

"EFFECT OF ARBUSCULAR MYCORRHIZAL FUNGUS, *ACAULOSPORA LACUNOSA* ON GROWTH OF GROUNDNUT DISEASE CAUSED BY *CERCOSPORA ARACHIDICOLA*"

HEMAVANI C & B. THIPPESWAMY

Department of P.G. Studies and Research in Microbiology, Kuvempu University, Malligenahalli, Karnataka, India

ABSTRACT

Efficacy of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungus (AMF), *Acaulospora lacunosa* was evaluated for the biological control of soil-borne plant pathogen *Cercospora arachidicola* in groundnut plant. For this investigation pot culture technique was followed. Soil based mixture of AMF, *Acaulospora lacunosa* was inoculated onto the root of groundnut plant. In results the colonization by AMF significantly resulted into decreased incidence of disease caused by *Cercospora arachidicola*. The growth of groundnut showed marked increase in the shoot and root length, fresh and dry weight due to AMF colonization.

KEYWORDS: Arbuscular Mycorrhiza, Tikka Disease, Groundnut, Cercospora arachidicola, Acaulospora lacunosa