The international journal of the Mediterranean Phytopathological Union



Citation: V. Guarnaccia, C. Kraus, E. Markakis, A. Alves, J. Armengol, A. Eichmeier, S. Compant, D. Gramaje (2022) Fungal trunk diseases of fruit trees in Europe: pathogens, spread and future directions. *Phytopathologia Mediterranea* 61(3): 563-599. doi: 10.36253/phyto-14167

Accepted: December 27, 2022

Published: January 13, 2023

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Data Availability Statement: All relevant data are within the paper and its Supporting Information files.

Competing Interests: The Author(s) declare(s) no conflict of interest.

Editor: Alan J.L. Phillips, University of Lisbon, Portugal.

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Fungal trunk diseases of fruit trees in Europe: pathogens, spread and future directions

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Summary. Production from crops of pome, stone fruit, nut, berry fruit, citrus, grapevine, and olive is increasingly threatened by fungal trunk diseases (FTD). These diseases and the consequent production losses are major problems. Many fungi (including Botryosphaeriaceae, Calosphaeriaceae, Diaporthaceae, Diatrypaceae, Nectriaceae, Phaeomoniellaceae, Pleosporaceae, Togniniaceae, Valsaceae) infect host wood, mainly through wounds and subsequent colonization of woody tissues, causing symptoms such as cankers, gummosis, wood rotting, blight and dieback. Propagative plant material, seedlings and fruit play a significant role in pathogen spread. Several abiotic factors (e.g. shifts in cultural practices and climate change) are involved in the disease development. This paper reviews recent literature on FTD of fruit crops, particularly focusing on the European status of pathogen occurrence. Case studies are described related to diseases of apple, citrus, grapevine, berry, nut and stone fruit, and olive trees. Aspects related to epidemiology and the increase in disease incidence along with the future perspectives on the FTD research are also discussed.

Keywords. Wood cankers, dieback, Botryosphaeriaceae, abiotic factors, epidemiology.

INTRODUCTION

Trees cultivated in plantations are increasingly threatened by fungal trunk diseases (FTD) (van Niekerk et al., 2004; Gramaje et al., 2016). There is increasing evidence that trees share pathogens with plants of forestry environments and with woody hosts that are not considered to be trees (Crous and Wingfield, 2018). Examples are pathogens in the family Botryosphaeriaceae, which are polyphagous, being often involved in diseases affecting diverse crops and plants of forest importance (Van Niekerk et al., 2004; Guarnaccia et al., 2022). High incidence of FTD in fruit crops, such as pome and stone fruits, nut, berry fruit, citrus and olive, has been reported (Gramaje et al., 2012; Úrbez-Torres et al., 2013b; Carlucci et al., 2015b; Guarnaccia and Crous, 2017), demonstrating a need for focus on this group of host plants. FTD have become major concerns for fruit industry stakeholders, and their occurrence in orchards and consequent production losses, is likely to have resulted from several causes, including shifts in cultural practices and climate change (Doll et al., 2013).

Canker diseases of fruit crops are caused by a broad range of fungi that infect host wood, mainly through different kinds of wounds and subsequent colonization of vascular tissues (Crous and Wingfield, 2018). Wood pathogens cause symptoms such as cankers, gummosis, wood rotting, blight and dieback (Fig. 1; Gramaje et al., 2012). Dieback of shoots, branches, and main trunks can lead to tree death in severe cases (Slippers and Wingfield 2007). Several FTD pathogens have been identified as species within *Botryosphaeriaceae*, Calosphaeriaceae, Diaporthaceae, Diatrypaceae, Nectriaceae, Phaeomoniellaceae, Pleosporaceae, Togniniaceae, and Valsaceae, as well as Basidiomycota (Rumbos 1988; Moral et al., 2010; Kaliterna et al., 2012; Carlucci et al., 2013; 2015; Úrbez-Torres et al., 2013a; Guarnaccia et al., 2018b).

Some of these fungal pathogens live as endophytes in hosts after entering through wounds or natural openings, and pathogen spread occurs through asymptomatic plant material, seedlings and fruit, frequently circumventing country and region quarantine measures (Slippers and Wingfield, 2007).

Abiotic factors are strongly involved with FTD. High planting densities are required to maximize production and land resources, and these are combined with plant nutrient programmes, giving stressed cultivated plants. For example, almond production in Spain has increased in recent years, and new agronomic practices were adopted to increase yields from new plantations (León *et al.*, 2020). However, incidence of almond associated FTD, such as twig cankers and shoot blight caused by *Dia-*

porthe spp., has also increased (León et al., 2020). Abundant pruning wounds also promote chances of infections through possible airborne pathogen entry points (Henderson et al., 2021). Similarly, wounds induced by mechanical shaking of trunks for fruit harvesting can increase host infection (Holland et al., 2021a). Tree crop nurseries are important for meeting demands for plant material, and a lack of top-quality plants means greater incidence of FTD pathogens in the orchards. Global warming and climate change can increase plant stress and generate favourable conditions for the development of FTD, as for diseases caused by Botryosphaeriaceae (Pour et al., 2020), which are serious threats to different crops (Slippers et al., 2006).

The present paper aims to review recent literature on FTD, with a particular focus on the European situation of their causal agents, distribution and host associations, particularly relating to case studies on apple, citrus, grapevine, berry, nut and stone fruit, and olive trees. Moreover, epidemiology and hypotheses on the increase of FTD incidence are discussed, and future prospects and direction of trunk disease research are presented with the purpose of achieving sustainable disease management.

PATHOGEN DISTRIBUTION AND HOST RANGE IN EUROPE

In Europe, the group of fungi causing FTD is diverse and expands as new reports demonstrate (Table 1). While some of these fungi are probably host-specific, others have broad host ranges, including members of the Botryosphaeriaceae. This family is the most prevalent, and members can infect many different fruit crops. For example, B. dothidea is ubiquitous in Europe, and has been associated with FTD of walnut, hazelnut, almond, stone fruit, grapevine, olive, pistachio, apple and blueberry (Moral et al., 2010; Gramaje et al., 2012; Akgül et al., 2014; Fischer et al., 2016; Baránek et al., 2018; Hilário et al., 2020a; López-Moral et al., 2020a,b). In contrast, Neofusicoccum luteum has only been isolated from grapevines in Portugal and France (van Niekerk et al., 2004). Diplodia seriata can has also been found in different parts of Europe on many hosts, including walnut, grapevine, pear, quince, apple, apricot, plum, nectarine, almond and olive (Luque et al., 2009; Gramaje et al., 2012; Phillips et al., 2012; Carlucci et al., 2013; Kraus et al., 2019; Bien and Damm 2020; Eichmeier et al., 2020; López-Moral et al., 2020a). Diplodia mutila is also common and infects grapevine, and trees of walnut, apricot, olive, plum, pear and apple (Phillips et al., 2012; Carlucci et al., 2013; Alves et al., 2014; Gierl and Fischer,

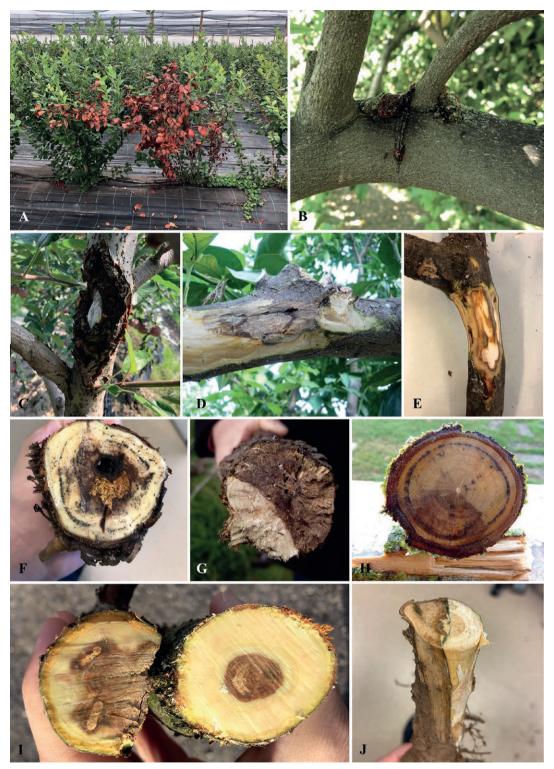


Figure 1. FTD symptoms on different fruit trees. Natural dieback of *Vaccinium corymbosum* 'Blue Ribbon' in the field (A); branch canker on *Citrus sinensis* caused by *Diaporthe* spp. (B, from Guarnaccia et al., 2020); trunk canker on apple caused by *Neonectria ditissima* (C); internal discolouration of *Citrus reticulata* branch affected by *Botryosphaeriaceae* (D, from Bezerra et al., 2022); internal discolouration of avocado twig caused by *Neofusicoccum* spp. (E); cross-section showing a central white rot surrounded by black spots and sectorial necrosis of an esca infected vine (F), wedge-shaped canker in a Eutypa dieback affected vine (G), black spots and dark brown to black streaking of the xylem tissue in almond branches (H), sectorial necrosis of walnut affected trees (I), wood discolouration in pear branches (J).

Table 1. Distribution and host range of fungal pathogens associated with FTD on fruit crops in Europe based on literature research.

Division	Family	Genus	Species	Host	Country	References
Ascomycota	Bionectriaceae	Acremonium	Acremonium sclerotigenum	Olea, Vitis	Spain, Italy	Agustí-Brisach et al., 2021; Lorenzini et al., 2016
Ascomycota	Xylariaceae	Biscogniauxia	Biscogniauxia nummularia	Prunus (Plum), Prunus (Cherry)	Germany	Bien and Damm, 2020
Ascomycota	Xylariaceae	Biscogniauxia	Biscogniauxia rosacearun	ıCydonia, Prunus (Plum), Pyrus	Italy	Raimondo et al., 2016
Basidiomycota	Phanerochaetaceae	Bjerkandera	Bjerkandera adusta	Prunus (Plum), Prunus (Cherry), Vitis	Germany	Bien and Damm, 2020; Kraus et al., 2018
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Botryosphaeria	Botryosphaeria dothidea	Juglans, Prunus, Vitis, Prunus, Olea, Pistacia, Malus, Prunus (Almond) Vaccinium, Mangifera	Portugal, Italy,	López-Moral <i>et al.</i> , 2020a,b; van Niekerk <i>et al.</i> , 2004; Batista <i>et al.</i> , 2020; Carlucci <i>et al.</i> , 2013; Fischer <i>et al.</i> , 2016, Akgül <i>et al.</i> , 2014; Pintos <i>et al.</i> , 2018; Turkolmez <i>et al.</i> , 2016; Moral <i>et al.</i> , 2010; Baránek <i>et al.</i> , 2018; Gramaje <i>et al.</i> , 2012; Hilário <i>et al.</i> , 2019; Aiello <i>et al.</i> , 2022
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Botryosphaeria	Botryosphaeria lutea (= Neofusicoccum luteum)	Vitis	Portugal	van Niekerk et al., 2004
Ascomycota	Ploettnerulaceae	Cadophora	Cadophora fastigiata	Vitis	Germany, Switzerland	Fischer et al., 2016; Casieri et al., 2009
Ascomycota	Ploettnerulaceae	Cadophora	Cadophora luteo-olivacea	Vitis, Vaccinium, Olea, Prunus (Plum)	Germany, Spain, France, Italy	Fischer et al., 2016; Pintos et al., 2018; Guarnaccia et al., 2020; Agustí-Brisach et al., 2021; Bien and Damm, 2020; Raimondo et al., 2019, Casieri et al., 2009
Ascomycota	Ploettnerulaceae	Cadophora	Cadophora malorum	Malus, Actinidia	Germany, Italy	Gierl and Fischer, 2017; Prodi et al., 2008
Ascomycota	Ploettnerulaceae	Cadophora	Cadophora melinii	Vitis	Spain	Gramaje et al., 2011
Ascomycota	Ploettnerulaceae	Cadophora	Cadophora novi-eboraci	Juglans, Malus, Prunus (Cherry)	Czech Republic, Germany	Eichmeier <i>et al.</i> , 2020; Gierl and Fischer, 2017; Bien and Damm, 2020
Ascomycota	Ploettnerulaceae	Cadophora	Cadophora prunicola	Prunus (Plum), Prunus (Cherry)	Germany	Bien and Damm, 2020
Ascomycota	Ploettnerulaceae	Cadophora	Cadophora ramosa	Prunus (Cherry), Juglans	Germany, Czech Republic	Bien and Damm, 2020; Eichmeier et al., 2020
Ascomycota	Calosphaeriaceae	Calosphaeriophora	Calosphaeria pulchella	Prunus (Cherry)	Spain	Berbegal et al., 2014
Ascomycota	Glomerellaceae	Colletotrichum	Colletotrichum fruticola	Persea	Italy	Guarnaccia et al., 2016
Ascomycota	Glomerellaceae	Colletotrichum	Colletotrichum gloeosporioides	Citrus, Persea	Italy	Guarnaccia et al., 2016,, 2017
Ascomycota	Glomerellaceae	Colletotrichum	Colletotrichum karstii	Citrus	Portugal	Ramos et al., 2016
Ascomycota	Tympanidaceae	Collophorina	Collophorina africana	Prunus (Apricot), Prunus (Almond), Prunus (Plum)	s Germany	Gierl and Fischer, 2017; Bien and Damm, 2020
Ascomycota	Tympanidaceae	Collophorina	Collophorina badensis	Prunus (Plum)	Germany	Bien and Damm, 2020
Ascomycota	Tympanidaceae	Collophorina	Collophorina germanica	Prunus (Cherry)	Germany	Bien and Damm, 2020

Table 1. (Continued).

