

EVALUATION OF SOME COMMON BEAN VARIETIES FOR RESISTANCE AGAINST SOME SEED-BORNE FUNGI

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ABSTRACT

Some of some common bean varieties were tested for their resistance against seed-borne fungi (*B. cinerea*, *M. phaseolina* and *R. solani*). The investigation was conducted on 6 bean varieties, which showed evidence of damaging potential of *B. cinerea*, *M. phaseolina* and *R. solani* in terms of plant growth parameters and disease incidence. Disease intensity grade was classified on the basis of disease index. All the varieties were susceptible to *B. cinerea*, *M. phaseolina* and *R. solani* except Giza-6 which was highly resistant. Maximum percentage of seedling survival (79.9%) was recorded in bean variety Giza-6 whereas minimum seedling survival (22.6%) was recorded in bean variety Libyan.

Keywords: Seed-borne fungi, Screening, *Phaseolus vulgaris*.

INTRODUCTION

Bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*, L.) is one of the important legumes grown in the Libya and many parts of the world, which can be planted in the open field in two-year seasons, summer and winter, in addition it can be planted also in greenhouses in winter. They may be consumed as seeds (green or dried, rehydrated), used for animal feed and also as green manure [1]. Seeds play a vital role for the healthy production of the crop, but can be carriers of important diseases, which causes considerable reduction in yield of plant. [2,3]. Plant diseases are considered a serious problem that limits bean production and results in great losses specially those

caused by seed borne fungi, since their bad effect is not confined only with the reduction of the yield, but also with the transmission of pathogens from a season to another and from one field in a country to another fields in other countries. Seed-borne fungal pathogens are particularly considered as disease agents which affect seed germination, seedling emergence, root rot and number of saprophytic fungi can also attack seeds during storage leading to loss of germination and viability [3,4,5].

Botrytis cinerea (Pers), *Macrophomina phaseolina* (Tassi) and *Rhizoctonia solani* (Kuhn) are three fungal pathogens that heavily infect seeds of some plant such as soybean [6], bean [3], chickpea [7], cowpea [8], pea [9] and sunflower [10] and thus influence growth from germination to all stages of plant development. The present investigation was undertaken to evaluate fungal disease resistance of varieties of bean by screening of some common bean varieties was tested against *B. cinerea*, *M. phaseolina* and *R. solani* under greenhouse condition.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Fungal material

Three isolates of *B. cinerea*, *M. phaseolina* and *R. solani* were used throughout this study. They were isolated from samples of white bean seeds naturally infected with seed pathogens.

Cultivars response

Certified seeds of bean representing six different cultivars; namely, Libyan were obtained from Agriculture



Research Center Tripoli/ Libya, while, Lingot, Bolista, Bronco, Giza-6 and Narina were obtained from Agriculture Research Center Giza- Cairo/ Egypt used throughout this study.

Soil inoculation and plantation

All isolated fungi were colonized separately on barley grains-sand medium (30g barley:10g sand: 30ml water) at 22°C for 20 days. The pathogenic potentials of fungi were assessed on bean cultivars seeds and seedlings. Sandy clay soil 1:2 (w/w) was chemically sterilized using a 5% formaldehyde solution and transferred into 15cm diameter pots, each containing 3kg soil. Pots were inoculated with the selected fungi growing in barley grains-sand medium at the rate of 2% (w/w) and kept in the greenhouse for one week before sowing. Pots containing non-inoculated soil were used as controls. Healthy seeds of each bean cultivar were surface sterilized using 1% sodium hypochlorite solution, washed with sterilized water, dried and then sown (5 seeds/pot) in both inoculated and non-inoculated soil and watered regularly every 3days under greenhouse conditions. Five replicate pots were used for each treatment. Percentage of seed decay, seedlings emergence were recorded after 20 days and 30 days from planting for seedlings survival.

Statistical analysis

Complete randomized design was used and analyzed by analysis of variance (ANOVA), and treatment means were compared by using Duncan's multiple range test (DMRT) and least significant difference test (LSD) at P = 0.05.

RESULTS

Certified seeds of six bean cultivars were tested to study their susceptibility to the most pathogenic three tested fungi, i.e. *Botrytis cinerea*, *Macrophomina phaseolina* and *Rhizoctonia solani*, under greenhouse conditions. Results shown in Table (1) and illustrated in Fig (1) indicated that all the tested cultivars were susceptible to the aforementioned three fungal pathogens with different degree. However, there was a marked difference between the reactions of these cultivars to seed decay caused by each tested pathogen.

