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Isolation and Identification of soil Mycoflora in Crop Fields at Chintalapudi Mandal, West Godavari District

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ABSTRACT: Soil samples were collected from various crop fields within the course of the months of January to November 2015, at Chintalapudi region of West Godavari District. An overall of 14 species belonging 7 genera of fungi were isolated throughout this period in 3 intermissions. The mycoflora were isolated by using soil dilution technique and soil plate technique on PDA and CZA medium appended with appropriate antibiotics like penicillin and streptomycin. Identification and characterization of the mycoflora were made with the assistance of authentic handbooks of fungi. The present investigation was conducted to seek out out the plant life diversity in 3 completely different crop fields like Rice, Maize, and Ground nut. *Aspergillus* and *Penicillium* were predominant altogether 3 soil samples. Amongst the isolates, 5 *Aspergillus* species (*A.niger, A. flavus, A. fumigatus, A. nidulans, A.terreus*) *3 Penicillium* species (*P.Chrysogenum, P. frequentans, P. funiculosum*), *2 Trichoderma* species (*T.viride* and *T.harzianum*) and 1 species each from *Curvularia clavata, Fusarium oxysporum, Mucor recemosus, Rhizopus stolonifer* were characterized and percentage occurrence of the mycoflora was statistically evaluated.

KEYWORDS: Chintalapudi; Mycoflora; Diversity; Deuteromycotina; Zygomycotina; Crop fields.

I.INTRODUCTION

Soils are terribly composite systems with several elements taking part in various functions principally because of the activity of soil organisms (Chiang and Saudi, 1994). Microorganisms within the soil are helpful in growing soil fertility and plant growth, as they're concerned in many biochemical transformations and mineralization activities. Fungi are a crucial part of soil microbiota additional in abundance than bacterium, contingent on soil depth and nutrient conditions (P. Ganasekaran et al., 2015).

The soil is a reservoir for several microorganism communities of plant and herbs which might be manufacturing CO₂, Nitrogen cycle. The microorganisms plays major role in soil ecosystem (Stefanis et al., 2013).Nevertheless, microbes are the smallest amount unuttered mechanism of soil by each agronomists and soil practitioners. On the farm many soil organisms supply advantages to crop growing in an ecosystem however aren't well understood(Olson et al., 2000). The soil microbes decompose the plant and animal residues coming into the soil and convert them into soil organic matter that influences soil physical, chemical and biological properties and on making a complimentary medium for biological reactions and life support within the soil setting.Adametz, 1886 made attempts to isolate fungi from the soil and to give them, names and descriptions. A systematic study of the occurrence of fungi was provided by Oudemans & Koning, for the first time in 1902. Tresner et. al., (1954)reported that the composition of fungal spp. in communities is affected by aerial vegetation. Thornton (1960), Christensen et. al., (1962), Gochenaur and Whittingham (1967) and Kamal & Bhargav (1973) have reported that the prevailing climate and above ground vegetation are known to influence the abundance and quality of fungi in a particular soil. R.K. Saksena et al.,(1966) reported two spp. of Penicillia from Jhansi soils while five in case of Mirzapur soil. The most common amongst them were P.frequentans and



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P.funiculosum and the remaining were of restricted distribution. In Mirzapur soils, genera of the class Phycomycetes were dominant. Rai et al.,(1966), isolated F.oxysporum from mangrove mud in Kagh Islands, India.Anusuya and Jayarajan (1998) identified Trichoderma viride fungal culture isolated from rhizosphere soil. Azaz (2003) isolated 109 species and varieties plus 16 sterile microfungi from a total of 1690 isolates from the analysis of 105 soilsamples, taken from 89 farm field soils irrigated in Harran Plain in Sanliurfa within the GAP irrigated area. Nieves-Rivera, (2003) isolated fungi from damp and musty caves in Puerto-Rico. The aim of the current study is to isolate mycoflora from completely altered crop fields and to look at their proportion contribution.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

A. Study site and location:

Chintalapudi could be a major Panchayati and Mandal in West Godavari District of the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh. The Mandal is finite by T. Narasapuram Mandal, Lingapalem Mandal, khammam district. Chintalapudi is found at 17.06° N 80.98° E. The temperature varies between 16° C $- 35^{\circ}$ C. Average annual precipitation is 1081.7mm. The character of the soil is usually red soils. The Mandal has 34.393 hectares of geographic area, 6581 hectares of forest space and 20.735 hectares of net space underneath cultivation. Main crops grown up within the Mandal is Paddy, Maize, Sugarcane and Mango gardens.

B. Technique for collection of soil samples:

The earth specimens were collected from 3 completely different crop fields in varied locations of Chintalapudi Mandal throughout Jan 2015 to November 2015 in three intervals. The examples were collected up to 15 cm depth, into little sterilized polyethylene baggage and brought to laboratory for further studies. (Table1).

