

Screening common bean accessions for resistance to charcoal rot (*Macrophomina Phaseolina*) in Eastern Kenya

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Abstract

Common bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris* L.) germplasm was screened for resistance to charcoal rot (*Macrophomina phaseolina*) under field conditions at Kiboko and Katumani, eastern Kenya. Of the 313 bean accessions evaluated, 50 lines were resistant and six were tolerant to *M. phaseolina*, the charcoal rot incidence was less than 25% and between 25% and 50% for the resistant and tolerant lines respectively. Yields ranged from 135 to 1051 kg ha⁻¹ compared with 55 kg for the susceptible control A464. Time to maturity did not seem to influence or affect the susceptibility or resistance to *M. phaseolina* of the various bean accessions.