

## Evaluation of *Pleurotus ostreatus* Jaco. Ex. Fr., for its growth at different stages and its Antifungal activity

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### **Abstract**

Experiments were performed during June to September, 2004 to determine the optimum conditions for growth of *Pleurotus ostreatus* Jaco. Ex. Fr., at three stages and its antifungal activity against *Aspergillus fumigatus* and *Fusarium solani*. The most vigorous mycelial growth was observed on potato dextrose agar (PDA) medium at 25°C under dark conditions at the first growth stage. Effect of PDA supplemented with carbon and nitrogen sources on growth was not significantly different. Sorghum grains were the best medium for the second growth stage of *P. ostreatus*. Rice straw took the shortest time for mature fruiting body formation. Antifungal activity of mycelial extract of *P. ostreatus* was found higher than antifungal activity of fruiting body extract against the tested pathogens of *Aspergillus fumigatus* and *Fusarium solani*.

**Key words:** *Pleurotus ostreatus*, culture media, substrates, spawn, antifungal activities.