

# A NEW DISEASE OF THE AFRICAN MAHOGANY CAUSED BY *Cylindrocladium parasiticum* IN BRAZIL

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(Accepted for publication in 22/05/2000)

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## RESUMO

### Uma nova doença do mogno africano causada por *Cylindrocladium parasiticum*

Observações realizadas em plantios de mogno africano (*Khaya ivorensis*) em Igarapé-Açu, PA, revelaram a ocorrência de uma doença causando sintomas severos de mancha foliar, que culminava com a queda de folhas. Material com sintomas da doença foi coletado e analisado no laboratório de fitopatologia da Embrapa Amazônia Oriental. Um fungo foi

isolado e confirmado a sua patogenicidade em folhas de mogno africano. Para confirmar a identificação do patógeno, culturas puras foram enviadas à Universidade Federal e Viçosa, MG, tendo sido identificado o fungo *Cylindrocladium parasiticum*. Este é o primeiro registro deste patógeno atacando mogno africano, no Brasil.

The African mahogany (*Khaya ivorensis* A.Chev.) has been used for reforestation in the Amazonia due to its high resistance to *Hypsipylla grandella* Zeller shoot borer, the most important pest of Brazilian mahogany (*Swietenia macrophylla* King). Surveys in Igarapé-Açu, State of Pará, from May to June, 1999, detected 20% of the African mahogany trees severely damaged by a leaf spot disease (Figure 1) which caused defoliation. A fungus frequently associated to the lesions was also isolated on Potato-Dextrose-Agar (PDA). It presented cylindrical, hyaline, three-septate conidia, measuring 47-76 x 4,5-5,9-5 µm, and globose to sphaeropendunculate vesicles (Figure 1C). Its teleomorph phase was also observed with orange to red perithecia, having clavate asci with three septated ascospores. According to these characteristics the fungus was identified as *Cylindrocladium parasiticum* Crous, Wing. & Alfenas. Its pathogenicity was proved by inoculation of agar discs culture bearing the fungus mycelia on detached mahogany leaves into moist chamber. Disease symptoms were observed five days after and the *C. parasiticum* was reisolated on PDA from the affected leaf limbs. This pathogen has already been reported in Brazil, causing lesions in *Eucalyptus spp.* (Alfenas & Ferreira, Revista Árvore 3:47, 1979.) and in mahogany (Alfenas & Ferreira, Fitopatol. Bras. 1:86, 1979). This is the first report of *C. parasiticum* on African mahogany in Brazil. A culture of the pathogen is deposited in the Embrapa Eastern Amazonia Fungy Collection.

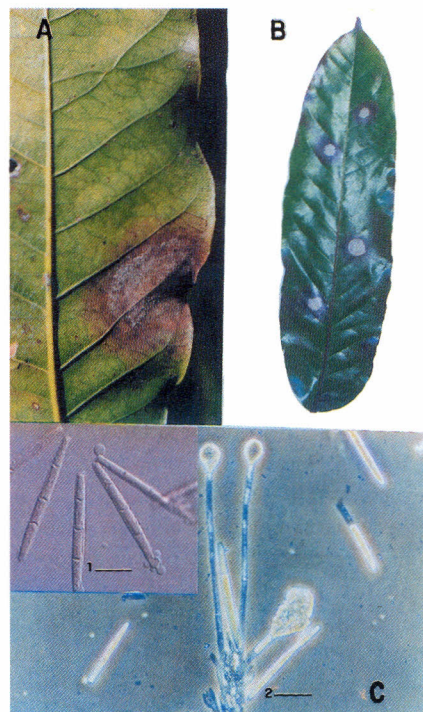


FIG. 1 - *Cylindrocladium parasiticum* on African mahogany (*Khaya ivorensis*): A - lesion from natural condition; B - disease symptoms from inoculations; C - conidia (barra 1 = 50 µm) and vesicles (barra 2 = 40 µm)