Evaluation of Fungicides and Plant extracts against *Ceratocystis fimbriata* causing Wilt of Pomegranate

Kishore Khosla

Horticulture research Station, Dr. YS Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry Seobagh, PO. Neoli - 175 138, Kullu, Himachal Pradesh, India. Email:kishore.khosla@gmail.com

Abstract

Wilt disease caused by *Ceratocystis fimbriata* is a major challenge to pomegranate (*Punica granatum*) cultivation in Kullu valley of Himachal Pradesh. Since growers heavily depend on the fungicides for its control, different fungicides and extracts of locally available plants known for their antimicrobial activities were tested in *vitro* and *in vivo* to control the disease. Amongst the fungicides tested, three drenchings of propiconazole at 15d intervals after the removal of affected stem were highly effective. The aqueous extracts of basooti (*Adhotoda vasica*) and/or drake (*Melia azedarach*) @ 15 % were also found effective and can be integrated with the fungicide application schedule for effective management of wilt disease of pomegranate.

Key words: *Ceratocystis fimbriata*, fungicides, drenching, plant extracts, wilt