ALLELOPATHIC EFFECTS OF FENCING PLANTS ON CROP PLANTS

P. S. Jadhav¹ and V. S. Patil²¹Department Of Botany L.B.S. College Satara, (Mharashtra, India)²Department of Microbiology L.B.S. College Satara, (Mharashtra, India)

jadhavprakash55@rediffmail.com

Abstract:

Allelopathic effects of two fencing plants were studied on seed germination and sprouting of seedlings of jowar, wheat, bajara, gram, mung bean and cowpae. for this study 1% leaf extracts of *Vitex negundo* and *Lantana camera* were used. Percent germination as well as seedling growth of test crops was significantly lowered by the aqueous leaf extracts of fencing plants. While on an average jowar, bajara, wheat and gram were equally sensitive to toxic response. The extract of fencing plants significantly inhibited the seedling growth of jowar ,bajara wheat, mungbean and cowpae while the extract was stimulatory to seedling growth of gram.

Keywords – Allelopathy, *Vitex*, *Lantana*,**Introduction:**

Allelopathy as a natural phenomenon in plant – plant interaction plays an important role in agro ecosystem. Rice (1984) defined allelopathy as ability of one plant to stimulate or inhibit the growth and development of neighbouring plants by secreting secondary compounds in to the environment.

Allelopathic effect is a complex and can involve the interaction of different classes of chemicals like phenolic compounds, flavonoids, terpenoids, alkaloids, steroids, and amino acids. With mixture of different compound sometimes having a greater allelopathic effect than individual compound these compounds are known as allelochemicals. Yamane(1992) have reported plant residues, leachates and root extracts can be the main source of allelochemicals. The plants selected for present work are *Vitex negundo* and *Lantana camera* which are used for fencing the crop field to protect crops from domestic and wild animals. In many parts of Maharashtra fencing plants have been reported by farmers to inhibit seedling growth in field crops and hence this study on allelopathic effect on crop plants was planned.

Jain et.al (1989) showed that leaf extract of *Lantana camera* contains phenolic compounds, Protocatechuic acid, gentisic acid, P-hydroxy benzoic acid, ferulic acid, salicylic acid, O-coumaric acid. Elakovich and Wooten (1996) state that dried leaf aqueous extract of *vitex negundo* contain P- hydroxy benzoic acid, P-coumaric acid, ferulic acid, vanillic acid, syringic acid and 10 of flavonoids. The crops selected for the present study are pulse crops – mungbean (*Vigna radiata*) local, cowpea (*Vigna catjunawalf*) local gram (*Cicer arietinum*) local cereals jowar (*Sorghum valgare* peas) local shalu, bajara (*Pennisetum typhoides* berum) local and wheat (*Triticum aestivum*) Hd2189.

These crops are grown in many parts of Maharashtra (India) and hedged by the *lantana* and *vitex*. These fencing plants remain for many years on crop fields sides and their foliages are continuously add organic matter in soil of field sides hence efforts have been made to study allelopathic effects of fencing plants on crop plants the experiments were conducted to study the effect of aqueous extract of dried leaves of these fencing plants on the germination and seedling vigour of six test crops.

Material and Methods:

Allelopathic study of two fencing plants was done on six major crops. To observe effect of leaf extract on germination of seed and seedling growth shed senescent leaves of fencing plants *lantana camera* and *vitex negundo* were collected from the crop field sides. Collected leaves were washed with tap water to remove adhesive soil particles and rewashed with distilled water and dried at 60° c for 24 hours in oven. The dried leaves were finely powdered in electric grinder and used for preparation of extract. One gram of powder of senescent leaves of each plant was mixed separately in to 100 ml sterilized distilled water in conical flask and kept for 24 hours. The solutions were then filtered through double layer muslin cloth. The filtrates were used as extract of 1% concentration for allelopathic studies. The extraction was done according to Nelson et al., (1960). Seeds of test crops cereals- jawars, bajara, and wheat, pulses –cowpea, gram and mungbean were obtained from seed lots of farmers. Seeds of crops were first treated with surface sterilant 0.1% mercuric chloride solution and repeatedly rinsed in distilled water. Sets of 20 seeds each were arranged for each crop. The germination studies were carried out by standard petriplate method. Surface sterilized seeds of test crops were placed in

10cm dia petridishes autoclaved, lined with two filter papers and labeled, 5ml extract of each plant was used to moisten the paper in respective petridishes, 5ml distilled water was used to moisten the control set. These petridishes then kept in germinator at normal temperature After 48 hours incubation observation were made for germination percentage and result were recorded The emergence of radicle was considered as criterion for seed germination. The seedling growth (root and shoot length fresh and dry weight) was recorded after 8 days of sowing. The seedling growth was determined from ten randomly selected seedlings per petridish and their mean values were recorded after measuring root and shoot length and fresh weight their biomass was dried in oven at 60°C overnight and dry weight was recorded.

