

USE OF BOTANICALS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF *MELOIDOGYNE INCOGNITA* AND *RHIZOCTONIA SOLANI*- DISEASE COMPLEX IN OKRA

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ABSTRACT: Frequent application of chemicals and pesticides for the control of pathogens in plants leads to the pollution of ecosystem and thereby distinguishing the ecological balance. Whereas the use of plants or their parts for the control of plant disease not only enhance the nutrient status but also reduces the pest incidence. Hence the present investigation was undertaken. The ten botanicals viz. Aak, Castor, Datura, Dudhi, Makoi, Kaner, Marigold, Parthenium, Peeli katili and Sadabahar for the management of disease complex of *Meloidogyne incognita* and *Rhizoctonia solani* on okra [*Abelmoschus esculentus*] were studied under green house conditions. Results showed that the eight botanicals out of ten significantly improve the plant growth parameters viz. plant length, fresh weight and dry weight and reduces disease complex in comparison to untreated control. The plants treated with chopped leaves of marigold showed greatest reduction in the disease intensity complex of involving *Meloidogyne incognita* and *Rhizoctonia solani*, where ultimately led the improvement in plant growth parameters, followed by Aak, Datura, Castor, Dudhi, Peeli katili, Parthenium, Sadabahar. Makoi and kaner have no significant effect on plant growth parameters.

Key Words: Pathogens, *Meloidogyne incognita*, *Rhizoctonia solani*, okra, chopped leaves.