

RESEARCH ARTICLE

# Exploration of plant extracts and fungal antagonists against *Sclerotium rolfsii* causing sclerotium wilt of stevia

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## ABSTRACT

Stevia is an important medicinal plant used as a low calorie sweetener. Sclerotium wilt caused by *Sclerotium rolfsii* is an important disease and is a major constraint in stevia cultivation. Evaluation of the biocontrol agents indicated that maximum inhibition of mycelial growth of *S. rolfsii* (78.51%) was noticed in *Trichoderma harzianum* (Dharwad isolate). Among botanicals tested, Durantha was highly effective at 10 per cent (75.14) followed by Glyrecidia (72.14%).

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