Significant to highly significant differences between bean cultivars were recorded regarding their reaction to the fungi *B. cinerea*, *M. phaseolina* and *R.*

solani expressed as percentages of seed decay (Table 1). At 5% level of significance, Giza-6 bean cultivar's showed the lowest degree of infection followed by Narina and Lingot in ascending order of seed decay incidence. Bean cultivars, Libyan, Bolista and Bronco showed differences degrees of infection by all tested fungi. It is clear that the tested cultivars could be classified as highly susceptible cultivars i.e. Libyan. While Giza-6 was less susceptible to disease incidence.

Seed decay:

After 20 days, highly significant differences between *B. cinerea*, *M. phaseolina* and *R. solani* were recorded for their induction of seed decay of 5% level of significance. *B. cinerea* exerted higher virulence on all bean cultivars followed by *M. phaseolina* than *R. solani* that was less effective on all tested cultivars.

Seed emergence:

Results (Fig. 1) show highly significant differences between *B. cinerea*, *M. phaseolina* and *R. solani* expressed as germination and stand of the tested cultivars. *B. cinerea* was more pathogenic than the other fungi. The lowest percentage of seed emergence was shown nearly with Libyan cultivar's in case of all tested fungi, while Giza-6 cultivar's showed that the highest seed emergence. Other cultivars i.e. Bronco, Bolista, Lingot and Narina were moderately of seed emergence with high significant differences.

Seedling survival:

Survived seedling reflected post-emergence damping-off. Data in Figure (1) showed that all tested pathogenic fungi significantly decreased survival seedling of all bean cultivars as compared with control. The highest percentage of survival plants was recorded on Giza-6 cultivar's and the lowest percentage was recorded in Libyan cultivar's which were affected by *B. cinerea*. The same tend was obtained on both cultivars with *M. phaseolina* and *R. solani*. *R. solani* caused decreased the percentage of seedling survival in all cultivars followed by *M. phaseolina*. Whereas *B. cinerea* was less in its effective. These results reflected that the *R. solani* significantly increased the percentages of post-emergence damping-off followed by *M. phaseolina*. Whereas *B. cinerea* was less or no effective in inducing post-emergence damping-off.

Table 1. Differential response of some bean cultivars inoculated with different tested fungi

Cultivars	Fungi	Seed decay (%)	Seed emergence (%)	Seedling survival (%)
Bronco	<i>B. cinerea</i>	31.9 (34.39)	67.9 (55.49)	65.3 (53.91)
	<i>M. phaseolina</i>	25.4 (30.26)	74.6 (59.74)	40.0 (39.23)
	<i>R. solani</i>	19.9 (26.49)	79.9 (63.36)	45.3 (42.30)
	Control	00.00	100 (90.00)	98.7 (83.45)



