

Research Article**Morphological Diversity in Isolates of *Colletotrichum chlorophyti* Causing Anthracnose of Safed Musli (*Chlorophytum borivilianum* Santapau and Fernandez) in Southern Rajasthan****J P Tatarwal and Pokhar Rawal**

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Abstract

Colletotrichum Chlorophyti is a most important pathogen causing anthracnose of safed musli, it has often been confused with other *Colletotrichum* species, especially *C. dematium* and *C. Truncatum* based on morphology. To understand the pathogen involved in anthracnose in safed musli, twenty five isolates of *C. Chlorophyti* collected from the diseased leaf samples from different localities of Southern Rajasthan during survey in *Kharif* 2013 and 2014 and were characterized based on morphological criteria viz., Size of acervulus, number of setae/acervulus, presence/absence of appressoria/microconidia and size of conidia/setae/chlamyospores or acervulus. The cultures of *C. Chlorophyti* exhibited cylindrical with both apices rounded or with one apex rounded and the other end pointed of conidia. All the isolates varied in morphological characters, where the conidial measurement ranged from 2.8-24.5×2.0-7.2µm. Among twenty five isolates number of appressoria was found in 10 isolates and microconidia or setae each were found in 14 isolates. Isolates varied in size of acervulus ranged average 75.3-224.1µm and setae ranged average 70.0-145.5×3.4-6.9µm and were found diverset in morphological characters.

Key words: Anthracnose, *Colletotrichum chlorophyti*, morphological diversity, safed musli

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