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## **SEED HEALTH TESTING AND SENSITIVITY OF SUGER BEET SEEDS**

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Seed health testing showed the presence of seven fungal genera: *Amorphotheca*, *Aspergillus*, *Chaetomium*, *Fusarium*, *Phoma* and *Pythium* isolated from sugar beet seeds obtained from sugar factory Mosul / Iraq and five genera: *Aspergillus*, *Chaetomium*; *Macrophomina*; *Mucor* and *Rhizoctonia* seeds obtained from Alexandria/Egypt. Isolation revealed the presence of two species of *Aspergillus* (*A. fumigatus* and *A. niger*). *Amorphotheca resiniae*, *F. solani*, *Ph. betae* and *P. ultimum* obtained from seeds of Iraq and *A. fumigatus*, *M. phaseolina* and *Mucor* spp. from seeds of Egypt. *Amorphotheca resiniae* and *Mucor* spp. has been reported for the first time on the sugar beet seeds. During testing, sugar beet sensitivity for fungi isolated from seeds of Iraq and Egypt showed that *P. ultimum* had the most pathogenic effect and caused heavy mortalities in different cultivars of sugar beet and the percentage mean of surviving plants was 16.66% while *M. phaseolina* had a weak pathogenicity (60.66%).

**Key words:** Seed health, sugar beet, seed, Iraq, *Aspergillus*, *Chaetomium*; *Macrophomina*; *Mucor*, *Rhizoctonia*