

EFFECT OF AGE OF HOST AND CULTURE OF *ALTERNARIA ALTERNATA* ON *ALTERNARIA* BLIGHT OF FENNEL

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ABSTRACT

Fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare* Mill.) is a seed spice which belongs to the family *Apiaceae*. *Alternaria* blight is an important disease of fennel caused by *Alternaria alternata*. The present investigations were carried out during *Rabi* 2013-14 and 2014-15 at the Agronomy Farm, S.K.N. College of Agriculture, Jobner to find out the effect of age of host and culture of *Alternaria alternata* on *Alternaria* blight of fennel. The maximum disease intensity (82.49 %) was recorded when plants inoculated at the age of 50 days followed by 70 days (81.11 %) while 10-day-old culture of the pathogen was found more aggressive in causing higher disease severity (83.81%) as compared to young culture i.e. 6-day-old culture (63.60 %).

KEYWORDS: Important Disease of Fennel Caused by *Alternaria Alternata*