

Impact of chemicals, plant extracts and their combination on bacterial blight of cotton

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Five chemicals, including Flare, Plant Protector, Mancozeb, Agrimycine, and Copper oxychloride, and five plant extracts including *N. tabacum*, *A. indica*, *M. oleifera*, *D. alba* and *C. longa* were evaluated against bacterial blight of cotton caused by *Xanthomonas citri* pv. *malvacearum* (a bacterium). The impact of chemicals and plant extracts on bacterial development was tested in laboratory while on disease reduction was tested in green house and field experiments. Laboratory experiments showed that maximum inhibition zone of bacterial growth was expressed by Flare (1.693cm) at all concentrations followed by Plant Protector (1.473 cm), Mancozeb (1.290 cm), Agrimycine (1.150 cm) and copper oxy-chloride (0.953) cm respectively while in case of plant extracts maximum inhibition was expressed by *N. tabacum* (0.650 cm) followed by *A. indica* (0.486), *M. oleifera* (0.350), *D. alba* (0.256 cm) and *C. longa* (0.168 cm). Green house experiment revealed that the best result was produced by the combination of Flare and *N. tabacum* by indicating lowest disease incidence (32.27%) at all the tested concentration. Same results were obtained in field experiment, where the lowest disease incidence (40.41%) was recorded when the ,Flare and *N. tabacum* were applied in combination although it was higher then green house. This study concludes that *N. tabacum* and Flare are better option against bacterial disease development and even their combination is more significant lowering the bacterial blight disease incidence on cotton. Selection of suitable formulation and method of application could be the future aspects of plant product especially *N. tabacum* related research.

1 **Title: Impact of chemicals, plant extracts and their combination on bacterial blight of**
2 **cotton**

3
4 **Short Title:** Management of Bacterial blight of cotton

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13
14 **ABSTRACT**

15 Five chemicals, including Flare, Plant Protector, Mancozeb, Agrimycine, and Copper
16 oxychloride, and five plant extracts including *N. tabacum*, *A. indica*, *M. oleifera*, *D. alba* and *C.*
17 *longa* were evaluated against bacterial blight of cotton caused by *Xanthomonas citri* pv.
18 *malvacearum* (a bacterium). The impact of chemicals and plant extracts on bacterial
19 development was tested in laboratory while on disease reduction was tested in green house and
20 field experiments. Laboratory experiments showed that maximum inhibition zone of bacterial
21 growth was expressed by Flare (1.693cm) at all concentrations followed by Plant Protector
22 (1.473 cm), Mancozeb (1.290 cm), Agrimycine (1.150 cm) and copper oxy-chloride (0.953) cm
23 respectively while in case of plant extracts maximum inhibition was expressed by *N. tabacum*
24 (0.650 cm) followed by *A. indica* (0.486), *M. oleifera* (0.350), *D. alba* (0.256 cm) and *C. longa*
25 (0.168 cm). Green house experiment revealed that the best result was produced by the
26 combination of Flare and *N. tabacum* by indicating lowest disease incidence (32.27%) at all the
27 tested concentration. Same results were obtained in field experiment, where the lowest disease
28 incidence (40.41%) was recorded when the Flare and *N. tabacum* were applied in combination
29 although it was higher than green house. This study concludes that *N. tabacum* and Flare are
30 better option against bacterial disease development and even their combination is more
31 significant lowering the bacterial blight disease incidence on cotton. Selection of suitable
32 formulation and method of application could be the future aspects of plant product especially *N.*
33 *tabacum* related research.

