

# Pathological and physiological studies on some disease root disease of soybean

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In recent years, soybean has been considered one of the most important leguminous crops in many countries. Damping-off and root-rot diseases are considered among the most serious diseases which attack soybean plants, causing large amounts of losses in standard total yield of seed. Studies were carried out in the laboratory, and under greenhouse, and field conditions to determine factors and agricultural practices which affect incidence of root-rot and charcoal rot diseases and methods of control. Results obtained from this investigation can be summarized as follows:

- 1- Seven genera of fungi i.e., *Macrophomina phaseolina* (Tassi) Goid., *Rhizoctonia solani* (Kuhn), *Sclerotium rolfsii* Sacc, » *Cephalosporium gregatum* (Allington and Chamberl.) Pythium, *Fusarium solani* (Martius), and *Fusarium oxysporum* (Schlecht), were isolated from diseased soybean plants of several varieties, obtained from different areas.
- 2- *Macrophomina phaseolina*, the most predominant fungus was obtained from all inspected localities and could be isolated from roots, hypocotyls, stem base, stem and dry seeds at various growth stages and different soybean varieties.
- 3- All isolated fungi were pathogenic and caused pre- and post-emergence damping-off and root-rot diseases, but with different degrees.
- 4- Interaction between the different pathogens in pots showed that the highest percentage of pre-emergence damping-off was noted in the treatment of combined inocula of *C.E. solani* + *S. rolfsii* (*S. rolfsii* + *F. solani*) and all tested fungi. However, in combinations including *M. phaseolina*, percentages of pre-emergence damping-off decreased which may be due to the antagonistic effect of *M. phaseolina* specially with *F. solani*.
- 5- The highest percentage of post-emergence damping-off was noted when *M. phaseolina* was combined with *F. solani*. However, the highest percentage of healthy survival plants and lowest percentage of root rot infection occurred when the two previous fungi were combined.
- 6- Study of inoculum potential of some pathogenic fungus on soybean diseases incidence, showed that percentages of infection increased by increasing inoculum potential.
- 7- All thirteen isolates of *Macrophomina phaseolina* were pathogenic to soybean plants. However, these isolates varied in their virulence. In general, the most virulent isolates were 3, 7, 9c, 10 and 11. While isolates 5 and 6 were the least virulent, and other isolates were intermediate in their virulence.
- 8- The thirteen isolates of *M. phaseolina* can be divided to three groups i.e., fast growers, moderate growers and slow growers. Isolates differed in nature of growth on solid media, some isolates formed fluffy growth (isolates 5, 7 and 9B), partially fluffy growth (isolates 2 and 10) or appressed growth (other isolates). Color of the mycelium varied from white, creamy white, light brown, faint gray, dark gray, dark olive or greenish black and black. Isolates 4, 9A and 9c produced the highest numbers of sclerotia, while isolates 2, 5 and 9B gave the lowest numbers. Isolate 7 produced sclerotia like bodies and sclerotia were clubbed. Sclerotial shape and size differed from one isolate to another. The largest sclerotia were 154 X 133 μm for isolate 2, while isolate 9c produced the smallest sclerotia (91 X 72 μm). Shape of sclerotia varied from sub-globose to irregular.
- 9- Pycnidia were not formed on PDA or water agar medium when incubated at different temperatures and exposed to light or darkness.
- 10- All isolates of *M. phaseolina* produced pycnidia on corn or soybean leaves in Petri dishes and exposed to continuous illumination (2000 - 3000 Lux) for 4-8 days and incubated at 30°C, except isolate. The number of pycnidia produced differed from one isolate to another. The highest numbers of pycnidia were obtained for isolates 2, 9c and 11 while, the lowest numbers were obtained for isolates 5, 8, 9A and 9B.