Division	Family	Genus	Species	Host	Country	References
Ascomycota	Tympanidaceae	Collophorina	Collophorina hispanica	Prunus (Apricot), Prunu (Almond)	s Germany, Spain	Gierl and Fischer, 2017; Gramaje et al., 2012
Ascomycota	Tympanidaceae	Collophorina	Collophorina neorubra	Prunus (Cherry)	Germany	Bien and Damm, 2020
Ascomycota	Tympanidaceae	Collophorina	Collophorina paarla	Prunus (Cherry)	Germany	Gierl and Fischer, 2017
Ascomycota	Diademaceae	Comoclathris	Comoclathris incompta	Olea	Spain, Croatia, Ital	yMoral <i>et al.</i> , 2017; Ivic <i>et al.</i> , 2010; Carlucci <i>et al.</i> , 2013
Ascomycota	Coniochaetaceae	Coniochaeta	Coniochaeta hoffmannii	Vitis	Germany	Fischer et al., 2016
Ascomycota	incertae sedis	Cryptovalsa	Cryptovalsa ampelina	Juglans, Vitis	Czech Republic, Spain, Germany	Eichmeier <i>et al.</i> , 2020; Luque <i>et al.</i> , 2009,, 2012; Martin <i>et al.</i> , 2009; Kraus <i>et al.</i> , 2018
Ascomycota	Nectriaceae	Cylindrocarpon	Cylindrocarpon destructans	Olea, Vitis	Italy, Spain	Carlucci et al., 2013; Gonzalez and Tello, 2011
Ascomycota	Nectriaceae	Cylindrocarpon	Cylindrocarpon pauciseptatum	Vitis, Prunus (Peach), Prunus (Plum)	Slovenia, Portugal, Italy, Spain, Bulgaria, France	Cabral <i>et al.</i> , 2012; Yaseen <i>et al.</i> , 2012; Martin <i>et al.</i> , 2011; Piperkova <i>et al.</i> , 2017; Pintos <i>et al.</i> , 2018
Ascomycota	Nectriaceae	Cylindrocarpon	Cylindrocarpon peruvian	aPersea	Italy	Aiello et al., 2020
Ascomycota	Valsaceae	Cytospora	Cytospora chrysosperma	Prunus (blackthorn), Vitis	Germany, Spain	Gierl and Fischer, 2017; Kraus <i>et al.</i> , 2018; González and Tello, 2011
Ascomycota	Valsaceae	Cytospora	Cytospora oleina	Olea	Greece, Italy	Rumbos, 1988; Carlucci et al., 2013
Ascomycota	Valsaceae	Cytospora	Cytospora pistaciae	Pistacia	Italy	Aiello et al., 2019
Ascomycota	Valsaceae	Cytospora	Cytospora pruinosa	Olea	Spain	López-Moral et al., 2020b; Moral et al., 2017
Ascomycota	Nectriaceae	Dactylonectria	Dactylonectria hordeicold	a Vitis	France	Pintos et al., 2018
Ascomycota	Nectriaceae	Dactylonectria	Dactylonectria macrodidyma	Vitis	France, Spain	Pintos et al., 2018
Ascomycota	Nectriaceae	Ilyonectria	Ilyonectria macrodidyma	Vitis	Portugal, France, Turkey, Spain	Cabral <i>et al.</i> , 2012; Augustí-Brisach and Armengol, 2013
Ascomycota	Nectriaceae	Dactylonectria	Dactylonectria pauciseptata	Vitis	France, Spain	Pintos et al., 2018
Ascomycota	Nectriaceae	Dactylonectria	Dactylonectria torresensi	s Vitis	France, Spain	Pintos et al., 2018
Ascomycota	Diaporthaceae	Diaporthe	Diaporthe ampelina	Vitis	France, Spain, Turkey, Czech Republic, Germany UK, Croatia, Hungary	Pintos <i>et al.</i> , 2018; Akgül <i>et al.</i> , 2015; Baránek <i>et al.</i> , 2018; Kraus <i>et al.</i> , 2018; Guarnaccia <i>et al.</i> , 2018
Ascomycota	Diaporthaceae	Diaporthe	Diaporthe amygdali	Prunus (Almond), Juglans,Vaccinium, Perse	Portugal, Spain, <i>a</i> Hungary, Italy	López-Moral <i>et al.</i> , 2020b; Varjas <i>et al.</i> , 2017; Guarnaccia <i>et al.</i> , 2016, 2018
Ascomycota	Diaporthaceae	Diaporthe	Diaporthe baccae	Vitis, Vaccinium, Citrus, Mangifera		Guarnaccia et al., 2017,, 2018; Aiello et al., 2022
Ascomycota	Diaporthaceae	Diaporthe	Diaporthe bohemiae	Vitis	Czech Republic	Guarnaccia et al., 2018
Ascomycota	Diaporthaceae	Diaporthe	Diaporthe celeris	Vitis	UK	Guarnaccia et al., 2018
Ascomycota	Diaporthaceae	Diaporthe	Diaporthe cinerascens	Ficus	Bulgaria	López-Moral et al., 2020a,b

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Table 1. (Continued).

Division	Family	Genus	Species	Host	Country	References
Ascomycota	Diaporthaceae	Diaporthe	Diaporthe eres	Malus, Vitis, Prunus (Cherry), Vaccinium, Juglans, Prunus (Peach), Pyrus	Germany, France, Spain, Czech Republic, UK, Italy, Hungary, Croatia, Poland, the Netherlands, Lithuanian, Greece Switzerland	Gierl and Fischer, 2017; Pintos et al., 2018; Bien and Damm, 2020; Guarnaccia et al., 2018; Lombard et al., 2014; Eichmeier et al., 2020; Thomidis et al., 2009; Prencipe et al., 2017; Bertetti et al., 2018; Casieri et al., 2009
Ascomycota	Diaporthaceae	Diaporthe	Diaporthe foeniculina	Ficus, Vitis, Citrus, Persea, Pyrus, Vaccinium Juglans, Prunus (Almond), Mangifera, Litchi	Germany, France, Spain, Greece, Malta, Portugal, Italy	Gierl and Fischer, 2017; Pintos <i>et al.</i> , 2018; Vakalounakis <i>et al.</i> , 2019; Guarnaccia <i>et al.</i> , 2016, 2017; Mathioudakis <i>et al.</i> , 2020; Santos <i>et al.</i> , 2017; Hilario <i>et al.</i> , 2020; Lopez-Moral <i>et al.</i> , 2020; Gramaje <i>et al.</i> , 2012; Aiello <i>et al.</i> , 2022
Ascomycota	Diaporthaceae	Diaporthe	Diaporthe hispaniae	Vitis	Spain	Guarnaccia et al., 2018
Ascomycota	Diaporthaceae	Diaporthe	Diaporthe hungariae	Vitis	Spain, Hungary	Guarnaccia et al., 2018
Ascomycota	Diaporthaceae	Diaporthe	Diaporthe limonicola	Citrus	Malta	Guarnaccia et al., 2017
Ascomycota	Diaporthaceae	Diaporthe	Diaporthe mahothocarpu	sPrunus (Cherry)	Germany	Bien and Damm, 2020
Ascomycota	Diaporthaceae	Diaporthe	Diaporthe melitensis	Citrus	Malta	Guarnaccia et al., 2017
Ascomycota	Diaporthaceae	Diaporthe	Diaporthe novem	Vitis, Citrus	France, Spain, Italy	Pintos et al., 2018; Guarnaccia et al., 2017
Ascomycota	Diaporthaceae	Diaporthe	Diaporthe phaseolorum	Vitis	Spain, Switzerland	Pintos et al., 2018; Casieri et al., 2009
Ascomycota	Diaporthaceae	Diaporthe	Diaporthe rudis		,Germany, Portugal	; Pintos <i>et al.</i> , 2018, Guarnaccia <i>et al.</i> , 2018, , 2020; Bien and Damm, 2020; Casieri <i>et al.</i> , 2009; Lombard <i>et al.</i> , 2014; Aiello <i>et al.</i> , 2022
Ascomycota	Diaporthaceae	Diaporthe	Diaporthe vaccinii	Vaccinium	the Netherlands, Lithuania, Latvia	Lombard et al., 2014
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Diplodia	Diplodia bulgarica	Malus, Pyrus	Bulgaria, Germany Turkey	Phillips <i>et al.</i> , 2012; Hinrichs-Berger <i>et al.</i> , 2021; Eken, 2021
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Diplodia	Diplodia corticola	Vitis	Italy	Carlucci et al., 2015
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Diplodia	Diplodia pseudoseriata	Pistacia	Italy	Batista et al., 2020
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Diplodia	Diplodia juglandis	Juglans	France	López-Moral et al., 2020
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Diplodia	Diplodia malorum	Malus	Portugal	Phillips et al., 2012; Alves et al., 2014
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Diplodia	Diplodia mutila	Vitis, Juglans, Prunus (Apricot), Olea, Prunus (Plum), Pyrus, Malus		, López-Moral <i>et al.</i> , 2020, Gierl and Fischer, 2017; , Carlucci <i>et al.</i> , 2013; Pintos <i>et al.</i> , 2018; Bien and Damm, 2020; Batista <i>et al.</i> , 2020; Phillips <i>et al.</i> , 2013; Alves <i>et al.</i> , 2014
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Diplodia	Diplodia olivarum	Olea, Prunus (Almond), Pistacia	Italy, Spain	Phillips <i>et al.</i> , 2012; Gramaje <i>et al.</i> , 2012; Alves <i>et al.</i> , 2014; Linaldeddu <i>et al.</i> , 2016
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Diplodia	Diplodia sapinea	Malus, Vitis, Olea	Portugal, France, Italy	Batista et al., 2020; Comont et al., 2016; Alves et al., 2014; Phillips et al., 2012

Table 1. (Continued).

