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**Abstract:** *Ralstonia solanacearum* (Smith) Yabuuchi et al. is considered one of the most destructive plant pathogens in tropical, subtropical and temperate regions worldwide. It is a highly diverse and adaptive bacterium that differs in host range, geographical distribution, pathogenicity, epidemiological interactions and physiological properties. Historically, strains of *Ralstonia solanacearum* were classified into five races based loosely on host range and into five biovars based on differential ability to produce acid from a panel of carbohydrates. Bacterial wilt of *Capsicum annuum* is caused predominantly by biovars 1 and 3 of *R. solanacearum*. Since they belong to race 1, these biovars have a wide host range that guarantees long-term survival of the pathogen in soil in the absence of the main susceptible crop. In the present research work the bacterium *Ralstonia solanacearum* was isolated from wilted capsicum plant and morphological, physiological and biochemical studies were carried out. The pathogen was tested against 31 different carbohydrates for its fermentation and oxidation reactions. L- Arabinose, dulcitol, inositol, adonitol, arabitol, erythritol,  $\alpha$ -methyl-D-glucoside, melezitose,  $\alpha$ -methyl-D-mannoside, xylitol, sorbose showed negative results and all other carbohydrates tested positive reactions towards carbohydrate utilization test. While studying biochemical behaviour, the bacterial isolate showed negative response for ONPG test and positive for Citrate utilization test, Esculin hydrolysis and Malonate utilization test. It was found that 55°C is the thermal death point of the isolate while keeping it for 10 minutes and bacterial isolate can survive within a pH range of 4-8. Growth of the isolate ceases at pH 3. Management studies have been undertaken in vitro to establish the method that can be employed to manage the disease effectively. The isolate was tested against different aqueous leaf extracts, solvent extracts of botanicals, plant oils and antibiotics on the basis of inhibition zone technique. At 100% concentration aqueous extract of Neem (*Azadirachta indica*) leaves give the maximum zone of inhibition (11.24mm) followed by aqueous leaf extract of Safflower (*Carthamus tinctorius*) which gives 8.74mm inhibition. Alcohol extracts of botanicals give less inhibitory effect on the growth of the bacteria as compared to aqueous extract. Solvent extract of Tulsi (*Ocimum sanctum*) gives highest inhibition of 8.91mm to bacterial growth and the least inhibition can be seen in case of Arakha (*Calotropis gigantea*) with 5.49mm. Among the plant oils tested at 100% concentration, clove oil (*Syzygium aromaticum*) gives the best result with 33.99mm inhibition followed by karanj oil (*Pongamia pinnata*) with 15.66mm while the least inhibition is shown in case of sesamum oil (*Sesamum indicum*) with only 8.44mm. Among fifteen different antibiotics at their minimum inhibitory concentration, Ciprofloxacin showed highest zone of inhibition (32.50mm) followed by Levofloxacin (28.83mm) & lowest inhibition was observed in case of Ampicillin (5.16mm). Use of resistant varieties, soil amendments, biocontrol agents, botanicals and plant oils along with judicious application of antibiotics can help in reducing bacterial wilt disease.

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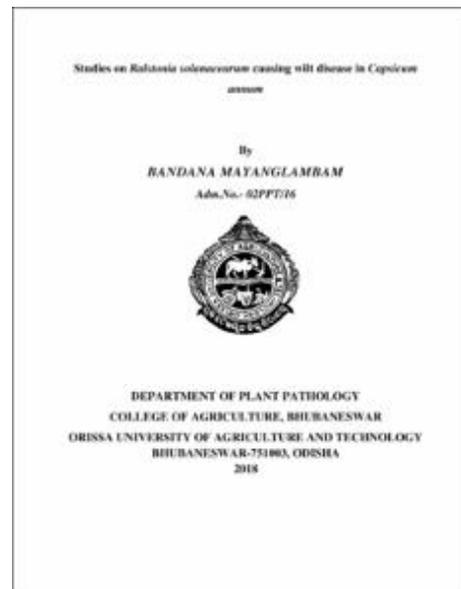
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