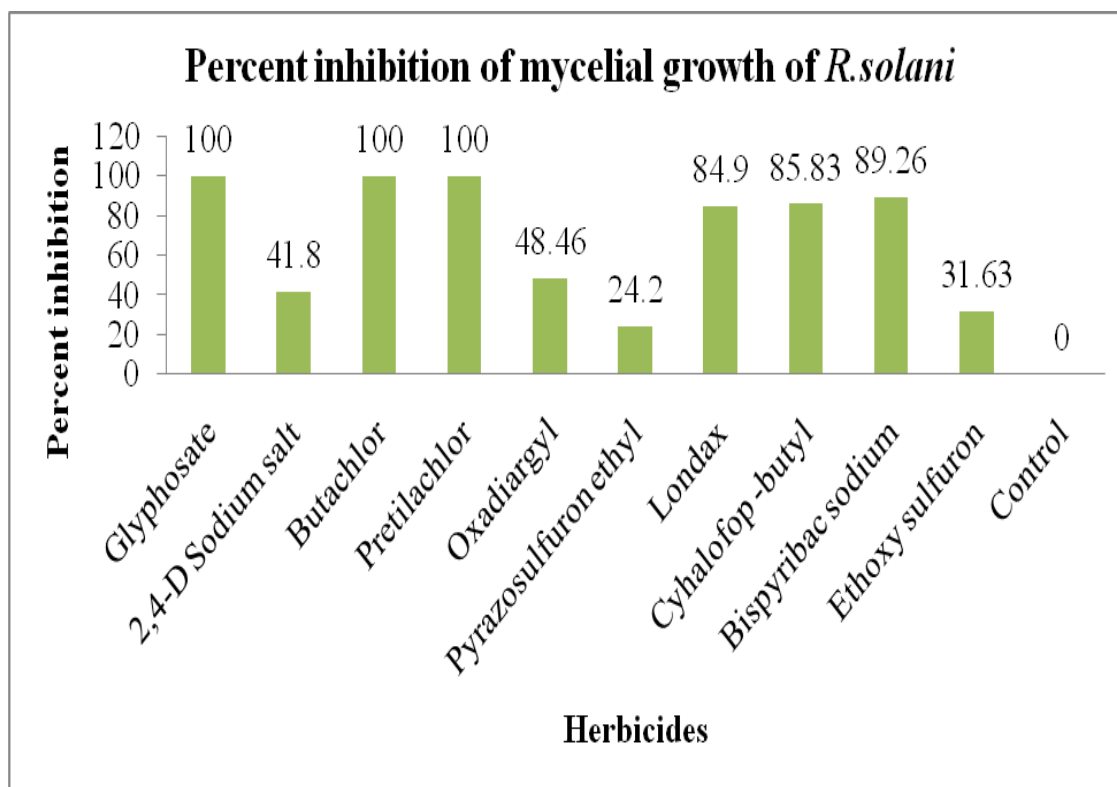


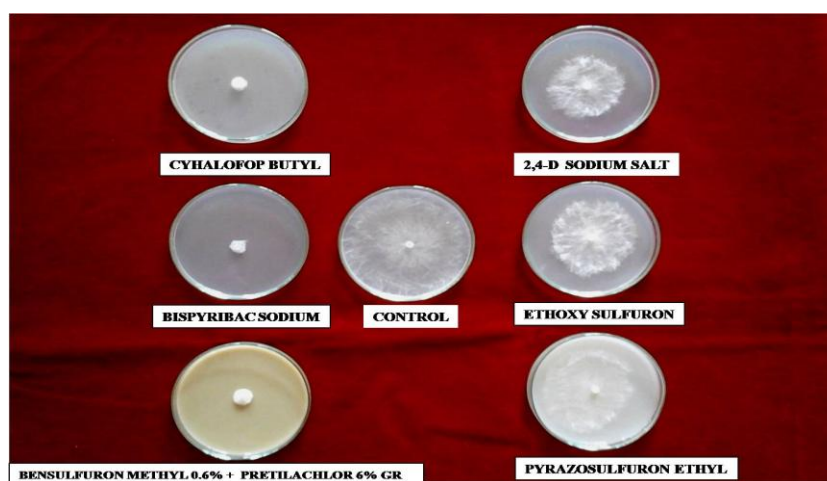
Table.2 *In vitro* evaluation of herbicides on the mycelial growth of *Rhizoctonia solani*

S. No.	Herbicides	Concentration	Radial growth (cm)*	Per cent Inhibition
1	Glyphosate	10.00 ml/l	0.00	100.00 (90.00)**
2	2,4-D Sodium salt	2.00 g /l	2.60	41.83 (40.28)
3	Butachlor	6.25 ml/l	0.00	100.00 (90.00)
4	Pretilachlor	2.50 ml/l	0.00	100.00 (90.00)
5	Oxadiargyl	0.20 g/l	3.66	18.47 (25.43)
6	Pyrazosulfuron ethyl	4.00 g/l	3.41	24.20 (29.45)
7	Bensulfuronethyl 0.6% + Pretilachlor 6%	20.00 g/l	0.68	84.90 (67.10)
8	Cyhalofop-butyl	2.00 ml/l	0.64	85.83 (67.87)
9	Bispyribac-sodium	0.60 ml/l	0.48	89.27 (70.85)
10	Ethoxysulfuron	0.25 ml/l	3.07	31.63 (34.21)
11	Control	-	4.50	0.00 (0.00)
	CD (P=0.01)			0.917
	SEm±			0.311
	SEd±			0.439
	CV%			0.978

*Mean of three replications.

** Figures in parentheses are angular transformed values

Fig.3 *In vitro* efficacy of herbicides on mycelial growth of *R. solani* by poisoned food technique



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