Division	Family	Genus	Species	Host	Country	References
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Diplodia	Diplodia scrobiculata	Olea	Italy	Phillips et al., 2012; Alves et al., 2014
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Diplodia	Diplodia seriata	Juglans, Vitis, Pyrus, Cydonia, Malus, Prunus (Apricot), Olea, Prunus (Plum), Prunus (Nectarine), Prunus (Almond), Prunus (Plum)	Czech Republic, Spain, Turkey, Spain, Germany, Germany, France, Italy, Bulgaria, Croatia, Portugal	Eichmeier et al., 2020; López-Moral et al., 2020; Kurbetli and Demirci, 2014; Moral et al., 2010; Phillips et al., 2012; Kaliterna et al., 2012; Carlucci et al., 2013; Ende et al., 2016; Batista et al., 2020; Kraus et al., 2019; Akgül et al., 2014; Luque et al., 2009; Gramaje et al., 2012; Bien and Damm, 2020
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Dothiorella	Dothiorella iberica	Juglans, Prunus (Apricot) Corylus (Hazelnut), Malus, Vitis	,Spain, Germany, Italy	López-Moral <i>et al.</i> , 2020; Gierl and Fischer, 2017; Phillips <i>et al.</i> , 2005; Carlucci <i>et al.</i> , 2015
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Dothiorella	Dothiorella omnivora	Juglans, Vitis	Czech Republic, France, Hungary	Eichmeier et al., 2020; Linaldeddu et al., 2016; Vaczy et al., 2018
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Dothiorella	Dothiorella sarmentorum	Juglans, Malus, Prunus (Almond), Cydonia, Vitis		López-Moral <i>et al.</i> , 2020; van Niekerk <i>et al.</i> , 2004; Gierl and Fischer, 2017; Carlucci <i>et al.</i> , 2015; Dissanayake <i>et al.</i> , 2016
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Dothiorella	Dothiorella viticola	Vitis	Spain, France	López-Moral et al., 2020; Batista et al., 2020; Comont et al., 2016
Ascomycota	Diatrypaceae	Eutypa	Eutypa lata	Juglans, Cydonia, Vitis, Pistacia, Prunus (Almond), Prunus (Plum), Prunus (Cherry) Olea	Czech Republic, Germany, Spain, Italy, France	Eichmeier et al., 2020; Gierl and Fischer, 2017; Luque et al., 2009; López-Moral et al., 2020b; Baránek et al., 2018; Gramaje et al., 2012; Bien and Damm, 2020; Tosi and Natalini, 2009; Aiello et al., 2019; Baranek et al., 2018; Laveau et al., 2009; Kraus et al., 2022
Ascomycota	Diatrypaceae	Eutypella	Eutypella citricola	Vitis	Spain	Luque et al., 2012
Ascomycota	Diatrypaceae	Eutypella	Eutypella leptoplaca	Vitis	Spain	Luque et al., 2009
Ascomycota	Diatrypaceae	Eutypella	Eutypella microtheca	Vitis	Spain	Luque et al., 2012
Ascomycota	Diatrypaceae	Eutypella	Eutypella vitis	Vitis	Spain	Luque et al., 2009
Basidiomycota	Hymenochaetaceae	Fomitiporia	Fomitiporia mediterranea	Olea, Vitis, Actinidia, Citrus, Prunus (Almond) Pyrus	Czech Republic, Germany, France, Greece, Austria,	R, Carlucci <i>et al.</i> , 2013; Luque <i>et al.</i> , 2009; Akgül <i>et al.</i> , 2015; Baránek <i>et al.</i> , 2018; Kraus <i>et al.</i> , 2022; Laveau <i>et al.</i> , 2009; Elena and Paplomatis, 2009; Elena <i>et al.</i> , 2006; Rumbos and Rumbou, 2001; Moretti <i>et al.</i> , 2021; Olmo <i>et al.</i> , 2017; Markakis <i>et al.</i> , 2017
Basidiomycota	Hymenochaetaceae	Fomitiporia	Fomitiporia punctata	Vitis, Actinidia	Italy, Greece, France	Cortesi <i>et al.</i> , 2000; Elena and Paplomatas, 2007; Jamaux-Despréaux and Péros, 2003
Ascomycota	Nectriaceae	Ilyonectria	Ilyonectria europea	Vitis, Actinidia	Portugal, France	Cabral et al., 2012
Ascomycota	Nectriaceae	Ilyonectria	Ilyonectria liriodendri	Vitis, Malus	France, Spain, Portugal, Switzerland, Turke	Pintos <i>et al.</i> , 2018; Cabral <i>et al.</i> , 2012; Alaniz <i>et al.</i> , 2009; Casieri <i>et al.</i> , 2009; Savas <i>et al.</i> , 2015

Table 1. (Continued).

Division	Family	Genus	Species	Host	Country	References
Ascomycota	Nectriaceae	Ilyonectria	Ilyonectria lusitanica	Vitis	Portugal	Cabral <i>et al.</i> , 2012
Ascomycota	Nectriaceae	Ilyonectria	Ilyonectria pseudodestructans	Vitis	Portugal, Spain	Cabral et al., 2012; Berlanas et al., 2020
Ascomycota	Nectriaceae	Ilyonectria	Ilyonectria robusta	Vitis	France, Portugal, Spain	Pintos <i>et al.</i> , 2018; Cabral <i>et al.</i> , 2012; Berlanas <i>et al.</i> , 2020
Ascomycota	Nectriaceae	Ilyonectria	Ilyonectria vitis	Vitis	Portugal	Cabral et al., 2012
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Lasiodiplodia	Lasiodiplodia citricola	Vitis	Italy	Carlucci et al., 2015
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Lasiodiplodia	Lasiodiplodia pseudotheobromae	Olea, Prunus (Nectarine) Pistacia),Italy, Turkey, Spain	Carlucci <i>et al.</i> , 2013; Endes <i>et al.</i> , 2016; Akgül <i>et al.</i> , 2014; Aroca <i>et al.</i> , 2010; López-Moral <i>et al.</i> , 2020b
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Lasiodiplodia	Lasiodiplodia theobroma	e Olea, Prunus (Nectarine) Vitis, Vaccinium, Mangifera),Italy, Turkey, Spain	Carlucci <i>et al.</i> , 2013, 2015; Endes <i>et al.</i> , 2016; Akgül <i>et al.</i> , 2014; Aroca <i>et al.</i> , 2010; Martin <i>et al.</i> , 2009; Borrero <i>et al.</i> , 2019; Aiello <i>et al.</i> , 2022
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Lasiodiplodia	Lasiodiplodia viticola	Vitis	France	Comont et al., 2016
Ascomycota	Phaeomoniellaceae	Minutiella	Minutiella pruni-avium	Prunus (Cherry)	Germany	Bien and Damm, 2020
Ascomycota	Sclerotiniaceae	Monilinia	Monilinia laxa	Prunus (Plum)	Germany	Bien and Damm, 2020
Ascomycota	Nectriaceae	Neocosmospora	Neocosmospora perseae	Persea	Italy, Greece	Guarnaccia et al., 2018, 2022
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Neofusicoccum	Neofusicoccum australe	Mangifera, Prunus (Almond), Vitis, Olea, Vaccinium	Italy, Spain, Portugal	Ismail <i>et al.</i> , 2013; Gramaje <i>et al.</i> , 2012; Aroca <i>et al.</i> , 2010; Lopes <i>et al.</i> , 2016; Hilário <i>et al.</i> , 2019
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Neofusicoccum	Neofusicoccum hellenicus	nPistacia	Greece, Italy	Lopes et al., 2016; Gusella et al., 2022
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Neofusicoccum	Neofusicoccum luteum	Olea, Vitis	Italy, Germany, Spain, France, Portugal	Carlucci <i>et al.</i> , 2013; Fischer <i>et al.</i> , 2016; Luque <i>et al.</i> , 2009; Pintos <i>et al.</i> , 2018; Lopes <i>et al.</i> , 2016
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Neofusicoccum	Neofusicoccum mediterraneum	Juglans, Vitis, Olea, Pistacia	Spain, Italy	López-Moral <i>et al.</i> , 2020a,b; Moral <i>et al.</i> , 2010, 2017; Brunetti <i>et al.</i> , 2022
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Neofusicoccum	Neofusicoccum parvum	Juglans, Malus, Vitis, Castanea, Citrus, Ficus, Prunus (Nectarine), Prunus (Peach), Pistacia, Mangifera, Vaccinium, Prunus (Almond), Persea, Olea	Spain, Portugal, Italy, Turkey, France, Greece, Croatia	López-Moral <i>et al.</i> , 2020a,b; Moral <i>et al.</i> , 2010; Batista <i>et al.</i> , 2020; Mondello <i>et al.</i> , 2013; Akgül <i>et al.</i> , 2014; Luque <i>et al.</i> , 2009; Pintos <i>et al.</i> , 2018; Ciordia <i>et al.</i> , 2022; Vakalounakis <i>et al.</i> , 2019; Aiello <i>et al.</i> , 2020; Thomidis <i>et al.</i> , 2011; Kaliterna <i>et al.</i> , 2013; Ismail <i>et al.</i> , 2013; Guarnaccia <i>et al.</i> , 2020; Gramaje <i>et al.</i> , 2012; Guarnaccia, 2016; Ismail <i>et al.</i> , 2013; Hilário <i>et al.</i> , 2019; Castillo <i>et al.</i> , 2013; Polizzi <i>et al.</i> , 2022
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Neofusicoccum	Neofusicoccum vitifusiforme	Vitis	Italy, Spain	Mondello et al., 2013; Aroca et al., 2010
Ascomycota	Nectriaceae	Neonectria	Neonectria ditissima	Malus	Portugal	Cabral et al., 2012
Ascomycota	Sporocadaceae	Neopestalotiopsis	Neopestalotiopsis rosae	Persea	Italy	Fiorenza et al., 2022
Ascomycota	Sporocadaceae	Neopestalotiopsis	Neopestalotiopsis sicilian	a Persea	Italy	Fiorenza et al., 2022

Table 1. (Continued).

Division	Family	Genus	Species	Host	Country	References
Ascomycota	Botryosphaeriaceae	Neoscytalidium	Neoscytalidium dimidiatum	Citrus, Juglans, Vitis, Prunus (Cherry), Prunus (Almond)	Italy, Turkey	Polizzi <i>et al.</i> , 2009; Dervis <i>et al.</i> , 2019; Oksal <i>et al.</i> , 2019; Oren <i>et al.</i> , 2020, 2022
Ascomycota	Didymellaceae	Nothophoma	Nothophoma quercina	Olea	Spain	Moral et al., 2017
Ascomycota	Diatrypaceae	Peroneutypa	Peroneutypa scoparia	Juglans, Vaccinium	Czech Republic, Italy	Eichmeier et al., 2020; Guarnaccia et al., 2020
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium alvesii	Olea, Vitis	Italy, Turkey	Gramaje et al., 2015
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium amygdalinum	Prunus (Almond)	Spain, Italy	Gramaje et al., 2012; Raimondo et al., 2021
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium angustius	Cydonia, Vitis	Germany, Portugal Spain	Gierl and Fischer, 2017; Gramaje et al., 2015
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium cinereum	Vitis	Spain	Gramaje et al., 2015
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium croatiense	Vitis	Croatia	Essakhi <i>et al.</i> , 2008
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium fraxinopennsylvanicum	Vitis, Actinidia	Germany, Italy, Croatia, Hungary, Spain	Fischer et al., 2016; Gramaje et al., 2015
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium griseorubrum	Vitis	Italy	Gramaje et al., 2015
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium hispanicum	Vitis	Spain	Gramaje et al., 2015
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium hungaricum	Prunus (Plum), Prunus (Cherry)	Germany, Hungary	Bien and Damm, 2020; Gramaje et al., 2015
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium infatipes	Vitis	Spain	González and Tello, 2011
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium iranianum	Actinidia, Prunus (Almond), Prunus (Plum), Vitis	Italy, Spain, Germany	Prodi <i>et al.</i> , 2008; Gramaje <i>et al.</i> , 2012; Bien and Damm, 2020
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium italicum	Olea, Vitis	Spain, Italy	Agustí-Brisach et al., 2021; Gramaje et al., 2015
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium krajdenii	Vitis	Spain	Gramaje et al., 2011
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium minimum	Vitis, Olea, Actinidia, Prunus (Cherry), Pistacio	Austria, Greece,	Pintos <i>et al.</i> , 2018; Akgül <i>et al.</i> , 2015, Agustí- Brisach <i>et al.</i> , 2021; Carlucci <i>et al.</i> , 2013; Luque <i>et al.</i> , 2019; Prodi <i>et al.</i> , 2008; Di Marco <i>et al.</i> , 2000; Mostert <i>et al.</i> , 2006; Lopez-Moral <i>et al.</i> , 2020; Garamaje <i>et al.</i> , 2015
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium oleae	Olive	Italy	Raimondo et al., 2022

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Table 1. (Continued).

