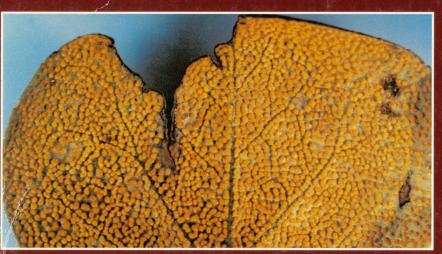


# Cone and Seed Diseases of North American Conifers









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# **Cone and Seed Diseases of North American Conifers**

Edited by

Jack R. Sutherland, Thomas Miller, and Rodolfo Salinas Quinard

North American Forestry Commission Publication Number 1

March, 1987

Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

## Cone and Seed Diseases of North American Conifers

© Minister of Supply & Services Canada 1987 ISSN 0835-3212 ISBN 0-662-15282-4 Cat. No. Fo29-18/1E

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## PREFACE

In 1981, the 17th meeting of the Study Group on Forest Insects and Diseases, North American Forestry Commission, FAO, held in Acapulco, Mexico, approved the preparation of a publication on cone and seed diseases of North American conifers. The publication was prepared by plant pathologists familiar with cone and seed diseases in Canada, Mexico and the United States of America. The author(s) for each major section of this publication are acknowledged in footnotes in the text. Sections not credited as to source were prepared jointly by the first two editors. Contributors of pictures are given by name and affiliation in the legends to the figures.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank all the authors and other contributors to this publication. Special thanks are due M.L.N. Nams for compiling information on disease and host distributions and in preparing early drafts of certain sections of the publication. S.J. Hopkinson and T.A.D. Woods prepared several of the microphotographs and the scanning electron micrographs. Mark S. Griffin assisted with mounting photographs and correcting literature citations and figure legends. Daphyne Lowe and T.A.D. Woods did an outstanding job of proof reading. John C. Wiens did the layout and artwork and made innumerable suggestions for improvement. We acknowledge the support provided by the Canadian Forestry Service, Secretaria de Agricultura y Recursos Hidraulicos, Mexico, and the USDA Forest Service.

## INTRODUCTION

Although North American foresters and forest pathologists have always been aware of certain cone and seed diseases, particularly cone rusts, it is only with the recent advent of seed orchards, tree improvement programs, and intensively managed forest nurseries that the importance of already-known and newly discovered diseases has been recognized. A major technological change that has spurred interest in cone and seed diseases has been the change from collecting cones from wild stands to the production of cone crops in seed orchards. There, the high value of the crop has increased the importance of diseases. Once management of trees for seed production became commonplace, foresters needed to protect their valuable crop from all losses, including diseases. Since it was in the southern United States that North America's first seed orchards were established, it was there that the importance of diseases such as southern pine cone rust was first recognized. As orchards have been established elsewhere on the continent, other diseases such as Inland spruce cone rust have been shown to be major impediments to cone production. Undoubtedly other diseases will become evident as the number of seed orchard species and their geographic distribution expands.

Just as seed orchards have made us realize the significance of diseases, the increasing demand for nursery stock and the development of new cultural systems such as container nurseries have demonstrated the importance of seed pathogens and seed-borne diseases. For example, precision sowing in bareroot nurseries has shown the extent of losses from seed fungi, while in containers, seed-borne pathogens such as *Sirococcus* blight have been recognized for the first time. The ever-increasing international trade in tree seeds is another development that has increased the interest in seed-borne fungi. This publication summarizes information on the biology, description, distribution and, briefly, the detection and management of cone and seed diseases in Canada, Mexico and the United States of America. For disease (pathogen) and host distributions listings, U.S. state and Canadian province names follow the official two-letter postal code abbreviations; Mexican state names are spelled out. Disease distribution maps are included for most major hosts, e.g., the conifer hosts of the rusts. Where possible, we have tried to point out those diseases that occur or are likely to occur in seed orchards, which will supply most of the future seed needs. Our publication is a sequel to the earlier North American Forestry Commission bulletin, Cone and Seed Insects of North American Conifers.

Each section of this publication gives the life history, symptoms, signs, damage, and distribution on various hosts of the major cone and seed diseases of North American conifers. Distribution maps are included for both hosts and diseases, and colored figures and scanning electron micrographs highlight the distinguishing features of the pathogens and the diseases that they cause. At first mention in each section, the scientific names of the host plants are provided. Authorities for the host species are given in lists of hosts by scientific and common name near the end of the publication. A table of cone and seed diseases of minor importance gives information on diseases whose importance is not yet well documented. A glossary is included to assist readers with various terms. References in the text are cited by number. The section on detection and management gives only a broad overview because circumstances vary with hosts, diseases, and geographic location. Readers should consult local publications for specific situations, particularly for disease management recommendations, which may change from year to year.

