

Potential antagonist organisms against *Poria hypolateritia* of red root disease in tea plantation

Abstract

A dual culture method was practiced in order to observe the interaction between *Poria* and the soil isolates. This method was slightly modified by allocating *Poria* in the middle and the soil isolate was inoculated 2 cm from the periphery of the plate; opposite to each other. The soil isolates were labeled as Noor Fazila (NF)-1, NF- 2, NF- 3, NF- 4, NF- 5, NF- 6, NF- 7, NF- 8, NF- 9, NF- 10, NF- 11 and NF- 12. After twelve days of interaction, two isolates; NF-1 and NF-5 were identified as potential antagonist organisms and suspected to be *Cunninghamella* sp. Other successfully isolated fungi are *Trichoderma*, *Stylopaga*, *Verticillium*, *Blastomyces*, *Ovulariopsis*, *Periconia* and *Ustilago*. The rest of the fungi showed either agonism or mutualism interaction against *Poria*.