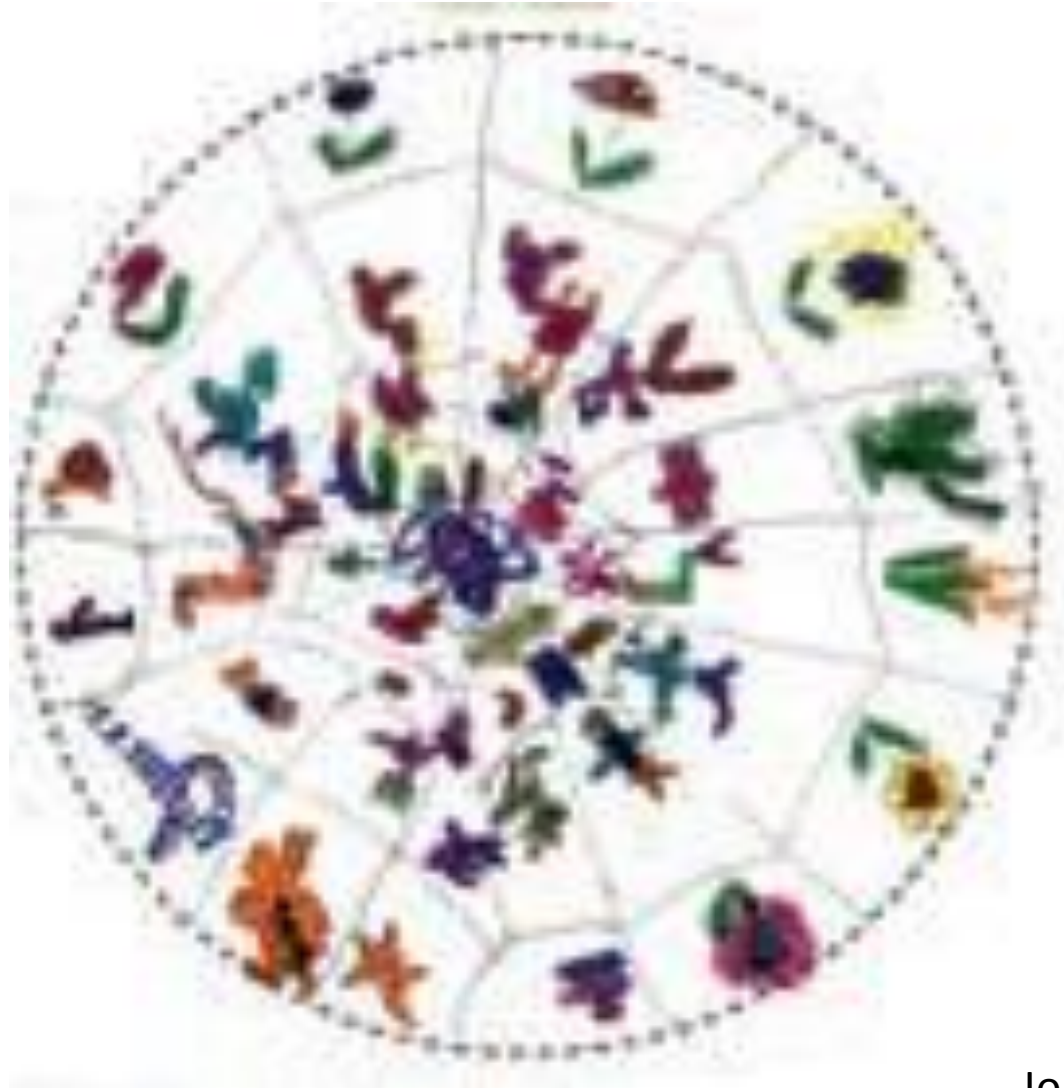


Philippine Fungal Diversity: Benefits and Threats to Food Security

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Professorial
Lecture

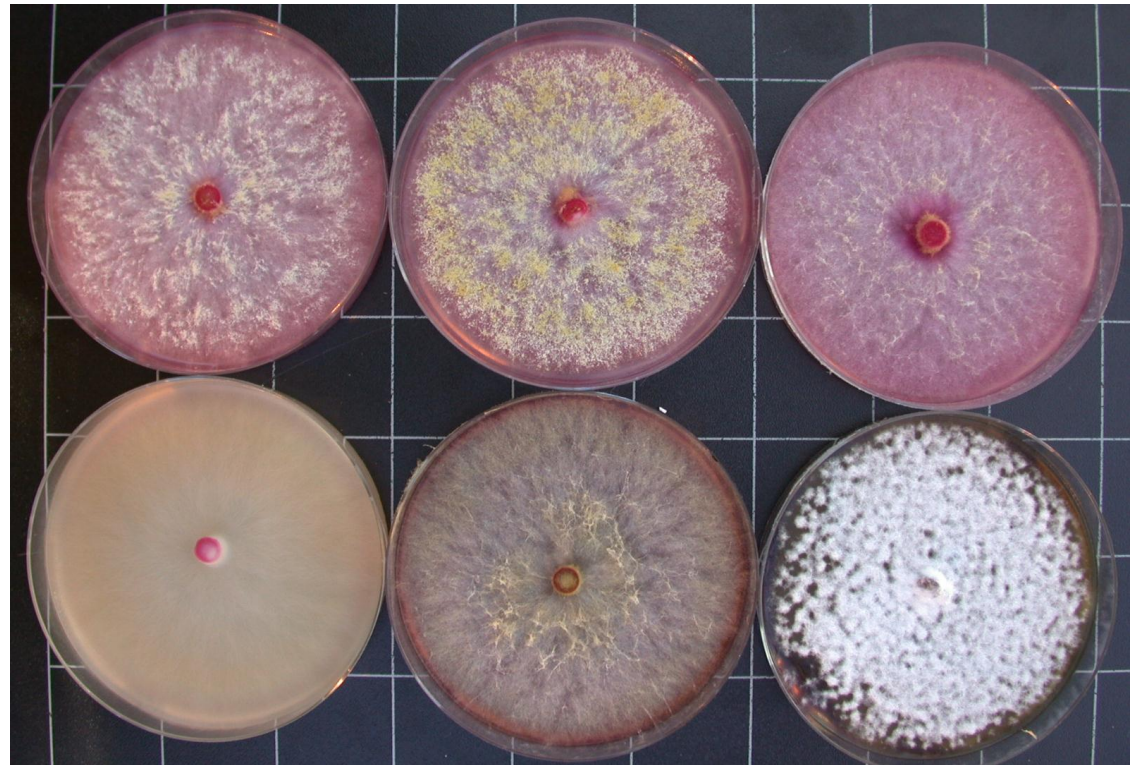
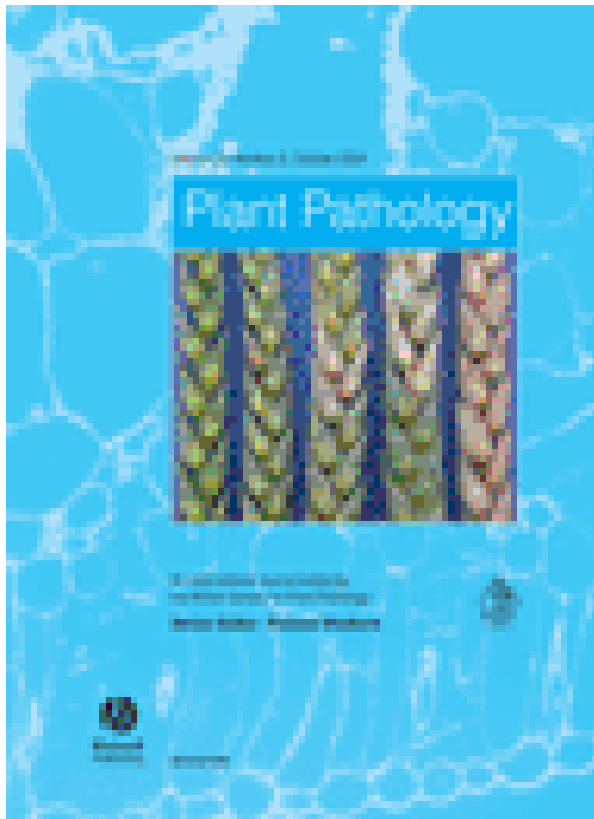
Christian Joseph R. Cumagun
College of Agriculture, UPLB

FAO Biodiversity Challenge 2011



Johann Cumagun, age 7

Variation of aggressiveness and cultural characters



Front cover of Vol 53 of *Plant Pathology* : Cumagun et al. (2004)

Newspaper headlines associated with 1993 Fusarium head blight epidemic

Diseases ravage wheat Grain/ Wheat scab is forcing farmers to abandon crops

Valley grain diseased
To harvest or destroy crops? Disasters force tough choices on farms

Wheat scab shocks Valley
• Disease is widespread, elevators expect discounts


A blight on the land
THE LONG, WET SUMMER
• Lawmakers seek compensation to farmers for diseased wheat
Crop scouts think harvests will be smaller than expected

Fields of disappointment

Farmers panic Ruined wheat field

Crop disease, flood damage will be felt in the N.D. economy

Vomitoxin rears its ugly head



Will wheat head blight contribute to shortage of world food supply?



Fusarium graminearum infection



Objectives of my Talk

1. To demonstrate the potential biological control of plant diseases using fungi to address food security and environmental safety (Case Study 1)
2. To harness the diversity of fungi from the rainforests to generate useful products for agriculture and medicine (Case Study 2)
3. To tap the diversity of plant resistance genes to solve the alarming disease epidemics caused by fungi (Case Study 3)
4. To discuss the impact of some important *Fusarium* diseases and mycotoxins in the Philippines (Case Study 4)
5. To emphasize the need to secure microbial resources in the Philippines to decrease threats to food security

Estimating the no of fungal species

Hawksworth, H. L. 1991. The fungal dimension of biodiversity: magnitude, significance and conservation. **Mycological Research 95: 641-655.**

Hawksworth, H. L. 2001. The magnitude of fungal diversity: the 1.5 million species estimates revisited. **Mycological Research 105: 1422-1432**

8.74 million eukaryote species on earth

611,000 species of fungi (moulds, mushrooms) of which 43,271 have been described and catalogued

Camillo Mora. *How many species are there on earth and in the ocean?* PLOS Biology, 2011

5.1 M species of fungi

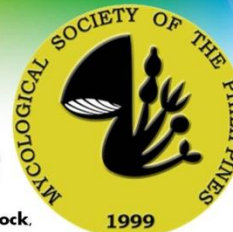
Meredith Blackwell. American Journal of Botany 98: 426-438 2011

Philippine Fungal Diversity

- Estimated at 3956 species and 818 genera (Tadlosa, 2012)
- 53 species under 22 genera of entomopathogenic fungi were reported on selected areas in the Philippines from 1998 to 2001 (Villacarlos and Meija, 2004)
- Fungi on bamboos (Cai et al, 2003; Hyde et al. (2002))



MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE PHILIPPINES, INC.



The Mycological Society of the Philippines, Inc. (MSP) is a non-profit and non-stock, professional organization established to nurture and promote interest on fungi. Fungi play a variety of roles as decomposers, mutualists and pathogens in the ecosystem, ultimately and inadvertently affecting other members in the intricate web of life.

THE BEGINNINGS...

The Mycological Society of the Philippines, Inc. (MSP) was organized on October 19, 1999 at the University of the Philippines at Visayas (UP V) in Iloilo by a small group of mycologists attending a conference on "Tropical Microbial Diversity". Dr. Teresita M. Quimio, Philippine representative to the International Mycological Association Committee for Asia (IMACA), a professor and mycological head curator from UP Los Baños, was appointed chairman of the organizing committee. Dr. Resurrection B. Sadaba and Dr. Maria Vicenta V. Gascon, both from UP Visayas, served as vice chairman and secretary, respectively. Two other members of IMACA witnessed the organization of this committee. Dr. Kevin D. Hyde of Hongkong and Dr. Kenagata of Japan.



