

EVALUATION OF MYCOHERBICIDAL POTENTIAL OF SELECTED FUNGI AGAINST A NOXIOUS WEED *HYPTIS SUAVEOLENS*: A PRELIMINARY EVALUATION

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ABSTRACT

*Evaluation of an indigenous fungus *Fusarium roseum* FGCCW #61 for the control of a noxious weed *Hyptis suaveolens* was evaluated. The cell free broth of fungi contains bioactive natural herbicidal products and useful for weed control. Natural product-based mycoherbicides are generally considered safer than their synthetic counterparts. *Fusarium* spp. is known to synthesize an array of biologically active metabolites, phytotoxic in nature from liquid culture filtrates. In the present work, Mass production of cell free broth of *Fusarium roseum* FGCCW#61 was developed and control potential was thereby determined against the obnoxious weed *Hyptis suaveolens* in laboratory and field condition. Pre- and post-emergence field trials were also conducted to evaluate the mycoherbicidal efficacy of mass-produced herbicidal compound in field conditions.*

KEYWORDS: *Hyptis Suaveolens, Fusarium Sp, Mass Production, Spore Free Broth, Formulation, Field Trial*