

CURRICULUM VITAE

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PERSONAL DATA:

Name: Dr. Rama Devi Narla
Date of Birth: 19th May 1948
Profession: Agricultural Scientist (Plant Pathologist)
Position: Sr. Lecturer
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. (1985): Osmania University, Hyderabad, India.
Thesis title: Studies on natural occurrence of *Aspergillus* toxins in maize and their control by some antifungal compounds
M.Sc. Agri. (1974): Banaras Hindu University, India.
Subjects; Mycology and Plant pathology
Thesis title: Teliospore development of two smuts in artificial culture and some soil fungi from Varanasi
B.Sc. Agric. (1970): Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University, Hyderabad, India.
Courses studied: Agronomy, Plant physiology, Agriculture botany, Genetics, Plant breeding, Plant pathology, Agriculture economics, Agriculture engineering, Horticulture and Agriculture Extension.

SCHOLARSHIPS/FELLOWSHIPS

- Banaras Hindu University Scholarship for 2nd year M.Sc. Agriculture 1974. Obtained University Gold medal for standing First in the Masters programme in the University.
- CSIR (Council of Scientific and Industrial Research) Scholarship (1982-1985) for Ph.D., in Microbiology.
- ICRISAT Scholarship (1995) Identification and Detection of Plant Viruses, ICRISAT Asia Center, India.
- ICRISAT Scholarship (1996) Virus Identification. Institute of Crop Protection, Pretoria, South Africa.

EMPLOYMENT

Work Experience:

- 2002-Date:** Senior Lecturer, Department of Plant Science & Crop Protection, UoN.
- 1989-2002:** Lecturer, University of Nairobi, Crop Protection Department, UoN.

Responsibilities:

- Teaching undergraduate and postgraduate courses; Plant Mycology, Post harvest diseases & Seed Pathology, Disease and Pest Management.
- Supervision of undergraduate, postgraduate and PhD students on their projects.
- Thesis examination both internal as well as external.
- Providing consultancy and advisory services to small-scale farmers as well as other growers with disease problems on different crops.
- Coordinating pesticide efficacy trials programme.

1995: Visiting Scientist, ICRISAT, India.

Responsibilities: Virus identification and transmission studies

1982-1985: Senior Research Fellow (SRF) Regional Research Laboratories Council of Scientific Industrial Research, India.

Responsibilities: Supervision of JRFs and undertaking PhD studies

1979-1982: Junior Research Fellow (JRF) Regional Research Laboratories (RRL) Council of Scientific Industrial Research.

Responsibilities: Isolation, culturing, identification of soil fungi and screening fungal metabolites for their efficacy on pathogenic fungi.

Positions Held as a member of the department, University of Nairobi

- 2008 to date:** Member of College Library Committee (Sub-committee of college Academic Board).
- 2006 to date:** Member, Faculty Post Graduate Studies Committee.
- 2006 to date:** Member, Department Research Committee.
- 2005 to date:** Coordinator, Pesticide efficacy trials, consultancy unit of the Department of Plant Science and Crop Protection.
- 2004-2005:** Examination Officer, Department of Crop Protection.
- 2005-2007:** Examination Coordinator, Dept. of Plant Science and Crop Protection.
- 1995-Date:** Member Dept. Welfare Association Committee.

Research & Teaching Interests

- Plant Mycology
- Epidemiology of Plant Diseases
- Varietal screening (phenotyping)
- Disease and pest management
- Post harvest diseases and seed pathology
- Pesticide science and Phytosanitary regulations.

Teaching Postgraduate, Undergraduates and Diploma students

<u>Course</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Level (Yr)</u>
Plant Mycology	1997-present	M.Sc., Undergraduate (4) and Diploma
Plant Virology	1990-1996	M.Sc.
Crop Protection	1991-2002	M.Sc.
Disease and Pest Management	2002-2008	M.Sc.
Post harvest Diseases and Seed Pathology	1994-2007	Undergraduate (4)
Diagnostics of Crop Diseases	2004-2012	Undergraduate (4)
Post harvest Pests and Diseases	2007-present	Undergraduate (4)
Virology and Nematology	1994-1996	Undergraduate (4)
Plant Pathology	1993-1994	Undergraduate (3)
Plant Pathology	1992-1993	Undergraduate (2)
Microbiology	1989-1992	Undergraduate (1)

ON GOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

- Improving bean yields by reversing soil degradation and reducing soil borne pathogens on small holder farms in Western Kenya, funded by USDANIFA., 2012-2016.
- Strengthening Capacity in Marker Assisted Breeding for Common Bean in Eastern Africa, funded by KirkHouse Trust, U.K. 2009-12.