•Pycnidia differed in their shape , size and number of ostioles per pycnidium. In general I size of pycnidia produced by all isolates ranged from 151 X 106 to 336.5X 256~. Also, in spite of great variation in length and width of pycnidiospores I the ratio between length to width remains a 3 : 1 approximately. 12- No relationship was noted between formation of pycnidia and virulence •13- Dry weight of the mycelium was positively correlated with virulence. The most virulent isolates yielded the highest amounts of dry weight of mycelium , while the least virulent isolates yielded the least amount of dry weight •14- The minimum temperature for growth of *M. phaseolina* was lower than 15°C, while the optimum was at 30 °C ,and maximum temperature lied between 35 and 40 °e. No sclerotia were formed for all isolates at 15 °e and few at 20 °e .15- The activity of PG , ex and PME enzymes differed from one isolate to another. However, the highest activity of PG and PME enzymes was for the most virulent isolates 3 , 7 , 9c and 10 ,while the lowest activity of PG and PME enzymes was noted for the least virulent isolates 5 and 6 •16- All fungicides tested, slightly affected the PG and ex activities in fungal filtrate. However, Benlate and Tecto 60 % depressed PG and ex enzymes activity in fungal filtrate of both isolates more than Vitavax/captan when compared with control treatment ,after 60 min. incubation.17- In Vivo PG and PME activity was correlated with virulence of the isolates as the most virulent isolate 9c produced the highest enzymes activity, while the least virulent isolate 5 produced the lowest enzymes activity. PG , PME and ex enzymes activity increased in seedling inoculated with either of the three isolates when compared with uninoculated seedlings Their activity increased with increasing period after inoculation •18- The activity of peroxidase, polyphenol oxidase ,and catalase in fungal filtrate and mycelium extracts of *M. phaseolina* differed for the different isolates •The activity of peroxidase and polyphenol oxidase was higher in the mycelium extract than the fungal filtrates. Catalase activity was higher. for the virulent isolates than the moderate and least virulent isolates 19- Culture filtrates of the different isolates reduced seed germination and length of radical roots when compared with control On the other hand , placing cut ends of seedlings in autoclaved and non-autoclaved undiluted crude culture filtrates of different isolates showed curling of the leaves , browning of the veins , necrosis of stem and leaf tissues followed by dehydration and defoliation and softening of the cut end with unautoclaved culture filtrate only Severity of these symptoms depended on isolate and immersion period in the culture filtrate 20- There was positive correlation between pathogenicity of the isolates and toxin (s) production • However, isolate 9c , the highly pathogenic , was highly productive of the toxin (s) , while isolate 5 , the least pathogenic , was the least productive of the toxin (s) •21- The phytotoxin (s) from both culture filtrate and tissues of soybean seedlings inoculated with the pathogen was dialysable , soluble in water, insoluble in organic solvents and heat stable. They moved systemically in soybean seedlings immersed in the solution , producing necrotic spots in leaf tissues , first appeared in lower-most leaves then in upper leaves Symptoms severity on leaves increased with increasing the concentration of toxin (s) and time of immersion. 22-a) *Macrophomina phaseolina* exhibited higher competitive saprophytic ability (CSA) Colonization ratings gradually increased with the increase of the amount of inoculant of the isolate in the inoculum-soil mixture • Also ,CSA increased with the increase in virulence of the isolate .b) *M. phaseolina* was apparently sensitive to antibiotics produced by soil micro-organisms. This sensitivity increased when soil micro-organisms were allowed to grow on the agar plates for 24 hrs. prior to placing the inoculum of *M. phaseolina* • 185-23- The twenty tested soybean varieties could be classified into five groups based on their relative resistance (R.R.) as follows: a) Highly resistant group (H.R.) : showing over 80 % R.R. this group comprised Gammes, Gail and Lee varieties (late maturity group) b) Resistant group (R) showing 70 to 80 R.R. ; this group involved Crawford , Dare and Forrest varieties (intermediate and late maturity groups) • c) Moderately resistant group (M.R.) : showing 50 to 70 % R. R • this group included Col es , Des 0 to , Essex and Yourk varieties • d) Susceptible group (s) : exhibiting 40 to 50 % R.R. ; this group comprised , Harkor , Cumberland , and Williams varieties (early and intermediate groups) .e) Highly susceptible group (H.S.) : included all the varieties showing less than 40 % R. R. ; these varieties were , Mc call , Evans , Calland , ~oodworth Carlin , Clark and Columbus (early and intermediate groups) •24- Seed treatment with fungicides increased percentage of seed germination except Rizolex and Benlate- 50 which caused significant reduction in seed germination. Also, the tested fungicides were effective in reducing numbers of seed borne fungi and

their frequency, when compared with the untreated seed. 25- Benlate 50 and Topsin M, were uptaken by germinating seeds during 8 hr. On the other hand, the effect of the two fungicides increased with increasing concentration and exposure period to fungicides. Also, Benlate-50 and Topsin M were uptaken by roots and translocated to the hypocotyl, cotyledons and leaves. While, Tecto 60% was concentrated in the roots and only the high concentrations were translocated to the hypocotyl (200 and 500 ppm) and to the leaves (500 ppm). 26- Seed treatment with different fungicides, under greenhouse conditions, indicated that all tested fungicides improved percentages of seedling stand as compared with the untreated control. The most effective fungicides were Tecto 60%, R H 50-50 I Quinolate CTS and Benlate 50, which gave significant reduction in disease incidence, and increased percentage of healthy survivals. The least effective fungicides were Merban, Rizolex and Triple Necotin. 27- Under natural infection in the field, all fungicides increased survival plants in the two seasons, except Rizolex, Quinolate 151M and Benlate 50 when compared with the control. The most effective among these fungicides in reducing pre- and post-emergence damping-off and resulted in the highest survival plants and highest yield in the two seasons, were Vitavax/capton, Quinolate CTS, RH 50-50, and Tecto 60%. 28- Under field conditions:

- increasing nitrogen level tended to increase disease incidence and decreased survival plants. On the other hand, increasing amounts of phosphorus from Po to P1 or P2 (200 or 300 Kg./fed.), increased number of survival plants. Nitrogen and phosphorus increased significantly number of pods per plant, weight of 100 seed and yield per plot.

**SUMMARY** In recent years, soybean [*Glycine max* (L.) Merrill] has been considered one of the most important leguminous crops in many countries. Damping-off and root-rot diseases are considered among the most serious diseases which attack soybean plants, causing large amounts of losses in stand and total yield of seed. Studies were carried out in the laboratory, and under greenhouse, and field conditions to determine factors and agricultural practices which affect incidence of root-rot and charcoal rot diseases and methods of control. Results obtained from this investigation can be summarized as follows:

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