

## Morpho-physiological characters of *Alternaria tenuissima*(Fr.) Keissl causing Leaf blight in Kodo millet

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Leaf blight is a recent disease in kodo millet and is caused by deuteromycete *Alternaria tenuissima*. Investigations carried out to determine the best media for growth and sporulation of the organism *vis-a-vis* the ideal temperature, light, carbon and nitrogen requirement of *A. tenuissima* revealed that, Czapek's Dox agar was the best medium that recorded maximum growth in terms of colony diameter (8.50 cm). Among the 13 carbon and eight nitrogen sources studied, mannitol and sodium nitrate respectively supported maximum growth (9.00 cm) besides higher sporulation. Of the different temperature regimes 25 °C recorded maximum mycelial dry weight. However, the growth of the fungus was unaltered by the presence or absence of light during incubation.

**Key words:** Kodo millet, *Alternaria tenuissima*, morphology, physiological studies

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