

Influence of Climatic Conditions and Cultural Practices on the Development of Fruit Bodies of *Pleurotus flabellatus* in Tripura.

Abstract:

*The oyster mushroom, Pleurotus flabellatus (Berk & Br.) Sacc., produced its fruit bodies in every month during the period, w.e.f. April 2005 to March, 2007 under in house condition of Tripura. However, the period from September to January was more favorable for fructification (BE 64.8 to 88.7%), with optimum production of fruit bodies (BE 80.3 to 88.7%) during November and December. The prevailing climatic factors, like, monthly average of daily maximum temperature, monthly average of daily minimum temperature, monthly average of daily RH at morning, monthly average of daily RH at afternoon, total monthly rainfall and number of rainy days in a month, affected mushroom yield significantly ($R^2 = 0.558$; Multiple R = 0.747). Spawn prepared from pileus tissue culture was more productive than that from multi-spore cultures. Both wheat and paddy grain spawn media were equally effective in producing fruit bodies. Saw dusts of *Trema orientalis* (Ban Naichcha, Chikun) was the most effective for fruit body formation, while, *Gmelina arborea* (Gamai, Gamair) was the least one, although, in all cases biological efficiency of saw dust was less than that of paddy straw.*

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