Division	Family	Genus	Species	Host	Country	References
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium parasiticum	Vitis, Olea, Actinidia, Prunus (Cherry)	Spain, Italy, Greece	Aroca et al., 2010; Agustí-Brisach et al., 2021; Prodi et al., 2008; Gramaje et al., 2015
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium rubrigenum	Olea, Vitis, Actinidia	Italy, Croatia	Gramaje et al., 2015; Di Marco et al., 2010
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium scolyti	Olea, Prunus (Plum), Vitis	Spain, Germany, Italy, France, Turkey	Agustí-Brisach <i>et al.</i> , 2021; Bien and Damm, 2020; Carlucci <i>et al.</i> , 2015; Gramaje <i>et al.</i> , 2015; Ozben <i>et al.</i> , 2012
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium sicilianum	Olea, Vitis, Juglans	Italy, Spain, Czech Republic	Carlucci <i>et al.</i> , 2015; Gramaje <i>et al.</i> , 2015; Eichmeier <i>et al.</i> , 2020
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium tuscanum	Vitis	Italy	Gramaje et al., 2015
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium venezuelense	Prunus (Apricot)	Spain	Gramaje et al., 2015
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium vibratile	Prunus (Cherry)	Sweden	Gramaje et al., 2015
Ascomycota	Togniniaceae	Phaeoacremonium	Phaeoacremonium viticola	Vitis, Actinidia, Prunus (Plum), Prunus (Cherry) Olea	Germany, Spain, ,Italy, France	Fischer <i>et al.</i> , 2016; Luque <i>et al.</i> , 2009; Prodi <i>et al.</i> , 2008; Bien and Damm, 2020; Mostert <i>et al.</i> , 2006; Gramaje <i>et al.</i> , 2015; Raimondo <i>et al.</i> , 2022
Ascomycota	Phaeomoniellaceae	Phaeomoniella	Phaeomoniella chlamydospora	Vitis, Actinidia		Luque <i>et al.</i> , 2009; Pintos <i>et al.</i> , 2018; Akgül <i>et al.</i> , 2015; Baránek <i>et al.</i> , 2018; Agustí-Brisach <i>et al.</i> , 2021; Di Marco <i>et al.</i> , 2000; Chicau <i>et al.</i> , 2000; Fischer and Kassemeyer, 2003; Kakalikova <i>et al.</i> , 2006; Casieri <i>et al.</i> , 2009
Basidiomycota	Hymenochaetaceae	Phellinus	Phellinus tuberculosus	Prunus (Plum), Prunus (Cherry)	Germany	Bien and Damm, 2020
Ascomycota	Nectriaceae	Pleiocarpon	Pleiocarpon algeriense	Persea	Italy	Aiello et al., 2020b
Ascomycota	Pleurostomataceae	Pleurostoma	Pleurostoma richardsiae	Vitis	Turkey, Spain	Ozben et al., 2017; Pintos Varela et al., 2016
Ascomycota	Phaeomoniellaceae	Pseudophaeomoniella	Pseudophaeomoniella oleae	Olea	Greece, Italy	Markakis et al., 2022; Crous et al., 2015
Ascomycota	Phaeomoniellaceae	Pseudophaeomoniella	Pseudophaeomoniella oleicola	Olea	Italy, Spain	Crous et al., 2015; Agustí-Brisach et al., 2021
Basidiomycota	Stereaceae	Stereum	Stereum hirsutum	Prunus (Almond), Vitis	Germany, Spain, France	Gierl and Fischer, 2017; Luque <i>et al.</i> , 2009; Larignon and Dubos, 1997; Fischer and Kassemeyer, 2003
Basidiomycota	Polyporaceae	Trametes	Trametes versicolor	Prunus (Plum), Vitis	Germany	Bien and Damm, 2020; Fischer and Kassemeyer, 2003

2017; Pintos et al., 2018; Batista et al., 2020; Bien and Damm, 2020; López-Moral et al., 2020a). Other Diplodia spp. occur rarely and share different hosts: Dip. corticola (grapevines), Dip. juglandis (walnut), Dip. malorum (apple), Dip. prunicola (almond), Dip. pseudoseriata (pistachio), Dip. scrobiculata (olive) (Phillips et al., 2012; Alves et al., 2014; Carlucci et al., 2015b; López-Moral et al., 2020a; Batista et al., 2020).

Neofusicoccum is another common member of the Botryosphaeriaceae, which is a predominant FTD pathogen. The host range of N. parvum is broad, including walnut, grapevine, apple, chestnut, citrus, fig, nectarine, peach, pistacia, mango, blueberry, almond, avocado, and olive (Moral et al., 2010; Gramaje et al., 2012; Ismail et al., 2013; Akgül et al., 2014; Guarnaccia et al., 2016; Aiello et al., 2020a; Guarnaccia et al., 2020; Hilário et al., 2020a; López-Moral et al., 2020a). To date, this pathogen has only been isolated from plants in Croatia, France, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Spain, and Turkey, indicating a preference for warm climates. Further Neofusicoccum spp. probably restricted to the Mediterranean area and associated with FTD mainly of grapevine and olive trees, are N. australe, N. hellenicum, N. luteum, N. mediterraneum and N. vitifusiforme (Gramaje et al., 2012; Ismail et al., 2013; Hilário et al., 2020a; López-Moral et al., 2020a; López-Moral et al., 2020b; Gusella et al., 2022).

Lasiodiplodia spp. were exclusively isolated from fruit crop plants in the south of Europe, including France, Italy, Spain, and Turkey. Lasiodiplodia citricola was isolated from grapevine, L. pseudotheobromae from olive, nectarine and pistachio, L. theobromae from olive, nectarine and grapevine, and L. viticola only from grapevine (Martin et al., 2009; Aroca et al., 2010; Carlucci et al., 2013, 2015b; Akgül et al., 2014; Comont et al., 2016; Endes et al., 2016; Borrero et al., 2019; López-Moral et al., 2020b). Dothiorella sarmentorum, however, was associated with FTD of walnut, apple, almond, pear and grapevine, mainly in areas with cool climates, such as the Czech Republic, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, and Poland (van Niekerk et al., 2004; Carlucci et al., 2015b; Gierl and Fischer 2017; Dissanayake et al., 2017; López-Moral et al., 2020a). The closely related Dip. omnivora was also found in cool regions (the Czech Republic, France, Hungary) on walnut and grapevine (Linaldeddu et al., 2016; Váczy et al., 2018; Eichmeier et al., 2020). Dothoriella iberica has been associated with FTD of walnut, apricot, hazelnut, apple and grapevine, in Spain, Germany and Italy (Phillips et al., 2005; Carlucci et al., 2015b; Gierl and Fischer 2017; López-Moral et al., 2020a). Neoscytalidium dimidiatum has recently been related to canker and dieback of walnut, grapevine, cherry, almond and apricot in Turkey (Derviş et al.,

2019; Oksal *et al.*, 2019; Oksal *et al.*, 2020; Ören *et al.*, 2020; Ören *et al.*, 2022). This pathogen also caused shoot blight, canker and gummosis on citrus in Italy (Polizzi *et al.*, 2009).

Among Diatrypaceae, Eutypa lata has been commonly associated with FTD in Europe. This fungus was found on walnut, quince, grapevine, pistachio, almond, plum, cherry, blueberry, and olive, in the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, and Spain (Prodorutti et al., 2008; Laveau et al., 2009; Luque et al., 2009; Tosi and Natalini 2009; Wenneker et al., 2011; Gramaje et al., 2012; Gierl and Fischer, 2017; Baránek et al., 2018; Aiello et al., 2019; Bien and Damm 2020; Eichmeier et al., 2020; Guarnaccia et al., 2020; López-Moral et al., 2020b; Kraus et al., 2022). Other Diatrypaceae are less frequently associated with FTD in Europe; Eutypella citricola, Eu. leptoplaca, Eu. microtheca and Eu. vitis were found on grapevine in Spain (Luque et al., 2009; Luque et al., 2012). Peroneutypa scoparia was recently associated with dieback of walnut and blueberry in, respectively, the Czech Republic and Italy (Eichmeier et al., 2020; Guarnaccia et al., 2020). Cryptovalsa ampelina infected walnut and grapevine, in the Czech Republic, Germany, and Spain (Luque et al., 2009; Martin et al., 2009; Luque et al., 2012; Kraus et al., 2019; Eichmeier et al., 2020).

Diaporthaceae is another diverse group of fungi causing FTD of fruit crops. Like some Botryosphaeriaceae, Dia. eres is ubiquitous in Europe, and affects a wide range of hosts including apple, blueberry, cherry, grapevine, peach, pear, and walnut (Casieri et al., 2009; Thomidis and Michailides, 2009; Lombard et al., 2014; Gierl and Fischer, 2017; Prencipe et al., 2017; Bertetti et al., 2018; Guarnaccia et al., 2018; Pintos et al., 2018; Bien and Damm, 2020; Eichmeier et al., 2020). Diaporthe foeniculina caused FTD symptoms on almond, avocado, blueberry, chestnut, citrus, fig, grapevine, pear, and walnut, in France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, and Spain (Gramaje et al., 2012; Annesi et al., 2016; Guarnaccia et al., 2016; Guarnaccia and Crous, 2017b; Gierl and Fischer, 2017; Santos et al., 2017; Pintos et al., 2018; Vakalounakis et al., 2019; Mathioudakis et al., 2020; Hilário et al., 2020b; López-Moral et al., 2020a). Other Diaporthe spp. have also been linked to FTD on many different crops, especially grapevine, but their occurrence is rare (Lombard et al., 2014; Guarnaccia and Crous, 2017; Guarnaccia et al., 2018; Pintos et al., 2018), or some species such as Dia. amygdali are more host specific infecting mainly almond trees (León et al., 2020).

Species of *Phaeoacremonium* are well known for their involvement in FTD of grapevine. This group of fungi is diverse, with *P. minimum* being the most prevalent in Europe affecting grapevine, olive, blueberry,

cherry and pistachio (Di Marco et al., 2004; Mostert et al., 2006; Prodi et al., 2008; Luque et al., 2009; Carlucci et al., 2013; Gramaje et al., 2015; Akgül et al., 2015; Pintos et al., 2018; López-Moral et al., 2020b; Agustí-Brisach et al., 2021). Phaeoacremonium viticola, Pm. iraniaum and Pm. parasiticum are also common and have similar host ranges to *P. minimum*, including blueberry, grapevine, olive and Prunus trees (cherry, plum) (Mostert et al., 2006; Prodi et al., 2008; Luque et al., 2009; Aroca et al., 2010; Gramaje et al., 2012; Gramaje et al., 2015; Fischer et al., 2016; Bien and Damm 2020; Agustí-Brisach et al., 2021; Raimondo et al., 2021). Phaeoacremonium cinereum, Pm. croatiense, Pm. griseorubrum, Pm. hispanicum, Pm. infatipes, Pm. krajdenii and Pm. tuscanum were only isolated from grapevine in Croatia, Italy, and Spain (Essakhi et al., 2008; González and Tello, 2011; Gramaje et al., 2011b, 2015). In contrast, Pm. amygdalinum (from almond), Pm. hungaricum (Prunus trees, plum and cherry), Pm. olea (olive), Pm. venezuelense (apricot), and P. vibratile (cherry) were only found on hosts other than grapevine (Gramaje et al., 2012; Gramaje et al., 2015; Bien and Damm, 2020; Raimondo et al., 2021).

The *Nectriaceae* family includes diverse genera of FTD pathogens, currently named *Cylindrocarpon*-like asexual morphs, which are most known for their involvement in black foot of grapevine, mainly in France, Portugal and Spain (Alaniz *et al.*, 2011; González and Tello, 2011; Martin *et al.*, 2011; Cabral *et al.*, 2012; Agustí-Brisach and Armengol, 2013; Reis *et al.*, 2013; Pintos *et al.*, 2018; Berlanas *et al.*, 2020). However, these fungi have also been associated with decline of olive trees (in Italy), peach (Italy), plum (Bulgaria), apple (Portugal) and kiwifruit (Turkey) (Cabral *et al.*, 2012; Yaseen *et al.*, 2012; Carlucci *et al.*, 2013; Erper *et al.*, 2013; Piperkova *et al.*, 2017).

Investigation of wood necroses in crop trees often results in isolation of Cadophora spp., being C. luteoolivacea the most common species in grapevine, but also occurs on olive, plum and blueberry, in Germany, Spain, France and Italy (Casieri et al., 2009; Fischer et al., 2016; Pintos et al., 2018; Raimondo et al., 2019; Bien and Damm, 2020; Guarnaccia et al., 2020; Agustí-Brisach et al., 2021). Furthermore, C. fastigiata (in Germany and Switzerland) and C. viticola (Spain) were exclusively found on grapevine (Casieri et al., 2009; Gramaje et al., 2015; Fischer et al., 2016). More Cadophora spp., e.g. Ca. malorum, Ca. viticola, Ca. novi-eboraci, Ca. prunicola and Ca. ramosa, infected stone fruit trees (plum, cherry), walnut, apple and blueberry, in Germany, Italy and the Czech Republic (Prodi et al., 2008; Gierl and Fischer, 2017; Eichmeier et al., 2020; Bien and Damm, 2020).

Similar to Cadophora spp., Collophorina spp., including Collop. australe, Collop. badensis, Collop. germanica, Collop. hispanica, Collop. neorubra, and Collop. paarla, have been associated with wood necrosis, but mostly on stone fruit trees (apricot, almond, cherry, and plum) (Gramaje et al., 2012; Gierl and Fischer 2017; Bien and Damm 2020). Only Collop. hispanica has also been linked to discolouration of chestnuts in Spain (Yurkewich et al., 2017).

