



First report of the blue-stain of the wood caused by *Ophiostoma pulvinisporum* in *Pinus chiapensis* in Mexico

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White pine or Acalocote [*Pinus chiapensis* (Mart.) Andresen] is an endemic species from Mexico that has been used in commercial forest plantations. In September 2014, pine wood samples with symptoms of damage by *Ips calligraphus* Germar and fungal blue stain were collected in Mazolapa, Hueytamalco, Puebla. The wood contained perithecia with dark globose bases, 186–197 µm in diam., ornamented with aseptate hyphae, 70 × 1.8 µm. Perithecial necks were dark brown, 980–984 µm long, 44–50 µm wide at base, 19–24 µm wide at the apex. Ostiolar hyphae were absent and asci not observed. Ascospores were hyaline, aseptate, pillow-shape, 3.8–4.3 × 1.7–2.2 µm. Small pieces of wood were surface disinfected for 1 min, rinsed in sterile distilled water, and plated onto Malt Extract Agar (MEA). A fungus was isolated whose colonies were initially light gray at 10 days but turned dark gray with age. A reference specimen (UCH-DCF303) was deposited in the herbarium of the Forest Sciences Division of the Autonomous University of Chapingo, Texcoco, Mexico. Amplification of ITS was carried out using primers ITS4 and ITS5 (White et al. 1990). The PCR product (479 bp) was sequenced and deposited in GenBank (accession No. MK382983). The obtained sequence showed 99% similarity to the ex-type sequence of *Ophiostoma pulvinisporum*

X. D. Zhou & M. J. Wingfield, (AY546714, isolate CMW9022). Based on morphological and molecular characteristics, the fungus observed on *Pinus chiapensis* was identified as *Ophiostoma pulvinisporum*. *O. pulvinisporum* was described from galleries of bark beetles in *Pinus pseudostrobus* and *P. maximoi* in México. It has also been found in *P. contorta* in Canada (Zhou et al. 2004). This is the first report of this fungus on *Pinus chiapensis* in Mexico, extending the host range of the fungus and vector.

References

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