Evaluation of botanicals for *in vitro* management *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* causing white mold of *Phaseolus lunatus*

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**SUMMARY**

The white mold, caused by *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*, is a very important disease in *Phaseolus lunatus*. Chemical control and their application may not be environmental friendly. Compounds of plant origin have been proved possible alternate pesticide use. The objective of this work was to study the effect of plant extracts on the *in vitro* growth of fungus. Ten plant extracts were evaluated for their antimicrobial capacity against five isolates of *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*. Positive control consisted of Petridishes with PDA medium and negative control treatment consisted of PDA medium with plant extracts. Fungus colonies were incubated at 22°C and light intensity of 200 lux. All the plant extract tested were found to be effective in controlling the radial growth of *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*. However, the plant extract of *Calotropis gigantea* L.R.Br. and *Azadirachta indica* A. Juss. were very effective in reducing the radial growth of *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*.

**Key words**: *Phaseolus lunatus*, Plant extracts, *Sclerotina sclerotiorum*, White mold, Antimicrobial.