

POT CULTURE EXPERIMENTS ON EVALUATION OF BIOCONTROL AGENTS AND FUNGICIDES AGAINST *FUSARIUM OXYSPORUM* F. SP. *GERBERAE*

P. SUNEETA, K. ERAIVAN ARUTKANI AIYANATHAN & S. NAKKEERAN

Department of Plant Pathology, Centre for Plant Protection Studies,
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India

ABSTRACT

The effect of biocontrol agents and chemical fungicides were studied under glasshouse conditions against *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *gerberae* (FOG bearing Accession no. **KJ570974**) causing wilt in *Gerbera*. The pathogen was initially isolated from infected root portion of *Gerbera* and confirmed the identification through morphological study. The pathogen FOG was mass multiplied in sterilized sand maize media (sand and maize powder at the ratio of 19:1) which was inoculated into the potting mixture (laterite soil, sand and compost in the ratio 3:1:1) at the rate of 10 g per kg of soil. Then the pots were kept in completely randomized design (CRD) arranged in 8 treatments & 3 replications for biocontrol agents trial and 7 treatments & 3 replications for fungicides trial under glasshouse conditions. As a result, T₄ was found to be the best biocontrol treatment and T₃ as best fungicidal treatment against FOG with increased growth parameters of *Gerbera*.

KEYWORDS: Fungicides, *Gerbera*, *Fusarium*, *Bacillus*, Glasshouse Conditions