

Antifungal Activity from Water Extracts of Some Common Weeds

¹M.C.M. Iqbal, S. Meiyalaghan, K.B. Wijesekara and K.P. Abeyratne

Plant Biotechnology, Institute of Fundamental Studies, Hanthane Rd, Kandy, Sri Lanka

¹ Faculty of Agriculture, Eastern University, Sri Lanka, Chenkalady, Sri Lanka

Abstract: The water extracts from the weed species (*Ageratum conyzoides*, *Oxalis corniculata*, *Phyllanthus debilis*, *Vernonia cinerea* and *Desmodium trifolium*) were assayed for their antifungal activity against some plant pathogenic fungi. The extract from *Ageratum conyzoides* inhibited the mycelial growth of *Rhizoctonia solani*, *Aspergillus niger* and *Phomopsis theae*. The extract from *Oxalis corniculata* was active against *A. niger* while, *Phyllanthus debilis* suppressed the growth of *P. theae*. The activity generally declined after three days of incubation, while *A. conyzoides* remained active nine days after incubation.