

Losses in yield and quality of turmeric due to leaf spot disease caused by *Colletotrichum capsici*

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ABSTRACT

The turmeric crop suffers severely due to leaf spot disease which is caused by *Colletotrichum capsici* (Syd.) Buttler and Bisby. The losses by leaf spot are always considered to be a limiting factor for yield and quality of rhizomes. The present study revealed that maximum losses were found in severely diseased plants (>50 %) i.e. 25.83 and 62.12 per cent on fresh weight basis and 42.10 and 62.10 per cent on dry weight basis of mother and finger rhizomes, respectively. Maximum losses in curcumin content (50.11 %) were found in severely diseased plants. The per cent curcumin content in rhizomes from diseased plants and disease free plants ranged from 2.08 to 4.17.

Key words : Yield, Quality, Turmeric, Leaf spot, *Colletotrichum capsici*.