Besides the above-mentioned fungal families and genera, further species can cause FTD symptoms on different crops in Europe. For instance, Phaeomoniella chlamydospora, also associated with esca, appears in every European vineyard, and is probably host-specific for grapevine (Chicau et al., 2000; Fischer and Kassemeyer, 2003; Kakalíková et al., 2006; Casieri et al., 2009; Luque et al., 2009; Akgül et al., 2015; Baránek et al., 2018; Pintos et al., 2018; Agustí-Brisach et al., 2021). However, this fugus was also isolated from kiwifruit plants showing wood decay in Italy (Di Marco et al., 2003). Relatives of Pa. chlamydospora, Pseudophaeomoniella olea and Ps. oleicola, are also host-specific, but for olive, and are linked to wood decay and shoot dieback in Greece, Italy and Spain (Crous et al., 2015; Agustí-Brisach et al., 2021; Markakis et al., 2022). Species of Colletotrichum, such as Col. fructicola, Col. gloeosporioides and Col. karstii, have been related to canker and stem-end rot of avocado in Italy, and citrus disease in Italy and Portugal (Ramos et al., 2016; Guarnaccia et al., 2016, 2017). Cytospora chrysosperma affected grapevine and blackthorn (González and Tello, 2011; Gierl and Fischer, 2017; Kraus et al., 2019). Its relatives Cy. oleina, Cy. iistaciae and Cy. australe were linked to dieback of olive and pistachio, in Greece, Italy and Spain (Rumbos 1988; Carlucci et al., 2013; Moral et al., 2017; Aiello et al., 2019; López-Moral et al., 2020b).

Several basidiomycetous fungi have been recorded as involved in FTD. Fomitiporia mediterranea is the predominant species in Europe, especially in vineyards, where it causes white rot in grapevine trunks (Rumbos and Rumbou 2001; Laveau et al., 2009; Luque et al., 2009; Akgül et al., 2015; Baránek et al., 2018; Moretti et al., 2021; Kraus et al., 2022). In addition, this fungus was also associated with decline symptoms on olive, kiwifruit, citrus, almond and pear (Elena et al., 2006; Carlucci et al., 2013; Markakis et al., 2017; Olmo et al., 2017). Fomitiporia mediterranea caused wood decay of kiwifruit, in Italy, Greece and France (Cortesi et al., 2000; Elena and Paplomatas, 2002; Jamaux-Despréaux and Peros, 2003). Stereum hirsutum, was reported in Germany, Spain and France, where it was collected from decayed wood of grapevine, almond and chestnut

(Larignon and Dubos, 1997; Fischer and Kassemeyer, 2003; Luque *et al.*, 2009; Gierl and Fischer, 2017; Yurkewich *et al.*, 2017).

FUNGAL TRUNK DISEASES OF APPLE

Several pathogens infect trunks, branches and shoots of apple trees, causing cankers, twig blight, wood rot and, in severe cases, production losses and tree death (Sutton et al., 2014). Symptoms on adult trees develop after long periods, while young plants can rapidly die (Marek et al., 2013). Many Ascomycetes (approx. 36 species) have been associated with FTD of apple (Sutton et al., 2014). Among these, Neonectria ditissima is the most serious threat as the cause of European canker, which has typical symptoms of elliptical, sunken areas of dark reddish-brown cankers. After the first year, the cankers become irregular and rough, with bark cracks and abundant production of perithecia (Sutton et al., 2014; Weber and Børve, 2021). This disease has been reported in Germany, Ireland, Poland, and Portugal (Weber and Børve, 2021; Farr and Rossman, 2022).

The apple dieback syndrome is characterized by wood lesions, stunted plants, leaf chlorosis, bark discolouration and extensive cankers associated with wood decay, and progressive tree death (Sutton et al., 2014; Mang et al., 2022). Species in Botryosphaeriaceae and Diaporthaceae are considered the most relevant pathogens (Havenga et al., 2019; Ali et al., 2020; Diaz et al., 2022). Botryosphaeria dothidea and Dip. seriata are the main pathogens found associated with dieback of apple trees in several countries (Havenga et al., 2019; Diaz et al., 2022; Ilyukhin et al., 2022). Other Diplodia spp. recently reported as pathogenic on apple trees include Dip. bulgarica (Nourian et al., 2021), Dip. mutila (Urbez-Torres et al., 2016; Sessa et al., 2017; Diaz et al., 2019; Lodolo et al., 2022), Dip. intermedia and Dip. pseudoseriata (Delgado-Cerrone et al., 2016). Similarly, Diaporthe spp. were reported in association with dieback of apple, with Dia. eres dominating (Havenga et al., 2019).

Considering the wide range of pathogens, apple dieback is considered as a disease complex (Mang et al., 2022). However, only a few reports have been published on apple dieback in Europe. In Italy, Dip. malorum, Phomopsis mali, Nectria spp. and species in the Botry-osphaeriaceae were reported as causing dieback, cracking and necrosis of trunks and from graft union sites of apple trees (Prodorutti et al., 2012). Recently, Mang et al., (2022) investigated apple orchards in Southern Italy, and characterized N. parvum, Dia. eres, Dia. foeniculina, Pestalotiopsis australe, Trametes versicolor and Phomop-

sis spp. The Basidiomycete *Inonotus hispidus* was also shown to be responsible for severe wood decay, canker and dieback symptoms on apple trees in southern Greece (Markakis *et al.*, 2017).

FUNGAL TRUNK DISEASES OF CITRUS

Twigs, branches and trunks of citrus plants affected by several FTD caused by diverse fungi have been reported in different continents (Timmer et al., 2000; Mayorquin et al., 2016; Bezerra et al., 2021). Colletotrichum spp. are responsible of twig dieback in major producing areas in Asia and the USA (Huang et al., 2013; Mayorquin et al., 2019), and in Europe, where Col. gloeosporioides and Col. karsti were reported as dominant Colletotrichum spp. causing dieback of citrus twigs and shoots in Italy and Turkey (Aiello et al., 2015; Uysal et al., 2022).

Guarnaccia and Crous (2017) reported severe woody cankers of lemon trees caused by *Dia. limonicola* and *Dia. melitensis* in Malta, often showing gummous exudates and causing severe blight and dieback reported exclusively in Malta. Further *Diaporthe* species, including *Dia. baccae*, *Dia. foeniculina* and *Dia. novem*, are known as secondary pathogens causing wood diseases on citrus plants in Europe. *Diaporthe citri*, a key pathogen of citrus, was associated with shoot blight of *C. reticulata* in the Azores Islands, demonstrating for the first time the presence of a potential threat for citrus fruit production in Europe.

Several studies have recently revised species and genera of Botryosphaeriaceae, which include species largely distributed able to cause diseases of numerous plant species (Bezerra et al., 2021; Zhang et al., 2021). In particular, several studies have demonstrated the roles of Diplodia, Dothiorella, Lasiodiplodia, Neofusicoccum, and Neoscytalidium spp. as causal agents of FTD on Citrus spp. (Adesemoye et al., 2011; Berraf-Tebbal et al., 2020). Regarding European distribution, Neoscytalidium dimidiatum was reported to cause citrus branch canker in Italy (Polizzi et al., 2009). A broad survey conducted by Bezerra et al., (2021), through Greece, Italy, Portugal, Malta, and Spain, revealed the occurrence, genetic diversity, and pathogenicity of Botryosphaeriaceae species associated with symptomatic citrus cultivars. This study also demonstrated pathogenicity of Botryosphaeriaceae spp. in citrus-producing areas of these European countries. Phylogenetic multi-locus analyses identified four Diplodia species, with Dip. pseudoseriata being the most common, followed by three Neofusicoccum species, dominated by N. parvum, Do. viticola and L. theobromae.

Canker diseases of citrus are also caused by other fungal genera such as *Fusarium* and *Neocosmospora* (Sandoval-Denis *et al.*, 2018; Guarnaccia *et al.*, 2021), *Peroneutypa* (Timmer *et al.*, 2000), and *Phaeoacremonium* (Espargham *et al.*, 2020). Several *Fusarium* and *Neocosmospora* spp. were found in association with dry root rot, crown, trunk or twig cankers, or twig dieback, of citrus trees (Sandoval-Denis *et al.*, 2018).

FUNGAL TRUNK DISEASES OF GRAPEVINE

FTD of grapevine have become major problems in all grape producing countries, causing significant economic impacts from reduced production and vineyard longevity (AA.VV., 2022). Petri disease and black foot affect young grapevines while the diseases Eutypa, Botryosphaeria and Diaporthe diebacks, Cytospora canker and esca affect mature grapevines. These diseases are caused by a wide range of fungal pathogens producing diverse symptoms, including leaf and shoot distortion and discolouration, external wood cankers, internal wood necroses and staining, poor plant growth, mortality of roots, dieback and sudden grapevine collapse.

Petri disease is mainly caused by combinations of Pa. chlamydospora and 28 species of Phaeoacremonium (Gramaje et al., 2018) with Pm. minimum being the most prevalent (Gramaje et al., 2015). Other species associated with this disease include Cadophora spp. (Gramaje et al., 2011a) and Pleurostoma richardsiae (Halleen et al., 2007b). Up to 29 species of Cylindrocarpon-like asexual morphs belonging of Campylocarpon, Cylindrocladiella, Cylindrodendrum, Dactylonectria, Ilyonectria, Neonectria, Pleiocarpon and Thelonectria genera have been associated with black-foot of grapevine (Gramaje et al., 2018; Aigoun-Mouhous et al., 2019; Lawrence et al., 2019; Akgül et al., 2022). Dactylonectria torresensis is the most common species associated with this disease in Europe (Reis et al., 2013, Carlucci et al., 2017, Berlanas et al., 2020) and Algeria (Aigoun-Mouhous et al., 2019), while Da. macrodidyma has been considered the prevalent species in South Africa (Langenhoven et al., 2018) and Canada (Úrbez-Torres et al., 2014).

Eutypa dieback of grapevine is caused by 24 species of *Diatrypaceae* (Trouillas and Gubler 2010a; Luque *et al.*, 2012; Pitt *et al.*, 2013b; Rolshausen *et al.*, 2013), with *E. lata* being the most common and virulent fungus associated with this disease. Other genera of *Diatrypaceae* have been isolated from symptomatic wood, including *Anthostoma*, *Cryptosphaeria*, *Cryptovalsa*, *Diatrype*, *Diatrypella*, and *Eutypella* (Trouillas and Gubler 2010; Luque *et al.*, 2012).

At least 26 different species of Botryosphaeria, Diplodia, Dothiorella, Lasiodiplodia, Neofusicoccum, Neoscytalidium, Phaeobotryosphaeria, or Spencermartinsia have been reported as causal agents of Botryosphaeria dieback of grapevines (Úrbez-Torres and Gubler 2011; Pitt et al., 2013a,c; Rolshausen et al., 2013; Yang et al., 2017). Diplodia seriata, N. parvum and B. dothidea are the most frequently isolated species (Úrbez-Torres, 2011). Several studies have indicated that most rapidly infecting wood-colonizing fungi, and therefore the most virulent, are species of Lasiodiplodia and Neofusicoccum (van Niekerk et al., 2004; Úrbez-Torres et al., 2008; Úrbez-Torres and Gubler, 2009).

Several species of *Diaporthe* have been associated with Diaporthe dieback of grapevines (Baumgartner *et al.*, 2013; Úrbez-Torres *et al.*, 2013a; Dissanayake *et al.*, 2015; Guarnaccia *et al.*, 2018). Among these, the disease is primarily caused by *Dia. ampelina* (formerly *Phomopsis viticola*) (Úrbez-Torres *et al.*, 2013a; Dissanayake *et al.*, 2015), which has long been known as the causal agent of the grapevine disease named Phomopsis cane and leaf spot in the United States of America, or excoriose in Europe (Phillips 2000; Úrbez-Torres *et al.*, 2013a).

Several *Cytospora* spp. have been associated with Cytospora canker in Iran (Fotouhifar *et al.*, 2010; Arzanlou and Narmani, 2015), Canada and United States of America (Lawrence *et al.*, 2017), although their pathogenicity on grapevine has only been evaluated for *Cy. viticola* and *C. vinacea*.

Regarding Basidiomycetes associated with esca disease in adult vineyards, these belong to the genera *Inocutis*, *Inonotus*, *Fomitiporella*, *Fomitiporia*, *Phellinus*, and *Stereum* (Cloete *et al.*, 2015; Gramaje *et al.*, 2018), being *F. mediterranea* the most frequent species in Europe.

