

Original Research Article

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Survey for the Incidence of Viral Diseases in Chilli in Andhra Pradesh, India

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ABSTRACT

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Chili (*Capsicum annum* L.) is an economically important and widely cultivated crop of India. Viral diseases in Chilli is one of the major limiting factors in chili production, which decreases yield significantly. The experiment was carried out in during 2016-18 in different districts of Andhra Pradesh randomly. Maximum disease incidence of 45.05 per cent was recorded from Narpali mandal of Anantapur District and minimum incidence of 6.66 per cent was recorded in N.G Padu village of Prakasam. The district wise average incidence was assessed in the field with visual assessment and it revealed the maximum incidence was observed in Anantapur (45.05%) followed by kadapa (25.55%), Kurnool (17.99%), Guntur (14.15%) Prakasam (11.24%) and with minimum incidence in Krishna (7.16%).

Introduction

Chilli (*Capsicum annum* L) is one of the most valuable cash crops of India. It is a common and widely cultivated spices crop almost all over the world. Chilli is a richest source of vitamin C and A (Howard and Talcott *et al.*, 2000).

The chilly fruits are small in size and known for their sharp acidic flavor and colour. At present, chilly is produced in India about 1260.1 thousands metric ton from an area of 792.1 thousand hectare, Anonymous (2012).

Andhra Pradesh is the largest producing state of chilly. Indian chillies are mostly exported to Sri Lanka, USA, Nepal, Mexico, Malaysia and Bangladesh.

Chilli suffers from a large number of viral, fungal, bacterial, nematode and phytoplasma diseases.

Viruses is known to cause different symptoms like mosaic, ring spot, curling, yellowing etc. on chilly and these symptoms result heavy economic losses of about 15 billion US Dollar per annum worldwide Van Fanbing (1999).

Materials and Methods

Survey

Roving survey was conducted during 2016-18 in different districts of Andhra Pradesh to assess the status of viruses infecting chilli. A minimum of five fields were selected randomly in each location for assessing the disease status. Incidence of the disease, variability of symptoms and crop variety, were recorded.

The per cent disease incidence was calculated using the following formula

$$\text{Per cent disease incidence} = \frac{\text{Total number of infected plants}}{\text{Total number of plants observed}} \times 100$$

Results and Discussion

Roving survey will be conducted from August 2016 to June 2018 in major chilli growing regions of Andhra Pradesh state to assess the incidence of viruses infecting chilli. The field survey was conducted by random selection of rows of plants grown in the field for estimating disease incidence. In each field, five plots of 10 m² were selected and the percentage of disease was calculated after counting the total number of plants in selected plot area and the number of diseased plants showing varying degrees of leaf curl symptoms separately.

The surveyed data is presented in (Table 1) revealed that viral diseases were present in almost all parts of the six districts that were surveyed. Disease incidence ranged from a minimum of 7.16 per cent to complete failure of crop. Maximum disease incidence of 45.05 per cent was recorded from Narpali mandal of Anantapur District and minimum incidence of

6.66 per cent was recorded in N.G padu village of Prakasam. The district wise average incidence was assessed in the field with visual assessment and it revealed the maximum incidence was observed in Anantapur (45.05%) followed by kadapa (25.55%), Kurnool (17.99%), Guntur (14.15%) Prakasam (11.24%) and with minimum incidence in Krishna (7.16%).

In the field conditions, majority of the plants showed severe leaf curling in both upward and downward directions with puckering, crinkling of leaves and in many cases with petiole elongation and complete sterility (Plate 1f and g). Reduced leaf size, leaf distortion, stunting and blistering, defoliation and fewer and smaller fruits were the other characteristic symptoms observed. In case of virus inducing symptoms, dark green mottle and vein banding were noticed in most cases (Plate 1a). Chlorotic and necrotic spots and rings on leaves and apical necrosis, which are characteristic symptoms of Tospoviruses were also observed in very few plants (Plate 1e and h). During survey, major symptoms observed was severe leaf curling, stunting and complete sterility of the plants. Upward curling, puckering and internal eruptions of leaves produced by thrips as reported by Reddy and Puttaswamy (1983) was noticed along with mite causing symptoms on chilli *viz.*, downward curling, crinkling of leaves and elongation of leaf petiole.

Thrips which produces eruption of internal areas and puckering of leaves, upward curling of leaves (Plate 1f and g) and mites which produces downward curling, crinkling of leaves and elongation of leaf petiole followed by blister patches (Plate 1c and d) were more commonly observed in all fields visited and their population was more in rainfed chilli crop. It was noticed that majority of the farmers had already taken appropriate control measures (Fig. 1).

