Review Article

Chilli Leaf Curl Disease: Ruinous of Beloved Spice

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Abstract

Chilli *(Capsicum annum* L) is world's most popular and versatile vegetable crop from family *Solanaceae*. It is susceptible to wide range of pathogens including viruses, fungus, bacteria and nematodes responsible for losses in quality and quantity. Among viral diseases, Chilli leaf curl is most devastating to this crop. Chilli leaf curl disease caused by *Chilli leaf curl virus* (ChiLCV), a begomovirus which is transmitted by the whitefly-vectors has emerged as serious problem spreading worldwide. Typical consequences of infection include upward leaf curling, crinkling, puckering and reduction in leaf area along with stunting of whole plant. Emergence of new vector biotypes and more aggressive viral strains are accountable for epidemic progress of disease which need consideration while developing control strategies. Furthermore, collective implementation of conventional chemical, physical, biological and agronomical approaches with use of modern biotechnology along with extensive breeding for screening of resistant cultivars may provide new avenues to ameliorate current management strategies. This review concise latest available information on and around the ChiLCD.

Key words: Begomovirus, *Capsicum,* chilli leaf curl virus, whitefly

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