STUDENT SUPERVISION AND RESEARCH

- Samuel Were: Studies on mode of action of organic fertilizers in combination with biocar on control of soil borne diseases in Beans (PhD on-going)
- Louisa Munyua: Studies on mapping of instances of root rot diseases in diverse bean based agro ecosystems in Western Kenya. (PhD ongoing)
- Birithia R Kayume: Diversity, characterization and management of Tospoviruses in vegetable ecosystems in Kenya. (PhD ongoing)
- Gerald K. Mutua: Impact of nutrient availability on the abundance and activity of *P. chlamydo sporia* in Kenyan soils (PhD on-going)
- Nessie Luambano: Role of Nematophagous fungi (*Pochonia chlamysporia* and *Paecilomyces lilacinus*) and soil organic amendments in integrated root knot nematode management in tomato (PhD submitted for degree award)
- Agnes W. Kihurani: Factors associated with post-harvest deterioration of sweet potatoes (*Ipomea batatas*) roots in Kenya (2004 PhD degree awarded).

M.Sc THESES ONGOING

- Joseph Orende: Breeding for Disease Resistance in Common Bean through Gene pyramiding and Phenotype (MSc on-going)
- Miriam Kuloba: Evaluation of stored dry orange fleshed sweet potato chips with respect to fungal contamination and beta carotene (MSc on-going)
- Wahome S.Wanjohi: Transfer and selection of multiple disease resistance to snap beans (MSc on-going)

M.Sc THESES COMPLETED

- Catherine N. Karanja: Integrated Management Strategies for Groundnut Rosette Disease 2009 (MSc.degree awarded).
- Mwalugha M.Stephen: Status of Grey leaf spot of Maize (*Zea mays* L.) and screening of maize germplasm for reaction to the pathogen *Cercospora zeae-maydis* 2009 (MSc. degree awarded).
- Mary M. Mutembei: Causes of post-harvest losses and management of anthracnose in avocado. 2009 (MSc.degree awarded).

- Benard O. Mware: Transmission and distribution of cassava brown streak virus in Eastern, Central and Western Kenya. 2009 (MSc. degree awarded)
- Sarah M Gachu: Evaluation of Vegetable intercrops for Management of Thrips and Foliar Diseases in Onions (*Allium cepa L.*)2009 (MSc. degree awarded).
- Scholastica L.M.: Management of Fusarium Head Blight of Wheat Through Host Resistance and Bio Control Agents 2009 (MSc degree award).
- Kiplagat K W. Evaluation of advanced R-gene free potato genotypes from population B3 for late blight resistance, yield, cooking and processing qualities. 2008. (MSc degree awarded)
- Riungu, G.M., Management of fusarium head blight of wheat and mycotoxin accumulation using antagonistic microorganisms. 2008 (M.Sc degree awarded.)
- Augustine Musoni: Inheritance of Resistance to Fusarium wilt (*F. oxysporum f. sp. phaseoli*) and Breeding for multiple disease resistant and marketable climbing beans 2008 (MSc degree awarded).
- Muchiri F. N: Efficacy and rates of application of some fungicides and their mixtures and extracts of *Tagetes minuta* in the control of late blight of potato 2006 (Msc degree awarded).
- Oduor H. Achieng: Fungal Pathogens and Mycotoxins associated with Maize ear rot 2005 (Msc degree awarded).
- Makelo M Nafuala: Determination of Seed borne fungal pathogens of onion spread and control of purple blotch caused by *Alternaria porri* (Ellis). 2004 (Msc degree awarded).
- Aginyah T. J: Reaction of *Ipomea batatas* (L) Lam Lines to *Alternaria* leaf spot and stem blight and effects of soil pH on disease severity. 2001 (Msc awarded).
- Asora B. O: Studies on strategies for the control of fruit anthracnose (*Colletotrichum gleosporioides*, Penz) and stem end rot (*Botryodiplodia theobromae*) of mango and avocado fruits. (Msc completed but thesis not submitted).
- Peter Ojiambo: Cultural studies and epidemiology of *Alternaria sasami* and effect of seed transmission and plantage on *Alternaria* leafspot severity of *Sesamum indicum L.* 1998 (Msc Awarded).

- Were H. K.: Survey of potato leaf roll virus (PLRV), evaluation of some promising potato clones for resistance to PLRV and its vectors and comparison of virus elimination methods. 1996 (Msc awarded).
- Kinyua Z. M: Casual agents of pyrethrum wilt and factors influencing the disease development and its management. 1995 (Msc awarded).
- Ann Kingiri: Etiology and control of purple blotch in onions (*Allium cepa* L.) caused by *Alternaria porri*. 1993 (Msc awarded).
- Kiprop'E.K: Etiology of Septoria leaf spot on cowpea (*Vigna unguiculata*) (L) walp and its interaction with some genotypes of cowpea and other food legumes and its chemical control. 1992. (Msc awarded).
- Kwena P.O: Studies on epiphytotic population interactions of *Xanthomonas campestris* and *Xanthomonas manihotis* pv *cassavae* and evaluation of available cassava germplasm against cassava bacterial blight in Kenya. 1989 (MSc awarded).