Sample No	Agricultural field	Place				
1	Rice	Raghavapuram				
2	Maize	Endapalli				
3	Groundnut	Recharla				

Table 1:

Agricultural soil samples collected from different places in Chintalapudi Mandal

C. Isolation of fungi from the soil samples:

The soil micro fungi were enumerated by two ways, particularly Soil Dilution (Waksman, 1922) and soil plate technique(Warcup, 1950) on totally different media like Potato Dextrose Agar and Czapek's Dox Agar.

D.Soil dilution plate method(Waksman, 1922): Take 1 gram of soil and suspended in 10 ml of double distill water for making microbial suspensions $(10^{-1} \text{ to } 10^{-5})$. Dilution of 10^{-3} , 10^{-4} and 10^{-5} were used to isolate fungi in order to avoid overcrowding of the fungal colonies. 1 ml of suspension from each respective dilution was added to sterile petri plates containing 15ml of PDA and CZA medium. For preventing bacterial contamination medium supplemented with 1% streptomycin. Finally plates were incubated at $28+2^{0}$ C for 4-7 days. Organisms were easily isolated because they formed surface colonies that were well dispersed, particularly at higher dilutions.

E.Soil plate method(Warcup, 1950):

Approximately 0.005g of loam was scattered on the underside of a sterile Petri Dish and melted cooled (40-45^oC) agar medium i.e. PDA and CZA was added, that was then revolved gently to disperse the soil particles within the medium. The Petri Plateswere then incubated at $28 \pm 20^{\circ}$ C in dark for three days.



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F.Identification of the soil fungi:

Fungal morphology was measured macroscopically by perceptive colony options (Colour and Texture) and microscopically by stain with lactophenol cotton blue and uncovered below light microscope for the conidia, conidiophores and arrangement of spores (Stefanis, Christos 2013)⁷. The fungi were identified with the help of literature (Gilman, J.C 2001, A, Nagamani et al., 2006)

G. Statistical analysis:

The number of colonies per plate in 1g of soil was calculated. The percentage contribution of each isolate was calculated by using the following formula:

 $- \times 100$

Total no. of CFU of an individual specie

% contribution = ______ Total no. of CFU of all species

*CFU-Colony Forming Unit

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the current study, a dilution plating methodology was used for isolating fungi from wholly different field soils placed in Chintalapudi mandal. Many authors used dilution plating methodology for isolation of fungi (Ishaq and Khan, 2011; Nilima Wahegaonkar *et al.*, 2011; Shiny Niharika *etal.*, 2013; Rakesh Sharma and Raju, 2013; Ibrahim and Shehu, 2014; Pandey *et al.*, 2014; Chandrashekar *et al.*, 2014).

Throughout the research period 112 fungal colonies of that maximum species belonged to Deuteromycotina, followed by Zygomycotina and few of unknown were determined. While incubation period unlike colonies of soil fungi were detected in inoculated petri plates. Amid the isolates, *Aspergillus niger, Aspergillus flavus, Aspergillus fumigatus, Aspergillus nidulans, Aspergillus terreus, Penicillium chrysogenum, Penicillium frequentans, Penicillium funiculosum, Fusarium oxysporum, Curvularia clavata, Trichoderma viride, Trichoderma harzianum, Mucor racemosus, Rhizopus stolonifer* and some unknown colonies were saw (Table 2). Microscopic observations of the fungi were done by staining with lactophenol cotton blue (figure-2). Identification of the isolates was done using legitimate taxonomic guides, standard procedures and relevant literature.

112 fungal colonies representing 7 genera were isolated and identified during this study from different field areas located in Chintalapudi mandal (Table 2). Apart from the above, maximum number of mycoflora belonged to the class Deuteromycotina followed by Zygomycotina and unknown were recorded.

Among the 112 colonies recorded, the genus *Aspergillus* (48 colonies) was dominant followed by *Penicillium* (21 colonies), *Trichoderma* (14 colonies), *Rhizopus* (8 colonies), *Fusarium* (5 colonies), *Mucor* (5 colonies) *Curvularia* (3 colonies) and unknown (8 colonies). Accordingly in the existing examination the *Aspergillus* was prevailing followed by *Penicillium* and *Trichoderma*.

Percentage contribution of the individual species to the total fungal population showed variation. The maximum percentage contribution was of *Trichoderma viride* 32.14% in groundnut field. The minimum of 2.94% was of *Aspergillus flavus, Fusarium oxysporum, Trichoderma harzianum and Mucor racemosus* (Table3). *Aspergillusniger* was the common one in all the three crop fields followed by *Penicillium chrysogenum, Trichodermaviride, Aspergillusterreus* and *Rhizopus stolonifer*.

Microbes are particularly necessary parts of diverseness. Significantly fungi and bacterium are crucial, as they modify and unleash several nutrients taking part in necessary roles in nutrient cycle and sustenance of vegetation (Parrotta J.A 1999,Sall S.N ET AL.,2003). The potency of fungi in decomposition and their potentiality rely upon their abundance and composition. Large quantities of readily decomposable organic matter are added to agricultural soils each year as crop residues or animal wastes and have a noteworthy outcome on soil microbial commotion. The plant species growing on the soil likewise equally influence the population and species composition of the soil fungi (Hackl E ET AL.,2000).