FUNGAL TRUNK DISEASES OF BERRY FRUIT

Dieback, canker, and twig and stem blights are common diseases of berry fruit crops (e.g., blueberry, cranberry). These have been associated with diverse fungal pathogens, but most frequently with species of *Diaporthe* and several genera in the *Botryosphaeriaceae* (Lombard *et al.*, 2014; Guarnaccia *et al.*, 2020; Hilário *et al.*, 2020a; Hilário *et al.*, 2021a). Surveys of orchards have shown that dieback and blight are the most common symptoms, which affect plant longevity and fruit yields, and therefore represent threats to production (Lombard *et al.*, 2014; Cardinaals *et al.*, 2018; Guarnaccia *et al.*, 2020; Flor *et al.*, 2022). *Diaporthe vaccinii* (= *Phomopsis vaccinii*) has been regarded as the major species of *Diaporthe* occurring on *Vaccinium* spp. (until recently included in

the EPPO A2 list), causing Phomopsis canker and dieback, twig blight, leaf spots and viscid rot (fruit rot), mainly on highbush blueberry (*V. corymbosum*) and cranberry (*Vaccinium macrocarpon* and *V. oxycoccus*), and also known as upright dieback and viscid rot of cranberry (EPPO Bulletin 2009; Lombard *et al.*, 2014; Michalecka *et al.*, 2017). *Diaporthe vaccinii* is probably widespread in the United States of America and Canada, but there are only a few reports of this fungus in Europe (Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, United Kingdom) (Lombard *et al.*, 2014; Michalecka *et al.*, 2017).

Several Diaporthe species have been reported from symptomatic blueberry plants rendering it questionable that Dia. vaccinii is a major pathogen of this crop. Its taxonomic status has also been the subject of debate, and Hilário et al., (2021b) proposed that Dia. vaccinii is a synonym for Dia. eres. Diaporthe eres is emerging as the most common and widespread pathogen of highbush blueberry in Europe, being associated with dieback, twig and stem blight, and canker, in Croatia (Ivić et al., 2018), Italy (Martino et al., 2022), the Netherlands (Lombard et al., 2014) and Portugal (as Dia. vacuae, a synonym of Dia. eres) (Hilário et al., 2020b). This fungus has also been reported as causing cane blight of raspberry in Italy (Guarnaccia et al., 2022b) and of blackberry in Croatia (Vrandecic et al., 2011). In addition to Dia. eres and Dia. vaccini on Vaccinium spp. in different countries in Europe, Lombard et al. (2014) described three new species, Dia. viticola (= Dia. rudis) from the Netherlands, Dia. baccae and Dia. sterilis were from Italy, Dia. rudis has also been reported from symptomatic highbush blueberry plants in Italy (Guarnaccia et al., 2020). A survey of highbush blueberry orchards in Portugal revealed the occurrence of ten Diaporthe species in symptomatic (dieback and twig blight) plants, namely Dia. ambigua, Dia. amygdali, Dia. crousii, Dia. foeniculina, Dia. hybrida, Dia. leucospermi, Dia. phillipsii, Dia. malorum, Dia. rudis and Dia. vacuae (= Dia. eres) (Hilário et al., 2020b, 2021a). Inoculation trials showed that Dia. amygdali and Dia. eres were the most aggressive to blueberry plants (Hilário et al., 2021a).

Species from at least four genera of Botryosphaeriaceae, namely Botryosphaeria, Lasiodiplodia, Macrophomina and Neofusicoccum, are known to cause disease on Vaccinium spp. Botryosphaeria stem canker is caused by B. corticis, a species considered an important pathogen of blueberry, but that has been reported only in the United States of America (Phillips et al., 2006). Botryosphaeria dothidea is known to cause stem blight and dieback and has been reported from highbush blueberry in Portugal (Hilário et al., 2020a). Of the 12 spe-

cies of *Neofusicoccum* associated with stem blight and dieback of blueberry plants, *N. parvum* and *N. australe* have been reported in Portugal and Spain (Castillo *et al.*, 2013; Hilário *et al.*, 2020a), and *N. eucalyptorum* in Portugal. From these three species, *N. parvum* was the most aggressive in inoculation trials with highbush blueberry plants (Castillo *et al.*, 2013; Hilário *et al.*, 2020a).

Species of *Lasiodiplodia*, mostly *L. theobromae*, are important pathogens of blueberry in tropical and subtropical climates (e.g., Rodríguez-Gálvez *et al.*, 2020), but have been also reported in Europe associated with canker and dieback of highbush blueberry in Spain (Borrero *et al.*, 2019) and the Czech Republic (Pečenka *et al.*, 2021). *Macrophomina phaseolina*, a common soilborne fungus, has also been reported on highbush blueberry plants, causing charcoal rot in Spain (de los Santos *et al.*, 2019) and blight in Serbia (Popovič *et al.*, 2018).

Godronia cassandrae f. sp. vaccinii (= Topospora myrtilli, syn. Fusicoccum putrefaciens) causes Godronia canker, also known as Fusicoccum canker. This fungus may cause severe stem dieback of highbush blueberry, especially in young plants. This pathogen has been reported in North America and Europe, as a cause of severe losses in commercial highbush blueberry production (Strømeng and Stensvand, 2011). However, there are no recent reports of this fungus, so its status in Europe is uncertain.

Although not representing major pathogens, pestalotioid fungi of the *Sporocadaceae* have also been reported from blueberry plants with canker, dieback, and blight symptoms (Rodríguez-Gálvez *et al.*, 2020; Santos *et al.*, 2022). *Neopestalotiopsis clavispora* was reported from canker and twig dieback of highbush blueberry in Spain (Borrero *et al.*, 2018). Also on this host in Portugal, Santos *et al.*, (2022) reported three species of *Pestalotiopsis* (*P. australis*, *P. biseriata*, *P. chamaeropis*) and four species of *Neopestalotiopsis*, including *N. rosae* and the newly described *N. scalabiensis*, *N. vaccinii* and *N. vacciniicola*.

FUNGAL TRUNK DISEASES OF NUT TREES

Trunk pathogens of nut trees are underestimated phenomena associated with decline, even where the plants have shown obvious symptoms of trunk diseases. The first comprehensive study of fungal trunk pathogens detected in the wood of almond trees in Mallorca was published in 2012 (Gramaje et al., 2012). Pathogens detected were: the Botryosphaeriaceae, B. dothidea, Dip. olivarum, Dip. seriata, N. australe, and N. parvum, confirmed by Olmo et al. (2016) and Arzanlou et al. (2016);

the Diatrypaceae E. lata; the Togniniaceae Phaeoacremonium amygdalinum and P. iranianum, confirmed by Raimondo et al. (2021); and the Diaporthaceae Diaporthe amygdali, later confirmed by Varjas et al. (2017), León et al. (2020), and Beluzán et al. (2022). Almond wood is also invaded by Pleurostoma richardsiae (Olmo et al., 2015) and Calosphaeria pulchella (Arzanlou et al., 2013). Holland et al. (2021b) described detailed symptoms on the almond wood associated with pathogens. They observed Botryosphaeriaceae canker, Ceratocystis canker, Cytospora canker, Diaporthe canker, Collophorina canker, Eutypa and Pallidophorina canker. Severe stem canker of almond trees caused by Fusarium solani was also reported by Markakis et al. (2021).

Walnut woody parts are commonly invaded by trunk pathogens, including Diatrypaceae, Diaporthaceae, Botryosphaeriaceae and Togniniaceae. In general, the spread of these fungi is similar in regions and countries such as: California (Diaporthe, Neofusicoccum) (Trouillas et al., 2010; Agustí-Brisach et al., 2019), Chile (Diaporthe, Diplodia, Neofusicoccum) (Díaz et al., 2018; Luna et al., 2022), China (Botryoshpaeria, Lasiodiplodia, Neofusicoccum) (Yu et al., 2015; Li et al., 2016), the Czech Republic (Cadophora, Cryptovalsa, Diaporthe, Diplodia, Dothiorella, Eutypa, Eutypella, Peroneutypa, Phaeoacremonium) (Eichmeier et al., 2020), Italy (Botryosphaeria, Neofusicoccum) (Gusella et al., 2021), Romania (Diaporthe) (Mihaescu et al., 2020), Spain (Botryosphaeria, Diaporthe, Diplodia, Dothiorella, Neofusicoccum) (López-Moral et al., 2020a; Moral et al., 2010), and Turkey (Botryosphaeria, Neofusicoccum) (Kara et al., 2021; Yildiz et al., 2022). Walnut wood also hosts Ca. spacidis and Ca. novi-eboraci (Incertae sedis) and these pathogens were detected in most surveyed orchards in the Czech Republic (Eichmeier et al., 2020).

Hazelnut plants can be hosts of Diaporthe as described for Turkey (Arciuolo et al., 2020) and Fomitiporia in Italy (Pilotti et al., 2010). Pistachio trunk pathogens are also known. Several pathogens were isolated in California, including Col. karstii, Cy. californica, Cy. joaquinensis, Cy. parapistaciae, Cy. pistaciae, Dia. ambigua, Didymella glomerata, Dip. mutila, N. mediterraneum, Pm. canadense, and Schizophyllum commune (Nouri et al., 2019). Survey of FTD pathogens of pistachio in Iran revealed Pm. parasiticum as a dominant species, followed by Pm. minimum, B. dothidea, N. parvum, Pm. cinereum, Pm. viticola and Do. viticola (Mohammadi et al., 2015). Chen et al. (2015) collected L. americana sp. nov. from blighted pistachio shoots in Arizona, United States of America, and N. hellenicum sp. nov. in Greece, while in Italy the new pathogen *Liberomyces pistaciae* sp. nov. was detected (Vitale et al., 2018). Nut trees such as almonds, pistachios and walnuts were described in Iran as hosts of *Botryosphaeria*, *Collophorina*, *Cryptosphaeria*, *Diatrype*, *Diplodia*, *Dothiorella*, *Eutypella*, *Lasiodiplodia*, *Neofusicoccum*, *Pleurostoma* by Sohrabi *et al.* (2020).

FUNGAL TRUNK DISEASES OF STONE FRUIT TREES

Stone fruit trees are commonly affected by numerous wood-invading pathogens causing cankers and dieback. Eutypa lata was first reported as the causal agent of gummosis or dieback of apricot in Australia (Carter, 1957), and has since been known to affect several types of stone fruit trees (Matthee et al., 1974; Carter 1982, 1995; Munkvold and Marois 1994; Rumbos, 1997). To date, at least 19 distinct species of Togniniaceae (i.e. Pm. scolyti, Pm. minimum, Pm. australiense, Pm. alvesii, Pm. parasiticum, Pm. infatipes, Pm. iranianum, Pm. italicum, Pm. griseorubrum, Pm. junior, Pm. longicollarum, Pm. pallidum, Pm. prunicolum, Pm. subulatum, Pm. fuscum, Pm. griseorubrum, Togninia africana, T. griseo-olivacea and T. fraxinopennsylvanica) have been associated with necrotic wood of stone fruit trees (Hawksworth et al., 1976; Rumbos, 1986; Hausner et al., 1992; Damm et al., 2008; Spies et al., 2018). As well, four Cytospora species (Cy. chrysosperma, Cy. longispora, Cy. plurivora, Cy. sorbicola) have been identified as canker and dieback-causing pathogens in stone fruit trees including Persica vulgaris, Prunus armeniaca, P. avium, P. cerasus, P. domestica and P. persica, in several countries (Lawrence et al., 2017).

Canker and branch dieback of sweet cherry trees caused by *Calosphaeriophora pulchella* has also been reported in California, Chile, South Australia and Spain (Trouillas *et al.*, 2012; Berbegal *et al.*, 2014; Auger *et al.*, 2021).

Studies conducted primarily in South Africa demonstrated the diversity of indigenous flora and the occurrence of newly identified fungi causing trunk diseases in adult stone fruit trees and propagation material (Damm et al., 2007, 2010). The pathogenic potential of most of these species has been confirmed in pathogenicity trials. Damm et al. (2007) isolated several Botryosphaeriaceae species (Dip. seriata, N. vitifusiforme, N. australe, Do. viticola, Dip. pinea, Dip. mutila, L. plurivora and Dip. africana) from plum, peach, nectarine and apricot trees showing wood necrosis in South Africa. In another study on Prunus trees showing wood necrosis (Damm et al., 2010), identified species of Coniochaeta (C. velutina and the two new species, C. africana and C. prunicola) and Phaeomoniellales (Pa. zymoides on Prunus salicina, and the new species Pa. dura, Pa. effusa, Pa. prunicola

and *Pa. tardicola* mainly in plum wood). The new genus *Collophorina* was also proposed, comprising *Collop. africana*, *Collop. capensis*, *Collop. pallida* and *Collop. rubra* that occurred frequently in necrotic peach and nectarine wood. Also in South Africa, apricot and plum trees were inhabited by five *Diatrypaceae* species with *E. lata* the most dominant, followed by *Cryptovalsa ampelina*, *E. cremea*, *Eutypella citricola* and *Eu. microtheca*, whereas no *Diatrypaceae* were found on peach and nectarine (Moyo *et al.*, 2018).