With the encouragement from IMACA, an official group of mycologists was subsequently formed at UPLB to represent the first board of directors. These were Dr. T.H. Quimio as chairman, Dr. Teresita U. Dalisay, Dr. Lourdes M. Tapay, Dr. Marilyn B. Brown, Dr. Nenita L. Opina, Ms. Eise M. Luis, Dr. Silvine D. Merca, Dr. Ernesto P. Maltinas, Dr. Nelly S. Agangan, and Dr. L. Dangan.



Thus after months of planning the first scientific meeting of the society was held on April 1999 at APEC Building UP Los Baños with an elite 167 charter members. Dr. Kevin D. Hyde of the University of Hongkong talked on "Where are the Missing Fungi" and Dr. T.K. Tan of the National University of Singapore talked on "Mycology in Asian where are we?".

MSP FOUNDER:

DR. TRICITA H. QUIMIO

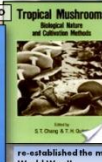
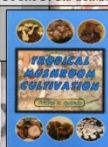


a professor at the Department of Plant Pathology, University of the Philippines at Los Baños (UPLB)

obtained her MS from the University of Florida and PhD from North Carolina State University

published over 100 papers and other works including several standard reference books on tropical fungi

BOOKS BY DR. QUIMIO



conducted research on the cultivation of tropical mushrooms
instrumental in establishing in 1990 the International Mushroom Society for the Tropics, and the Philippine Mushroom Society in 1992
founded a Mushroom Mycetal Bank for the Tropics, headed a Mushroom Training and Demonstration Unit
re-established the mycological herbarium destroyed during World War II

THROUGH THE YEARS... SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS AND SYMPOSIA

- 1ST Philippine Mycology Faces the Challenge of the Next Millennium
- 2ND Mycology at the Threshold of the 21ST Century
- 3RD Fungi in Ecology in Ecological Food Security
- 4TH Fungal Diversity: Conservation and Utilization
- 5TH Fungal Biotechnology for Food Security
- 6TH Fungi as Nutrients
- 7TH Recent Trends in Fungal Research
- 8TH Fungi as Nutrients
- 9TH Fungi and Health
- 10TH Annual Scientific Meeting and Symposium
- 11TH Fungi in Agriculture and Alternative Medicine
- 12TH Fungi in Agriculture and Alternative Medicine
- 13TH "Fungi and Climate Change"
- 14TH "Doing Business with Fungi"
- 15TH "Fungi in Human and Animal Health"



COMPETITIONS



MEMBERS

OVER 700 MSP MEMBERS

TRAININGS



Table 1. BIOTECH commercialized products derived from Philippine fungi.

Product Name	Fungi	Uses
Brown Magic	Endomycorrhiza	Growth promoter of orchid seedlings and protects them from diseases
Bio Quick	<i>Trichoderma sp.</i>	Bio-organic fertilizer
Bio Green	<i>Trichoderma sp.</i>	Bio-organic fertilizer
Mycogroe	Ecto Mycorrhizal Fungi	Bio fertilizer
Mycovam	Vesicular Arbuscular Fungi	Soil-based biofertilizer for crops except crucifers and lowland rice
VAM Root Inoculant	Vesicular Arbuscular Fungi	Growth promoting substances and disease control
Lipase	<i>Rhizopus sp.</i>	Hydrolyses coconut oil to produce high value β - monoglyceride
Pectinase	<i>Aspergillus sp.</i>	Juice and wine clarification oil extraction from freshly grated coconut and essential oil extraction
Microbial Rennet	<i>Rhizopus chinensis</i>	Milk coagulation for cheese production

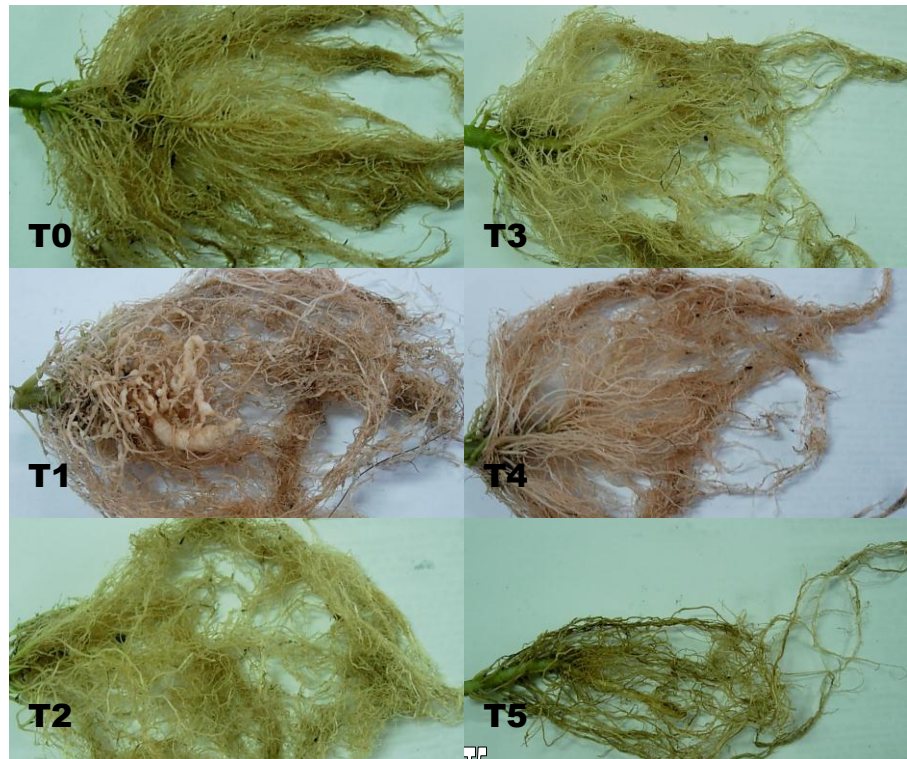
Major repositories of fungal cultures and specimens in the Philippines

1. UPLB Mycological Herbarium
2. UPLB Microbial Culture Collection
3. Philippine National Herbarium Collection (PNHC)
4. Microbial Research and Service Laboratory (MRSL), University of the Philippines, Natural Sciences Research Institute (UPCC)
5. University of Santo Tomas Collection of Microbial Strains (USTCMS)

Table 3. Effect of *P. lilacinus* on *M. incognita* attacking tomato 37 days after inoculation

Treatments ¹	Root weight	Gall index rating ²	No. of galls ³	No. of nematodes ³	No. of egg masses ³	Percent reduction
Uninoculated control	6.025b	1.0c	0	0	0	-
<i>M. incognita</i> alone	9.225a	5.0a	32.5a	245.0a	31.3a	-
<i>M. incognita</i> + <i>P. lilacinus</i> (1.584x10 ⁵ spores/ml)	3.175bc	2.3b	23.5b	23.5b	19.0ab	89.89
<i>M. incognita</i> + <i>P. lilacinus</i> (7.92 x10 ⁶ spores/ml)	5.725b	2.0b	6.3b	6.3b	4.5bc	97.31
<i>M. incognita</i> + <i>P. lilacinus</i> (3.96 x 10 ⁸ spores /ml)	4.725bc	2.0b	10.8b	10.8b	9.0bc	95.38
<i>M. incognita</i> + Nema-cur	1.575c	1.0c	0	0	0	100.0

Roots of tomato inoculated with *M. incognita* and *P. lilacinus*



Legend: T0-uninoculated control; T1- *M. incognita* alone; T2 -*M. incognita* + *P. lilacinus* (1.584x10⁵ spores/ml); T3- *M. incognita* + *P. lilacinus*(7.92 x10⁶ spores/ml); T4- *M. incognita* +*P. lilacinus* (3.96 x 10⁸ spores /ml.) T5- *M. incognita* + Nema-cur



builder

LUCID 3
version 3.4



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3.4.1 10052007

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Christian Joseph R. Cumagun (christian_cumagun@yahoo.com)

University of the Philippines Los Banos

33301-0665-2628-9501



Add Feature

Media Descriptions
Key Items

Title

Description

Authors

Options

Features: 23 States: 81

- Host
 - Family
 - Genus
 - Distribution
 - Fruiting bodies
 - Hypophyllous
 - Epiphyllous
 - Amphigenous
 - Stromata
 - Diameter of the stromata
 - Conidiophore arrangement
 - Conidiophore structure
 - Septation of the conidiophore
 - Texture of the conidiophore
 - Colour of the conidiophores
 - Hyaline
 - Pigmented
 - Length of the conidiophores
 - Width of the conidiophore
 - Conidiogenous cells
 - thickened and darkened scars
 - Anellate
 - Denticulate
 - thickened and refractive scars
 - inconspicuous scars
 - Conidiogenous cell fertility
 - Polyblastic
 - Monoblastic
 - Colour of the conidia
 - Hyaline
 - Pigmented
 - Faintly pigmented
 - Shape of the conidia
 - Formation of conidia

Entities: 70

- Asperisporium caricae
- Cercospora amorphophalli
- Cercospora apii
- Cercospora armoraciae
- Cercospora averrhoae
- Cercospora bakeri
- Cercospora barringtoniae
- Cercospora brassicicola
- Cercospora coffeicola
- Cercospora duddiae
- Cercospora longipes
- Cercospora ricinella
- Cercospora sorghii
- Cercospora taccae
- Cercosporella dioscoreophylli
- Corynespora cassicola
- Denticularia mangiferae
- Distocercospora pachyderma
- Passalora koepkei
- Passalora lactucae
- Passalora liabi
- Passalora janseana
- Passalora manihotis
- Passalora occidentalis
- Passalora gliricidiae
- Passalora helicteris
- Passalora henningsii
- Passalora imperatae
- Passalora personata
- Passalora personatum
- Passalora pumila

Tree View Spreadsheet Scoring Score Analyser



Features Available: 23

- Colour of the conidiophores
 - Hyaline
 - Pigmented
 - Length of the conidiophores
 - Width of the conidiophore
- Conidiogenous cells
 - thickened and darkened scars
 - Annellate
 - Denticulate
 - thickened and refractive scars
 - inconspicuous scars
- Conidiogenous cell fertility
 - Polyblastic
 - Monoblastic
- Colour of the conidia
 - Hyaline

Features Chosen: 2

- Texture of the conidiophore
 - Verrucose
- Colour of the conidiophores
 - Hyaline
 - Pigmented
- Colour of the conidia
 - Hyaline

Trees Lists

Entities Remaining: 13

- Cercospora amorphophalli
- Cercospora apii
- Cercospora armoraciae
- Cercospora averrhoae
- Cercospora bakeri
- Cercospora barringtoniae
- Cercospora brassicicola
- Cercospora coffeicola
- Cercospora duddiae
- Cercospora longipes
- Cercospora ricinella
- Cercospora sorghii
- Cercospora taccae