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS IN REFEREED JOURNALS:

- Scholastica Leah Musyimi, James Wanjohi Muthomi, **Rama Devi Narla**, John Maina Wagacha, 2012, Efficacy of Biological Control and Cultivar Resistance on *Fusarium* Head Blight and T-2 Toxin Contamination in Wheat *American Journal of Plant Sciences*, 2012, 3, 599-607 doi:10.4236/ajps.2012.35073. Published Online May 2012 (<http://www.SciRP.org/journal/ajps>) 599.
- Gachu S.M. Muthomi J.W., **Narla R.D.**, Nderitu J.H., Olubayo F.M.,Wagacha J.M., 2012, Management of thrips (*Thrips tabaci*) in bulb onion by use of vegetable intercrops *International Journal of AgriScience Vol. 2(5): 393-402, May 2012 www.inacj.com ISSN: 2228-6322© International Academic Journals*.
- James W. Muthomi, Scholastica L. Musyimi, John M. Wagacha3, **Rama D. Narla**, 2012, Occurrence of *Fusarium* species and associated T2-toxin in Kenyan wheat Vol.3, No.1, 24-34 (2012) *Agricultural Sciences* doi:10.4236/as.2012.31005.
- S.M. Wahome, P.M. Kimani, J.W. Muthomi, **R.D. Narla** and R. Buruchara, 2011, Multiple disease resistance in snap bean genotypes in Kenya *African Crop Science Journal*, Vol. 19, No. 4, pp. 289 - 302 2011, African Crop Science Society.

- Nyankanga, R.O, Kiplagat, K.W, **Narla R.D**, Shibairo S.J, Kabira J.N and Landeo J.A. 2011, Early and late harvest agronomic performance and stability of R-free late blight potato genotypes. *Crop Improvement(In press)*.
- **Narla R.D.**, J.W. Muthomi, S.M. Gachu, J.H. Nderitu and F.M. Olubayo, 2011, Effect of Intercropping bulb onion and vegetables on purple blotch and downy mildew. *Journal of Biological Sciences* 11(1):52-57.
- Augustine Musoni, Paul Kimani, **R.D. Narla**, Robin Buruchara, James Kelly, 2010, Inheritance of Fusarium wilts (*Fusarium oxysporum f sp.phaseoli*) resistance in climbing beans. African Journal of Agricultural Research, vol5(5), pp.399-404.
- Mware, B., F. Olubayo, **R. Narla**, J. Songa, R. Amata, S. Kyamanywa and E.M. Ateka, 2010. First record of spiraling whitefly in coastal Kenya: emergence, host range, distribution and association with cassava brown streak virus disease. *Int. J. Agric. Biol.*, 12: 411–415.
- Mware B., **R.D. Narla**, R. Amata, F. Olubayo, J. Songa, S. Kyamanyua, and E. M. Ateka 2009 . Efficiency of cassava brown streak virus transmission by two whitefly species in coastal Kenya. *Journal of General and Molecular Virology* Vol.1 (4), pp. 040-045
- Muchiri F.N, **Narla R. D**, Olanya O.M, Nyankanga RO., and Ariga S., 2009 Efficacy of fungicide mixtures for management of phytophthora infestans on potato. *Phytoprotection*.
- Mware, B.O, E. M Ateka, J. M Songa, **Narla R. D.**, F. Olubayo and R. Amata 2009. Transmission and distribution of Cassava brown streak virus disease in cassava growing areas of Kenya. *Journal of Applied Biosciences* 16: 864-870.
- Makelo, M.N., **Narla, R.D.**, Mibey R.K. 2008. Leaf diseases of onion *Allium cepa l.*) in Kenya. *Int. J. Agric. Rural Development* 11(1): 1-13
- Riungu, G.M., Muthomi, J.W., **Narla, R.D.**, Wagacha J.M. and Gathumbi J.K., 2008. Management of fusarium head blight of wheat and Deoxynivalend accumulation using antagonistic microorganisms. *Plant Pathology Journal* 7(1): 13-19.