In a similar study conducted in Germany, *Pallidophorina paarla*, *Collop. africana* and the two new species *Collop. badensis* and *Collop. germanica*, were associated with wood necroses on *Prunus* trees (Bien and Damm, 2020). Here, *Cadophora* was reported for the first time from *Prunus*, with *Ca. luteo-olivacea* and *Ca. novi-eboraci* dominating (Bien and Damm, 2020). *Cadophora prunicola*, *Ca. ramosa* and *Minutiella pruni-avium* were also described as new species.

A study in the western cape of South Africa (van der Merwe et al., 2021) showed that stone fruit propagation material and nursery plants had latent infections of canker- and wood rot-associated fungi, with Ca. luteo-olivacea and Dip. seriata as the most frequently isolated. Sampled nursery trees were 22% infected, ungrafted rooted rootstock plants, 11%, dormant rootstock shoots, 6%, dormant buds, 1%, and green buds were 0.4% infected. Van der Merwe et al. (2021) also made 22 new records of fungal species on stone fruit, including (among others), three species of Coniochaeta, two of Cadophora and Cytospora, and one species of Biscogniauxia, Eutypella and Peniophora.

FUNGAL TRUNK DISEASES OF OLIVE TREES

FTD of olive have been considered as emerging problems for olive cultivation. Several studies have shown many wood-inhabiting fungi in diverse groups as causal agents of discrete diseases in adult and nursery olive plants. Numerous Botryosphaeriaceae species (i.e. B. dothidea, B. obtusa, Dip. mutila, Dip. seriata, Do. iberica, L. theobromae, N. australe, N. stellenboschiana, N. luteum, N. mediterraneum, N. parvum and N. vitifusiforme) have been shown as causing olive twig and branch dieback in California, Croatia, Italy, Tunisia, South Africa and Spain (Moral et al., 2010, 2017; Carlucci et al., 2013; Kaliterna et al., 2013a; Úrbez-Torres et al., 2013b; Spies et al., 2020; van Dyk et al., 2021b).

Several Togniniaceae (i.e. Pm. africanum, Pm. alvesii, Pm. italicum, Pm. minimum, Pm. oleae, Pm. parasiticum, Pm. prunicola, Pm. rubrigenun, Pm. sco-

lyti, Pm. sicilianum, Pm. spadicum and Pm. viticola), Phaeomoniellales (i.e. Neophaeomoniella niveniae, Pa. chlamydospora, Pseudophaeomoniella globose, Ps. oleae and Ps. oleicola) and Acremonium sclerotigenum, Ca. luteo-olivacea, Comoclathris incompta, Paracremonium sp. and Pleurostoma richardsiae have also been indicated as causal agents of olive wood streaking, wilting, dieback and decline in California, Croatia, Greece, Italy, South Africa and Spain (Ivic et al., 2010; Nigro et al., 2013; Carlucci et al., 2015; Markakis et al., 2017, 2022; Spies et al., 2020; Agustí-Brisach et al., 2021; Lawrence et al., 2021; van Dyk et al., 2021b; Raimondo et al., 2022).

The Basidiomycetes F. mediterranea (Fig. 2), Fomitiporella viticola, Ganoderma lucidum, Phellinus linteus, P. robiniae, Schizophyllum commune and Trametes versicolor have also been reported to be involved in olive wood rot and decay, in California, Greece and South Africa (Crous et al., 2000; Úrbez-Torres et al., 2013b; Markakis et al., 2017, 2019; Lawrence et al., 2021; van Dyk et al., 2021b). Members of Diatrypaceae (i.e. Diat. oregonensis, Diat. stigma, E. lata), and species of Cytospora (i.e. Cy. oleina, Cy. oleicola, Cy. olivarum, Cy. plurivora, Cy. pruinosa and Cy. sorbicola) and Diaporthe (i.e. Dia. viticola, Dia. rubis, Dia. foeniculina) were associated with canker and twig and branch dieback diseases of olive trees in California, Greece, South Africa and Spain (Rumbos, 1988, 1993; Moral et al., 2017; Lawrence et. al., 2017; van Dyk et al., 2021b).

A recent survey by van Dyk et al. (2021b), in the Western Cape Province, South Africa, and coupled with pathogenicity tests, showed Ps. globosa as a major olive trunk pathogen, and several lesser-known fungi were also associated with olive trunk disease symptoms. These included Biscogniauxia rosacearum, Celerioriella umnquma, Coniochaeta velutina, Coniothyrium ferrarisianum, Didymocyrtis banksiae, Punctularia atropurpurascens, Vredendaliella oleae, an undescribed Cytospora sp., Geosmithia sp., two undescribed Neofusicoccum spp., and four Xenocylindrosporium spp. Van Dyk et al. (2021a) also surveyed trunk pathogens in South African olive nurseries, and found several pathogens in Nectriaceae, Diaporthaceae, Botryosphaeriaceae, Togniniaceae, Phaeomoniellaceae and Pleurostomataceae, with N. australe, Pleurostoma richardsiae and Pm. parasiticum the most common fungi in propagating plant material.

EPIDEMIOLOGY OF TRUNK DISEASES

Most FTD pathogens can infect planting material during propagation processes in nurseries. Several studies have shown evidence to support non-pathogenic



Figure 2. Wood decay (Esca) symptoms in olive trees in Thrace, Northeastern Greece, infected by *Fomitiporia mediterranea*. Canker in the trunk (**A**); white rot appeared after removing a trunk sector due to incorrectly adjusted irrigation sprinklers which created conducive conditions for fungal infection (**B**); carpophore of *F. mediterranea* formed on the trunk surface (**C**); trunk cross section revealing light-coloured wood rot surrounded by a brown necrotic zone (**D**).

endophytic phases for these fungi, as they have been isolated from asymptomatic mother plants and propagation material (Halleen et al., 2003; Aroca et al., 2010; Berlanas et al., 2020; van der Merwe et al., 2021). Several studies have confirmed that plant propagation stages are potential infection points in grapevine nurseries (Edwards and Pascoe 2004; Aroca et al., 2010; Halleen et al., 2003; 2007a; Agustí-Brisach et al., 2013), and recent studies indicate the role of infected planting material in the dissemination of fungal trunk pathogens in stone fruit trees (Marín-Terrazas et al., 2016; van Dyk et al., 2021a; van der Merwe et al., 2021; Capote et al., 2022) and apple (Havenga et al., 2019).

Cylindrocarpon-like asexual morphs are soilborne. These fungi are commonly found in nursery fields and soils, so inoculum may already exist in soils before planting (Agustí-Brisach et al., 2013; Berlanas et al., 2017). However, most FTD pathogens are primarily spread through the dispersion of airborne spores. Depending on the fungal species, conidia or ascospores are released from pycnidia or perithecia embedded in the surfaces of dead wood and/or in bark tissues (Eskalen and Gubler, 2001; Rooney-Latham et al., 2005; Úrbez-Torres et al., 2014; van Niekerk et al., 2010; Kraus et al., 2020). This inoculum is released under favourable environmental conditions, which have been mostly associated with rain events and/or high relative humidity along with temperatures above freezing, which also favour spore germination (Úrbez-Torres et al., 2010a; van Niekerk et al., 2010). Spores then land on susceptible pruning wounds and/or natural openings to germinate and start colonization of xylem vessels and pith parenchyma cells (Mostert et al., 2006).

Jiménez-Luna et al. (2022) showed the presence and diversity of air-borne spores of FTD pathogens in almond and walnut orchards in California, where incidence was influenced by host, age of the plants and precipitation. Arthropod-mediated dispersal of FTD pathogens has also been demonstrated in vineyards, indicating potential roles for arthropods in trunk diseases epidemiology (Moyo et al., 2014; Kalvelage et al., 2021, 2022). Agustí-Brisach et al. (2015) showed that pruning equipment can spread FTD pathogens under controlled conditions. They also found that high inoculum concentrations of FTD pathogens were required to produce successful infection. In grapevine, studies have shown that high risk infection periods may vary throughout each host growing season, and from year to year, but these periods can also overlap with host dormancy seasons in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres (Larignon and Dubos, 2001; Eskalen and Gubler, 2001; Amponsah et al., 2009; Kuntzmann et al., 2009; Quaglia et al., 2009; Úrbez-Torres et al., 2010; van Niekerk et al., 2010; Cloete et al., 2015; Valencia et al., 2015; González-Domínguez et al., 2020; Billones-Baaijens et al., 2018). An epidemiological equation model for Pa. chlamydospora was developed by González-Domínguez et al. (2020) in Spanish vineyards. They showed that dispersal dynamics of this fungus was best explained by hydro-thermal time which takes account of effects of temperature and rainfall.

FTD fungi are cosmopolitan, and can colonize a range of hosts as saprotrophs or plant pathogens, infecting natural ecosystems and cultivated crops. Patterns of multiple host infections have been reported for Botryosphaeriaceae (Damm et al., 2007; Slippers and Wingfield, 2007; Mojeremane et al., 2020), Diatrypaceae (Moyo et al., 2019), and Togniniaceae (Damm et al., 2008). This is also the case for F. mediterranea, a lignicolous fungus that has been found as the causal agent of wood decay in several woody hosts (Markakis et al., 2017). The overlap of trunk disease pathogens between agricultural systems and native plant ecosystems has also been indicated (Damm et al., 2007, 2008; Moral et al., 2010; Trouillas et al., 2010; Markakis et al., 2017; Moyo et al., 2019). The discovery of a single fungal species on multiple hosts has important epidemiological implications, giving circumstantial evidence that inocula travel between different woody hosts, so those hosts occurring in close proximity can provide inoculum to each other.

HYPOTHESES FOR INCREASED INCIDENCE OF TRUNK DISEASES

Crop intensification

Crop intensification can increase FTD incidence in the field. Intensive cropping systems provide favourable environments for infection, since microclimate resulting from high plant densities can increase wetness duration and decrease sunlight entry into tree canopies (Kraus et al., 2018). Modern super-high-density systems also demand mechanization of cultural practices (e.g. pruning and harvesting), with consequential injuries that create conducive conditions to wound-penetrating fungi such as Basidiomycetes, Botryosphaeriaceae, Diatrypaceae and Togniniaceae (Moral et al., 2010; Úrbez-Torres et al., 2013b; Markakis et al., 2017; Agustí-Brisach et al., 2021). In viticulture, intensive pruning schemes (e.g. spur or cane pruning), can cause more frequent external FTD symptoms than minimal pruning schemes (Lecomte et al., 2018, 2022; Kraus et al., 2019). It was also assumed that intensive pruning causes more and larger pruning wounds on grapevine trunks, leading

to increased infections by wood degrading fungi, and consequent interruption of host vascular systems and increased symptoms (Travadon *et al.*, 2016; Kraus *et al.*, 2022).

Intensive crop production with high yields elevates plant water demand and in combination with the ongoing climate warming provokes drought stress, which enhances FTD development. For almond trees in southern Spain, water deficiency leads to increased dieback severity compared to well-watered trees (Agustí-Brisach et al., 2020). In addition, under drought stress, grapevines were more susceptible to infection and colonization by FTD pathogens (Sosnowski et al., 2016, 2021; Galarneau et al., 2019; Hrycan et al., 2020). The exact role of climate/environmental conditions (e.g. drought, rainfall, water availability) in FTD incidence is not completely clear and requires further investigation (Fischer and Peighami Ashnaei, 2019; Songy et al., 2019).

Different woody crops (e.g. olive, grapevine and almonds) that are affected by the same fungal pathogens are commonly grown in neighbouring orchards in several Mediterranean countries (Fig. 3). This is likely to allow inoculum proliferation and flow among the orchards (Markakis *et al.*, 2017). Crop intensification is also likely to disturb microflora balances in agro-ecosystems, promoting transfer of trunk pathogens and their adaptation to new woody hosts. In recent years, emergence of new FTD has been shown for several woody crops (Damm *et al.*, 2010; Markakis *et al.*, 2017; van der Merwe *et al.*, 2021; van Dyk *et al.*, 2021a; b).

Planting material and nursery practices

Plant propagation in fruit crop and grapevine nurseries includes complex systems in which pathogen management is challenging. Infected nursery stock can be important long-distance vectors for FTD pathogens (Gramaje and Armengol, 2011). Studies in Europe on death of young or newly established fruit crop trees have shown that latent infections occurring during nursery propagation are important for development of cankers observed in the orchards (Brown et al., 1994; Smit et al., 1996; Marek et al., 2013). Certified nursery trees are not commonly surveyed for latent fungal infections, which can lead to severe symptoms in newly established stone fruit orchards (Mostert et al., 2016; van der Merwe et al., 2021). McCracken et al. (2003) found that cankers caused by N. ditissima on scion shoots of 1-yearold commercial apple trees, developed after infections that occurred during the final stages of propagation. Marek et al. (2013) found that latent infections, occurring in nurseries, caused wood cankers during cold stor-



Figure 3. Typical landscape of adjacent vineyards and olive orchards in Crete, Southern Greece, which allows the inoculum flowing.

age of propagation material or after planting. Havenga *et al.* (2019), in South Africa, showed presence of fungal pathogens causing FTD on the 65% of assessed certified apple tree nurseries. The pathogens isolated from 1-year-old diseased commercial trees were also recovered from latent infections in nursery trees, confirming the roles of rootstock wounds and bud unions as infection sites.