Entities Discarded: 57



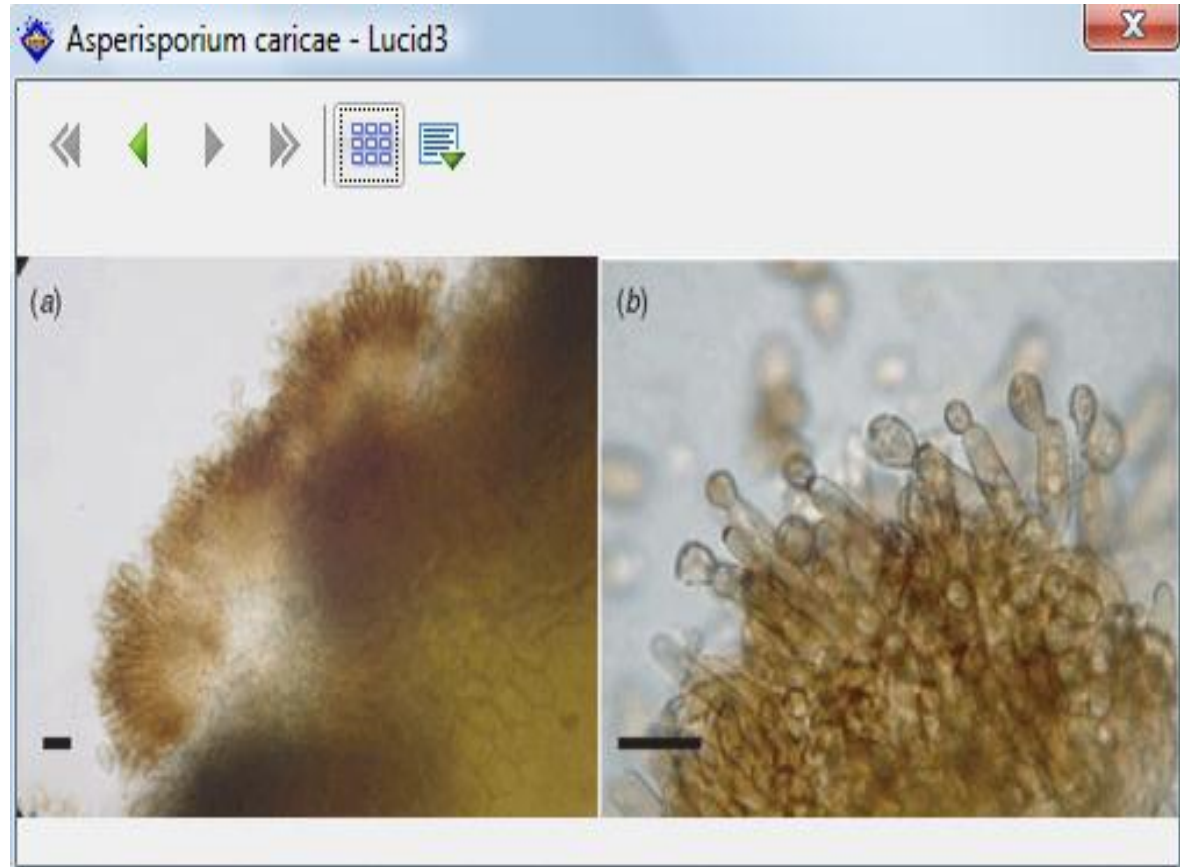
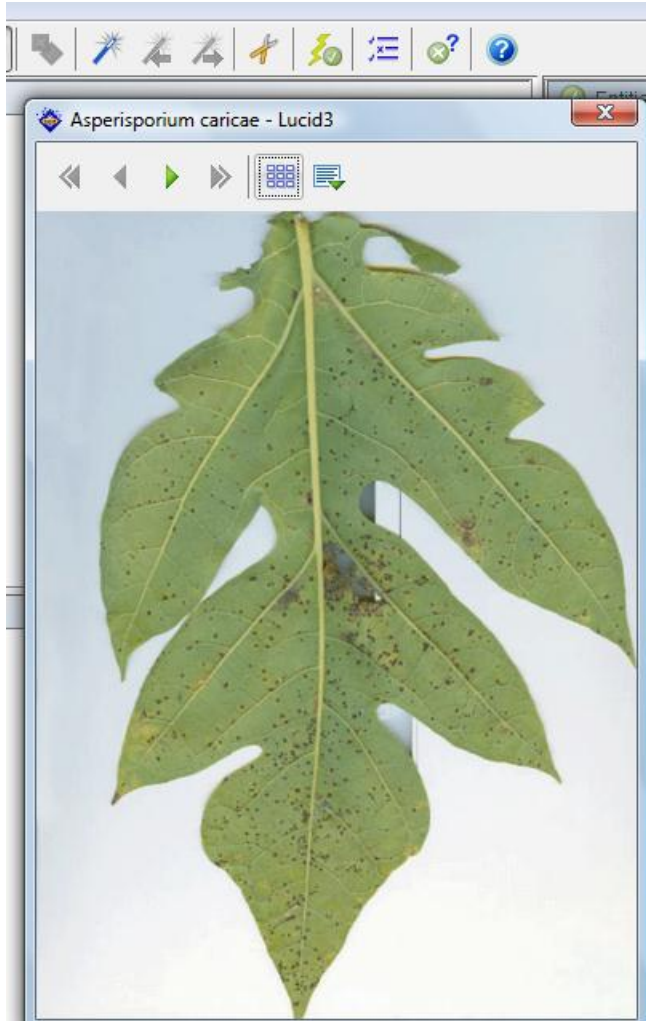
Asperisporium caricae

- Cercospora dioscoreophylli
- Corynespora cassicola
- Denticularia mangiferae
- Distocercospora pachyderma
- Passalora koepkei
- Passalora lactucae
- Passalora liabi
- Passalora janseana
- Passalora manihotis
- Passalora occidentalis
- Passalora gliricidiae
- Passalora helicteris
- Passalora henningsii

Trees Lists Images

Colour of the conidia/Hyaline

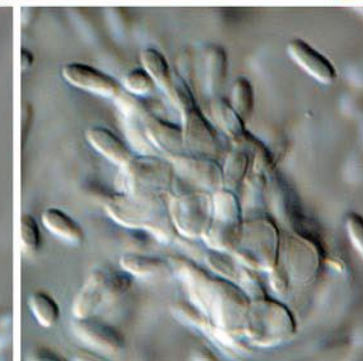
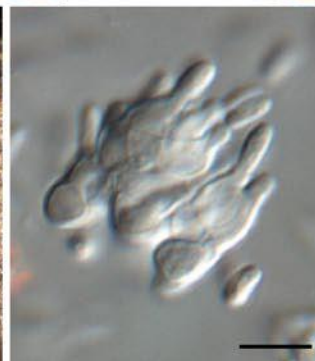
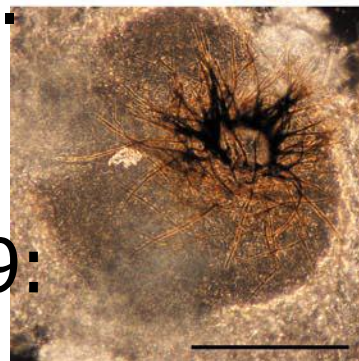
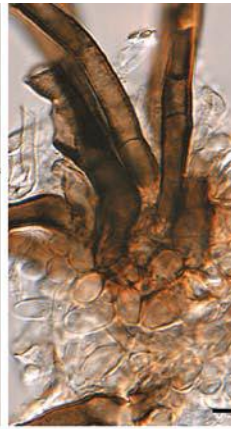
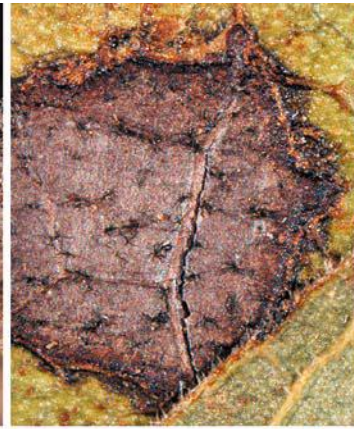


