

ISOLATION, EVALUATION AND MASS PRODUCTION OF ARBUSCULAR MYCORRHIZA (AM) FROM TWO LEGUME SPECIES

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Abstract: The Arbuscular Mycorrhizal (AM) status of selective plants like *Acacia leucophloea* Roxb. and *Cicer arietinum*, L. were studied. The AM spores belong to the Genus *Glomus*, *Acaulospora*, *Gigaspora*, *Scutellospora* and *Sclerocystis* were isolated from the rhizosphere soil. Among these *Glomus* and *Acaulospora* are predominant in rhizosphere of *A. leucophloea* and the rhizosphere soil was applied as an inoculum for the mass production of AM fungi using *Zea mays* (L.), *Sorghum halepense* (L.) Pers and *Oryza sativa* (L.) as host plants. The AM inoculated *Zea mays* and *Sorghum halepense* (L.) Pers. showed beneficial growth with increase in fresh and dry matter, root and shoot length and also with 98% and 93% of AM-colonization in roots.

Keywords: Arbuscular Mycorrhiza, AM spore isolation, Mass production, *Zea mays*, *Sorghum halepense*, *Oryza sativa*

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