

**PATHOGENIC EFFECTS INDUCED IN CUT SHOOTS BY SEED-BORNE
ISOLATES OF *MYROTHECIUM* SPP.**

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When cut shoots of brinjal, capsicum, chilli, cowpea, snake-gourd and soyabean were held dipping in culture filtrates of potato dextrose liquid medium in which several seed-borne isolates of *Myrothecium roridum* and *Myrothecium verrucaria* were grown, symptoms of wilt, watersoaked leaf lesions, leaf spots, vein clearing, vein banding, veinal necrosis, leaf withering and leaf drop were induced. Veinal necrosis was a particularly prominent symptom and isolates varied in the severity of this symptom induced.

Isolates of *M. verrucaria* were most virulent causing severe veinal necrosis in brinjal and chilli and leaf withering and wilting in snake-gourd and soyabean.

Two isolates of *M. roridum* caused discolourations of main veins and prominent watersoaked lesions along the veins in snake-gourd. These isolates also induced vein banding and brown to black circular leaf spots in soyabean. Another isolate of *M. roridum* produced very mild symptoms on all the hosts tested. With cowpea, leaves developed veinal necrosis and wilted. In capsicum, wilt and leaf drop were observed.

Filtrates ceased to cause pathogenic effects when diluted to 1 : 50 - 1 : 100 with water.