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35 **Key words:** Bacterial blight, Cotton, *Xanthomonas citri* pv. *malvacearum*, Chemicals, Plant
36 extracts, Flare, *Nicotiana tabacum*

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38 **1- INTRODUCTION**

39 Cotton (*Gossypium hirsutum*) is the most important fiber crop of Pakistan which plays a
40 significant role in the economy of country. It is grown in temperate and subtropical regions of
41 the world including Pakistan (Smith, 1999). It is cultivated on an area of 33.1 million hectares in
42 the world while on 3.0 million hectares in Pakistan during 2013-14 with the production of 116.7
43 and 9.5 million bales respectively (Johnson *et al.*, 2014). Its present area, production and yield in

44 the world depicted that Pakistan is the fourth largest producer of cotton after China, USA and
45 India (Hanif and Jafri, 2008). Cotton is unique among agricultural crops because it provides
46 food, edible oil, fiber and other byproducts for livestock food (Chaudhry and Guitchounts, 2003).
47 Bacterial blight of cotton caused by *Xanthomonas axonopodis* pv. *malvacearum* (*Xam*) is one of
48 the serious diseases of cotton (Saha *et al.*, 2001) causes 26- 30% yield losses in different cotton
49 growing areas of the world (Ramapandu *et al.*, 1979; Chidambaram and Kannan, 1989;
50 Chattannavar *et al.*, 2006). About 37- 40% yield losses were observed in Pakistan, Faisalabad
51 district (Bhutta and Bhatti 1983; Khan *et al.*, 1999). This bacterium enters in healthy plants
52 through stomata or wounds, initiates infection process during any stage of the growth period and
53 producing typical symptoms including small, irregular and dark water soaked spots on lower
54 epidermis of leaves that later becomes dark brown (Liberato *et al.*, 2007).
55 Use of resistant varieties is genuine method for the management of disease because it makes
56 possible to avoid other management strategies like acid-delinting of seed, use of chemicals and
57 the destruction of diseased plant residues followed by tillage operations (Thaxton and El-Zik,
58 2001; Turkkan and Dolar, 2009). Many other strategies that are used for the management of
59 bacterial blight of cotton are being applied as an alternate source of chemicals for the
60 management of disease but absence of durable resistance in varieties, treatment with chemicals is
61 recommended quick action and readily availability (Singh *et al.*, 2007). Numerous reports on the
62 use of active ingredients from plants in place of chemicals are available owing to their non-
63 phytotoxic nature, more systemic and easily biodegradable behavior (Gottlieb *et al.*, 2002). This
64 led to screen out a large number of plants for antibacterial activity against important seed borne
65 phytopathogenic *Xanthomonas* pathogens under *in vitro* and *in vivo* conditions, with an ultimate
66 aim of developing plant based formulations for disease management (Kiran and Raveesha,
67 2006). Although chemicals are easily available, direct and rapid in action which consequently
68 reduce the losses caused by this disease but the continuous dependence on pesticides has proven
69 increasingly unsuitable by causing environmental pollution and degradation due to their
70 judicious use. Therefore, it is dire need to conduct *in-vitro* and *in-vivo* and research for an apt
71 management of bacterial blight of cotton through chemicals and plant extracts. The current
72 research was conducted with an ultimate objective of integrated management of this disease, to
73 produce the optimum crop yield of high quality at minimum cost as well as to preserve the
74 environment.

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77 2-MATERIALS AND METHODS**78 2.1- Isolation of *X. citri* pv. *malvacearum***

79 Cotton leaves showing typical symptoms (water soaked lesions) of bacterial blight were
80 collected from experimental area, Department of Plant Pathology, University of agriculture
81 Faisalabad. For isolation of *Xcm*, diseased portion of leaves were cut into small pieces (1×1 cm),
82 surface sterilized with 0.1% mercuric chloride (HgCl₂) solution and then washed with distilled
83 water. Leaves were crushed with the help of pestle and mortar and distilled water was added in it
84 for preparation of bacterial suspension contained 10⁷cfu ml⁻¹ Then bacterial suspension was
85 transferred to nutrient agar media (NA) with inoculating loop (Nichrome, Qty/pk-12). All the
86 plates were incubated (Drucker 614B) at 28°C for 3 days. After 3 days, bacteria produced round
87 colonies of yellow color on nutrient agar medium. Bacterial colony was examined under
88 stereoscope (OLYMPUS, SZX-ILLB2-200) and was identified on the basis of morphological
89 characteristics (size, shape, texture and colony color).

