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Antifungal Screening of Plants of the State of Morelos, Mexico Against Four Fungal
Postharvest Pathogens of Fruits and Vegetables

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Abstract

To evaluate the fungicide properties of cultivated plant species from the State of Morelos, Mexico, aqueous extracts and powders from leaves of 20 different plant species were prepared to evaluate their in vitro effect on development of the postharvest phytopathogenic fungi: *Alternaria* spp., *Fusarium* spp., *Pestalotiopsis* spp. and *Rhizopus* spp. The parameters evaluated were mycelial growth, sporulation and mycelial dry weight. Results indicated that the fungistatic activity was different between aqueous extracts or powders and the species evaluated. A selective fungistatic effect depending on plant species and pathogen was evidenced as well. *Pithecellobium dulce* was the main plant species showing fungistatic effects against the development of the fungi tested. Other plant species with promising fungicide or fungistatic activity properties were *Achras sapota*, *Annona cherimola*, *Casimiroa edulis*, *Citrus limon*, *Crataegus mexicana*, *Carica papaya*, *Psidium guajava*, *Persea americana* and *Spondias purpurea*. In situ studies are recommended to continue this research

Keywords

Alternaria spp., *Fusarium* spp.,
Pestalotiopsis spp., *Rhizopus* spp., aqueous extracts, plant
powders, biofungicides

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