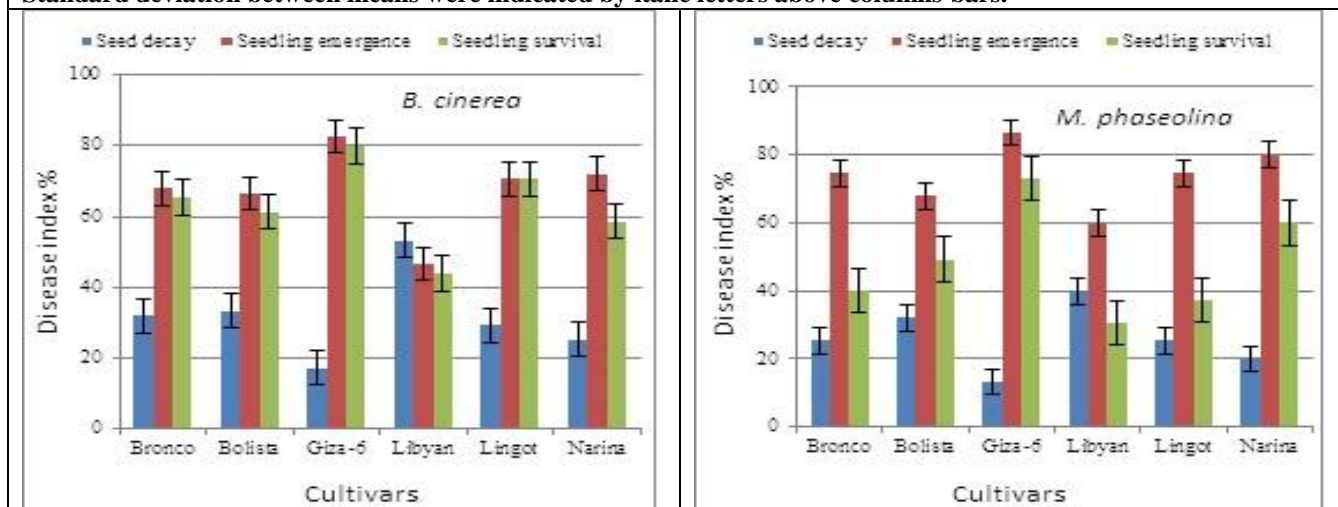
Bolista	<i>B. cinerea</i>	33.3 (35.24)	66.5 (54.63)	61.3 (51.53)
	<i>M. phaseolina</i>	32.0 (34.45)	67.9 (55.49)	49.3 (44.60)
	<i>R. solani</i>	20.0 (26.56)	80.0 (63.44)	33.3 (35.24)
	Control	1.30 (10.47)	98.7 (83.45)	95.9 (78.32)
Giza-6	<i>B. cinerea</i>	17.3 (24.58)	82.6 (65.35)	79.9 (63.36)
	<i>M. phaseolina</i>	13.3 (21.39)	86.6 (68.53)	73.3 (58.89)
	<i>R. solani</i>	10.6 (19.00)	89.3 (70.91)	61.3 (51.53)
	Control	00.00	100 (90.00)	100 (90.00)
Libyan	<i>B. cinerea</i>	53.3 (46.89)	46.6 (43.05)	43.9 (41.50)
	<i>M. phaseolina</i>	39.9 (39.17)	59.9 (50.71)	30.6 (33.58)
	<i>R. solani</i>	23.9 (29.27)	75.9 (60.60)	22.6 (28.38)
	Control	2.70 (09.46)	97.3 (80.54)	97.3 (80.54)
Lingot	<i>B. cinerea</i>	29.3 (32.77)	70.6 (57.17)	70.6 (57.17)
	<i>M. phaseolina</i>	25.3 (30.20)	74.6 (59.74)	37.4 (37.70)
	<i>R. solani</i>	17.3 (24.58)	82.6 (65.35)	29.3 (32.77)
	Control	00.00	100 (90.00)	100 (90.00)
Narina	<i>B. cinerea</i>	25.3 (30.20)	71.9 (57.99)	58.6 (49.95)
	<i>M. phaseolina</i>	20.0 (26.56)	80.0 (63.44)	60.0 (50.77)
	<i>R. solani</i>	14.7 (22.55)	85.3 (67.45)	53.3 (46.89)
	Control	4.00 (11.54)	96.0 (78.46)	96.0 (78.46)
L.S.D at 0.05 for				
Fungi (F)		1.878	2.838	3.055
Cultivars (C)		1.533	2.317	2.494
F x C		3.137	4.744	5.107

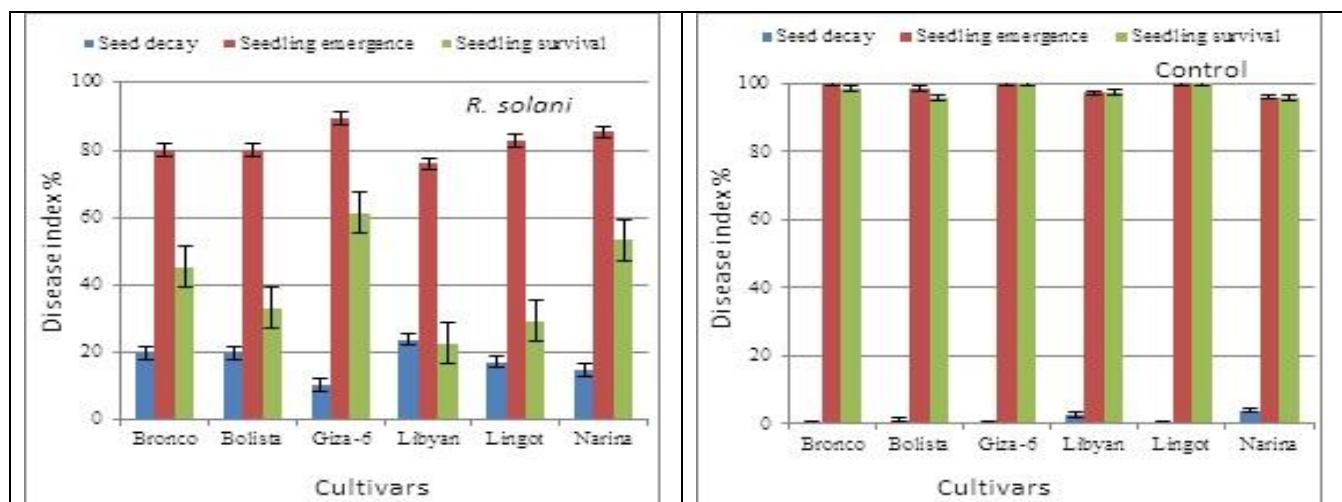
Results obtained 20 days after sowing the seeds.