Results and Discussion:

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the effect of aqueous extract of *Vitex negundo* and *Lantana camera* on seed germination and seedling growth of jowar, bajara, wheat, gram, mungbean and cowpea. To

know the allelopathic effect 1 % aqueous leaf extract of each fencing plant and control were used. Percent germination of test crop was significantly lowered by the aqueous leaf extract of fencing plants while on an average jowar, bajara, wheat, gram were equally sensitive to toxic response of fencing plants and cowpea and mungbean germination was stimulated. The extract of *Vitex negundo* significantly inhibited the seedling growth of jowar, bajara, wheat, mungbean while the extract was stimulatory to seedling growth of cowpea and gram. The extract was more inhibitory to root length as compared to shoot. In all test crops and dry weight significantly reduced. The *L. camera* extract was stimulatory to gram seedling only. The extract was more inhibitory to seedling growth of jowar, bajara, mungbean and cowpea, dry weight of cereals was increased while in pulses dry weight was reduced.

Conclusion:

Allelopathic effect of *Vitex negundo* and *Lantana camera* negative as well as positive On selected test crops

Table. 1- Germination percentage of test crop seeds in 1 % aqueous leaf extract of Fencing plants

crop	Control distilled water germination %	1% Extract of <i>Vitex</i> germination %	1% Extract of <i>Lantana</i> germination %
Jowar	55.20	37.00	55.60
Wheat	98.00	85.00	86.00
Bajara	90.00	90.00	76.00
cowpea	28.00	36.00	46.00
Mungbean	38.00	53.00	46.00
Gram	38.50	16.00	27.00

Table. 2- Allelopathic effect of 1% leaf extract of Fencing plants on seedling growth of crop plants

Crop	Control				1% leaf extract of <i>Vitex</i>				1% extract of <i>Lantana</i>			
	Length in cm SL RL		Weigth in gm FW DW		Length cm SL RL		Weigth in gm FW DW		Length cm SL RL		Weigth in gm FW DW	
Jowar	3.72	2.17	0.42	0.074	1.01	1.63	0.29	0.088	1.98	0.98	0.28	0.091
Bajara	3.74	4.24	0.275	0.036	2.70	4.84	0.22	0.043	3.60	4.17	0.25	0.038
Wheat	10.15	7.04	0.886	0.092	6.95	4.96	0.625	0.111	8.52	7.15	0.645	0.103
Gram	4.44	4.96	0.404	0.147	4.58	6.11	0.35	0.136	4.58	5.41	0.350	0.138
Mungbean	3.94	2.92	0.171	0.037	3.55	1.49	0.183	0.037	4.40	1.78	0.186	0.04
Cowpea	7.16	5.29	0.326	0.08	4.15	4.83	0.148	0.067	4.78	3.69	0.279	0.072

SL – Shoot length, RL- Root length, FW- Fresh Weight, DW- Dry weight

Acknowledgment:

We are very much thankful to Prin. Abhayakumar G. Salunkhe, Executive President Shri Swami Vivekanand Shikshan Sanstha, Kolhapur, Prin. R.V.Shejwal, Lal Bahadur Shastri College, Satara for providing the research facilities

References:

- Elakovich S. D. and Wooten (1960)**
Allelopathic woody plants Part II: Mobeatrough
Zelkova Allelopathy Journal 3 (1):9-32
- Jain R., Singh M. and Dejaman L. D. (1989)**
Qualitative and Quantitative characterization of phenolic compounds from *Lantana camera* leaves, weed science 37:302-307

Nielson K. F., Cuddy T. and Woods W (1960)

The influence of the extract of some crops and soil residues on germination and growth, Canadian journal of plant science 40:188-197

Rice E. L. (1984) Allelopathy 2nd ed. academic press Orlando FL.USA.

Yamane A. Nishimura H. and Mizutani J.

(1992) Allelopathy of yellow field Cress (*Rorippa sulvestris*) Identification and characterization of phytotoxic constituents Journal of chemical ecology 28:259-267.