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RESEARCH ARTICLE

Morphological, cultural and physiological characterization of *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* (Penz.) Penz. and Sacc., the cause of anthracnose of pomegranate (*Punica granatum* L.)

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ABSTRACT

The severity of pomegranate anthracnose was more in Bagalkot district (35.84%) followed by Koppal (27.22%), Bijapur (24.85%) and Raichur (18.14%) districts. The identity of the fungus was confirmed as *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* (Penz.) Penz. and Sacc and deposited at NCFT, New Dehli. The isolates of *C. gloeosporioides* showed maximum growth on Potato dextrose agar and Richard's broth on 13 th day after incubation at 27±1°C. There was variability among eight isolates of *C. gloeosporioides* with respect to type of growth, mycelial colour, pigmentation, size of the spore and sporulation. The highest radial growth and sporulation of the fungus was recorded at 30 °C, with 100 per cent relative humidity and also light condition having 12 hours darkness alternated with 12 hours light.

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