

IN VITRO EVALUATION OF FUNGICIDES AGAINST *COLLETOTRICHUM GLEOSPOROIDES*, THE CAUSAL PATHOGEN OF ANTHRACNOSE DISEASE ON *LEPISANTHES FRUTICOSA*

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Lepisanthes fruticosa (Roxb) Leenh, known as Ceri (Cherry) Terengganu in Malaysia is a non-seasonal under-utilised fruit species that produces fruits throughout the year. It has the potential to be exploited for commercial production in view of its inherent pharmacological properties. However, one of the major constraints of *Lepisanthes* production is anthracnose fruit rot disease caused by *Colletotrichum* spp. Therefore, the management of fruit rot disease is necessary. To date, there is no recommendation on the type of fungicide to be used on Ceri Terengganu. In this study, several fungicides with two different modes of action (systemic and non-systemic) were evaluated under *in vitro* conditions against *Colletotrichum gleosporoides*. Fungicides used in the experiments were mancozeb, propineb, copper hydroxide, azoxystrobin and propiconazole. *In vitro* screening of fungicides against *Colletotrichum gleosporoides* showed 100% inhibition by propiconazole, followed by 67.19% inhibition by azoxystrobin, propineb at 64.19%, mancozeb at 63.50% and copper hydroxide at 18.68% at recommended concentrations. This result serves as a guideline for Ceri Terengganu disease management.

Keywords: Ceri Terengganu, under-utilized fruits, anthracnose, fungicides, propiconazole, azoxystrobin, mancozeb