



دراسات فسيولوجية مرضيه علي تكتلات (تشوهات) المانجو

مقدمة من

عبير أبوزيد محمد السعيد عبدربه

رسالة علمية مقدمة استيفاءً لمتطلبات منح درجة

ماجستير في العلوم الزراعية

قسم النبات الزراعي

(تخصص امراض النبات)

من

جامعة الإسكندرية



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للحصول على درجة

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Alexandria University
Faculty of Agriculture
(Saba Basha)

PHYSIOPATHOLOGICAL STUDIES ON MANGO MALFORMATION

BY

ABEER ABO-ZEED MOHAMMED EI SAID

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements
governing the award of the degree of

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(PLANT PATHOLOGY)

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

The mango (*Mangifera indica*), was introduced in Egypt since 1883, mango is currently grown throughout the Nile Valley, in the Nile Delta and in areas around El Fayoum governorate. It is one of the country's most economic fruit crops (El Khoreiby, 1997). In 1996, an estimated 215 657 tons of fruit worth £E 431 million were harvested in Egypt (Anon, 1996). The most producing centers are in Sharkia, Ismailia, Giza, Fayoum, Qena governorates and Nobaria. The most important varieties are Hindy, Pairi, Tymour, Ewas, Zebda and Langara (Anon, 1996).

A significant impediment to increase mango production in Egypt is malformation disease (Ploetz *et al.*, 1999). Malformation was first reported in India in 1891 (Watt, 1891). Since then, it has also been described in other areas in Asia (Israel, Malaysia, Pakistan), Africa (South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda) and the Americas (Brazil, Central America, Mexico, USA) (Ploetz, 2001). Malformation was first recognized in Egypt in 1934 and by 1958 had become a major problem (Ibrahim *et al.*, 1975).

Mango malformation (MM) disease is the most limiting factor to mango production in Egypt, that malformation causes losses of at least £E 35 million/year (Ploetz *et al.*, 2002). The disease affects vegetative and floral panicles resulting in phyllody and hypertrophy (Ploetz, 1994). The disease has been attributed to various causes including viral (Das *et al.*, 1989), nutritional (Prasad *et al.*, 1965) and hormonal (Dang and Daulta, 1982) and *Fusarium mangiferae* was first isolated from malformed tissue, (Summanwar *et al.*, 1966) and recognized as *F. moniliforme*. Later, (Varma *et al.*, 1974) used the name *F. moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* and demonstrated its involvement in both the vegetative and floral forms of the disease. (Nelson *et al.*, 1983) recognized the fungus as *F. subglutinans* in the section *Liseola*, which broadly corresponds with the so-called *Gibberella fujikuroi* complex (O'Donnell *et al.*, 1998a). To accommodate morphologically and phylogenetically-related isolates of *F. subglutinans* (Steenkamp *et al.*, 2000) that had been shown previously to cause mango malformation (Freeman *et al.*, 1999), (Britz *et al.*, 2002) established the taxon, *F. mangiferae*.

The present work was designed to investigate: -

- 1- Isolation of the pathogen from mango malformed tissues.
- 2- Identification of the pathogen using morphological and cultural characteristics.
- 3- Pathogenicity tests to healthy seedlings of Keet cultivar.
- 4- PCR amplification using analysis for verification of *Fusarium mangiferae* from infected tissues.
- 5- Determination of macronutrients status N, P and K (%) in panicles and leaves from healthy and malformed tissues of six cultivars of mango trees.
- 6- Determination of plant Hormones content Indole-3-Acetic Acid (IAA) and Gibberellic Acid (GA) in healthy and infected flowers and spurs of Sokary cultivar.
- 7- Determination of total and reducing sugars in panicles and leaves collected from healthy and malformed tissues of six cultivars of mango trees.
- 8- Determination of total Phenolic contents in healthy and malformed panicles obtained

from different five cultivars of mango trees.

- 9- Biocontrol of *Fusarium mangiferae* using tow isolates of *Bacillus subtilis*, one isolate of *Pseudomonas fluorescens* and *Trichoderma harzianum*.
- 10- Study the effect of some fungicides on the linear growth of *Fusarium mangiferae* *in vitro*.

CHAPTER 2

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1. Distribution and economic importance of mango malformation

Malformation is well known in India and has also been confirmed in most mango-growing countries: Sudan (Minessy *et al.*, 1971), Cuba (Soroa, 1983), Australia (Peterson, 1986), the United Arab Emirates (Burhan, 1991), Pakistan, Egypt, South Africa, Brazil, Israel, Central America, Mexico and USA (Kumar and Beniwal, 1992) and Bangladesh (Meah and Khan, 1992).

The disease is endemic as a tree once infected never recovers (Mallik, 1963). Losses due to malformation have not been accurately assessed because yield loss is not a linear function of disease severity (Kumar *et al.*, 1987). Nevertheless, malformed inflorescences in a tree do not bear fruit, thus causing losses in yield. Tree losses up to 86% in one grove have been recorded over a three-year period (Kumar, 1983). In northern India particular, over 50% of the trees are affected; with consequent heavy losses in yield (Mango Cultivation, 1983). The disease also threatens the mango industry in Egypt (Hifny *et al.*, 1978). In South Africa, the disease is present on 73% of mango farms, with severity ranging from 1 to 70% of the trees affected (Rijkenberg and Crooks, 1984).

2.2. Symptoms of mango malformation

Two distinct stages of malformation, vegetative and floral (Kumar *et al.*, 1987), characterize the disease. Vegetative malformation (VM), first described in 1953 (Nirvan, 1953), is more pronounced on young seedlings, but also appears on mature trees. Typical symptoms in seedling are loss of apical dominance and swelling of vegetative buds in the leaf axil or at the tip. The seedling then produces small shoots bearing small, scaly leaves (Nirvan, 1953) with a bunch-like appearance, the so-called bunchy-top (BT) stage (Kumar and Beniwal, 1992).

Symptoms of floral or blossom malformation (FM) appear with the emergence of inflorescences. Flowers in a malformed inflorescence (MI/MIS) are much enlarged and crowded the generally hypertrophied axes of the panicle, thus producing no fruit or aborting early (Kumar and Beniwal, 1992). Such panicles appear greener, increased and crowded branching (Hifny *et al.*, 1978) generally causes them to be heavier. Severely malformed inflorescence produces far more flowers (Hifny *et al.*, 1978), though most remain unopened (Kumar and Beniwal, 1992).

The vegetative malformed panicles of the disease are observed more frequently on young seedlings, where axillary or apical buds produce misshapen shoots, which have shortened internodes and brittle leaves that are significantly smaller than those of healthy plants (Kumar *et al.*, 1993). Malformed shoots tend to remain compact thus giving rise to a bunchy-top appearance (Kumar *et al.*, 1993, Ploetz, 1994 and Marasas *et al.*, 2006).