

Contents

1. Introduction	1
2. Literature Review	6
3. Materials and Methods	38
3.1. Plant materials	38
3.1.1. Collection of diseased samples of some important fungal pathogens of economically important crops of north Bengal.	38
3.1.2. Collection of plants for experiments	38
3.1.3. Maintenance of the plants for experiments	39
3.1.4. Collection of plants for extraction of botanicals	40
3.2. Fungal cultures used	45
3.3. Verification of the disease through Koch's postulates	45
3.4. Maintenance of stock cultures	46
3.5. Scanning electron microscopy (SEM)	46
3.6. Pathogenicity test	47
3.6.1. Pathogenicity following detached leaf inoculation technique	47
3.6.2. Pathogenicity following whole plant inoculation	47
3.6.3. <i>In vivo</i> control of foliar pathogens by application of plant extracts.	48
3.7. Disease assessment	48
3.7.1. Assessment of disease in detached leaf inoculation technique	48
3.7.2. Assessment of disease in whole plant inoculation	48
3.8. Preparation of plant extracts	49
3.8.1. Aqueous extract (from fresh plant parts)	49
3.8.2. Alcohol extract and ethyl acetate extract (from fresh plant parts)	49
3.8.3. Extract from dry leaves/plant parts	49
3.8.4. Isolation of phytochemicals by column chromatography from selected plants for their antifungal properties.	49
3.8.5. Soxlet extraction of antifungal compounds	50
3.8.6. Extraction by chemical fraction method	50

3.9. Preparation of spore suspension	50
3.10. Spore germination bioassay	51
3.11. Bioassay by poisoned food technique	52
3.12. Bioassay by disc diffusion method	52
3.13. Agar cup bioassay and determination of Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC)	52
3.14. Bioassay of different soxhlet extracts of plants made in different solvents	53
3.15. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) plate bioassay	53
3.15.1. Preparation and activation of TLC plates	53
3.16. Phytochemical analysis	54
3.16.1 Preparation of spray reagents	54
3.16.1.1 Vanillin –sulphuric acid (VS)	54
3.16.1.2 Anisaldehyde–sulphuric acid (AS)	54
3.16.1.3 Iodine reagent	55
3.16.1.4 Potassium hydroxide reagent (KOH)	55
3.16.1.5 Dragendorff reagent	55
3.17 Column separation techniques	56
3.17.1 Column separation technique for <i>Datura stramonium</i> leaf extract.	56
3.17.2 Column separation technique for <i>Polyalthia longifolia</i> leaf extract.	56
3.17.3 Specific solvent extraction technique for fractionation of <i>P. longifolia</i> , <i>A. sativum</i> and <i>D. stramonium</i> plant (part) extracts.	57
3.18 Major chemicals used	58
3.19 Chemical fungicides used	59
3.20 Media and solution used	59
4. RESULTS	61
4.1 Chapter I : Pathogens (<i>F. equiseti</i> and <i>C. gloeosporioides</i>) of eggplant (<i>S.melongena</i>) and their control.	62
4.1.1 Pathogenicity test of <i>C. gloeosporioides</i> and <i>F. equiseti</i> in different Brinjal varieties.	63
4.1.2 Screening of extracts of different plants for antifungal activity against <i>F. equiseti</i> and <i>C. gloeosporioides</i> .	65

4.1.3 Study of antifungal activity of potential extracts at different concentrations by spore germination bioassay.	70
4.1.4 Study of antifungal activity of potential extracts at different concentrations by poison food technique.	71
4.1.5 Study of antifungal properties in three different solvents and antifungal assay	72
4.1.6 Determination of minimum concentration of potential plant extracts by agar cup bioassay.	74
4.1.7 Extraction of terpenoid fraction of <i>D. stramonium</i> and <i>C. mucronata</i> and bioassay of the fractions against <i>F. equiseti</i> and <i>C. gloeosporioides</i> (following disc diffusion bioassay).	79
4.1.8 Fractionation of leaf extract of <i>D. stramonium</i> and evaluation of different fractions for antifungal activity against <i>C. gloeosporioides</i> (following spore germination bioassay and disc diffusion bioassay).	80
4.1.9 Fractionation of crude leaf extract of <i>D. stramonium</i> and evaluation of different fractions for antifungal activity against <i>F. equiseti</i> (following spore germination bioassay and disc diffusion bioassay)	81
4.1.10 Antifungal sensitivity assay of three common fungicides	83
4.1.11 Separation of plant extracts on TLC plates developed in suitable solvent and bioassay of the plates for antifungal properties against the two pathogens of brinjal.	84
4.1.12 <i>In vivo</i> control of foliar pathogens of brinjal by application of plant extracts.	88
4.2: Chapter II : <i>A. alternata</i>, a pathogen of tomato (<i>L. esculentum</i>) and its control.	90
4.2.1 : Pathogenicity test of <i>A. alternata</i> in different tomato varieties.	90
4.2.2 : Screening of potential antifungal activity against <i>A. alternata</i> (following spore germination bioassay on sterilized glass slides)	91
4.2.3: Effect of antifungal activity of selected plant extracts on the growth of the <i>A. alternata</i> (following Poison food technique).	94

4.2.4: Agar cup bioassay for detection of antifungal activity by different plant extracts	96
4.2.5: Extraction of terpenoid fraction of <i>Datura stramonium</i> bioassay of the fractions against <i>Alternaria alternata</i> (following disc diffusion bioassay)	98
4.2.6 Extraction of antifungal properties in three different solvents and antifungal assay	99
4.2.7 Antifungal sensitivity assay of three common fungicides.	100
4.2.8 Separation of plant extracts on TLC plates developed in suitable Solvent and bioassay of the plates for antifungal properties against <i>Alternaria alternata</i>	102
4.2.9 <i>In vivo</i> control of foliar pathogens of tomato by application of plant extracts	103
4.3 : Chapter III : <i>Pestalotiopsis theae</i>, a pathogen of tea plant and its control.	105
4.3.1 Pathogenicity test of <i>Pestalotiopsis theae</i> in different tea varieties.	106
4.3.2 Screening of potential antifungal activity against <i>Pestalotiopsis theae</i> (following spore germination bioassay on sterilized glass slides)	106
4.3.3 Agar cup bioassay for detection of antifungal activity by different plant extracts	110
4.3.4 Extraction of antifungal activity of selected plant extracts in three different solvents and antifungal assay	112
4.3.5 Solvent fractionation and determination of MIC of the fractions, made from three different plants against <i>Pestalotiopsis theae</i>	112
4.3.6 <i>In vivo</i> antifungal activity of plant extracts	114
4.3.7 Antifungal sensitivity assay of three common fungicides	114
4.3.8 Separation of plant extracts on TLC plates developed in suitable solvent and bioassay of the plates for antifungal properties against <i>Pestalotiopsis theae</i>	116
5. Discussion	118
6. Summary	133
7. References	138