Van Diyk et al. (2021a) reported the presence of eight known FTD pathogens of olive and other woody host from plant portions which were in direct contact with perlite/soil and water. Infected grapevine propagation material is considered to have a major role for disease occurrence in the field (Halleen et al., 2003; Gramaje and Armengol, 2011). Stone fruit nursery trees have also been investigated. Isolations conducted from scions and rootstocks have highlighted the importance of these materials as sources of latent infections for nursery trees, showing the presence of FTD pathogens on the 22% of 1080 trees tested (van der Merwe et al., 2021).

This information emphasizes the importance of incorporating integrated disease management that combines different preventative control measures throughout the nursery propagation processes, storage, and during crop establishment, in order to reduce incidence and severity of FTD in orchards (Gramaje et al., 2018). Cultural practices such as the removal of dead and affected material, which often bring fungal fruiting bodies and spores, is important in all phases of propagation and plant establishment (Van Zyl 2011). Authorized fungicides and biological control agents should be used to protect pruning wounds throughout plant propagation to reduce infections in nurseries (Fourie and Halleen 2004). For grapevine, hot water treatments of scions/

rootstocks before grafting, and of the dormant grafted nursery grapevines are recommended practices to reduce pathogen inocula (Fourie and Halleen 2004; Halleen *et al.*, 2007b; Bleach *et al.*, 2013; Eichmeier *et al.*, 2018).

Climate change

Increased incidence of FTD on woody hosts can be attributed to climate change (Chakraborty and Newton 2011; Kaliterna et al., 2013a; Markakis et al., 2017). Climate change prediction models foresee more frequent extreme weather conditions, along with increases in summer air temperature and drought stress for many crops in the Mediterranean region (Lung et al., 2013). In California, Allen and Luptowitz (2017) predicted significant rainfall increases in response to warming climate. Alterations of wet and dry cycles, and extremely low and/ or high temperature events will probably be more frequent, as consequences of the climate change. These phenomena may favour pathogen dispersal and adaptation to hosts other than their primary hosts, and this has been suggested for the extended host range of F. mediterranea (Elena et al., 2006; Markakis et al., 2017, 2019). This was also the case for the epidemic caused by Dip. seriata (a weak pathogen) that occurred in summer 2010 in Croatia, when severe dieback occurred in young olive trees previously exposed to low winter temperatures (Kaliterna et al., 2013a). Botryosphaeriaceae-incited diseases are commonly more severe in years with high rainfall, when inoculum increases are followed by drought periods and host susceptibility increases (Ma et al., 2001; Michailides and Morgan 2004; Marsberg et al., 2017).

Microbiome balance

All plants contain microorganisms as parts of their holobionts (Berg et al., 2020). These microbiota and their activities, the so-called microbiome, have been shown to change for all diseases, and as conditions alter (Bettenfeld et al., 2020). There are functional core microbiota playing central roles in plant physiology and health. Increased numbers of (latent) pathogens in the core microbiota and detrimental effects on other microorganisms, which can take place when the plants are weakened by other biotic or abiotic factors, can lead to increase virulence and visible plant symptoms (Bettenfeld et al., 2020). "Satellite microbiota" (i.e. not occurring in every plant) can be also be affected.

For FTD, Bruez *et al.* (2020) suggested that fungal microbiota from non-necrotic woody tissues were similar in healthy and esca diseased grapevines. In non-necrotic

woody tissues, fungal and bacterial microbiota varied according to organs and seasons, but not according to disease status. *Phaeomoniella chlamydospora*, was the most abundant fungus in non-necrotic tissues from healthy plants. The only difference between healthy and diseased young grapevines was the presence of white rot necrotic tissues in cordons that were dominated by *F. mediterranea*, associated with *Pa. chlamydospora* and a few bacterial taxa. Increased numbers of pathogens, and changes in mycobiomes, were recorded in different plant tissues.

Meta barcoding studies of grapevines in Portugal (Del Frari et al., 2019) and Greece (Bekris et al., 2021) have assessed the mycobiomes of grapevine trunks with esca, and cultivar and biogeography-dependent patterns were identified that could be used as to distinguish between healthy and diseased grapevines. By analyzing the microbiomes of healthy and diseased grapevines, strong interactions between the bacterial and fungal wood microbiomes in asymptomatic grapevines could be used for discovery of novel biocontrol agents (Cobos et al., 2022). However, specific bacteria isolated from healthy or diseased host tissues have been described as potentially increasing wood degradation by esca pathogens. This has been shown for F. mediterranea (Haidar et al., 2021). Some bacterial strains that degrade grapevine wood components (cellulose and hemicellulose) did not inhibit F. mediterranea growth in vitro, but had synergistic interactions with F. mediterranea by enhancing the degradation of wood structures (Haidar et al., 2021). One of these strains has been described as belonging to a new species, Paenibacillus xylinteritus sp. nov. (Haidar et al., 2022). Analyzing the microbiomes of healthy and diseased plants can pinpoint balance/imbalance that could lead to discovery of new types of interaction, such as other microorganisms that increase or decrease pathogen virulence.

Limited availability of fungicides

Chemical control using fungicides has been the main strategy for FTD management both in propagation material produced in nurseries and adult plants in orchards, for which pruning wound protection is essential to reduce FTD incidence. Nevertheless, limited products are currently registered to effectively control FTD in Europe and worldwide. Thus, future research should be focused on expanding the range of chemical and alternative options for this purpose (Gramaje et al., 2018). Available management strategies against FTD on grapevines have been widely investigated in the last decades and, for instance, many new biological control agents have been evaluated and registered to control FTD both in nurseries and vineyards, including fungi, bacteria and oomycet-

es, being *Trichoderma* spp. based products the most frequent (Gramaje *et al.*, 2018; Mondello *et al.*, 2018a,b). In the same way, it is necessary to progressively expand the range of treatments available for all types of fruit trees.

FUTURE DIRECTION OF FTD RESEARCH

Over the last years, fungal trunk pathogens incidence has globally increased in woody crops. The etiology is still complex, as many pathogens have been recently described associated with FTD symptoms. Disease management implies the adoption of precision farming technologies and alternative strategies to the use of synthetic fungicides (i.e., microbial biocontrol agents, plant defense elicitors and possible microbiome manipulations). This will provide a new scenario to understand the role of trunk pathogens in the whole cropping system. The integration of plant pathology concepts and methodologies with those of other disciplines will be needed to deliver new disease management strategies in a wider context. Here, we discuss the future direction of FTD research and identify some key issues that, we anticipate, must be faced to overcome the losses caused by these diseases.

A key challenge in this complex pathosystem is to develop tools and methodology that enable the rapid detection of FTD fungi in asymptomatic plants, especially in planting material, and the accurate diagnosis of the causal agents. High throughput sequencing (HTS) diagnostics is revolutionizing plant pathology. HTS methods are probably the most significant advances in molecular biology since the advent of the PCR process. Microbial/fungal genome sequencing or metagenomics/ metabarcoding become a routine analysis and using the latest technology it is possible to generate near complete genomes (Robert-Siegwald et al., 2017; Eichmeier et al., 2022) or whole spectra of microbial/fungal communities (Eichmeier et al., 2018; Bruez et al., 2020; Gramaje et al. 2022). There are also other applications of HTS technology which can serve understanding of the plant pathogen interaction as transcriptomics (Romeo-Oliván et al., 2022) or small RNA sequencing (Eichmeier et al., 2019).

The advent of precision farming technologies coupled with remote sensing methods opens entire new fields of research, where the performance of cultural practices for FTD management can be addressed. Imaging analysis is one promising method for a non-invasive detection of FTD. For grapevine, with hyperspectral-or multispectral imaging analysis, esca symptomatic and asymptomatic plants can be diagnosed even before clear foliar-symptoms appear (Junges *et al.*, 2018; Bendel *et al.*, 2020; Pérez-Roncal *et al.*, 2022). Even with

unmanned aerial vehicles, whole vineyards could be monitored this way for FTD, which facilitates the assessment of the vineyard's health status (Di Gennaro et al., 2016). Furthermore, for Laurel wilt disease on avocado, it was possible to distinguish between healthy and asymptomatic trees based on hyperspectral analysis of the leaves (Hariharan et al., 2019, Abdulridha et al., 2016). In a trial with potted olive trees artificially infected with F. mediterranea, the uninfected population could be differentiated from the infected population with a good accuracy also by hyperspectral analysis of the leaves (Zapolska et al., 2020). These examples show that spectral imaging analysis of leaves are convenient diagnostic tools to detect FTD in different perennial crops. In the future, this tool could be implemented into the plant protection management process for an early detection of the disease. With that, proper curative countermeasures can be applied and, thus, preventing the plant from becoming symptomatic.

For many IPM programs, including the management of FTD, there is a crucial need of decision-support tools to determine disease risk and the best moments for any intervention (Rossi et al., 2012). Mathematical models that establish relationships between the amount of inoculum and disease development, integrating knowledge on the host-pathogen interactions and environmental data, are key components of any decision-support tool for plant disease management (Ojiambo et al., 2017), and have been consistently incorporated in decision support systems (DSSs) to assist users in operational and tactical decision-making in crop protection. Model-based forecasting has the potential to improve the timeliness, effectiveness, and foresight for managing crop diseases, while minimizing economic costs and environmental impacts (Newlands, 2018). For instance, improving our knowledge about the dispersal patterns of FTD spores and its relation to environmental conditions is essential for identifying periods with a high risk of spore dispersal and for adopting management strategies, such as pruning wound protection.

Regulatory changes are reducing the availability of fungicide options, as the health and ecological hazards of the chemicals are increasingly raising concerns. The consumer demand for residue free products have stimulated research into new tools for pest management. Alternatives to synthetic fungicides are mainly represented by a number of microbial active ingredients. Agronomic practices, i.e., reduction of the inoculum in the field, should be combined with biological control in order to reduce the input of synthetic fungicides on the crop.

Nanoparticles (NPs) in size 1-100 nm have demonstrated activity in suppressing plant diseases. These

NPs are mainly metalloids, metallic oxides, nonmetals, and carbon nanomaterials. NPs have been integrated into disease management strategies as fungicides or as nanofertilizers to enhance plant health. Although there are reports of different NPs of single element and carbon nanomaterials affecting plant pathogens. Mainly Ag, Cu, and Zn have received much attention thus far. Some NPs act directly as antimicrobial agents but others work more in altering the nutritional status of the host and they activate various defense mechanisms (Elmer et al., 2018). A recent study about the use of nanomaterials against selected FTD pathogens showed that AgSe nanoparticles (NPs), CuSe NPs, Ag NPs, Cu NPs and Se NPs can serve a significant inhibitory activity against *Dia*. eres, Dip. seriata and E. lata (Štůsková et al., 2022). Little information is still available on the use of NPs against FTD pathogens. In addition, more research is needed to evaluate the impact of these treatments on the microbiome and the environment.

Other alternatives to synthetic fungicides are the substances of botanical origin. Recently, several authors described the antimicrobial ability of wood extracts against various fungal species (Kawamura et al., 2011; Minova et al., 2015; Salem et al., 2015; Vek et al., 2021). Špetík et al. (2022) demonstrated that lignans extract from knotwood of Norway spruce function against Cad. luteo-olivacea, Da. torresensis, Dia. ampelina, Dia. bohemiae, Dip. seriata, E. lata and Pm. minimum affecting grapevine. Further research is needed to test the efficacy of these products under field conditions.

Over the last few years, the importance of the plant microbiome, the potential role of endophytes in disease control and/or development, and the interactions among microorganisms has been postulated (Blundell et al., 2022). The use of the most advanced technologies will contribute to the discovery of the next generation of microbial biofungicides. In recent years, designing microbial consortia (SynComs - synthetic microbial communities) has received a great deal of interest to overcome the variable results of bioncontrol agents under field conditions. SymComs are expected to be more robust to environmental changes than singlemicrobiome inoculants and are designed to mimic the natural microbiome function and structure. However, research is still needed to validate the consortia functionality at field scale.

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