## **Cone Diseases Caused by Rust Fungi**

### Inland spruce cone rust<sup>1</sup>

Chrysomyxa pirolata Wint.

This disease affects spruce (Picea spp.) cones across the North Temperate Zone of North America and Eurasia (203). In North America, the disease has severely damaged spruce cone crops in most areas of Canada (203) and in certain areas of the western United States (132). Recent evidence indicates that losses in spruce seed orchards equal or exceed those in wild stands. In the latter, control is not practical, but in seed orchards the high value and accessibility of the crop mandates that management strategies be developed for the disease. In the future, the importance of this disease will increase as spruce seed orchards are developed in high risk areas where the pathogen and both its conifer and nonconifer hosts are abundant and where weather and cultural practices are conducive to the disease.

#### Life history (28, 132, 155, 206) Figure 1.

*Chrysomyxa pirolata* is a heteroecious, full-cycled rust fungus that is annual and systemic or partially systemic in spruce cones and perennial and systemic in plants (including rhizomes) of wintergreens (*Pyrola* spp.) and single-delight (*Moneses uniflora*), the alternate hosts. Pycnia and aecia are produced on spruce cone scales, while uredinia and telia develop on the underside of leaves of wintergreen and single-delight. The perennial mycelium in the nonconifer hosts, and their repeated infection via urediniospores, assure the survival and spread of the rust independent of spruces.

Basidiospores produced on the alternate hosts infect cones in early summer (June), about pollination time. Pycnia develop on infected cones in early to midsummer (June-July) and are followed by aecia and aeciospores from midsummer through early fall (July-September). The wind-disseminated aeciospores infect the alternate hosts in summer and early fall. The next growing season, uredinia develop on wintergreen and single-delight, and urediniospores are disseminated from spring to early fall (May-September). The rust overwinters in the alternate host, and mature telia capable of producing basidiospores are formed in late spring to early summer (May-June).

#### Symptoms (132, 155, 168, 206)

In middle to late summer, diseased cones become light brown, dry, and open prematurely, liberating yellow-orange aeciospores (Figure 2). Healthy cones are green at this time. Cones may be either completely or partially infected. When the latter condition occurs, cone scales open prematurely on only part of a cone or on depressed, resinous areas of reduced development on one side of the cone. Such cones are slightly twisted and their scales are distorted.

Diseased wintergreen, and perhaps single-delight, exhibit atrophy over several years, become slightly chlorotic, and develop leaves that are more upright and whose upper surface is less shiny (dull green-gray) than those of healthy plants (Figure 3A and 3B).

#### Signs (168, 206) Table 1 and Figure 4.

In midsummer, pycnia and accompanying pycnial ooze develop on cone scales (Figure 5). Aecia are formed 2-4 weeks later and the powdery, yelloworange aeciospores are released (Figure 2A and 2B). During epidemics, masses of aeciospores may produce a yellow-orange dust under spruce trees. Yelloworange uredinial pustules develop on the undersurface of wintergreen and single-delight leaves in summer and early fall. Telia are light orange, changing to brown, and form in early summer on the same leaves as uredinia (Figure 6A and 6B) or on leaves without uredinia.

#### **Damage** (36, 62, 114, 132, 168, 179, 206)

*Chrysomyxa pirolata* causes sporadic, localized epidemics in the western United States. In contrast, the disease severely damages cones across Alaska and

Prepared by Jack R. Sutherland, Senior Research Scientist, Pacific Forestry Centre, 506 W. Burnside Road, Victoria, B.C. V8Z 1M5, CANADA.