90 2.2- Pathogenicity test

91 To fulfill Koch's postulates, seeds of susceptible variety (Bt-FH 142) of cotton were sown in
92 pots (12×9 cm dia.) which were filled with sterilize soil (2kg/pot) and these pots were transferred
93 to green house by adopting CRD Design. Recommended agronomic practices were followed
94 time to time and pots were watered once in a day. Plants at the age of 5-6 weeks were inoculated
95 by using sterilized syringe (24 Gauge needle size) filled with 20 µl (local isolates) bacterial
96 suspension, contained 10⁷-cfu ml⁻¹, which were measured by using colony counter (SUNTEX
97 560). Suspension was injected in midrib of leaves until the leaf became water soaked. In control
98 treatment, only sterilized water was injected. After development of disease, bacterium was re-
99 isolated from diseased leaves after one week of inoculation. Morphological characteristics (size,
100 shape, texture and color of colony) of re-isolated bacterium were compared with bacterial culture
101 that was used for inoculation. Re-isolated bacteria expressed exactly same colony characteristics
102 as that of original culture.

103 2.3- Laboratory evaluation of different chemicals against *X. citri* pv. *malvacearum*

104 Five chemicals i.e Flare, Agrimycine, Copper oxychloride, plant protector and Mancozeb were
105 used in the research Table-1. These chemicals were evaluated against the growth of *Xcm* by using

106 inhibition zone technique (Berry *et al.*, 1979) under complete randomized design with three
 107 replications. Each chemical was tested at 0.25%, 0.30% and 0.35% concentrations. Bacterial
 108 culture was multiplied by adding freshly growing aqueous bacterial suspension (1×10^7 cfu/ml)
 109 to the Luke warm NA media in a flask (ASTM- E288). It was shaken well and poured in plates
 110 (90×15 mm). These plates were wrapped with clingfilm and incubated at 30°C. When bacterial
 111 colonies were formed, wells of 6 mm were made by using sterilized cork borer at the center of
 112 plate. Chemical solutions of requisite concentrations were poured in petriplates with disposable
 113 sterile syringe (Glass and PTFE, 1050 model, 22 gauges) and were again wrapped with clingfilm
 114 and incubated at 30°C. The plates with no chemicals and only having 20 µl sterile water were
 115 considered as control against treatments. Data regarding inhibition zone was recorded after three
 116 days of interval.

117 **Table 1 Chemical with their active ingredients used against bacterial blight of cotton**

Common Name	Active ingredient	Concentration	Company
Flare	Streptomycin sulphate	72% w/w	Kanzo Ag (Pak.)
Mancozeb	Ethylene Bisdithiocarbamate	88.23% w/w	Dow Agro Sciences (Pak.)
Copper oxychloride	Copper oxychloride	850g/kg	Agri Star (Pak.)
Agrimicin	Streptomycin sulphate	75ml/L	Nufarm (Pak.)
Plant protector	Benzoic acid	80% w/w	Top Farmers (Pak.)

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119 **2.4- Laboratory evaluation of different plant extracts against *X. citri* pv. *malvacearum***

120 **Preparation of plant extracts**

121 Five plants extracts i.e. *Nicotiana tabacum*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Moringa oleifera*, *Datura alba*
 122 and *Curcuma longa*) were used in this experiment Table-2. Anti-bacterial efficacy of these five
 123 plants extracts was evaluated against bacterial colony growth. Fresh leaves of each plant were
 124 taken at flush stage, thoroughly washed with tap water and sun dried for two days. When leaves
 125 giving brittle appearance, were grinded by using electric grinder (AG014, MAKUTE). Powder
 126 (25 g) of each plant leaves was taken, dissolved in 100 ml of acetone solvent and was mixed
 127 thoroughly by using electric stirrer (R30, UET Mixer) which then poured into plastic tubes and
 128 centrifuged (Dawlance, 9170 WB) at 6000 rpm for 5 minutes. After centrifugation, supernatant
 129 was taken out with the help of pipette (Nichiprt EXII, E13319791) and passed through filter