- Muthomi, J.W., Riungu, G.M., Ndung'u J.K., **Narla R.D.**, Gathumbi J.K. and Wagacha J.M., 2008, Head blight of wheat in Kenya and contamination of grain with mycotoxin producing *Fusarium* species. *J. Plant Science* 3(1) 52-60.
- Makelo M.N., **Narla, R.D.**, Mibey R.K. and Makini, F.W. 2007. Effect of plant extracts on growth of *Alternaria porri* (Ellis) Cif and other fungal pathogens of onion. *J. Trop. Microbiol. Biotechnol.* 3(1): 7-11.
- Shibairo, S.; Demo, P.; Kabira, J.M.; Gildermacher, P.; Gachango, E.; Menza, M.; Nyankanga, R.O.; Chemining'wa, G.N and **R.D. Narla** 2006. Effects of gibberellic acid (GA₃) on sprouting and quality of potato seed tubers in diffused light and pit storage conditions. *Journal of Biological Sciences* 6(4): 723-733.
- Kihurani, A.W.; Shibairo, S.; Imungi J.K.; **Narla, R.D.**; Carey E.E. 2003. Susceptibility of sweet potato germplasm to rhizopus soft rot caused by *Rhizopus stolonifer* and *Rhizopus oryzae* in Kenya. *Muarik Bulletin*, 6: 30-34.
- Ojiambo, P.S.; Mibey R.K.; **Narla R.D.** and Ayiecho, P.O. 2003. Field transmission efficiency of *Alternaria sesame* in sesame from infected seed. *Crop Protection*, 22: 1107-1115.
- Were H.K, **Narla R.D.**, Nderitu J.H and Wiedemann H. L 2003. The status of Potato Leaf Roll Virus in Kenya. *Journal of Plant Pathology* 85(3), 153-156.
- Anginyah T.J., **Narla R.D.**, Carey E.E. and Njeru R.W., 2001, Etiology of soil pH and sweet potato varietal reaction to *Alternaria* leaf petiole and stem blight in Kenya. *African Crop Science Journal*, Vol.9, No.1, 287-292.
- Ojiambo P.S., **Narla R.D.**, Ayiecho P.O. and Mibey R.K. 2000. Infection of sesame seed by *Alternaria sesame* (Kawamura) Mohanty and Behera and severity of *Alternaria* leaf spot in Kenya. *International Journal of Pest Management*, 46(20), 121-124.
- Ojiambo P.S., Ayiecho P.O., **Narla R.D.** and R.K. Mibey, 2000, Tolerance level of *Alternarias sesami* and the effect of seed infection on yield in sesame in Kenya *Expl Agric.* Vol. 36, 335-342.

- Ojiambo, P.S.; Ayiecho, P.O.; **Narla, R.D.** and J.O. Nyabundi 1999. Effect of plant age on sesame infection by *Alternaria* leaf spot. *African Crop Science Journal*, 7: 91-96.
- Ojiambo P.S., **Narla R.D.**, Ayiecho P.O. and Nyabundi J.O. 1998. Effect of infection level of sesame (*sesamum indicum* L). seed by *Alternaria sesami* on severity of *Alternaria* leaf spot. *Tropical Agricultural Research and Extension*, 1(2), 125-130.
- Were H.K, **Narla R.D.**, Nderitu J.H and Kidanemarim H.M., 1996. Evaluation of some promising potato clones for tolerance to potato leafroll virus (PLRV) and for resistance to its vectors *Myzus Persicae* Sulzer and *Macrosiphum euphorbiae* Thomas. *Afr. J. Pl. Prot. Vol. 6*, 57-66.
- **Rama Devi G** and Polasa H., 1987. Interference in toxin production among toxigenic *Aspergillus* species. *J., Stored Prod. Res. Vol. 23, No. 3*, 149-150.
- **Rama Devi G** and Polasa H., 1985. Inhibition of growth and toxin production in *Aspergilli* by Thymol. *Indian Journal of Microbiology*, Vol. 25, No. 1, 1-3.
- **Rama Devi G** and Polasa H., 1985, Diacetyl: A growth and toxin inhibitor of *Aspergilli*. *J. Stored Prod. Res. Vol 21, No.4*, 195-197.
- **Rama Devi G** and Polasa H., 1985, Inhibitory effects of bavistin (Carbendazim) on growth and mycotoxin production by *Aspergilli* grown on maize. *Pesticides, XII*, 32-34.
- **Rama Devi G** and Polasa H., 1984, Inhibition of growth and toxin production by Lauric acid derivatives in *Aspergillus* species. *Curr Sci., Vol. 53. No.15*, 811-813.
- **Rama Devi G** and Polasa H., 1982, Mycotoxins from fungi on maize. *Curr Sci., Vol. 51, No. 15*, 751.
- **Rama Devi G** and Pavgi M.S.1975, Sporidial discharge in *Malalotaenium brachiariae*. *Curr Sci. Vol. 44, No. 14*, 513-514.

REFEREES

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