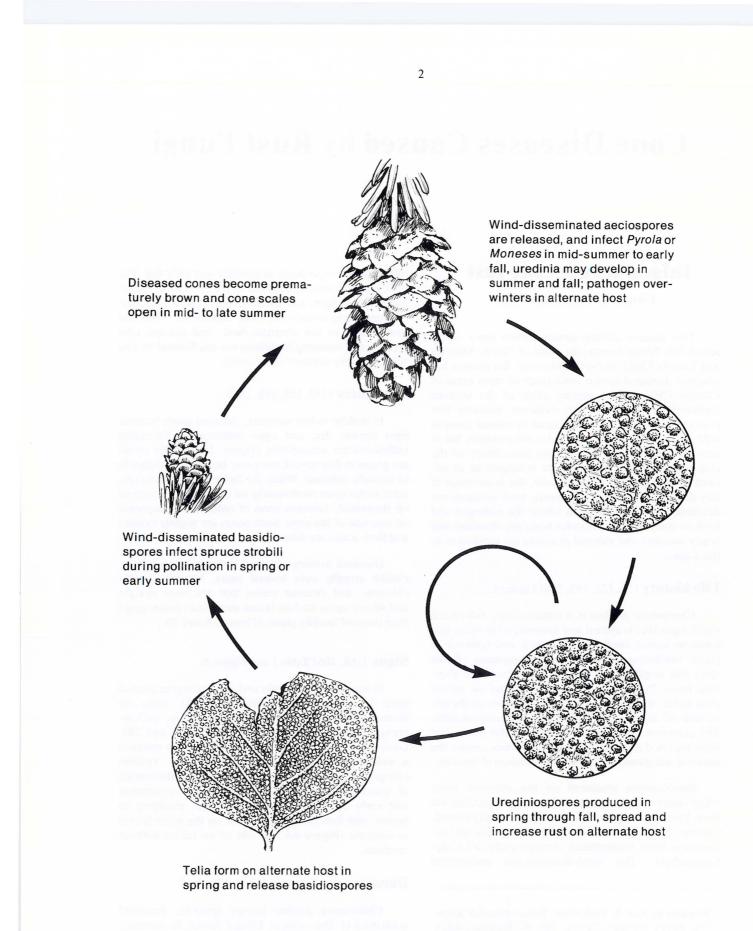


Figure 1. Disease cycle for Inland spruce cone rust, Chrysomyxa pirolata.





Figure 2. Inland spruce cone rust on white spruce cones. An open cone shedding yellow-orange aeciospores (A). Diseased cones dry out and open prematurely (B), shedding masses of yellow-orange aeciospores in middle to late summer, when healthy cones are still green (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).



Figure 3. Inland spruce cone rust on *Pyrola asarifolia*. Diseased leaves (A) are slightly chlorotic, more erect, and the upper surface is less shiny than that of healthy (B) leaves (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).

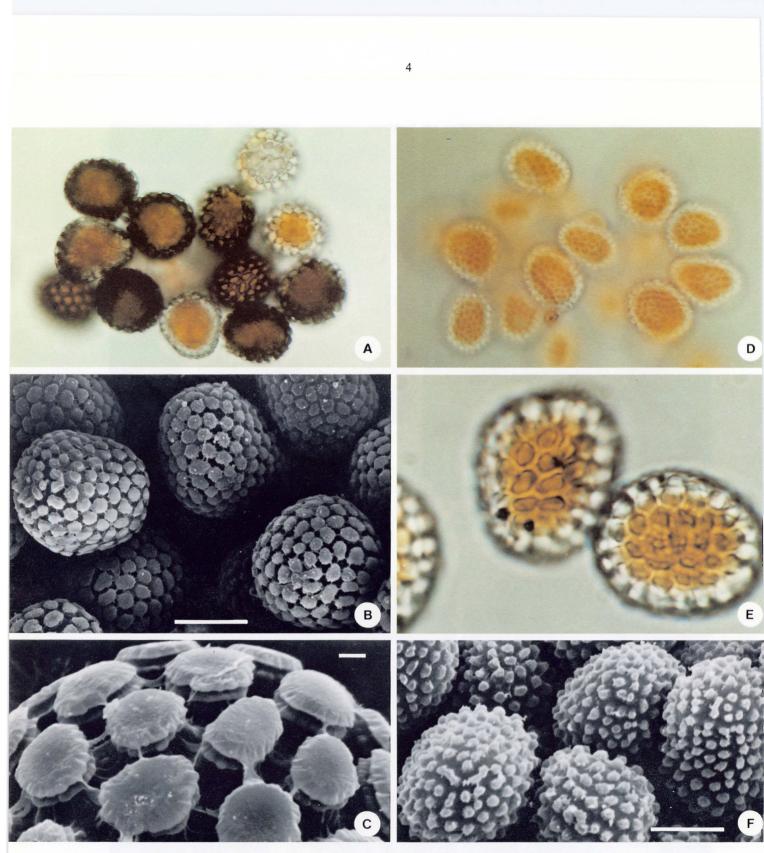


Figure 4. *Chrysomyxa pirolata* aeciospores (A,B and C) and urediniospores (D,E, and F). Note the short-columnar, crowded warts in median optical section of the aeciospores; in surface view of the aeciospores, the crowded, broad polygonal warts form a network (reticulum). Also note the similarities between aeciospores and urediniospores. Magnification: A=50X, B=2000X, bar is 10  $\mu$ m long, C=6600X, bar is 1  $\mu$ m long, D=50X, E=125X and F=2000X, bar is 10  $\mu$ m long (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).