Values are means of 5 replicates.

Values between brackets are angular transformed (arc sine angles \sqrt{y}) data.

Figure 1. Response of 6 varieties of bean to *B. cinerea*, *M. phaseolina* and *R. solani* under greenhouse condition. Standard deviation between means were indicated by italic letters above columns bars.





DISCUSSION

Significant to highly significant difference between bean cultivars for reaction to tested pathogenic fungi were recorded in (Table 1). Bean cultivar Giza-6 was less susceptible and it recorded less percentage of infection, while Libyan cultivar's was highly susceptible. Other tested cultivars showed gradual increase in seed decay and parallel decrease in seed emergence. Regarding all aforementioned fungi, no previous data related to bean cultivars reaction was obtained in Libya. However, in Egypt, reaction of other bean to root pathogens is known [11,12,13,14,15,16]. According to seedling survival (Table 1) the data obtained revealed that the fungal *R. solani* was the most virulent pathogens causing decrease in seedling survival followed by *M. phaeolina* on all tested cultivars with different degrees. Similar results were previously reported by Michail, et al. [17], Mabrouk [18], Rusuku [19] and Issa [16]. The cultivar Giza-6 was less susceptible and Libyan cultivar was highly susceptible to both fungal pathogens. Resistance of the host to fungal attack depends on morphological, physiological and chemical characters of the host plant, which govern disease reaction [20,21]. Mechanisms of resistance in some seeds crops attributed health of seed coat, thus the pathogen cannot invade the seed [22]. Whereas Priyadarshini and Tulpule [23] reported that the resistance of cultivars crop attributed cultivars characters, he demonstrated that the soft endosperm cultivars were supported the fungus penetration and invasion the tissues more than hard endosperm cultivars. Widstrom, et al. [24] and Bhatangar, et al. [25] indicated that increase the mycelia growth in types of sugar, endosperm, while it intercept in types at starch endosperm. The resistant cultivars have been close small hilum, whereas the

susceptible cultivars have open large hilum [26]. The compounds accumulated after the infection such as phenol compounds may be role to responsible for the resistance entry to pathogenic fungi. The bean plants resistant to *F. solani* than the susceptible ones. [27]. Concerning to symptoms on seeds and seedling pathogenicity tests proved that all aforementioned fungi were induced different symptoms on seed and seedling. The tested fungi caused seed decay, death of radical and prevent germination of seeds, whereas the symptoms on seedling such as decay of radical, root rot, brown lesions on root and stem and stunted growth of seedling. These results are in harmony with the results obtained by Shama [28,29] on cowpea seeds and Shama [30] on bean seeds. Sporulation of *B. cinerea* occurred first on cotyledons and then on the stems. The stem infection fit the description of seedling blight because the fungus generally requires an exogenous food source for infection [31] and the colonization of cotyledons syndrome with reproduced pectolytic enzyme [32]. Hodges [33] reported that, *Sclerotinia bataticola* produced indolacetic acid (IAA) in vitro. IAA (Indol Acetic Acid) might be responsible for the proliferation of seedling-roots affected by black root-rot. Chan and Sackston [34] reported also that, *S. bataticola* could produce a non-specific toxin that induced necrotic spots in sunflower leaves. According to *R. solani*, several studies reported that some *R. solani* isolates produced auxins [35] and phenylacetic acid (PPA), m-hydroxyphenylacetic acid (m-HPAA), and p-hydroxyphenylacetic (p-HPAA) [36,37] that cause stunting in seedling bioassays for phytoalexin. In addition *R. solani* produced some enzymes causing maceration of tissue [38].



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