

## **Host Range Studies of Maize Turcicum Leaf Blight Pathogen- *Exserohilum turcicum***

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### **ABSTRACT**

Maize leaf blight pathogen, *Exserohilum turcicum* has a wide host range infecting both crops and weeds. In order to find out its host range crop plants including rice, sorghum, korra, ragi, bajra, proso millet, barnyard millet, little millet, browntop millet, maize and two weed species commonly found in maize growing ecosystems (*Cyperus rotundus*, *Commelina benghalensis*) were inoculated with the fungus under greenhouse conditions at Agricultural College, Bapatla. Among all the crop species tested, the disease symptoms were observed on maize, sorghum, korra, ragi, bajra and browntop millet. The fungus also infected both the weed species. Incubation period varied from 24 to 36 hours. The highest incubation period (36hours) was observed in ragi, while the lowest incubation period (24 hours) was observed in maize. Lesion length varied from 1.35 in ragi to 11.12 cm in maize. Disease severity varied between 2.5 and 24.5%. The highest disease severity (24.5%) was observed in maize, and the lowest (3.5%) in ragi.

**Keywords:** *Exserohilum turcicum*, Host range, Maize, Turcicum leaf blight and Weed hosts.