130 paper (WhatmanNo.1). The extracts were arbitrarily considered as standard stored at -4°C and
 131 used further in experiments. For Turmeric, 100g piece of turmeric bulb was taken and washed
 132 thoroughly in water, macerated well in mortar and pestle in 100ml of distilled water. Mixture
 133 was centrifuged (Dawlance, 9170 WB) at 9000 rpm and extract was separated. Five plant
 134 extracts i.e., *N. tabacum*, *A. indica*, *M. oleifera*, *D. alba* and *C. longa* were evaluated against
 135 *Xcm* by using inhibition zone technique (Berry *et al.*, 1979) at 10, 15 and 20% concentration.
 136 Bacterial culture was multiplied by adding the freshly growing aqueous bacterial suspension to
 137 Luke warm NA media in a flask (Erlenmeyer, GW-11). It was shaken well and poured in petri
 138 plates (90 × 15 mm). These plates were wrapped with clingfilm and incubated (SANYO, 175 M)
 139 at 30°C. After solidification of culture media, wells of 6 mm dia. were made by cork borer at the
 140 center of the plate. Extracts of each plant with three concentrations were poured in the wells with
 141 sterilized disposable syringe (Glass and PTFE, 1050 model). Overflowing was strictly avoided.
 142 In control treatment, only sterile water was poured. Petri plates were carefully wrapped with
 143 clingfilm and dispensed for 24 hours in refrigerator (Dawlance, 9170 WB) at (4°C). After
 144 dispensing, plates were incubated (SYNYO, 175M) at 30°C. Experiment was conducted in
 145 Completely Randomized Design (CRD). Each treatment was replicated thrice. Data was
 146 recorded by measuring radius of Inhibition zones after 24, 48 and 72 hours.

147 **Table 2 Plants extracts used for their antibacterial potential against bacterial blight of**
 148 **cotton**

Common Name	Botanical Name	Active ingredients	Plant Part used	Authority
Sohanjna	<i>Moring oleifera</i>	Saponins (Abalaka <i>et al.</i> , 2012)	Leaves	Lamarck
Neem	<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	Nimbine (Terpenoids) (Lokanadhan <i>et al.</i> , 2012)	Leaves	A. Jussieu
Datura	<i>Datura alba</i>	Scopolamine (Okwu and Igara, 2009)	Leaves	C. Linnaeus
Tobacco	<i>Nicotiana tabacum</i>	Nicotine (Bakht <i>et al.</i> , 2012)	Leaves	C. Linnaeus
Turmeric	<i>Curcumba longa</i>	Curcumin (Moghadamtousi <i>et al.</i> , 2014)	Roots	C. Linnaeus

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 150 **2.5- Evaluation of Flare and *N. tabacum* against bacterial blight of cotton in greenhouse**
 151 In labarotary, Flare and *N. tabacum* expressed the most effective results against *Xcm*. So these
 152 were also evaluated in greenhouse conditions to check their efficacy against bacterial blight of

153 cotton. For this purpose seeds of susceptible variety (Bt-FH 142) with five replications, were
154 sown in pots (2 plants/pot) which were partially filled with sterilized loamy soil (2kg/pot). These
155 plants were artificially inoculated at the age of 6-7 weeks through syringe method by using 20 μ l
156 (local isolates) bacterial suspension, contained 10^7 cells/ml. Flare and *N. tabacum* alone and in
157 combination, were sprayed against disease, with three replication under complete randomized
158 design (CRD) in greenhouse, Department of Plant Pathology, University of Agriculture,
159 Faisalabad. Control plants were sprayed with distilled water only. Data regarding disease
160 incidence was recorded after seven, fourteen and twenty one days of application

161 **2.6- Evaluation of Flare and *N. tabacum* against bacterial blight of cotton in field**

