

Endophytic *Acremonium kilense* as a potential biocontrol agent against Leaf blotch disease of Clove

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Received : 14.05.2018

RMs Accepted : 21.05.2018

Published : 30.07.2018

Endophytic microorganism (fungi & bacteria) isolated from leaf samples collected from different agro climatic zones of Kerala state, in order to investigate their biocontrol potential against major foliar pathogens of tree spices (nutmeg, clove & cinnamon). In vitro study was conducted to check its antagonistic potential against leaf blotch disease of clove. Majority of endophytic fungi belonging to Hyphomycetes was observed in the present study. Quantification of mode of action of endophytes was also tested by diffusible, non-volatile metabolic activity and a significant reduction (65.5 per cent) was observed.

Key words: *Syzygium aromaticum* endophytic fungi, *Acremonium kilense*, *Cylindrocladium quinqueseptatum*
