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[Home](#) > [Vol 46 \(2008\)](#) > [Mammootty](#)

## Screening black pepper (*Piper nigrum* L.) varieties/cultivars against *Phytophthora* disease in the nursery

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### Abstract

Fifty genotypes of black pepper (*Piper nigrum* L.) including released varieties and cultures were screened against *Phytophthora capsici* foot rot disease in nursery to identify resistant materials. None of the genotypes screened were immune to *P. capsici*. 'Kalluvally II', 'Panniyur 5', and 'Kalluvally IV', however, showed less than 60% leaf infection and were statistically at par with 'Balankotta', 'Cheriyakaniakadan', and 'Shimoga'. 'Kalluvally II' also suffered relatively lower mortality rates (26.67%), implying some tolerance against *P. capsici*. 'Panniyur 5' was moderately susceptible while the remaining cultivars were clearly susceptible to the disease, as they showed higher leaf infection and mortality.

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