162 To evaluate the efficacy of Flare and *N. tabacum* in field conditions, Seeds of susceptible variety
163 (Bt-FH 142) were sown with 30 cm plant to plant (P×P) and 75cm row to row (R×R) distance
164 under randomized complete block design (RCBD) in research area, Department of Plant
165 Pathology, University of Agriculture Faisalabad. After 5-6 weeks, when typical symptoms of
166 blight appeared on the leaves, (water soaked lesions) treatments i.e. Flare at the rate of 0.75%,
167 0.80% and 0.85% and *N. tabacum* at the rate of 45%, 50% and 55% alone and in combination
168 were applied. Control plants were sprayed with distilled water only. Each treatment was applied
169 with three replications with one control and each replication contained thirty plants. Data
170 regarding disease incidence was recorded after seven, fourteen and twenty one days of
171 application

172 **2.7- Statistical analysis**

173 The statistical analysis was performed by using SAS/STAT statistical software version 6 (SAS
174 Institute, 1990). Data was analyzed statistically and means were compared by using Least
175 Significant Difference (LSD) test (Steel *et al.*, 1997).

176 **3- RESULTS**

177 **3.1- Impact of chemicals on *X. citri* pv. *malvacearum* growth**

178 Maximum inhibition zone was expressed by Flare 1.69 cm followed by Plant Protector 1.47cm,
179 Mancozeb 1.29 cm, Agrimycine 1.15 cm and Copper oxychloride 0.95 cm respectively as
180 compared to control (Table 3). In the interaction between treatments and concentrations
181 maximum inhibition zones 1.76 cm was produced by Flare at 0.35% followed by 1.69 cm at
182 0.30% and 1.63 cm at 0.25% concentration respectively. Copper oxy chloride showed minimum
183 inhibition zones 0.90 cm, 0.95 cm and 1.01cm at 0.25%, 0.30% and 0.35% respectively, plant

184 protector expressed 1.40 cm, 1.47 cm, 1.55 cm, Mancozeb 1.24 cm, 1.29 cm, 1.34 cm.
 185 Agrimycine 1.10 cm, 1.17 cm and 1.18 cm inhibition zone at 25 %, 30 % and 35 %
 186 concentrations respectively as compared to control (Table.3).

187 **Table 3.** Impact of different chemicals in three different concentrtrions on the growth of *X. citri*
 188 *pv. malvacearum*.

Treatments	Inhibition zones (cm)			Mean Inhibition zones (cm)
	0.25%	0.30%	0.35%	
Flare	1.63c	1.69b	1.76a	1.693a
Plant Protector	1.40f	1.47e	1.55d	1.473b
Mancozeb	1.24i	1.29h	1.34g	1.290c
Agrimycin	1.10k	1.17j	1.18j	1.150d
Copper oxy chloride	0.90n	0.95m	1.01i	0.953e
Control	0.00 o	0.00 o	0.00 o	0.000f

189 Means in the column and rows with the dirrefent letters are significantly different at (p<0.05)

190 3.2- Impact of plant extracts on *X. citri pv. malvacearum*

191 Maximum inhibition zone was produced by *Nicotiana tabacum* 0.65 cm followed by
 192 *Azadirachta indica* 0.48 cm, *Moringa oleifera* 0.35 cm, *Datura alba* 0.25 cm and *Curcuma*
 193 *longa* 0.17 cm as compared to control (Table 4). In the interaction between treatments and
 194 concentrations, maximum inhibition zone 0.70 cm was produced by Tobacco at 20 % 0.65 cm at
 195 15 % and 0.60 cm at 10 % respectively. *C. longa* exhibited minimum inhibition zones of 0.18
 196 cm, 0.17 cm and 0.15 cm, *A. indica* expressed 0.43 cm, 0.49 cm, 0.54 cm, *M. oleifera* 0.32 cm,
 197 0.35 cm, 0.38 cm, *D. alba* 0.22 cm, 0.26 cm and 0.28 cm inhibition zone at 10 %, 15 % and 20
 198 % concentration respectively as compared to control (Table 4).