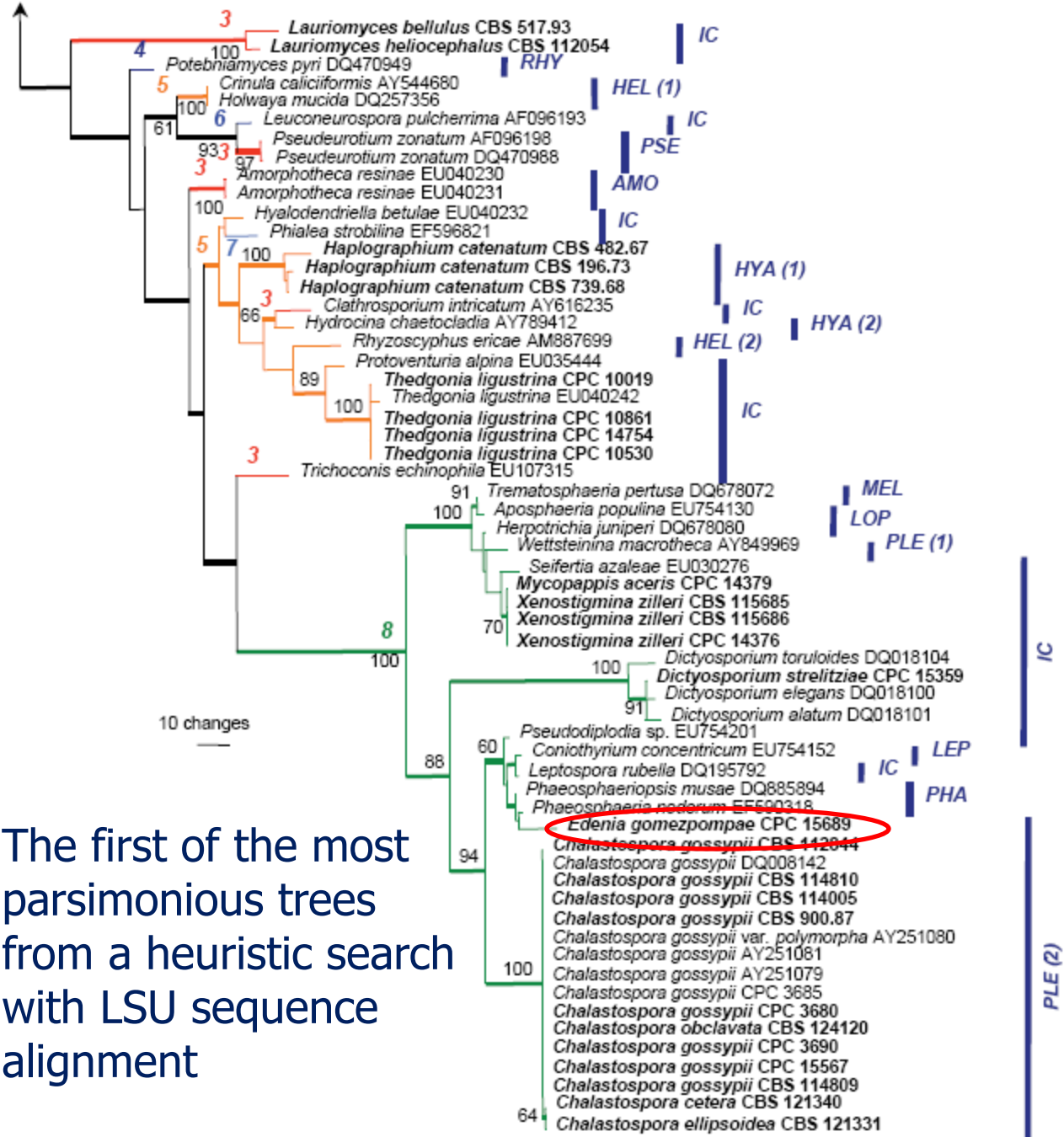


Edenia gomezpompae causing leaf spots in
Cassia alata

Phylogeny and taxonomy of obscure genera of microfungi

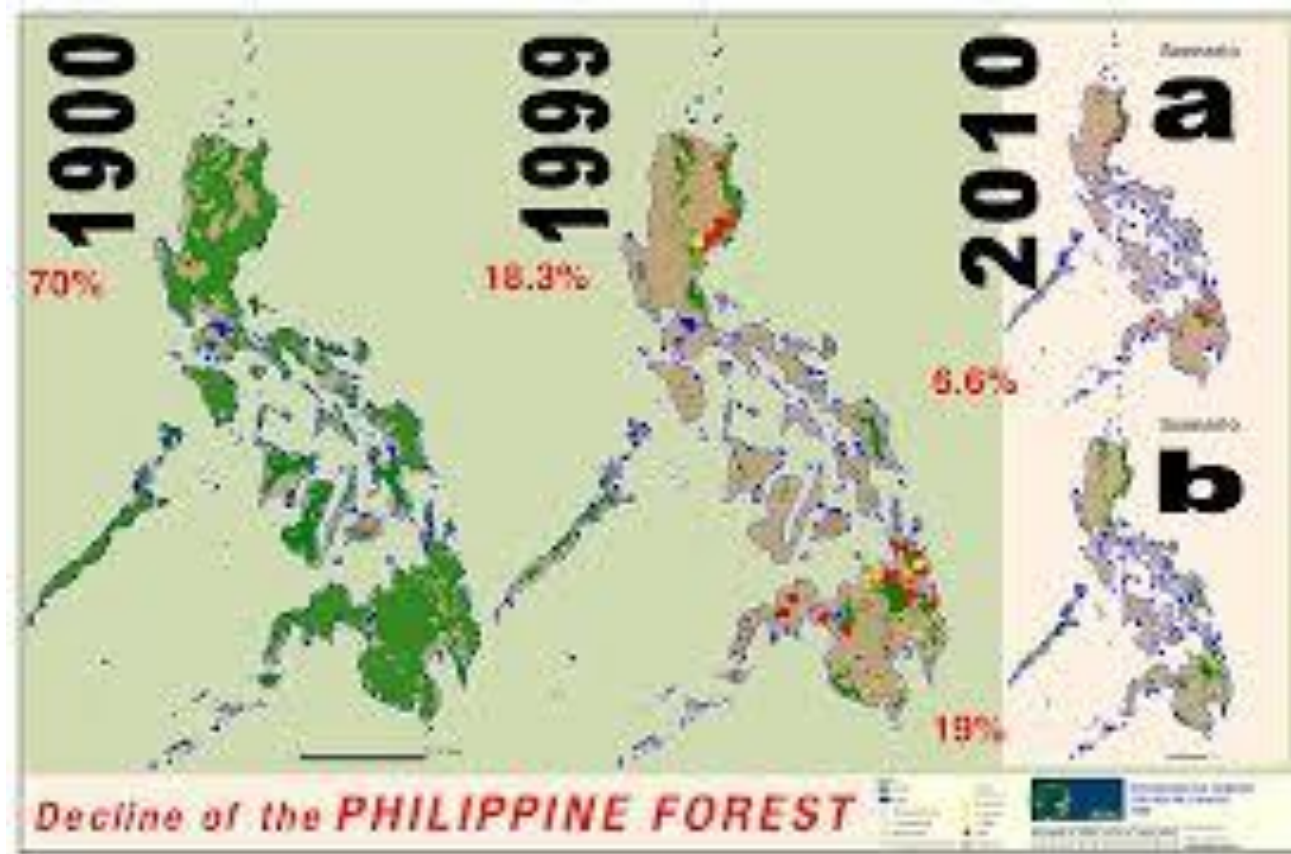
P.W. Crous, U.
Braun, M.J.
Wingfield, A.R.
Wood, H.D. Shin,
B.A. Summerell,
A.C. Alfenas, C.J.R.
Cumagun, J.Z.
Groenewald
Persoonia 22, 2009:
139–161





The first of the most parsimonious trees from a heuristic search with LSU sequence alignment

In light of deforestation, the beneficial microbes are being destroyed and perhaps lost forever.



TWO FUNGAL DISEASES COULD WIPE-OUT BANANA INDUSTRY IN 5 YEARS!



Photo courtesy of Sunstar and APS

***Fusarium
oxysporum* f. sp.
cubense causing
Panama wilt**



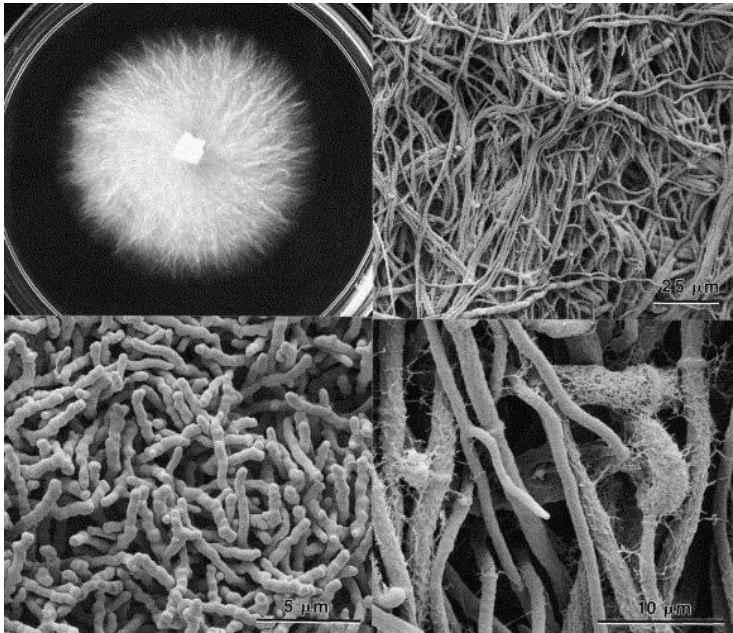
***Mycosphaerella*
spp. causing
Sigatoka disease
of banana**

AERIAL SPRAYING: BAN OR NOT TO BAN?

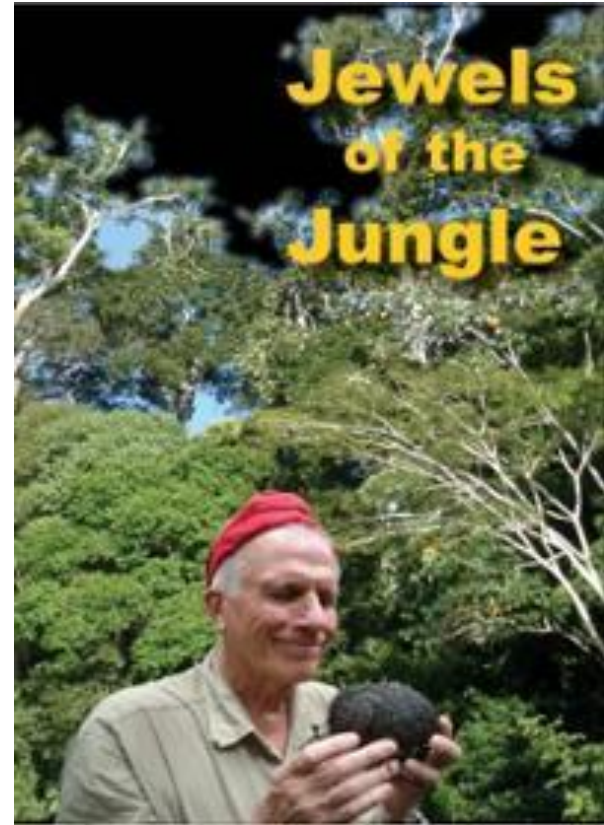


Photo courtesy of, Romeo Gacad

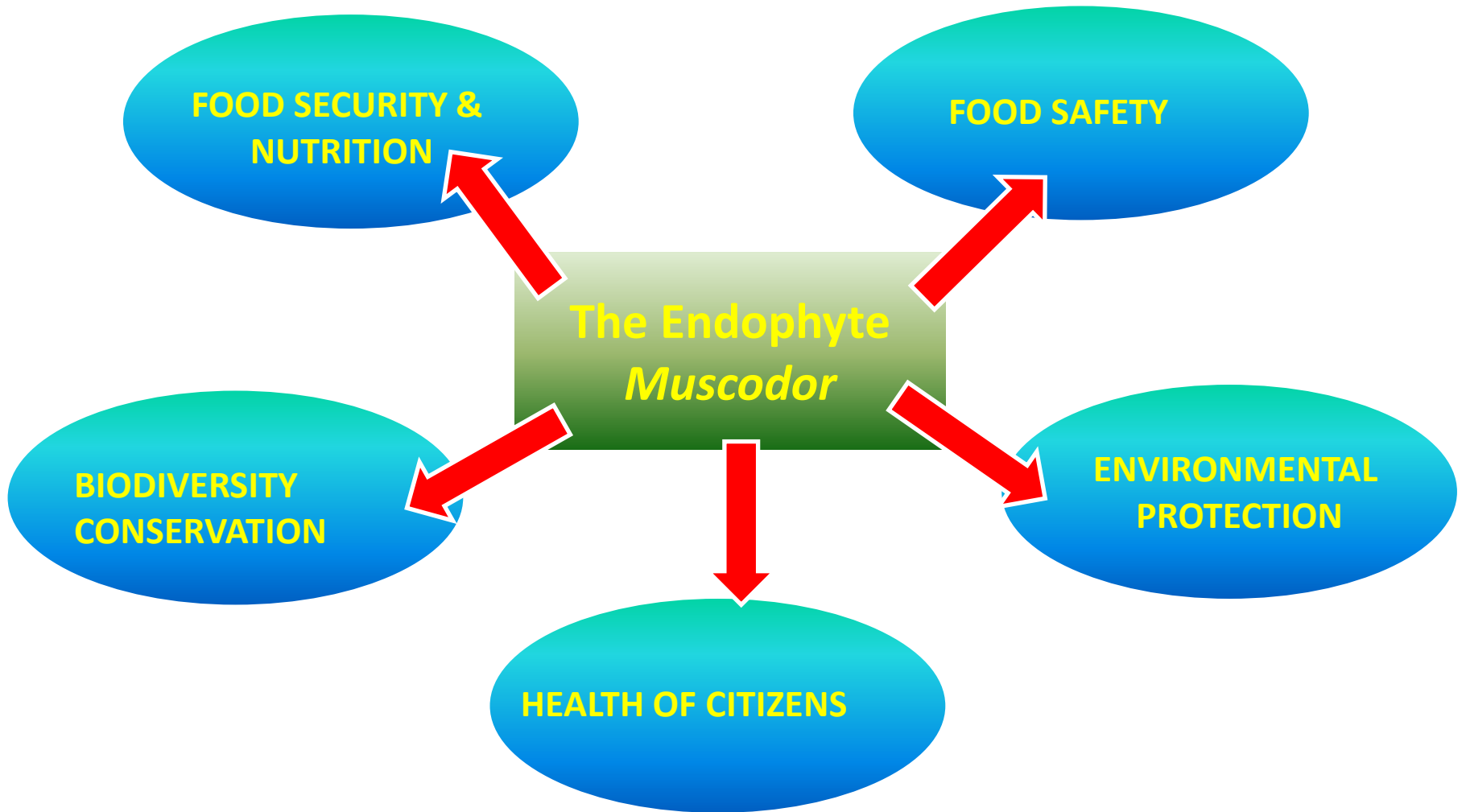
AN ENDOPHYTE FUNGUS : A PROPOSED SOLUTION IN PARTNERSHIP WITH A WORLD-RENOWNED MICROBIOLOGIST



Muscodor albus



BENEFITS DERIVED FROM MUSCODOR TECHNOLOGY





Pestalotiopsis from Makiling Rainforests

Adiova et al. , 2015, unpublished results



"for their discoveries concerning the activation of innate immunity"



Biovision LifeScience Forum, Lyon, France 2013

Genetic structure of populations of *Magnaporthe oryzae* in the Philippines

Lopez, A., H. Adreit, J. Milazzo
C. Cumagun and D. Tharreau

Losses due to rice blast if saved can feed an additional 60 M people yearly!

