Disease Notes

First Report of Strawberry Anthracnose Caused by *Colletotrichum acutatum* in Connecticut. J. A. LaMondia, Department of Plant Pathology and Ecology, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, Valley Laboratory, P.O. Box 248, Windsor, CT 06095. Plant Dis. 75:1286, 1991. Accepted for publication 23 August 1991.

In early June 1991, an anthracnose fruit rot was observed in 3- to 5-yr-old plants of strawberry (*Fragaria* × *ananassa* Duchesne) cultivars Honeoye, Kent, and NY-113 in Hartford, New Haven, and Tolland counties in Connecticut. Fruit symptoms included sunken, light brown, water-soaked lesions that produced spore masses from subepidermal acervuli. Fruit became mummified under dry conditions. Isolations onto potato-dextrose agar from diseased green or ripe fruit and from brown stolon lesions yielded colonies of *Colletotrichum acutatum* J.H. Simmonds (1) with white to gray aerial mycelium and orange to salmon-colored spore masses. Colony diameters averaged 40 mm after 5 days at 25 C. Fusiform conidia from cultures averaged 14.5 × 5 μ, and setae were absent from fruit and PDA cultures. Healthy green Honeoye fruit inoculated with conidia showed similar symptoms after 3–4 days; the pathogen was reisolated from diseased fruit. This is the first report of strawberry anthracnose in Connecticut.

Reference: (1) B. J. Smith and L. L. Black. Plant Dis. 74:69, 1990.

First Report of Stem Cankers Caused by *Cytospora* Specie on *Alnus incana* in Oregon. G. M. Filip, Department of Forest Science, Oregon State University, Corvallis 97331, and C. A. Parks, Pacific Northwest Research Station, USDA Forest Service, 1401 Gekeler Lane, La Grande, OR 97850. Plant Dis. 75:1286, 1991. Accepted for publication 11 July 1991.

Cankers on stems of dead and dying mountain alder (*Alnus incana* (L.) Moench) were observed in the Grande Ronde River drainage near La Grande, Oregon, in 1985. *Cytospora* sp. (L. J. Spielman, *personal communication*) was isolated from necrotic tissue at canker margins. Koch's postulates were conducted by isolating the fungus from cankers on affected alder, inoculating healthy stems in the field, and reisolating the fungus from newly developed cankers. This is the first report of *Cytospora* sp. causing stem cankers on *Alnus* spp. in Oregon (2). From empirical and experimental data, stem wounds appear to be required for infection and disease development. Stem wounds in Oregon can be caused by several factors, including large mammals, but mass movement of river ice also periodically wounds and kills trees and shrubs in riparian zones (1). The disease does not appear to affect associated shrub species *Crataegus douglasii* Lindl. and *Cornus stolonifera* Michaux.

References: (1) G. M. Filip et al. Northwest Sci. 63:211, 1989. (2) L. J. Spielman. Can. J. Bot. 63:1355, 1985.

***Glomerella cingulata* Associated with Leaf and Shoot Blight of Hybrid Poplar.** G. Newcombe, J. M. Staley, and G. A Chastagner, Washington State University, Puyallup 98371-4998. Plant Dis. 75:1286, 1991. Accepted for publication 6 August 1991.