Table.1 Survey for the incidence of viruses infecting chilli in Andhra Pradesh

S l. No.	districts	Name of the mandal	Name of the location	Variety/line	Mosaic PDI	Tospo PDI	Leafcurl PDI	PDI mean
1.	Guntur	Gunture	LAM	Ramya Teja	1.5	12	30	14.5
		Chebrole	vengalayapalya	U.S.A341	2.0	20	40	20.66
		amaravathi	jupudi	Ramya Teja	1.5	1.5	50	17.66
			amaravathi	Ramya Teja, Lca-334	2.0	1.5	40	14.50
		Rajupalem	ganapavaram	Ramya Teja, Lca-334	5.0	10	50	21.66
		pedakurapadu	pedakurapadu	Ramya Teja, Lca-334	1.5	2.5	60	21.33
		muppalla	muppalla	Lca-334, teja	1.5	2.0	50	17.83
		prattipadu	prattipadu	Lca-334 vinjanampadu.	1.0	5	20	8.66
		tadikonda	tadikonda	Indam-5	2.0	5	30	12.33
		Veldurthi	Veldurthi	Indam5,334	2.0	0	20	7.33
		machavaram	machavaram	Lca-334, vinjanampadu	3.0	21	35	19.66
		Tenali	Tenali	Teja 273	1.5	3	30	11.50
		pedakurapadu		Indam-5	2.0	11	20	11.00
		sattinapalli		Lca-334	1.5	10	20	10.50
								Mean
2.	kurnool	nandyala	nandyala	Teja 273	0	1.5	50	17.167
		Gadivemula	giddalluru		0	2.0	70	24.000
		panyam	panyam	Syngenta444	0	1.5	50	17.16
		<u>Nandikotkur</u>	<u>Nagatoor</u>		0	1.0	40	13.66
								Mean
3.	Anantapur	Narpali	dhayalakota		1-1.5	0.1	90	45.05
		Guntakal	Nagasamudram	273 Teja, byadgi	10	1.5	80	30.500
		Vajrakarur	konakonla	273 Teja, byadgi	0	1.5	89	30.167
		uravakonda	muddalapuram	Gunture mirchi	11	2	80	31.000
		Kanekal	Udegolam	Syngenta 444	10	2	70	27.333
		D.Hirehal	Lingamanahalli	273 Teja, byadgi	2	11	60	24.333
		Hindupur	Maluguru	HINDPUR-S7	1.5	0	60	20.50
								Mean
4.	krishna	avanigadda	avanigadda	Local vareity	0	1.5	20	7.167
								Mean

5.	prakasam	dornala	dornala	Lca-334,siri	0	1.0	40	13.66
		pullalacheruvu	pullalacheruvu	vinjanampadu	0	3.0	40	14.33
		karamchedu	karamchedu	Lca-334	0	1.0	30	10.33
		N.G padu	N.G padu	Lca-334	0	0	20	6.66
							Mean	11.24
6	Kadapa	Mydukur	Kesalingaya palle		2.0	0	70	24.0
			Bhumayapalle		1.5	0	80	27.1

Plate.1 Variation of symptoms induced by viruses on *Capsicum annuum* L during survey