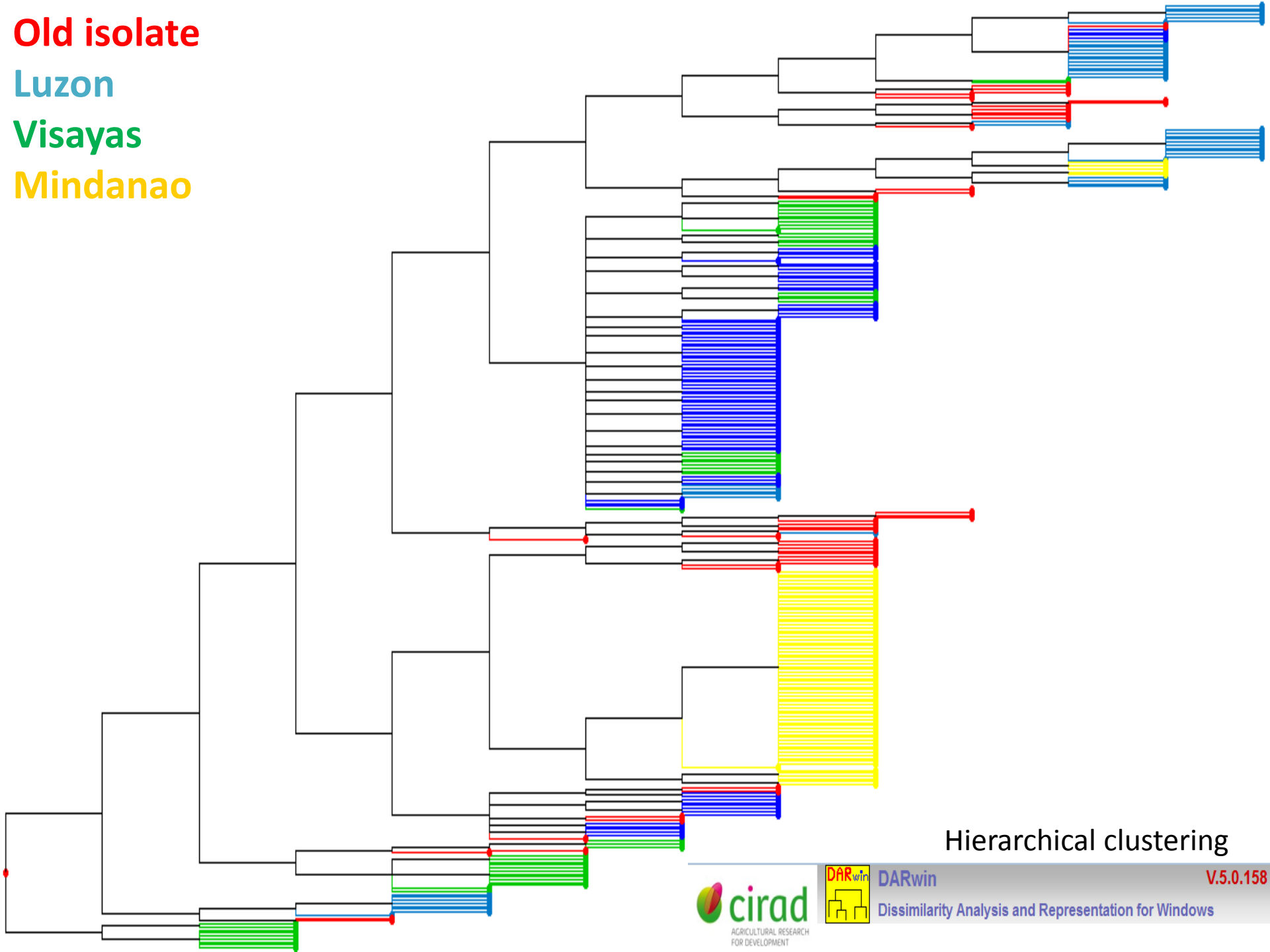


Old isolate

Luzon

Visayas

Mindanao



Hierarchical clustering



Inoculation and scoring

24 isolates tested against 16 varieties each with major R gene

Lopez, unpublished results



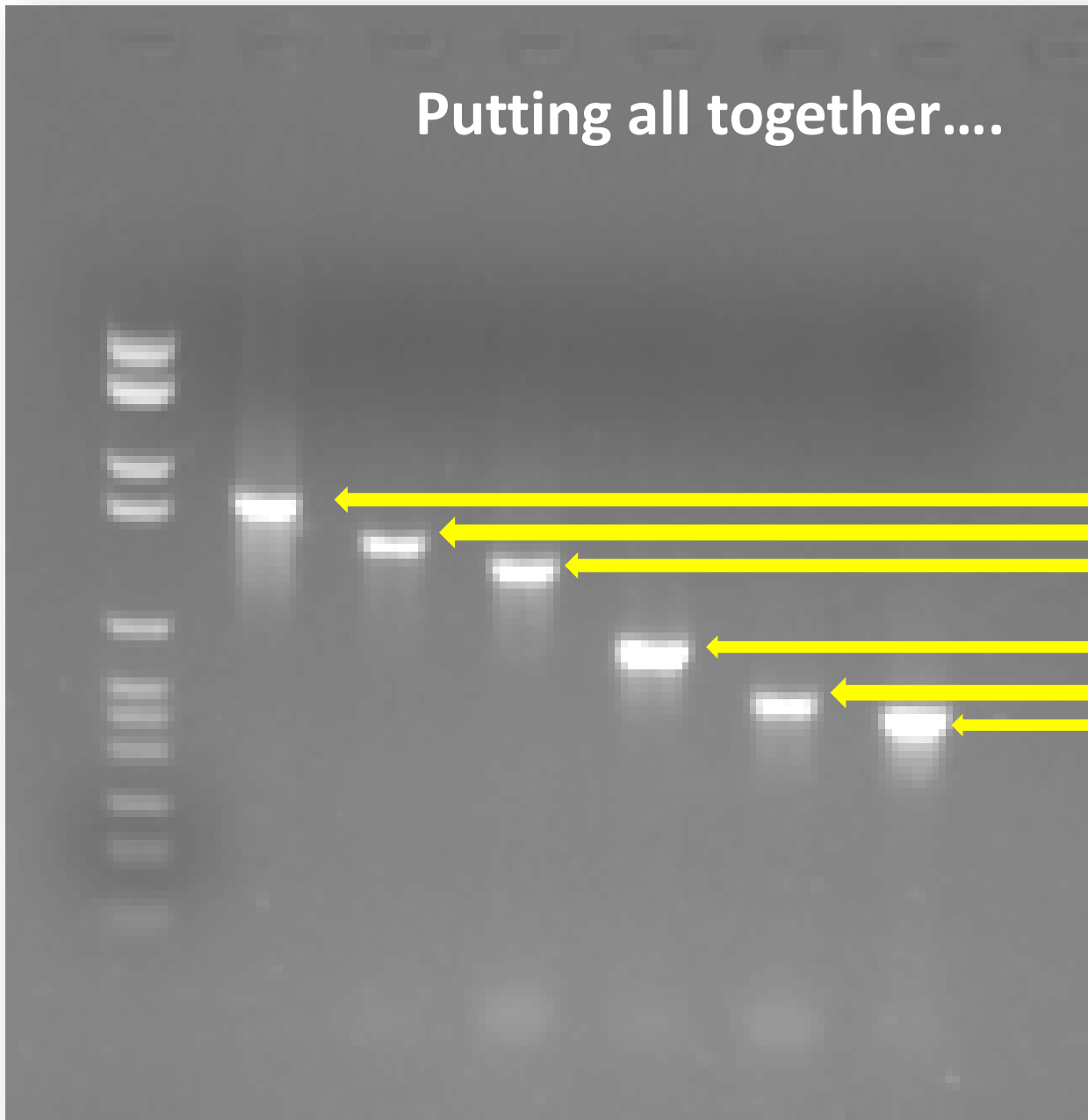
Table 4. Pathogenicity testing of *M. oryzae* isolates against differential rice varieties with their corresponding R genes.

ISOLATE	RICE VARIETIES (R gene/s)															
	Amuzena (Pi24)	CO39 (PiCO39)	C101Lac (PiCO39, Pi1, Pi33)	Fukunishiki (Piz, Pish)	C101A51 (PiCO39, Pi2)	Tsuyasake (Pikm)	C101TTP (PiCO39, Pita)	Fujisaka 5 (Pii, Pika)	C104Lac (PiCO39, Pi1)	75-1-127 (Pi9)	C104PKT (PiCO39, Pi3)	Toride 1 (Pizt)	IR1529 (Pi33)	Bala (Pi33)	IR64 (Pi33)	Maratelli
PH0200	HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS	HR
PH0201	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS	HR	HS	HR	HS
PH0210	HS	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS	HR	HR	S	HR	S	S	HR	HR	HR
PH0211	?	HR	HR	HR	HR	S	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS
PH0213	HS	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS	HS	HR	HR	HS	?	HR	HR	HR	HS
PH0241	HR	HS	HR	HR	S	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HS
PH0242	HR	HS	HR	HR	S	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	S	HR	HR	HR	HS
PH0248	HR	HS	HR	HR	S	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HS
PH0278	HS	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	S	HS	HR	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS
PH0281	HR	HS	HR	S	HR	HR	S	HS	HR	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS
PH0304	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	S	HS	HR	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS
PH0318	HR	HS	HR	HR	S	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HS
PH0324	HR	HS	HR	HR	S	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HS
PH0326	HR	HS	HR	HR	S	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HS
PH0328	?	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS	HS	HR	HR	HS	HS	HR	HR	HR	HS
PH0329	S	HS	HR	HR	S	HR	HS	HS	HR	HR	HS	HS	HR	HS	HR	HS
PH0349	HR	HS	HR	HR	S	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HS
PH0351	S	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS	HR	HS	HR	HS
PH0358	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HS
PH0361	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	S	HR	HR	HR	HS
PH0383	HR	HS	HR	HR	S	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HS
PH0384	HR	HS	HR	HR	S	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HR	HS	HR	HR	HR	HS
PH0427	HR	HS	HR	S	HR	HR	HS	HS	HR	HR	HS	HS	HR	HR	HR	HS
PH0432	HR	HS	HR	HR	?	HR	HS	HS	HR	HR	HS	HS	HR	HR	HR	HS

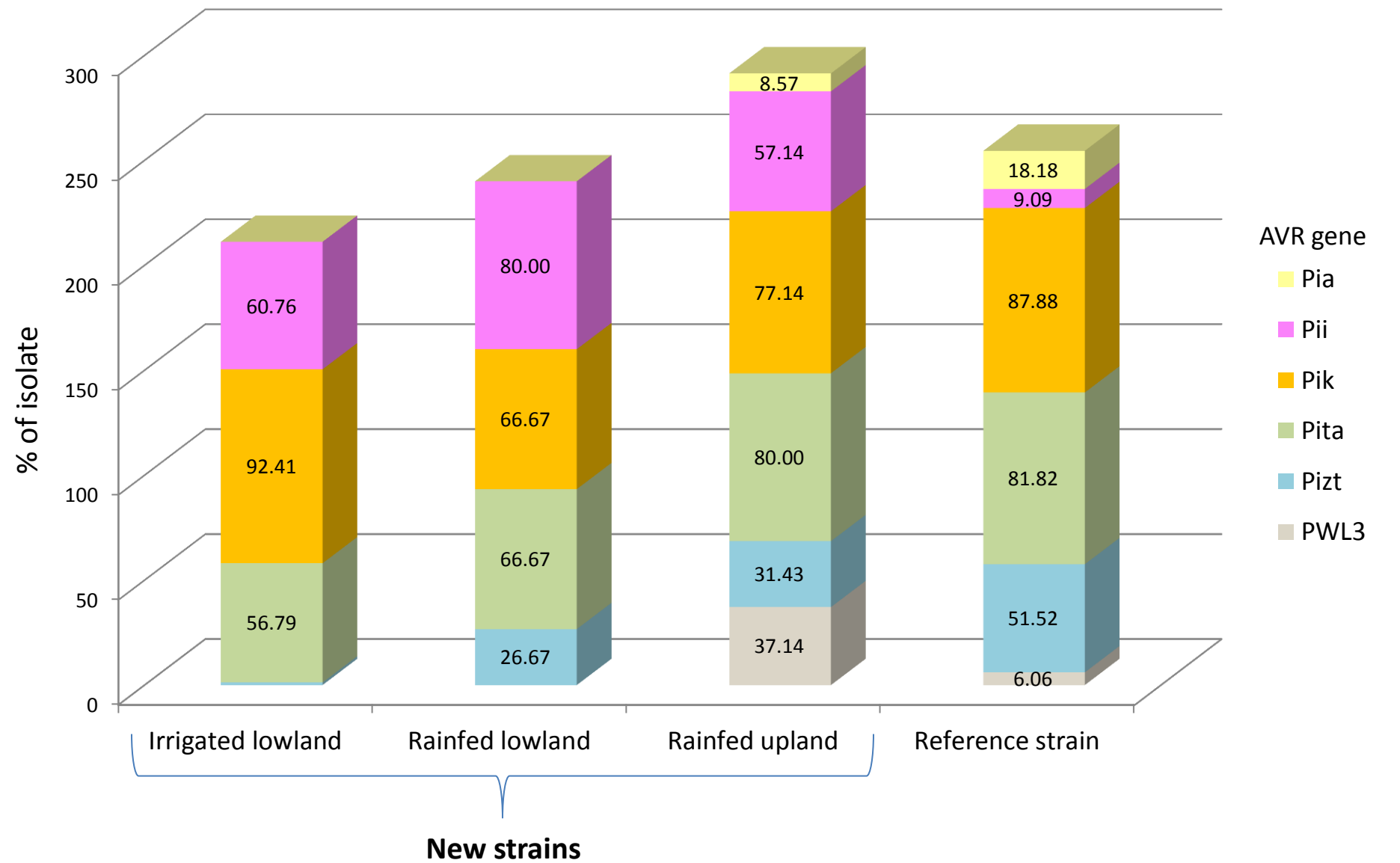
Putting all together....

