

# Studies on Pre-Existing Morphological Defense Structures in Selected Genotypes of Groundnut in Relation to Late Leaf Spot Disease

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## ABSTRACT

Six groundnut (*Arachis hypogaea* L.) cultivars were selected and categorized into resistant (Kadiri Harithandra), moderately resistant (ALR-3, JCG-8, GPBD-4) and susceptible (Narayani and K-6) based on disease severity using 1-9 scale. Morphological characters such as leaf area (mm<sup>2</sup>), leaf thickness (μm), trichome density (per mm<sup>2</sup>), stomatal frequency (per mm<sup>2</sup>) and stomatal dimensions (μm) were estimated among the cultivars having different degrees of resistance. Leaf thickness and trichome density were more in resistant cultivar and less in susceptible cultivars. The stomatal frequency and size of stomata were less in resistant cultivar and more in susceptible cultivar.

**Key words:** *Groundnut, late leaf spot, Morphological resistance, Phaeoisariopsis personata*