Blighted leaves of hybrid poplar (*Populus trichocarpa* Torr. & A. Gray × *P. deltoides* J. Bartram ex Marsh.) in plantations in western Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia were sometimes found to be infected with both *Pollaccia elegans* Servazzi (anamorph of *Venturia populina* (Vuill.) L. Fabricius in Hollrung) and *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* (Penz.) Penz. & Sacc. in Penz. (anamorph of *Glomerella cingulata* (Stoneman) Spauld. & H. Schrenk). Perithecia of *G. cingulata* and, less commonly, acervuli of *C. gloeosporioides* were observed together with pseudothecia of *V. populina* on blighted shoots during winter and spring. Surface-sterilized, detached poplar leaves on filter paper soaked with gibberellic acid solution (100 μg/g) were inoculated with ascospores of *G. cingulata* or conidia of *C. gloeosporioides*. In both cases, lesions developed within 24 hr that gave rise first to acervuli, then to perithecia. Uninoculated control leaves remained green for 3 wk or more and eventually died without yielding *C. gloeosporioides*. Lesions developed on leaf blades, petioles, and young stems of rooted hybrid poplar plants that had been sprayed with a conidial suspension of a single-ascospore isolate of *G. cingulata* and incubated 36 hr in a dew chamber (controls remained disease-free). Stem lesions did not, however, develop the shepherd's crooks that occur after inoculation with *V. populina*. *C. gloeosporioides*, but not *G. cingulata*, has been reported previously on *Populus* (1). Cultures and voucher specimens of *G. cingulata* and *C. gloeosporioides* were deposited in the herbarium of Washington State University (herb. WSP).

Reference: (1) G. C. Marks et al. For. Sci. 11:204, 1965.

***Lasiodiplodia theobromae* and *Fusarium proliferatum* Causing Storage Rots of Taro on Guam.** G. C. Wall and F. J. Cruz, College of Agriculture & Life Sciences, University of Guam, Mangilao 96923. Plant Dis. 75:1286, 1991. Accepted for publication 5 July 1991.

Taro (*Colocasia esculenta* (L.) Schott) corms normally last a month or more in storage at room temperature and 65–70% RH. Recently, entire lots have been spoiled in less than a week despite being stored at 22–24 C and 50% RH. *Fusarium proliferatum* (T. Matsushima) Nirenberg and *Lasiodiplodia theobromae* (Pat.) Griffon & Maubl. were isolated from infected corms. Koch's postulates were completed with both fungi by inoculating freshly harvested mature corms stored at 24 C and 50% RH; no infection developed in control corms. *F. proliferatum* (identified by P. E. Nelson and co-workers, Fusarium Research Center, Pennsylvania State University) produced a yellowish, spongy rot, sometimes found on the bottom of a freshly harvested corm. *L. theobromae* produced the most common symptoms observed only in storage, i.e., a brown, spongy rot starting near the bottom of a corm, progressing quickly upward, and eventually turning black, hence the common name spongy black rot. *L. theobromae* infected both mature corms and cormels by inoculation. This is the first report of taro storage rots caused by these fungi on Guam.

First Report of Septoria Fruit and Leaf Spot, Caused by *Septoria cucurbitacearum*, on *Cucurbita moschata* in Illinois. D. M. Eastburn, Department of Plant Pathology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Plant Dis. 75:1286, 1991. Accepted for publication 29 July 1991.

Septoria fruit and leaf spot was observed on processing pumpkin (*Cucurbita moschata* (Duchesne) Duchesne ex Poir.) in four commercial fields in central Illinois during the summer of 1990. Leaf spots were small (1–5 mm in diameter), circular to irregular, light tan to brown necrotic areas. Light to dark brown erumpent pycnidia developed in the necrotic tissue of older lesions. Small (1–2 mm in diameter), raised white spots, with dark brown pycnidia forming in the center, developed on the fruit. The size and morphology of pycnidia and conidia produced both on leaf lesions and in vitro on potato-dextrose agar were within the range reported for *Septoria cucurbitacearum* Sacc. Pathogenicity was verified after spray-inoculation of 3-wk-old pumpkin plants (cv. Libby Select) with a suspension of 8×10^3 conidia per milliliter. The leaf lesions that developed on inoculated plants were similar to those observed in the field. Koch's postulates were completed by reisolating *S. cucurbitacearum* from inoculated plants. Plants were too young to set fruit, so inoculation did not reproduce fruit spots. This is the first report of Septoria fruit and leaf spot on *Cucurbita* spp. in Illinois and the first report on *C. moschata* in the United States.