

Morphologic and Pathometric Characterization of the Asian Soybean Rust (*Phakopsora pachyrhizi*) on Kudzu (*Pueraria lobata*) in Argentina. M. A. Carmona, Facultad de Agronomía, UBA, Av. San Martín 4453 (1417), Buenos Aires, Argentina; C. Fortugno, Ex INTA Castelar; and P. L. Achával, Facultad de Agronomía, UBA. Plant Dis. 89:0000, 2005; published on-line as DOI: 10.1094/PD-89-00000. Accepted for publication

Asian soybean rust (ASR) is a very important disease caused by *Phakopsora pachyrhizi*. The disease has emerged as a major threat to soybean production in South America since 2001. During the 2003-2004 growing season, *P. pachyrhizi* spread rapidly throughout most soybean growing areas of northwest and northeast Argentina (1). One widespread naturalized host in the northeast of the country is kudzu (*Pueraria lobata*). Plants of severely infected kudzu were sampled during January 2005 in Cerro Azul (29° 29' S Misiones province), in order to quantify *P. pachyrhizi* infection and to morphologically characterize the fungus in leaves. The number of lesion, uredinia per cm² and uredinia per lesion were recorded from the undersides of fifty leaflets that were visually showing rust symptoms. The average number of lesions and uredinia per cm² was 14 (4 to 22), and 24 (5 to 78), respectively. The number of uredinia per lesion was 3 (1 to 10). Twenty leaflets from lower canopy averaged 55 (42 to 78) uredinia per cm². The average size of urediniospores was 18,4 μm width (12,5 to 22,5) and 22,7 μm length (17.5 to 26.3). Although important epidemics of ASR have not been registered on soybean crops in January (2) due to adverse conditions, the fungus was observed on kudzu plants. To our knowledge, this is the first report of morphologic and pathometric characterization of *P. pachyrhizi* on kudzu in Argentina.

Comentario: Each of three leaflets?

References: (1) M. A. Carmona et al Plant Dis. 89:109, 2005. (2) SINAVIMO, Sistema Nacional Argentino de Vigilancia y Monitoreo de plagas. Roya de la soja: Resultados de la campaña 2004-2005. On-line publication. SENASA, 2005.