bp

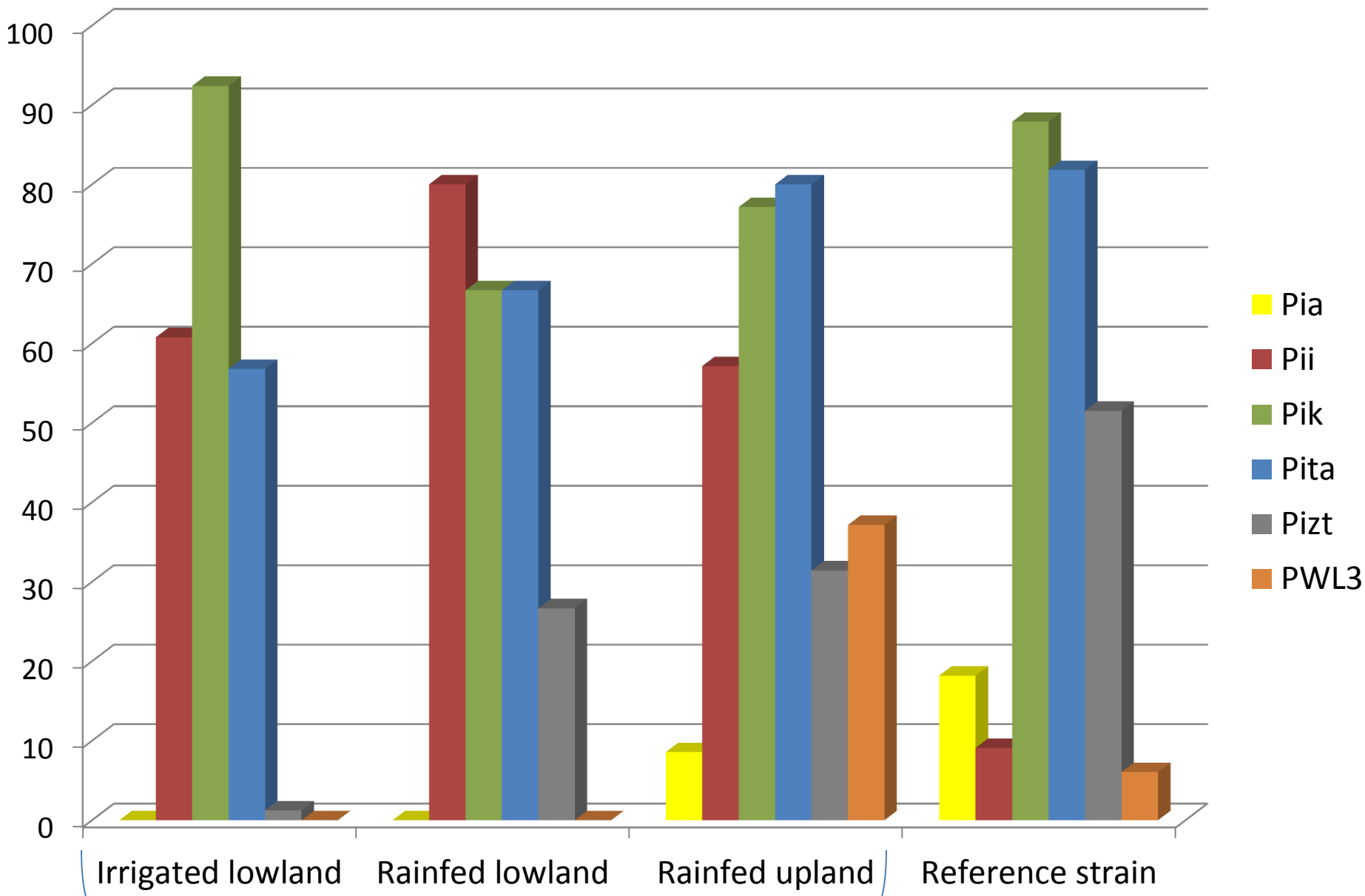
2176
1766
1230
1033
653
517
394
298
234
154



Avr pita (1086 bp)
Avr pwl3 (937 bp)
Avr pia (868 bp)
Avr pizt (637 bp)
Avr pik (532 bp)
Avr pii (508 bp)

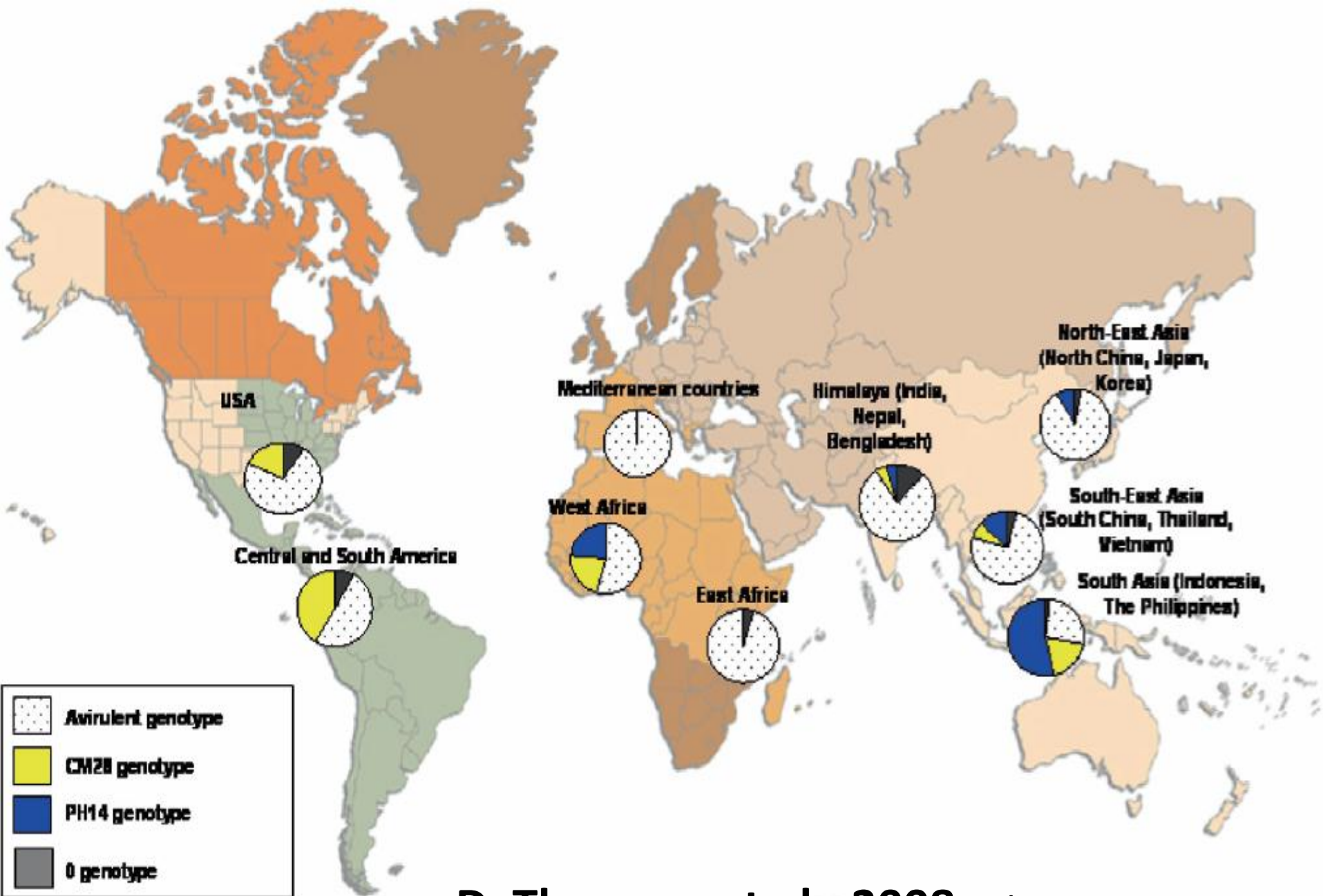


Lopez, unpublished results



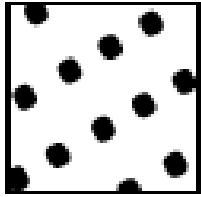
New strains

Lopez, unpublished results

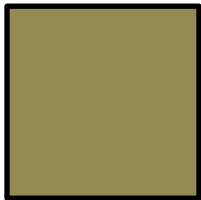


D. Tharreau et al., 2008 *Advances in Genetics, Genomics and Control of Rice Blast Disease*

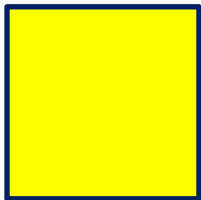
53 isolates tested for *ACE1* genotype



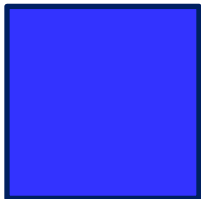
= 7 (avirulent)



= 2 (undetermined)



= 34 (virulent)



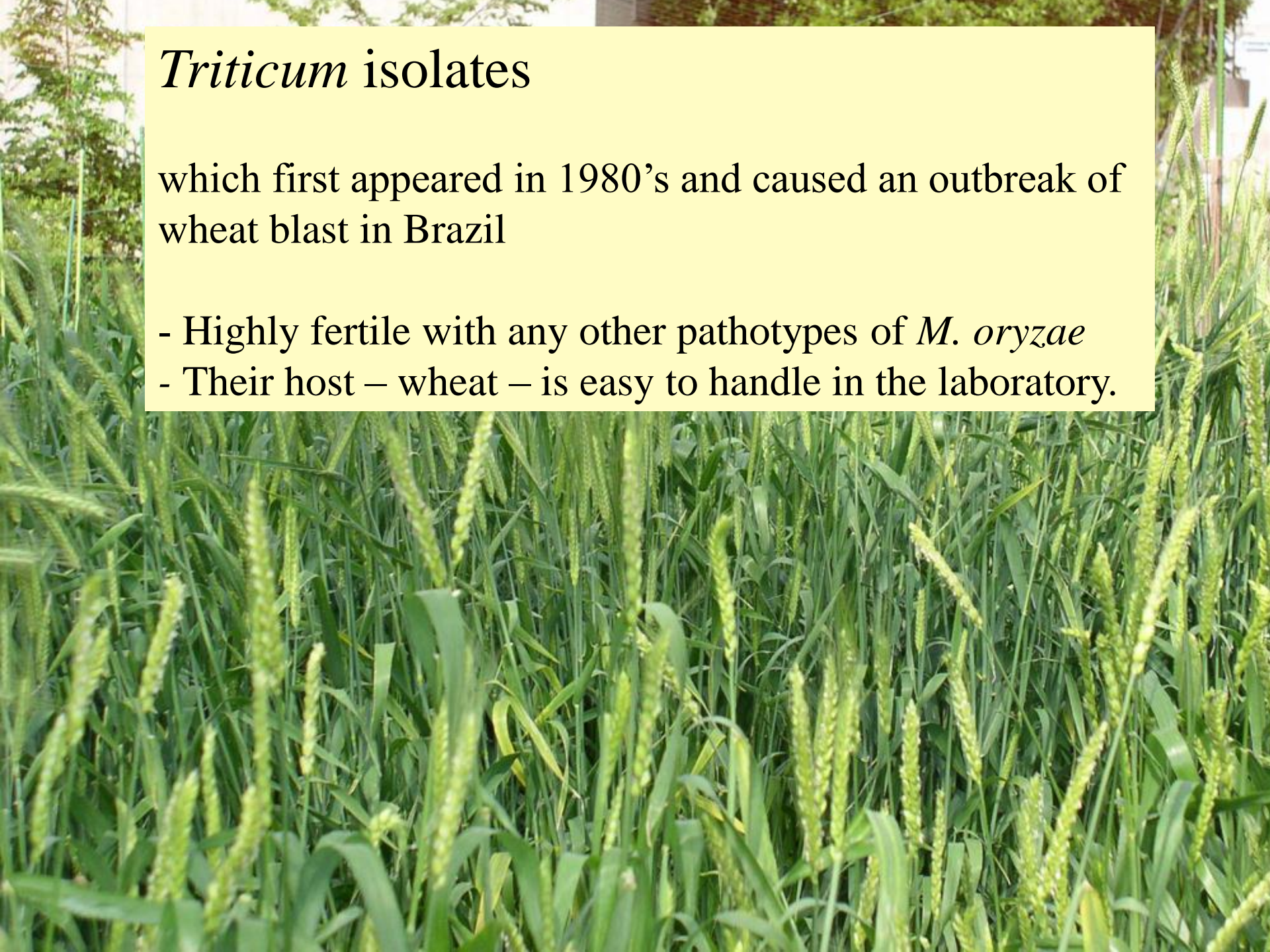
= 10 (virulent)



Triticum isolates

which first appeared in 1980's and caused an outbreak of wheat blast in Brazil

- Highly fertile with any other pathotypes of *M. oryzae*
- Their host – wheat – is easy to handle in the laboratory.

