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MAJOR DISEASES OF POMEGRANATE

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Abstract

Pomegranate (Punica granatum L.) is a popular fruit crop grown all over the world in tropical and subtropical climates. Despite the fact that the pomegranate tree is native to Central Asia, it is remarkably adaptable to a wide range of climatic and soil conditions. As a result, it is grown in many different parts of the world. Over the last few decades, there has been a massive expansion in area, output, and export all over the world. Several types of fungus, bacteria, and nematodes attack this fruit crop, resulting in significant yield losses in terms of quality and quantity. Apart from that, fruit cracking in ripe fruits is a common physiological problem that results in increased economic losses for the pomegranate fruit crop not only in India but around the world. Predominantly, bacterial blight, wilt, heart rot of fruits and fruit cracking have been identified major constraints while, anthracnose and cercospora diseases are less economical but sometimes under favourable environmental conditions they may even cause complete failure of the crop. Because

of the growing restrictions on the use of chemical fungicides, as well as environmental and human health concerns, a variety of bio-agents, plant products, bacterial inoculants, bacteriophages, and plant growth promoters and inducers have been explored and used in disease control and to meet the growing demand for low-input agriculture. The purpose of this chapter is to describe the latest developments with regards to important diseases of pomegranate and their sustainable management.

Biography

Aditya working as principal scientist in Chuadhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar, Haryana, India.