199 **Table 4** Impact of different plant extracts in three different concentrtrions on the growth of *X.*
 200 *citri pv. malvacearum*

Treatments	Inhibition zones (cm)			Mean inhibition zones (cm)
	10%	15%	20%	
<i>N. tabacum</i> (Tobacco)	0.600c	0.650b	0.700a	0.650a
<i>A. indica</i> (Neem)	0.430f	0.490e	0.540d	0.486b
<i>M. oleifera</i> (Moringa)	0.320i	0.350h	0.380g	0.350c
<i>D. alba</i> (Datura)	0.227 l	0.260k	0.283j	0.256d
<i>C. longa</i> (Turmeric)	0.150 o	0.170n	0.186m	0.168e

Control 0.000p 0.000p 0.000p 0.000f

201 Means in the column and rows with the different letters are significantly different at ($p < 0.05$)

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203 3.3- Impact of Flare and *Nicotiana tabacum* against bacterial blight of cotton in greenhouse

204 Minimum disease incidence 32.27 % was observed when Flare and *N. tabacum* were applied in
 205 combination, followed by Flare 36.91 % and *N. tabacum* 41.60 % as compared to control (Table
 206 5). In interaction between treatments and concentration *N. tabacum* expressed 37.06 %, 41.83 %
 207 and 45.90 % disease incidence at 40 %, 35 % and 30 % concentration and Flare showed 32.50 %,
 208 37.30 % and 40.93 % disease incidence at 0.60 %, 0.55 % and 0.50 % concentration. Minimum
 209 disease incidence was expressed by (Flare + *N. tabacum*) 27.86 %, 32.86 % and 36.10 %
 210 respectively at three concentrations as compared to control (Table 5). In interaction between
 211 treatments, concentrations and days, maximum reduction in disease was observed (39.40 %,
 212 37.50 % and 32.60 %) after seven days, 35.40 %, 32.60 %, 28.40 % after fourteen days, and
 213 33.50 %, 28.50 % and 22.60 % after twenty one days when Flare and *N. tabacum* was applied
 214 in combination at three concentrations. Flare expressed (44.20, 41.60 and 36.50 %), (40.10,
 215 37.40 and 33.50 %) and (38.50, 32.90 and 27.50 %) disease incidence after seven, fourteen and
 216 twenty one days respectively at 0.30 %, 0.35 % and 0.40 % concentration. Minimum reduction in
 217 disease incidence was exhibited by *N. tabacum* (48.40, 45.20 and 41.80 %) after seven day,
 218 (45.80, 42.80 and 37.90 %) after fourteen days and (43.50, 37.50 and 31.50)% after twenty one
 219 days when applied at 30 %, 35 % and 40 % as compared to control (Table 6).

220 **Table 5** Impact of Flare and *Nicotiana tabacum* and their mixture in three different concentrations
 221 on bacterial blight of cotton in greenhouse

Treatments	Disease incidence (%)			Mean Disease incidence (%)
	C1	C2	C3	
*Flare + <i>N. tabacum</i>	36.10i	32.86j	27.86 l	32.27a
**Flare	40.93f	37.30g	32.50k	36.91b
*** <i>N. tabacum</i>	45.90d	41.83e	37.06h	41.60c
Control	74.00c	74.66b	75.80a	74.82d

222 * C1=0.50% Flare + 30% *N. tabacum*, C2= 0.55% Flare + 35% *N. tabacum*, C3= 0.60% Flare +
 223 40% *N. tabacum*; ** C1= 0.50%, C2= 0.55%, C3= 0.60%; *** C1= 30%, C2= 35%, C3= 40%.
 224 Means in the column and rows with the different letters are significantly different at ($p < 0.05$)

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Table.6 Impact of Flare and *Nicotiana tabacum* and their mixture in three different concertations on three cosective weeks on bacterial blight of cotton in green house