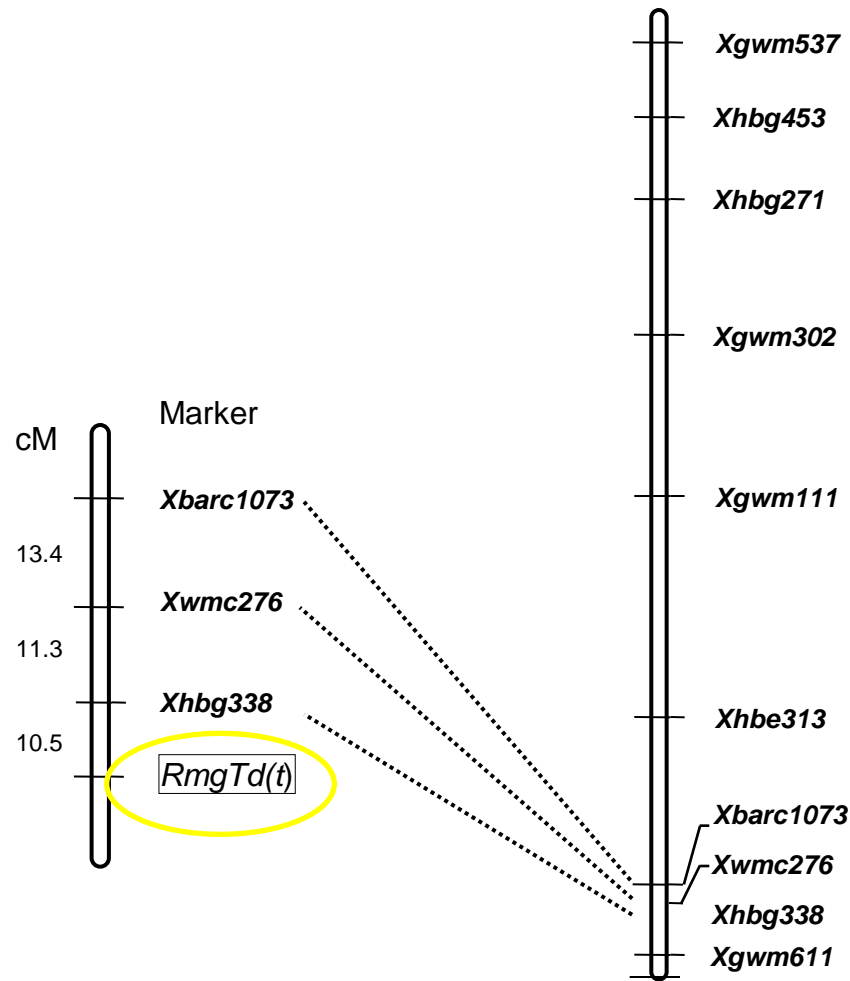


Identification of a hidden resistance gene
in tetraploid wheat using laboratory
strains of *Pyricularia oryzae* produced by
backcrossing

Christian Joseph R. Cumagun, Vu Lan
Anh, Trinh Thi Phuong Vy, Yoshihiro
Inoue, Hokuto Asano, Gang-Su Hyon,
Izumi Chuma, and Yukio Tosa



Chromosome 7B



Torada et al. (2006)

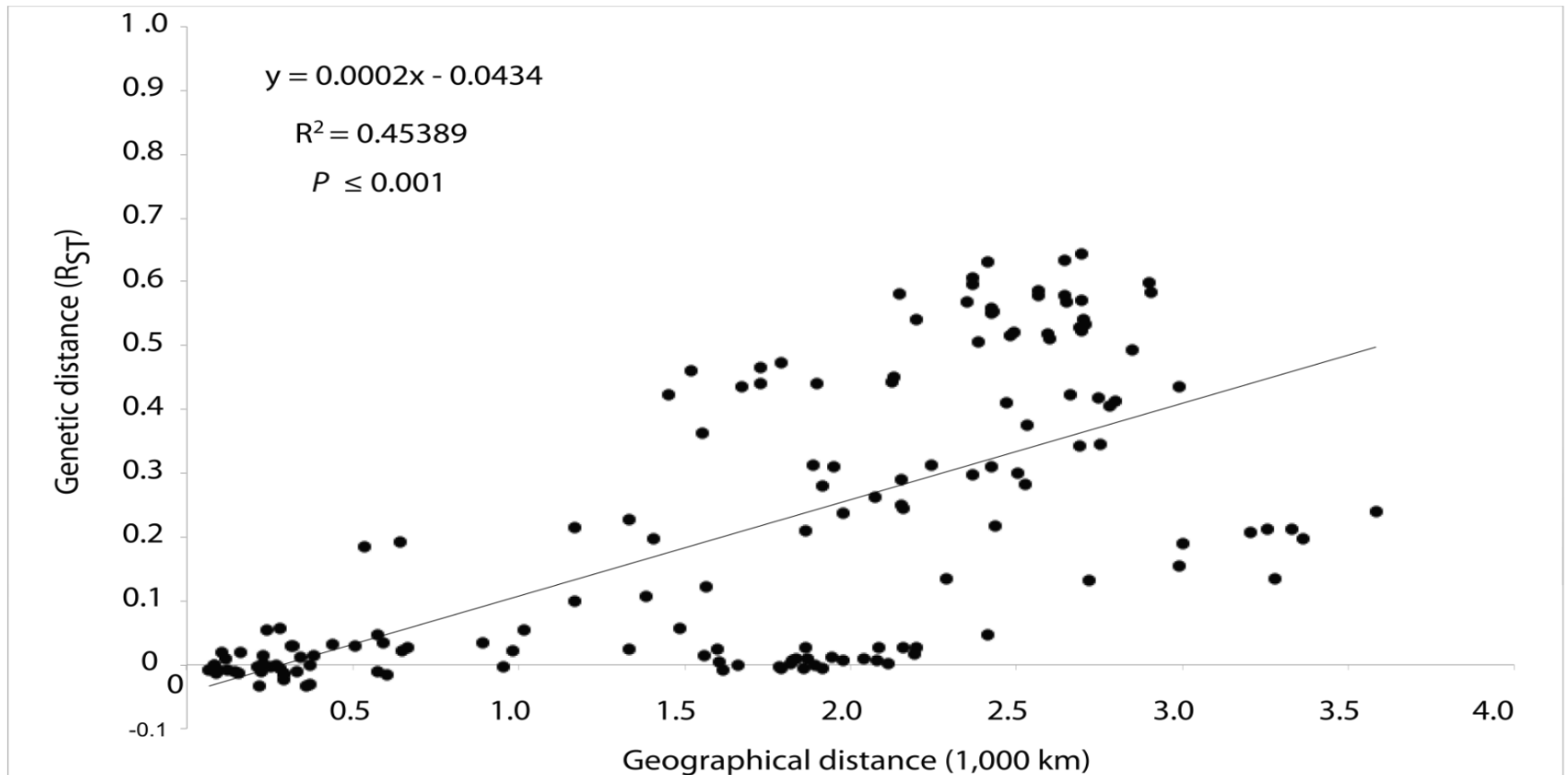
Linkage map around *RmgTd(t)* constructed using F_3 lines derived from Tat4 x Tat14

Genetic structure of populations of *Rhizoctonia solani* AG-1 IA from rice in China, Japan and the Philippines

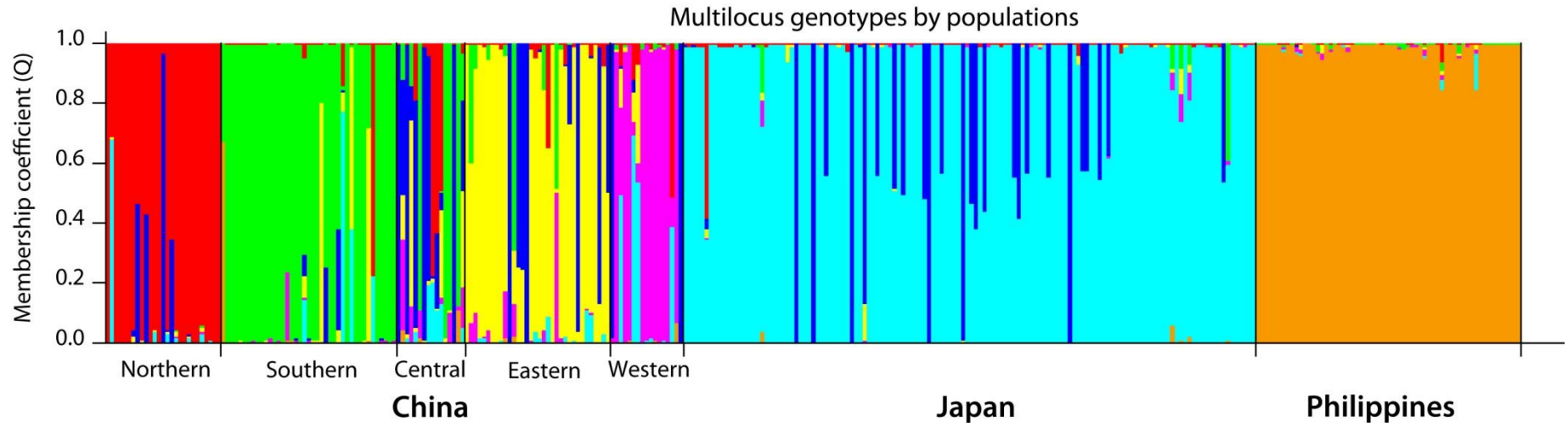
C.J.R. Cumagun, P. Ceresini, R.
Oliva, M. Zala and B.A. McDonald



Regression between genetic and geographical distance among pairs of 18 rice-infecting populations of *Rhizoctonia solani* AG-1 IA from China, Japan and the Philippines.



Structure inferred membership coefficient for multilocus microsatellite genotypes of *Rhizoctonia solani* AG- 1 IA from rice-infecting population samples from China, Japan and the Philippines.



