

Host Specificity of a Brazilian Isolate of *Alternaria cassiae* (Cenargen CG593) Under Greenhouse Conditions

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Several *Alternaria cassiae* isolates were recovered from diseased sicklepod plants (*Senna obtusifolia*) in the southern regions of Brazil. A representative isolate (Cenargen CG593) was tested for its host range under greenhouse conditions. The fungus promoted symptoms in sicklepod, cassava (*Manihot dulce*), tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum*) and eggplant (*Solanum melongena*) when tested at a spore concentration of 10^6 spores ml^{-1} . When the plants were inoculated with a suspension of 10^5 spores ml^{-1} and held at a dew period of 12 h (cassava) or 18 h (tomato and eggplant), the plants showed symptoms of the disease, but they recovered and continued their normal vegetative growth. These results show that the fungus *A. cassiae* is safe to use for the control of *S. obtusifolia* under Brazilian conditions, because it did not cause excessive damage in the three plants tested.

KEY WORDS: *Alternaria cassiae*; host range; *Senna obtusifolia*.

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