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CULTURAL VARIABILITY OF *FUSARIUM SOLANI* (MART.) SACC. ISOLATES AND THEIR INTERACTION WITH *TRICHODERMA* SPECIES ISOLATED FROM *DYSOXYLUM MALABARICUM* BEDD.

SWAPNA PRIYA KAND H.C. NAGAVENI

Wood Biodegradation Division, Institute of Wood Science and Technology, Malleswaram, Bangalore 560003, Karnataka, India. *Corresponding autor: hcnagaveni@icfre.org

ABSTRACT :Three isolates of Fusarium solani (FS I, II, and III) from fruits/seeds of Dysoxylum malabaricum were studied for their cultural variability and interaction with five Trichoderma sp., obtained from the same host. Isolates showed distinct cultural characteristics on different media in morphological characters, in production of micro and macroconidia and pigmentation. Trichoderma harzianum I, T. harzianum II, T. harzianum III, T. pseudokoningii and T. koningii showed variation in their ability to inhibit F. solani isolates by dual culture method and by the production of volatile and non-volatile metabolites. Growth of FS I was effectively inhibited by the production of non-volatile compounds and in FS III growth in dual culture was inhibited drastically and moderated by the production of metabolites. FS II was least suppressed by the Trichoderma sp.

Key words: Biocontrol, Interaction, Isolate, Pathogenicity, Seed borne fungi, Variability