Variability in Isolates of Rice Brown Spot Pathogen, *Bipolaris oryzae* in Andhra Pradesh

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ABSTRACT

Bipolaris oryzae isolates obtained from six geographically distant rice growing locations of Andhra Pradesh differed marginally in colour and type of colony growth in culture. All the isolates exhibited a cottony growth and appeared whitish initially and turned dark brown with age on Czapek dox agar, potato dextrose agar and rice leaf extract agar. Isolates significantly differed in initiation and intensity of sporulation as also in spore dimensions. Longer and wider spores were generally observed when the isolates were cultured on potato dextrose agar and rice leaf extract agar than on Czapek dox agar. Isolates exhibited varied pathogenic ability on rice genotypes with both culture filtrate and spore suspension inoculations in terms of incubation period and spot size.

Key words : Brown spot, *Bipolaris oryzae*, Rice, Variability.