a) Green mottling and vein banding of ChiVMV



b) Stunting and leaf curling symptoms of ChLCV



c) Mosaic symptoms on leaves of CMV



d) Leaf elongation and mosaic symptoms of CMV



e) Necrotic rings symptoms of GBNV



f) Curling and crinkling



g) Upward curling of leaves of ChLCV



h) Apical stem necrosis of GBNV



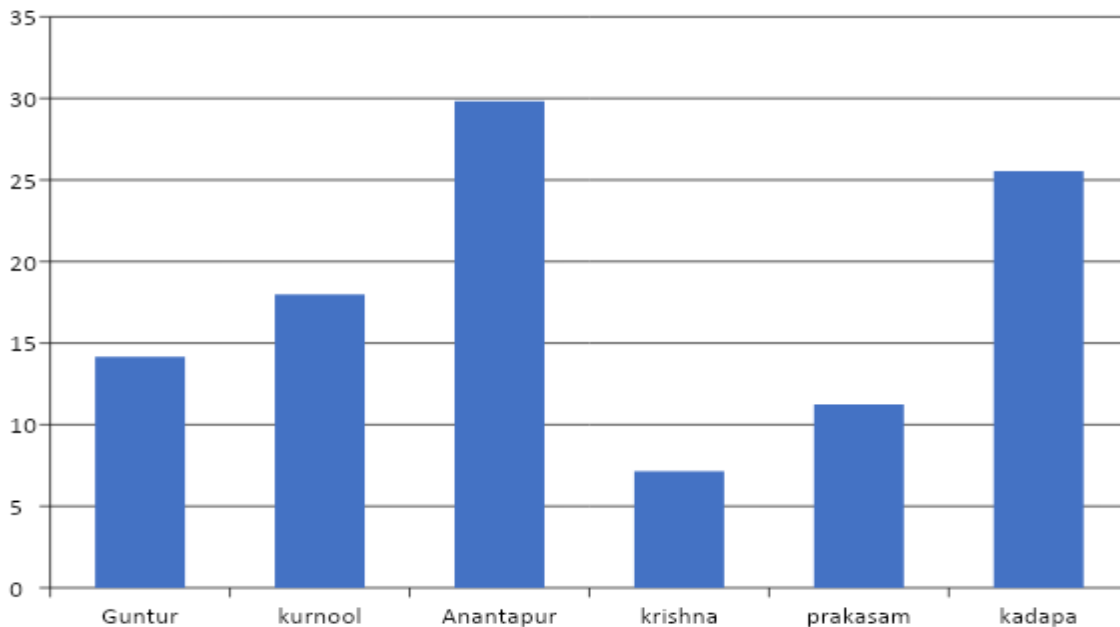
i) Mosaic, crinkling and shorting of fruit



j) Mosaic, Green mottling and vein banding of ChiVMV



Fig.1 Survey for the incidence of viruses infecting chilli in Andhra Pradesh



The symptoms on fruit (Plate 1, i) of infected plants varied from distortions to various types of colour deviations. Fruit distortions included surface roughness, twisting and malformation. The chilli fruits showed mottling of varying intensities. The fruits became reddish brown or dirty brown 1-2 days before ripening and disappeared totally when the fruits were fully red.

The disease symptoms observed on chilli plants were similar to the findings of Ong *et*

al., (1979) who reported that vein mottling was more pronounced on bell type chilli than on hot types and also reported leaf distortions of ChiVMV infected plants.

Also, Sulaiman and Gim (1981) reported that leaves of ChiVMV and TMV infected plants exhibited varying degrees of vein clearing, mottling and chlorosis with i.e. mottling and swelling on stem. Variability in appearance of symptoms i.e., vein mottling, malformation, reduction in leaf areas were observed due to

differences in cultivars, time of infection and climatic conditions as reported by Abu-Kasim (1986). Previously, similar field symptoms on have been reported by Fujisawa *et al.*, (1986) in Japan; Hameed *et al.*, (1995) in Pakistan; Satya Prakash *et al.*, (2002) in India and Cerkauskas *et al.*, (2004) in Taiwan, Republic of China.

Chilli sucking pest's *viz.*, thrips and mites which act as vectors for many viruses and also as associates of this complex disease were found in appreciable population in all most all fields.

Similar observations were made by Puttarudraiah (1959) who reported the involvement of thrips and mites as the cause of the murda complex in Karnataka. Surveys conducted by AVRDC in Asia identified aphids (*Myzus persicae* Sulzer, *Aphis gossypii* Glover), mite (*Polyphagotarsonemus latus* Banks) and thrips (*Scirtothrips dorsalis* Hood) as the major pests of chilli also supports the involvement of above pests' complex disease in chilli ((Berke and Sheih, 2000).

Hussain *et al.*, (2008) reported *Chilli veinal mottle virus* (ChiVMV) as one of the prevalent chilli-infecting viruses found throughout chilli growing areas of Pakistan and observed 44.7 per cent relative occurrence of the virus in the country during 2003 and 2004. Therefore, majority of the viral symptoms associated with insect pest symptoms noticed in the survey revealed the ChiVMV existence and for its prevalence.

Individual plants occurring sporadically showing chlorotic, necrotic spots symptoms on leaves with typical apical necrosis were observed. Similar observations were made by Krishnareddy *et al.*, (2008).

Individual plants showing severe leaf curl with typical cup-shaped, upward curling of leaves

and yellowing and their association with sucking pest complex was not noticed in this study. Such symptoms are characteristic of begomoviruses in chilli as described by Chattopadhyay *et al.*, (2008) and Shafiq *et al.*, (2010).

An overall survey revealed that chilly leaf curl virus is more predominant viruses in all growing areas of chilli in Andhra Pradesh. It is due to growing of susceptible local cultivars prevailing in the districts as for multiplication and spread of virus.

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