

Leaf Blight Disease of Coconut 2 Studies on *Curvularia* sp

N. SALIM

Department of Biological Sciences, Sri Jayewardenepura University, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka
and

R. MAHINDAPALA

Coconut Research Institute, Lunuwila, Sri Lanka

ABSTRACT

The cultural behaviour of *Curvularia lunata* Wakkcr, which caused lesions in leaves of COcollutseedlings, was studied on different agar media. Temperature - growth studies indicated that the colony growth and sporulation were best at 30° C. The optimum temperature for germination of conidia on Water Agar was 30° C. Germination was -reduced with the increase of concentration of conidia, and was less on leaf surface than on water agar.

When coconut leaves were inoculated with *C. lunata*, characteristic brown lesions appeared in three days. *C. eragrostidis* which was occasionally isolated from lesions, failed to produce any symptoms on inoculation.