Given population	Number of genotypes with membership in their given population or in one of the others					Total number of genotypes	Number of admixed genotypes	Admixed proportion		
	China								Japan	Philippines
	Northern	Southern	Central	Eastern	Western					
China										
Northern	23.7	0.0	2.2	0.1	0.0	0.9	0	27	3.3	0.12
Southern	1.0	34.3	0.7	2.4	0.3	1.6	0.7	41	6.7	0.16
Central	2.2	4.1	6.6	1.5	0.8	0.8	0.2	16	9.5	0.59
Eastern	0.7	1.9	6.1	23.7	1.1	0.5	0.1	34	10.3	0.30
Western	0.8	0.1	2.0	0.6	11.2	2.2	0.1	17	5.8	0.34
Japan	1.1	0.8	15.5	0.5	0.4	115.5	0.1	134	18.5	0.14
Philippines	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2	61.2	62	0.9	0.01
							Total	331	54,9	0,17

Fumonisin production of *F. verticillioides* and *F. fujikuroi* isolates in the Philippines

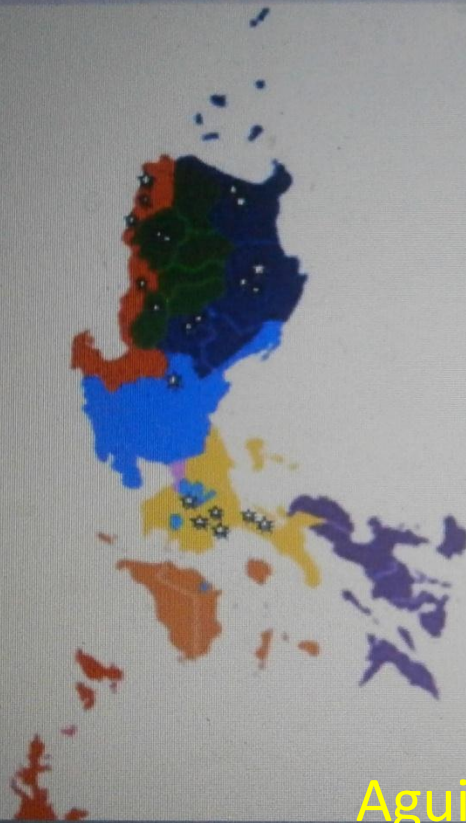
Source	Host	No of isolates	Mean fumonisin production ($\mu\text{g/g}$)		
			FB1	FB2	FB3
Isabela	maize	20	146.75	45.54	9.70
Laguna	maize	16	30.05	10.22	2.12
N. Ecija	rice	7	31.47	5.36	0.52

Table 2. Collection sites, morphological identification and aflatoxin production by *Asperigillus* isolates on CAM and HPLC analysis Yli Matilla, 2015, unpublished results

Isolate code	Collection site	Morphological identification	AFs production on CAM	HPLC analysis of aflatoxins from YES broth				
				G1 ng ml ⁻¹ media	B1 ng ml ⁻¹ media	G2 ng ml ⁻¹ media	B2 ng ml ⁻¹ media	Total AFs ng ml ⁻¹ media
8P	Soil sample from a field of coconut in Situbo, Tampilisan, Mindanao	<i>A. parasiticus</i>	+++	2198.5	1235.6	41.5	30.4	3506
9P	Soil sample from a field of coconut in Situbo, Tampilisan, Mindanao	<i>A. parasiticus</i>	+++	1526.6	825.2	26.9	23	2401.7
10P	Soil sample from a field of coconut in Situbo, Tampilisan, Mindanao	<i>A. parasiticus</i>	+++	12950.3	5001.3	224.6	146.7	18322.9
18P	Soil sample from a field of maize in New Barili, Tampilisan, Mindanao	<i>A. flavus</i>	+	4	3.6	ND	ND	7.6
32P	Soil sample from a field of maize in Garimbara, Visayas	<i>A. flavus</i>	+	0.42	1.6	ND	ND	2.02
33P	Soil sample from a field of maize in Garimbara, Visayas	<i>A. flavus</i>	+	0.6	1.6	ND	ND	2.2
34P	Soil sample from a field of maize in Garimbara, Visayas	<i>A. flavus</i>	+	0.3	1.2	ND	ND	1.5

Race 4 in Luzon?

- Bicol
- Cagayan Valley
- CALABARZON
- Central Luzon
- Cordillera
- Ilocos
- Metro Manila
- MIMARO

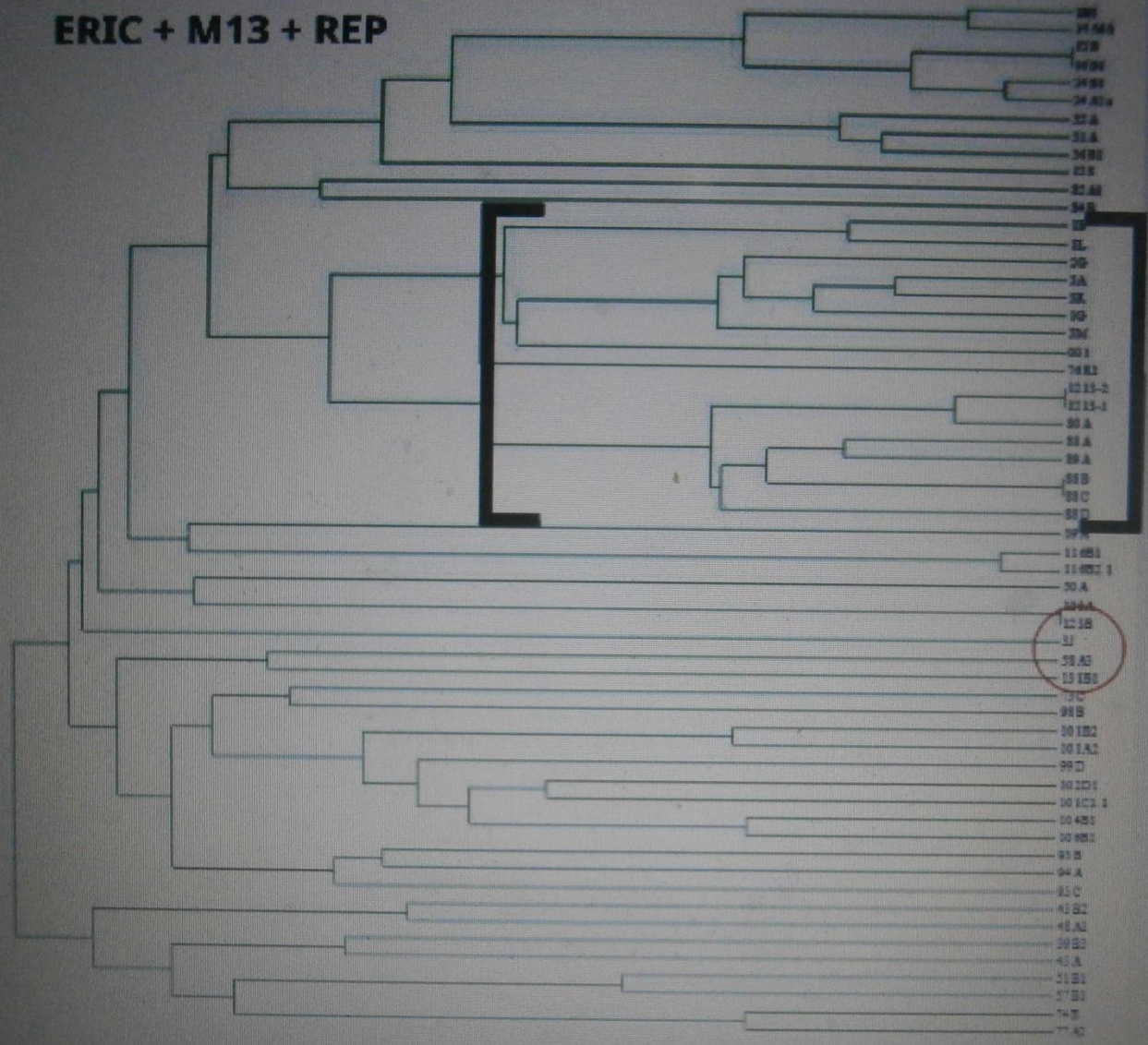


164 isolates were collected from 26 areas covering 12 provinces in 5 regions of Luzon, Philippines



Aguilar (2014). unpublished results

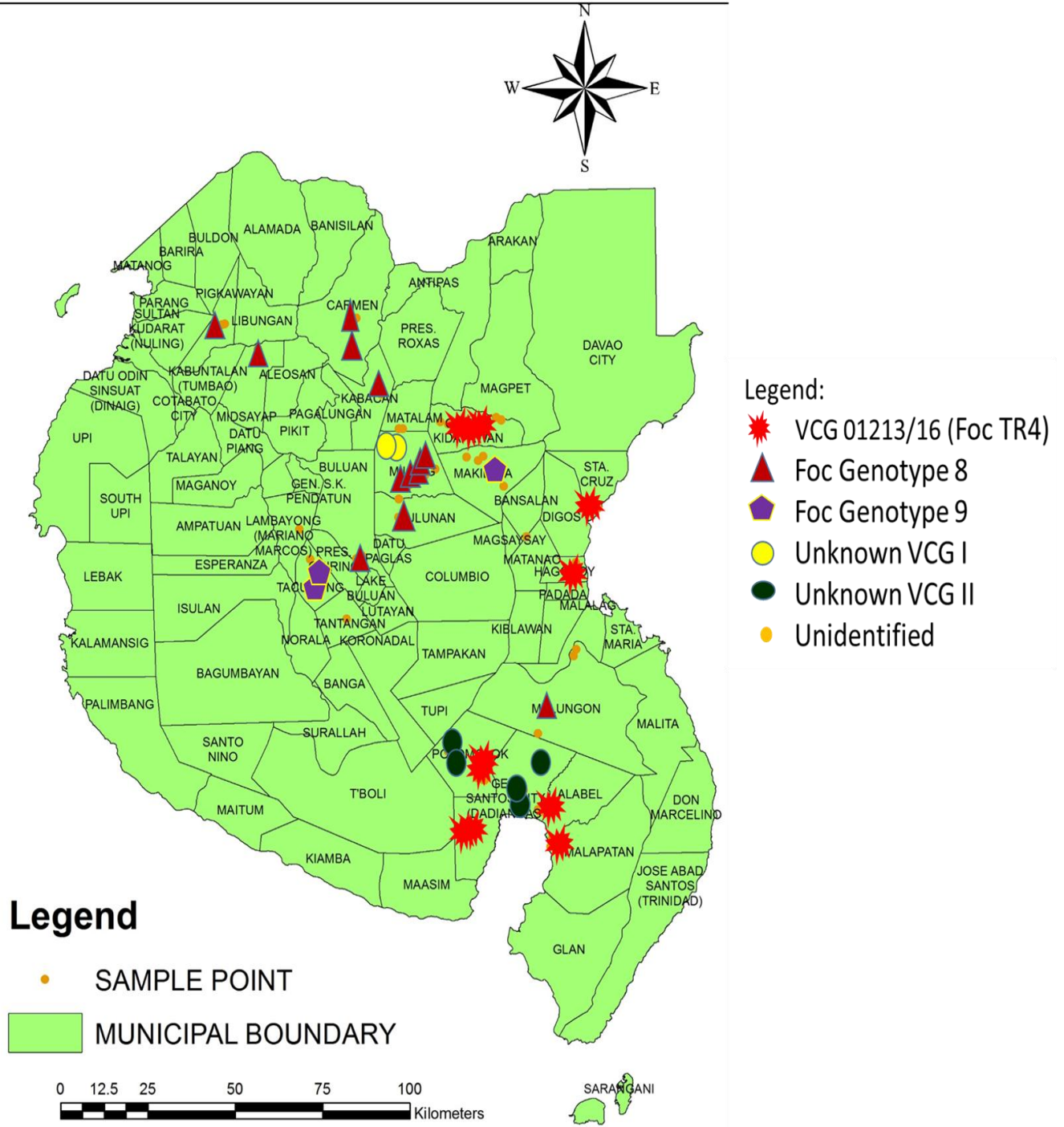
ERIC + M13 + REP



Aguilar (2014). unpublished results

Dendrogram generated from UPGMA cluster analysis using Jaccard Similarity Coefficient based on three primer combinations

The map of South-Central Mindanao as study area showing the distribution of Foc isolates identified as VCG 01213/16 (Foc TR4), genotype 8 and 9 and 2 unknown VCGs.



Solpot, unpublished results

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Conclusions and Future Outlook

- Promoting biodiversity enhances biocontrol research in agriculture. Biodiversity of plant pathogens not only of beneficial fungi should be conserved.
- Rainforests are rich sources of beneficial microbes. Save them before the microbes that are associated with them become extinct.
- Identification of both resistance genes in the host and avirulence genes in the pathogen are important in order for resistance to be effective. Monitoring gene flow of plant pathogens is essential for effective plant disease management.
- The need to focus on *Fusarium* and mycotoxin research in the Philippines.
- The need to train the next generation of mycologists and plant pathologists to sustain food security in the Philippines.

Thank you for your attention