

Comparison of bio-agents and botanicals with fungicides against tikka and anthracnose diseases of groundnut (*Arachis hypogea* L.)

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ABSTRACT

Groundnut is an important oilseed crop and contributes about 40 per cent of total oilseed production in India. Due to its nutritional value and oil production, it is very valuable and economical crop but several diseases like tikka, collar rot, rust, peanut bud necrosis and anthracnose take heavy toll every year decrease the yield severely. A field trial was conducted in *Kharif* season in the month of August, 2012 to test the effect of seed treatment with bio-agents, botanicals in comparison to chemical fungicides against tikka disease and anthracnose of groundnut to minimize the disease intensity. The treatments were control (water irrigation), *Trichoderma harzianum* 1 per cent, *Trichoderma viride* 1 per cent, Neem seed kernel extract 5 per cent, *Pseudomonas fluorescens* 5 per cent, Bavistin 0.2 per cent, Thiram 0.2 per cent, Neem oil 5 per cent. Seed treatment with Bavistin @ 0.2 per cent was found superior among all the treatments in managing the tikka leaf spot, whereas, neem oil showed better results next to it. However, anthracnose infection was very little or negligible.

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