

## Further studies on downy mildew of cucumber in Egypt

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### Abstract

Some local cucumber cultivars were tested against DMD caused by *P. cubensis* under greenhouse condition. The result revealed that all the cucumber cultivars tested were susceptible, but with different degrees. Hisham and Karim cultivars were the least susceptible to CDMD, while Dp.164 cv and Delta star cv. Were the most susceptible ones.

Certain fungal and bacterial bioagent were used as foliar spray in order to manage the disease under greenhouse condition during two successive growing seasons. All the bioagents tested significantly reduced (the cucumber disease severity) CDS, comparing to the control. Thus, *Trichoderma koningii*, *T. harzianum*, *B. subtilis*, and *G. deliquescens* Were the most effective bioagents against the disease as resulted in least CDS. (15.7to 19.31)comparing to the other bioagents. While *P. flurosceus* was the less effective as it resulted in 25.67%CDS. Activity of oxidative enzymes i.e. polyphenoloxidase and peroxidase were positively controlled with the bioagent effect on CDS. The bioagents which were more effective against *P. cubensis*, induced more chlorophyll (a+b) content in the cucumber leaves and more fruit yield comparing to the less effective bioagent did. When the bioagent materials were sprayed as a protective method, they were more effective on controlling CDS., increasing polyphenoloxidase and peroxidase activity, chlorophyll (a+b) content, plant height and fruit yield comparing to spraying the bioagents as curative method.

The bioagent culture homogenates form were more effective against the CDMD, than the filtrates of the bioagent-culture homogenates form and the boiled bioagent-culture homogenates form were the least effective form against CDMD.

Some compost tea of different origins, i.e. garlic, onion, cabbage and their mixture were used as a foliar spray to management the CDMD. Generally, they significantly reduced CDS, in cucumber leaves and increased the oxidative enzymes activity as well as chlorophyll (a+b) content, plant height and fruit yield. The garlic and onion compost tea were more increased cucumber resistance against *P. cubensis*, as well as increased polyphenoloxidase and peroxidase activity and chlorophyll (a+b) content, in cucumber leaves than cabbage and mixture compost tea did. Also, the cucumber fruit yield was increased by spraying with 5 and 10 % of garlic compost tea as produced 3.6and 4.0 kg per plant , respectively. While spraying the cucumber plants with 5 and 10% of cabbage compost tea resulted in fruit yield 3.35and 3.60 kg per plant, respectively.

Generally spraying compost tea as a protective treatment was much better than spraying it as a curative treatment in increasing both of plant resistance against DMD, polyphenoloxidase and peroxidase activity and chlorophyll (a+b) content, plant height and the cucumber fruit yield.

Results of spraying the cucumber plant with Six essential oils i.e. origanum , clover, garlic, onion, fennel and cumin at concentration (2000 or 3000 ppm) revealed that all the essential oils, with different degrees, significantly reduced DMDS, and increased both of activity of the polyphenoloxidase and peroxidase enzymes, chlorophyll (a+b) content, plant height and the fruit yield comparing to the control.

Spraying with the higher conc. (3000ppm)of essential oils were more effective in these mentioned characters than spraying the essential oils at the low conc. (2000 ppm). The results showed that garlic onion and cumin oils were more effective than origanum, clover and fennel oils in increasing the cucumber plant resistance , the oxidative enzymes activity, the chlorophyll(a+b) content, the cucumber plant height and the cucumber fruit yield

The GC-MS analysis of garlic onion and cumin essential oils revealed that there were 54,28and 62 organic compounds for garlic onion and cumin essential oils, respectively. Such organic including alcohol such as propanol, 1-phenyl-1-butanol and alpha-n-propyl benzyl alcohol; aldehyds such as 1,3,3-trimethylcyclohex-1-ene-4-carboxaldehyde and benzaldehyde, 4-(1-methyl); fatty acid such as Hexadecanoic acid, octadecanoic acid and 9-octadecenoic acid and hydrocarbons such as hexadecane, heptadecane, octadecane, nonadecane, eicosane n-heneicosane and n-tricosane . Some of these compounds had an antimicrobial compound such as 3-Vinyl-1, 2-dithiacyclohex-4-ene, and Eugenol.

Results of spraying certain chemicals i.e. monopotassium phosphate, sodium salicylate, salicylic acid, sodium benzoate, and dipotassium phosphate at two concentrations 10or 20mM, on cucumber plant , revealed that all the chemical sprayed significantly induced cucumber resistance against the CDMD. Mean while, the activity of . polyphenoloxidase and peroxidase, the content chlorophyll (a+b) , plant height and the fruit yield were increased comparing to the control plants as a result for spraying these chemical inducers on cucumber plants. Spraying the higher conc. (20mM) was more effective against DMD. Than spraying the low conc. (10mM) of the chemical inducers.

Salicylic acid, sodium benzoate and sodium salicylate were more effective than the other chemical inducers tested. Also, using the chemical inducers as protective treatments were better than using them as curative treatments.

Spraying the first two leaves of cucumber seedling with the chemical inducers tested resulted in inducing systemic resistance in the successive non -sprayed upper leaves against DMDS. Salicylic acid exhibited the highest levels of induced systemic resistance, while dipotassium phosphate induced the least systemic resistance in successive non-sprayed upper leaves.

#### CDMD

Results of the present work showed that , spraying cucumber plants with certain micro nutrient elements such as  $\text{FeSO}_4 \cdot 7 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 7 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{ZnSO}_4 \cdot 7 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{MnSO}_4 \cdot 7 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ , and  $\text{H}_3\text{BO}_3$  resulted increasing cucumber plant resistance against *P. cubensis*. Also, spraying such micro elements increased both of the polyphenoloxidase and peroxidase activity, chlorophyll (a+b) content, cucumber plant height and the cucumber fruit yield comparing to the control treatment.  $\text{MnSO}_4 \cdot 7 \text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$  were the superiors micro nutrient elements in increasing the previous characters, while boric acid was the least effective one in this respect. The high conc. (3000ppm) of the micro nutrient elements was more effective than the low conc. (2000ppm) of them on increasing the cucumber resistance against DMDS. As well as in increasing the other characters tested. Also, spraying the micro nutrient elements as protective treatment was more effective than spraying them as curative treatment.

Finally, it could be suggested that there are alternative approaches such as the cucumber resistance varieties, the bioagent, the compost tea, the essential oils, the chemical inducers and the micro nutrient elements could be applied in controlling DMDS in cucumber plants instead of using chemical fungicides which are not safety for human and environment.



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