



## ROLE OF PLANT-MYCORRHIZA SYMBIOSIS IN REVEGETATION OF DISTURBED MINING SITES IN INDIA (NORTH TELANGANA)

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Extensive mining activities develop with energy requirements of globalizing World. Both underground- and open cast mining are resulting disturbed soil surfaces, which need to revegetate for environmental safety. Coal mining sites at North Telangana region of India was investigated. Soils are poor habitats for any plant establishment; the growth and survival of revegetated plants are possible only with arbuscular mycorrhiza (AM) fungal inoculation. Two leguminous agroforestry tree species were selected (Acacia nilotica, A.n. and Albizia lebbeck, A.l.). AM fungal spores were isolated and based on their morphological structures, 5 different types of AM species, the Glomus-, Gigaspora-, Acaulospora-, Scutellospora- and Sclerocystis sp. were identified. We have investigated the AM colonization rates, efficiency of selected strains in green houses and also at coal mine dumps by inoculation experiments on two test plants. AM fungal strains were found to be effective for the selected leguminous tree species both in their natural forests and at disturbed soils. *Glomus* sp. was the most dominant among the five different AM fungal species, more particularly G. aggregatum, G. fasciculatum, G. intraradices showed the best colonization and biomass production with the test plants. The AMF isolates from natural forests are supporting the revegetation of the disturbed mining sites. Preselection is needed for considering the environmental protection and the best soil functioning.

Keywords: mining sites, revegetation, AM fungi, isolation, inoculation

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