

pounds 4, 11 and 12 which showed mild activity, compound 7 being the most active (78%). However, all of them *in vivo* showed significant inhibition of SRV ranging from 52–75% except compounds 5, 6 and 10 which showed less activity, the maximum inhibition of 75% being caused by Compound 8.

It appears from table 2 that compounds containing diethyl-, morpholino- and piperidino carbamoyl phenylamino-methyl substituents at position 3- of 4-thiazolidinone-2-thione nucleus develop significant activity *in vitro* as well as *in vivo*. The 4-nitro analogs have shown less inhibitory efficacy than those of 4-nitro derivatives.

Among the twelve compounds tested against RDV, six compounds 7, 8, 9, 13, 14 and 15 were active and the rest were inactive.

It can thus be inferred that the presence of diethyl-, morpholino- and piperidino carbamoyl phenylaminomethyl substituents at position 3- of 4-thiazolidinone-2-thione moiety makes the compounds significantly active against SRV as well as against RDV.

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NEWS

NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON PHYTOBACTERIOLOGY

The Centre for Advanced Study in Botany, University of Madras, Madras, organized the National Symposium on Phytobacteriology during March 14–15, 1986. The symposium which attracted several distinguished phytobacteriologists from different states was inaugurated by Prof. G. Rangaswami, former Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore. Presentations included 5 special talks, 35 papers on the ecology, control and genetics of phytopathogenic bacteria and a special address by Dr D. N. Srivastava, Asst. Director-General of Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The University Grants Commission sponsored the symposium.

One of the important highlights of the symposium

was the report on isolation of plasmids from *Xanthomonas* spp and *Pseudomonas solanacearum*. For the control of major bacterial pathogens it was recommended that emphasis be laid on looking into the feasibility of biological control particularly by bacteriophages and antagonistic rhizobacteria. At the conclusion of the symposium the delegates made the following recommendations for follow-up: 1. Conducting a workshop on bacterial plant pathology; 2. Publishing a bulletin, twice a year, to publish short reports, focus on research findings and news item; 3. Starting a culture collection to store freeze-dried cultures of plant pathogenic bacteria; and 4. Conducting an International symposium on Phytobacteriology (after a period of 3–4 years).