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The soil pH, organic content and water are the most factors moving the plant population and variety (Yu C et al., 2007,Dong A.R et al., 2004, Zhang C.B et al.,2001). The organic carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium are necessary for fungi. Within the absence of any of those the growth and asexual reproduction of moulds moreover as alternative microorganisms are hampered lots (Marschner P et al.,2003)²³. The fungi were principally ascertained in months of June to September because of appropriate temperature and wetness. It's been reportable that the density of flora inhabitants befell throughout the monsoon (rainy) term once the soil wetness remained considerably high (Deka,H.K and Mishra R.R 1984, Bissett,J. and Parkinson, D 1979).

S.NO	Crop	Total	Avg No. of Individual colonies														
		colonies	An	Afl	Afu	Ani	At	Pch	Pf	Pfu	Fo	Ccl	Ty	Th	Mre	Rst	Un
1	Rice	50	7	3	5	2	2	4	3	3	2	2	4	4	2	3	4
2	Maize	34	5	1	-	4	5	4	-	2	2	1	3	1	1	2	3
3	Ground nut	28	4	3	3	2	2	2	1	2	1	-	2	-	2	3	1
	Total	112	16	7	8	8	9	10	4	7	5	3	9	5	5	8	8
%contribution			14.28	6.25	7.14	7.14	8.03	8.92	3.57	6.25	4.46	2.67	8.03	4.46	4.46	8.03	8.03

Un-Unknown colonies, Rst – Rhizopus stolonifer, Mre – Mucor racemosus, Th- Trichoderma harzianum, Tv-Trichoderma viride, Ccl-Curvularia clavata, Fo-Fusarium oxysporum, Pfu-Penicillium funiculosum, Pf-Penicillium frequentans, Pch-Penicillium chrysogenum, At-Aspergillus terreus, Ani-Aspergillus nidulans, Afu-Aspergillus fumigatus, Afl-Aspergillus flavus, An - Aspergillus niger.

Table-2: Frequency of mycoflora in diverse crop fields at Chintalapudi Mandal

	Europi anagina	% contribution						
S.No	Fungal species	Paddy	Maize	Ground nut				
1	Aspergillus niger	14.0	14.70	14.28				
2	Aspergillus flavus	6.0	2.94	10.71				
3	Aspergillus fumigatus	10.0	-	10.71				
4	Aspergillus nidulans	4.0	11.76	7.14				
5	Aspergillus terreus	4.0	14.70	7.14				
6	Penicillium chrysogenum	8.0	11.76	7.14				
7	Penicillium frequentans	6.0	5.88	3.57				
8	Penicillium funiculosum	6.0	5.88	7.14				
9	Fusarium oxysporum	4.0	2.94	3.57				
10	Curvularia clavata	4.0	-	-				
11	Trichoderma viride	8.0	8.82	32.14				
12	Trichoderma harzianum	6.0	2.94	17.85				
13	Mucor recemosus	4.0	2.94	17.85				
14	Rhizopus stolonifer	6.0	5.88	10.71				
15	Unknown colonies	8.0	8.82	3.57				



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Table-3

Percent contribution of various mycoflora isolated from soil samples of agricultural fields at Chintalapudi Mandal



Figure1: Frequency of mycoflora in Rice at Chintalapudi Mandal



Figure 3: Frequency of mycoflora in Ground nut at Chintalapudi Mandal



Figure 2: Frequency of mycoflora in Maize at Chintalapudi Mandal

At- A. terreus, Ani- A. nidulans, Afu- A. fumigatus, Afl- A. flavus, An – A. niger, Pfu- P. funiculosum Pf- P. frequentans, Pch- P. chrysogenum, Fo- F. oxysporum, Ccl- C. clavata, Th- T. harzianum Tv- T. viride, Mre – M. recemosus, Rst – R. stolonifer, Un-Unknown colonies.



Picture1: Pure culture of Aspergillus flavus

Picture 2: *Aspergillus niger*



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Picture 3: Trichoderma harzianum

Picture 4: Mucor recemosus

IV. CONCLUSION

Soil mycoflora plays a significant role in analysis of soil conditions and in stimulating plant growth. Within the extant study soil samples of 3 crop fields i.e. paddy, maize and ground nut were calculated for screening and finding of fungous multiplicity. The outcomes evidently specifies that *Aspergillus niger*, *Penicillium chrysogenum*, *Trichoderma viride*, *Aspergillus terreus*, *Rhizopus stolonifer*, *Aspergillus fumigatus*, *Aspergillus nidulans*, *Penicillium funiculosum*, *Aspergillus flavus*, *Fusarium oxysporum*, *Trichoderma harzianum* and *Mucor recemosus* were of high incidence and some other fungi were slight i.e. *Curvularia clavata and Penicillium frequentans*. Midst the *Aspergillus terreus* were common in all agronomic fields. The rate of mycoflora in farmed fields were found to be regulated by several factors like humidity, temperature, soil sort and texture, vegetation, organic and inorganic materials.

V. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

All authors have none to declare.

VI. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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