

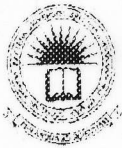
**EFFECT OF SALICYLIC ACID APPLICATION ON  
MANAGEMENT OF CHILLI LEAF CURL COMPLEX**

*(Capsicum annuum L.)*



**BY**

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## ABSTRACT

Chilli (*Capsicum annuum* L.) is a significant cash crop in Sri Lanka, however, Chilli Leaf Curl Virus Disease (CLCVD) limits its output and productivity. Against chilli leaf curl virus vectors, several insecticides are offered for the management of CLCVD. The indiscriminate use of insecticides causes dangers to human health. Current advances in plant pathology attempt to boost the host's immune in order to increase its resistance to infection. This study was conducted to determine the effect of salicylic acid on the treatment of CLCVD. The chilli variety PC-1 was selected for this experiment with five treatments which were arranged in RBCD. The experiment was conducted at the crop farm of Faculty of Agriculture, Palachcholai, Eastern University, Sri Lanka. The data on growth parameters and CLCVD severity were analyzed using ANOVA in Minitab 19, and Tukey's test was used to identify the best treatment combination at  $P < 0.05$ . The results showed that the spraying salicylic acid in addition to the recommended rate of application of imidacloprid insecticide significantly lowered the CLCVD severity and also enhanced the plant height and number of leaves. Therefore, salicylic acid application along with recommended insecticide (Imidacloprid) is a better option for the effective management of CLCVD.

Keywords: Chilli leaf curl disease, Disease severity, Salicylic acid, Imidacloprid

## TABLE OF CONTENT

ABSTRACT .....	i
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	ii
TABLE OF CONTENT .....	iii
LIST OF TABLES .....	viii
LIST OF FIGURES .....	ix
LIST OF PLATES .....	x
ABBREVIATIONS .....	xi
CHAPTER 1 .....	1
INTRODUCTION.....	1
CHAPTER 2 .....	5
REVIEW OF LITERATURE .....	5
2.1 Origin and distribution .....	5
2.2 Taxonomy.....	6
2.3 Important properties of chilli.....	7
2.4 Nutrition value of chilli .....	8
2.5 Cultivation Pattern of chilli .....	10
2.6 Management Practices of chilli Cultivation .....	10
2.6.1 Nursery bed preparation and management .....	10
2.6.2 Land Preparation and field Establishment .....	11
2.6.3 Water management .....	12

2.6.4 Weeding .....	12
2.6.5 Fertilizer application .....	12
2.6.6 Harvesting.....	12
2.7 Worldwide production.....	13
2.7.1 Global production and Exports .....	13
2.7.2 Chilli-producing countries .....	14
2.8 Chilli production in Sri Lanka.....	15
2.8.1 Chilli varieties developed and cultivated in Sri Lanka .....	17
2.8.2 Open-Pollinated Chilli Varieties.....	18
2.8.3 Chilli production in Batticaloa.....	20
2.9 Disease of chilli .....	21
2.9.1 Viral diseases of chilli.....	21
2.9.1.1 Leaf curl viruses.....	22
2.9.1.2 Mosaic viruses.....	23
2.10 Chilli leaf curl complex .....	23
2.10.1 Begomoviruses.....	23
2.10.2 White fly ( <i>Bemisia tabaci</i> ).....	23
2.10.3 Thrips .....	25
2.10.4 Mites .....	26
2.10.5 Symptomology of chilli leaf curl .....	28
2.10.6 Transmission of chilli leaf curl virus .....	29

2.11 Chilli leaf curl complex in Sri Lanka .....	29
2.12 Management of chilli leaf curl disease.....	30
2.12.1 Resistance breeding .....	31
2.12.2 Resistance sources to chilli leaf curl diseases.....	31
2.12.3 Botanical neem insecticide .....	32
2.12.4 Cow urine.....	32
2.12.5 Natural enemy of the chilli ecosystem.....	33
2.13 Salicylic acid application on chilli leaf curl complex .....	33
<b>CHAPTER 3 .....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>MATERIALS AND METHODS .....</b>	<b>35</b>
3.1 Experimental site.....	35
3.2 Agro- ecological region.....	36
3.3 Characteristics of soil .....	36
3.4 The weather condition of the experimental site .....	36
3.5 Planting material used in this experiment .....	36
3.6 Raising of seedlings.....	36
3.7 Experimental design and layout .....	37
3.8 Experimental treatments.....	38
3.9 Land preparation.....	39
3.10 Fertilizer application.....	39
3.11 Transplanting of seedlings.....	40

3.12 Intercultural operations.....	40
3.13 Weeding.....	40
3.14 Irrigation.....	40
3.15 Preparation of Salicylic Acid (SA).....	41
3.15.1 Spraying of salicylic acid.....	41
3.16 Preparation and spraying of insecticides (Imidacloprid admire).....	42
3.17 Data collection.....	42
3.17.1 Description of data collection.....	42
3.17.2 The observation of chilli leaf curl disease.....	42
3.17.3 Growth parameters.....	43
3.17.3.1 Plant height.....	44
3.17.3.2 The number of leaves.....	44
3.17.4 Disease parameters.....	44
3.17.4.1 Disease severity.....	44
3.18 Statistical analysis.....	44
<b>CHAPTER 4.....</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>RESULTS AND DISCUSSION.....</b>	<b>45</b>
4.1 Evaluation of Different treatments on plant growth parameters.....	46
4.1.1 Evaluation of different treatments on height of the plant.....	46
4.1.2 Evaluation of number of leaves on chilli plant.....	49

4.2 Evaluation of different treatments against chilli leaf curl disease of chilli plant .....	52
4.2.1 Evaluation of different treatments on leaf curl disease severity of chilli plant .....	52
<b>CHAPTER 5 .....</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>CONCLUSION.....</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE STUDIES.....</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>REFERENCES.....</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>APPENDICES .....</b>	<b>78</b>

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 2. 1.Nutrient and Mineral Contents of Capsicum annum.L.....	9
Table 2. 2.Possible viruses affecting stages of chilli .....	22
Table 3. 1.Treatments.....	38
Table 4. 1.Effects of different treatments on chilli plant height .....	48
Table 4. 2.Effect of different treatments number of leaves on chilli plant .....	51



## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 2. 1 Bio activities of chilli compounds .....	7
Figure 2. 2: Life cycle of whitefly .....	25
Figure 2. 3: Life cycle of Thrips .....	26
Figure 2. 4: Life cycle of mites .....	27
Figure 2. 5: Chilli leaf curl disease symptoms on chilli plant.....	28
Figure 3. 1: The treatment allocation in a Randomized Complete block design .....	37
Figure 4. 1: Effect of different treatments on leaf curl disease severity five weeks after transplanting.....	54
Figure 4. 2: Effect of different treatments on leaf curl disease severity seven weeks after transplanting.....	55

## LIST OF PLATES

Plate 3. 1: Experimental site (Crop farm of Faculty of Agriculture) .....	35
Plate 3. 2: Preparation of salicylic acid .....	41
Plate 3. 3: Spraying salicylic acid .....	42
Plate 3. 4: Identification of chilli leaf curl complex (A), (B), (C): chilli thrips, (D): yellowing.....	43
Plate 4. 1: Healthy Plant of Experimental site .....	45