

## PATHOGENICITY OF *PYRICULARIA ORYZAE* ISOLATES FROM DIFFERENT AGRO-CLIMATIC ZONES OF CHHATTISGARH

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**Abstract:** The fungus *Pyricularia oryzae* Cavara is the causal agent of rice blast disease. Yield reduction of 10-20% in susceptible rice varieties but in severe cases the yield loss caused by *P. oryzae* may reach upto 80-100%. The highly significant differences were observed among the 63 blast isolates in pathogenicity test. The highest PDI 96.30 per cent was recorded in four isolates and the lowest PDI 51.85 per cent were found in sixteen isolates.

**Keywords:** Rice blast, *P. oryzae*, PDI, Pathogenicity

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