Fungal

First Report of Pestalotia sp. on Oak in Syria. Abdul-Latif Al Ghazawi\(^1\) and Abdullah Al Sharara\(^2\). (1) General Commission for Scientific Agriculture Research, P.O. Box 113, Damascus, Syria, Email: Ghazawi11@maktoob.com; (2) Directorate of Agriculture in Al Qunaatera, Syria, Email: AB-sharara@maktoob.com. Received: February 10, 2008; Accepted: June 17, 2008. Arab J. Pl. Prot., 26: 167.

Pestalotia sp. is a fungal pathogen on forest trees (2). It belongs to the Anamorphic Fungi (Deuteromycetes), the class-like of Coelomycetes and the order-like of Melanconiales (3). Infection symptoms appeared on the common oak (Quercus calliprinos) as necrotic spots particularly on the new leaves, with black dots (acervuli) formed in the center. The young branches became brown where the disease spread with high incidence. The disease was observed during a field survey in the forest nurseries of Nab‘a Al-Fwar region in Al Qunaatera province on crowded seedlings. It was also observed in the highlands of Arna region in Damascus countryside governorate where relative humidity is high; however, the infection was fewer and scattered. Direct sprinkler or random irrigation of forest nurseries without consideration of disease existence, may increase seedlings infection up to 95% or more so that every seedling could be infected. The fungal conidium consists of five cells, the three median cells are dark and the lateral two cells are hyaline, one of them was branched to two or three hyaline appendages and the other formed one apical appendage. This description is similar to that mentioned by Barnett and Hunter (1). The length of the conidium ranged between 40 and 45 µm. Length from outer parts without appendages was between 15 and 20 µm and width was between 5 and 7 µm. The acervuli were either ellipsoid or fusoid with a large variation in their sizes from formation until maturation. The dimensions of small ones ranged between 180 and 350 µm and the large ones may exceed 1 mm, with an average dimension of 300-350 µm. The acervuli were formed either in clusters or singly.

References


References


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