Treatments	Disease incidence (%)								
	Week 1			Week 2			Week 3		
	C1	C2	C3	C1	C2	C3	C1	C2	C3
*Flare+ <i>N.tabacum</i>	32.60	37.50	39.40	28.40	32.60	35.40	22.60	28.50	33.50
**Flare	36.50	41.60	44.20	33.50	37.40	40.10	27.50	32.90	38.50
*** <i>N.tabacum</i>	41.80	45.20	48.40	37.90	42.80	45.80	31.50	37.50	43.50
Control	68.40	69.30	70.40	74.60	75.40	76.30	79.00	79.30	80.70

234 * C1=0.50% Flare + 35% *N. tabacum*, C2= 0.55% Flare + 35% *N. tabacum*, C3= 0.60% Flare +
235 40% *N. tabacum*; ** C1= 0.50%, C2= 0.55%, C3= 0.60%; *** C1= 30%, C2= 35%, C3= 40%.

237 3.4- Impact of Flare and *Nicotiana tabacum* against bacterial blight of cotton in field

238 Minimum disease incidence (40.41 %) was observed when Flare + *N. tabacum* were applied in
239 combination, followed by Flare (45.74%) and *N. tabacum* (50.41%) as compared to control
240 (Table 7). In interaction between treatments and concentration, *N. tabacum* expressed (54.60%),
241 (50.26%) and (46.36%) disease incidence at 45 %, 50 % and 55 % concentration, Flare showed
242 (49.70%, 46.46% and 41.06%) disease incidence at 0.75%, 0.80% and 0.85% concentration,
243 while minimum disease incidence was expressed by Flare + *N. tabacum* (44.23%, 41.93% and
244 35.06%) respectively at three concentrations as compared to control (Table 7). In interaction
245 between treatments, concentrations and days, maximum reduction in disease (46.50%, 46.30%,
246 39.40%) was observed after seven days, (44.30%, 41.60% and 36.50%), fourteen days, and
247 (42.10%, 37.30% and 29.30%) after twenty one days when Flare + *N. tabacum* was applied at
248 three concentrations. Flare expressed (52.50%, 49.60% and 45.70%), (48.90%, 46.10% and
249 41.60%) and (47.70%, 43.70% and 35.90%) disease incidence after seven, fourteen and twenty
250 one days respectively at 0.75%, 0.80% and 0.85% concentration. Minimum reduction in disease
251 incidence was exhibited by *N. tabacum* (56.70%, 53.90% and 51.50%) after seven day, (55.10%,
252 50.30% and 47.70%) after fourteen days and (52.00%, 46.60% and 40.30%) after twenty one
253 days when applied at 45%, 50% and 55% concentration as compared to control (Table 8).

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258 **Table 7** Impact of Flare and *Nicotiana tabacum* and their mixture in three different concentrations
 259 on bacterial blight of cotton in field experiment

Treatments	Disease incidence (%)			Mean Disease incidence (%)
	C1	C2	C3	
*Flare + <i>N. tabacum</i>	44.23h	41.93i	35.06k	40.41d
**Flare	49.70f	46.46g	41.06j	45.74c
*** <i>N. tabacum</i>	54.60d	50.26e	46.36g	50.41b
Control	80.96c	83.43b	84.40a	82.93a

260 * C1= 0.75% Flare + 45% *N. tabacum*, C2= 0.80% Flare + 50% *N. tabacum*, C3= 0.85% Flare +
 261 55% *N. tabacum*; ** C1= 0.75%, C2= 0.80%, C3= 0.85%; *** C1= 45%, C2=50%, C3=55%.

262 Means in the column and rows with the different letters are significantly different at (p<0.05)

263

264 **Table.8** Impact of Flare and *Nicotiana tabacum* and their mixture in three different
 265 concentrations on three consecutive weeks on bacterial blight of cotton in field

Treatments	Disease incidence (%)								
	Week 1			Week 2			Week 3		
	C1	C2	C3	C1	C2	C3	C1	C2	C3
*Flare + <i>N. tabacum</i>	39.40	46.50	46.30	36.50	41.60	29.30	44.30	37.70	42.10
** Flare	45.70	49.60	52.50	41.60	46.10	35.90	48.90	43.70	47.70
*** <i>N. tabacum</i>	51.10	53.90	56.70	47.70	50.30	40.30	55.10	46.60	52.00
Control	76.70	77.60	78.60	80.70	84.40	85.50	85.70	88.30	88.90

266 * C1= 0.75% Flare + 45% *N. tabacum*, C2= 0.80% Flare + 50% *N. tabacum*, C3= 0.85% Flare +
 267 55% *N. tabacum*; ** C1= 0.75%, C2= 0.80%, C3= 0.85%; *** C1= 45%, C2=50%, C3=55%.

