

Field Screening of Castor (*Ricinus communis* L.) Germplasm Against *Fusarium* Wilt

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ABSTRACT

Field trial was conducted to evaluate 100 germplasm accessions in wilt sick plot with krathi as susceptible check and haritha as resistant check. Germplasm accessions were sown in single row with 5m length with 17 initial plants at 45X30cm spacing. Resistant and susceptible checks were sown after every 5 test entries. Initial inoculum load of the wilt pathogen was found to be 1.64×10^3 cfu/g of soil before the start of the experiment and it was increased to 1.83×10^3 cfu/g of soil at the end of the experiment. Out of 100 accessions screened, thirteen germplasm accessions viz., RG-2241, 2272, 2275, 2299, 2301, 2432, 2457, 2863, 2885, 2890, 2891, 2894, 2896 were found to be resistant under wilt sick conditions up to 150 days after sowing.

Key words :Castor, *Fusarium* wilt, Germplasm Screening.