268

269 4- DISCUSSION

270 The most suitable, economical, safe, reliable and practicable management of bacterial blight of
 271 cotton, is the use of resistant varieties. If resistant varieties are not available and disease appears
 272 in the field suddenly and at a very rapid rate in the field, the farmers have only one option to
 273 spray crop with some effective chemical. In present study, five chemicals (Flare, Plant protector,
 274 Mancozeb, Agrimycine and copper oxychloride at three concentrations were evaluated against
 275 *Xcm*. Maximum inhibition was expressed by Flare whose main ingredient is streptomycin
 276 sulphate. Plant extracts were selected because, they play an important role i.e. sustainable
 277 solutions in agriculture, reduce crop losses, eco-friendly, easily bio-degradable, cheaper and are
 278 an important component in integrated diseases management. In present research above plant

279 extracts were used on the basis of their easily availability in local area. Similarly five plants
280 extract (*N. tabacum*, *A. indica*, *M. oleifera*, *D. alba* and *C. longa*) were also evaluated against
281 growth of *Xcm* in lab. conditions by using inhibition zone technique. Among plant extracts *N.*
282 *tabacum* expressed maximum inhibition zone, (0.650cm). Then Flare and *N. tabacum* were
283 evaluated in greenhouse and field conditions against bacterial blight of cotton. Both Flare and *N.*
284 *tabacum* expressed significant results but maximum reduction in disease was expressed by
285 combination of Flare + *N. tabacum* both in greenhouse and field conditions. Fallouts of the
286 present study are reinforced by the work of Singh *et al.*, (2007) who evaluated twelve fungicides
287 and two antibiotics against bacterial blight disease. Among all chemicals streptomycin sulphate
288 expressed significant results both *in vivo* and *in vitro*. Similar results were also reported by
289 Jagtap *et al.*, (2012). A great potential of antibacterial activity is present in a number of plant
290 (Cao *et al.*, 2001). So in present study different plant extracts were used against bacterial blight
291 disease and outcomes of the present study are supported by the work of Sajid *et al.*, (2013) who
292 evaluated three chemicals (plant protector, agrimycine and copper oxy chloride) and three plant
293 extracts (*N. tabacum*, *C. colocynthis* and *C. longa*) against *Xcm* at different concentrations and
294 observed that *N. tabacum* expressed pronounced results.

295 The management of bacterial blight of cotton is achievable by plant extracts, which we selected
296 based on their well-established antibacterial activity as documented by various researchers
297 *Moringa oleifera* (saponins) Abalaka *et al.*, 2012, *Azadirachta indica* (Nimbin) Lokanadhan *et*
298 *al.*, 2012, *Datura alba* (scopolamine) Okwu and Igara, 2009, *Nicotiana tabacum* (Nicotine) Bakht
299 *et al.*, 2012 and *Curcuma longa* (Curcumin) Moghadamtousi *et al.*, 2014 as antibacterial agent
300 gave a casement for future and selection of suitable formulation and method of application of
301 plant product *in vitro*, green house and *in vivo* especially *N. tabacum* related research.

302 5- CONCLUSIONS

303 Flare and *N. tabacum* expressed maximum inhibition zone in lab and minimum disease incidence
304 under greenhouse and field conditions. The use of mixture of Flare and *N. tabacum* showed the
305 best results in disease reduction. Our results urges the need of the effective use of mixture of
306 botanicals with chemicals which can reduce the dose of pesticide. The use of chemicals pollute
307 our environment continuously, so it is essential to exploit antibacterial potential different plant
308 extracts.

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