Figure 5. Yellow-orange spermagonia of Inland spruce cone rust on a white spruce cone. Ants and other insects may be involved in spermatization (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).

Canada, especially in western Canada. Light to severe damage (nearly all cones destroyed) is common in other Canadian provinces. Although damage may be localized, seed crops can be greatly reduced.

Usually no seeds form in diseased cones, but even when they are produced, cone malformation and resinosis hinder seed extraction or dispersal. Seeds from diseased white (*Picea glauca*) or blue (*P. pungens*) spruce cones weigh significantly less and have reduced or abnormal germination (Figure 7).

#### Distribution (28, 175, 206)

*Chrysomyxa pirolata* is holarctic, ranging from Greenland west to Alaska, throughout southern Canada and the northern United States, and southward in the western mountains to New Mexico, California, and Guatemala. It also occurs in Europe, Siberia (U.S.S.R.), Japan, and China.

Conifer hosts. This disease is common on Engelmann spruce (Picea engelmannii) in southcentral British

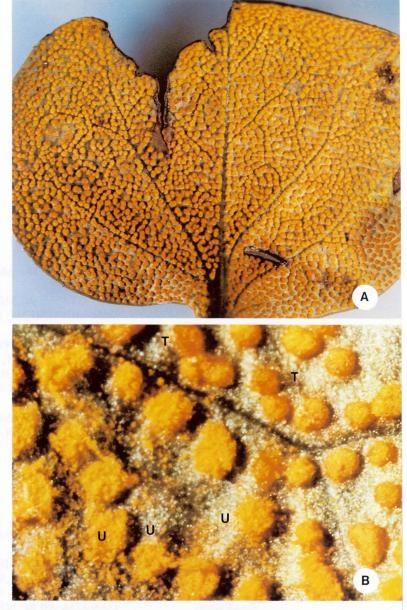


Figure 6. *Chrysomyxa pirolata* on *Pyrola asarifolia*. Undersurface of leaf with sori (A) (X0.85) and enlarged (B) (X2.5) showing uredinia (U) and telia (T) (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).



Figure 7. Abnormal germination of spruce seed from a cone affected by Inland spruce cone rust (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).

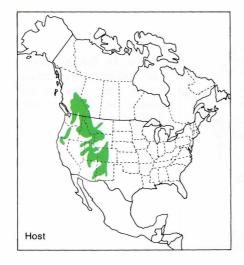
Columbia; southward in the Cascade Range to Oregon, and in the Rocky Mountains to Colorado (4, 37, 166, 188) Figure 8. On white spruce, it ranges from southern Alaska southward, mostly in the western mountains, to southeastern British Columbia and southwestern Alberta. The disease is rare on white spruce in the Canadian prairies and Quebec but common in the Great Lakes region, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island and Alaska (4, 37, 97, 188, 202). Figure 9. *Chrysomyxa pirolata* is scattered on black spruce (*P. mariana*) across Canada. It is most common on this host in central British Columbia, around the Great Lakes, and in the Atlantic provinces, but is reported occasionally in Alaska and New England (37, 97, 114, 168, 188) Figure 10. At times, the disease occurs on red spruce (*P. rubens*) in the Maritimes and New England states (4, 37, 188). Figure 11. It sometimes occurs on blue spruce in Alberta, British Columbia, and Utah (37, 132, 188) and infrequently on Sitka spruce (*P. sitchensis*) in coastal British Columbia and Alaska, including Kodiak Island (37, 39, 97). The disease has been reported on Norway spruce (*P. abies*) in Massachusetts (188).

Alternate or nonconifer hosts. Chrysomyxa pirolata is widespread on its alternate hosts in Canada and the northern and western United States. The nonconiferous hosts and distribution are:

Hosts	Distribution	References
Moneses uniflora	CANADA:AB,BC,MB,NT,PQ,YT	4,39,42,111,155
	USA:AK,CO,ID,ME,MI,MT,	166,188
	NM,WA,WY	
Pyrola asarifolia	CANADA:BC,MB,NS,SK	4,9,39,111
	USA:AK,CA,CO,CT,DC,ID,	155,166
	MA,ME,MT,NH,NJ,NM,	
	NY,OR,PA,UT,WA,WI	
Pyrola dentata	CANADA:BC	9,111
Pyrola elliptica	CANADA:AB,MB,NS,ON,PQ	4,42,155
	USA:CT,IA,ME,MN,NH,NY,OH,PA	4,42,155
Pyrola grandiflora	CANADA:NT,YT	42,155,156
	USA:AK	39,42
Pyrola minor	CANADA:BC,PQ	4,39,142,155,166
	USA:AK,SD,WY	4,39,42
Pyrola picta	CANADA:BC	4,9,42,111,156,166
	USA:NM	28
Pyrola rotundifolia	CANADA:BC,MB,NS,ON,PO,SK	4,9,42,111,155,166
	USA:MA,NH,NY	4,155
Pyrola secunda	CANADA:AB,BC,MB,NF,NS,NT,ON,PQ	4,9,39,42,111
	USA:AK,CO,ID,MI,MT,NM,	155,156,166
	NY,OR,PA,UT,WA	
Pyrola virens	CANADA:AB,BC,NT,ON,PQ	4,9,39,42,66,111
Connect on Princip opena	USA:AK,AZ,CO,MT,NY,WA,WY	155,156,166

**Note:** Reference (188) states that *Chrysomyxa pirolata* is widely distributed on pink wintergreen, *Pyrola asarifolia*; shinleaf, *P. elliptica*; Muguet de Bois, *P. rotundifolia*; and one-sided wintergreen, *P. secunda*, from Maine to Maryland, Iowa and Minnesota, and in the west from Montana to New Mexico, California and Alaska.

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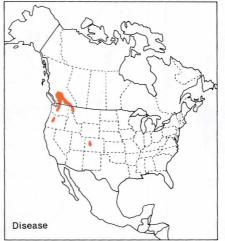
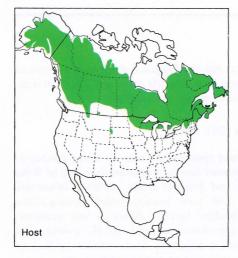


Figure 8. North American distribution of Inland spruce cone rust on Engelmann spruce. (4, 37, 90, 106, 166, 188).



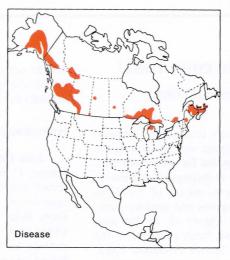
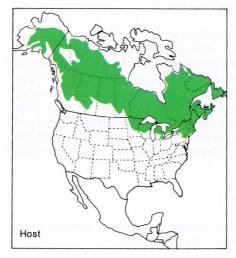


Figure 9. North American distribution of Inland spruce cone rust on white spruce. (4, 37, 74, 90, 97, 106, 107, 108, 133, 166, 202).



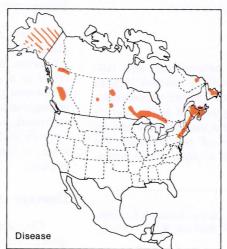


Figure 10. North American distribution of Inland spruce cone rust on black spruce. (37, 90, 97, 106, 114, 188).

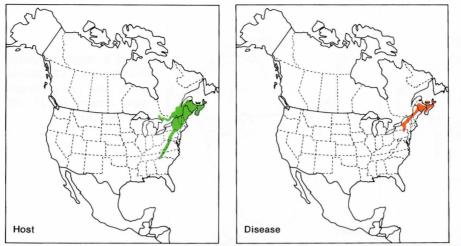


Figure 11. North American distribution of Inland spruce cone rust on red spruce. (4, 37, 90, 106, 188).

## **Coastal spruce cone rust**<sup>1</sup>

#### Chrysomyxa monesis Ziller

Chrysomyxa monesis closely resembles C. pirolata in life history (Figure 1), damage and symptoms, but its host range and distribution are far more restricted. Morphologically, C. monesis is distinguished from C. pirolata by narrow fluted warts, instead of broad polygonal warts, on both aeciospores and urediniospores (Figure 12) (compare with Figure 4). In the past, losses from this disease have been confined to the Queen Charlotte Islands of British Columbia (206), but the disease may be considered a threat wherever Sitka spruce (Picea sitchensis) occurs naturally or is planted in proximity to the alternate host.

#### Life History (203, 206)

*Chrysomyxa monesis* is heteroecious and fullcycled, annual, systemic or partially systemic in Sitka spruce cones, and perennial and systemic within singledelight (*Moneses uniflora*). Pycnia and aecia occur on cone scales of Sitka spruce and uredinia and telia on the lower surface of leaves of single-delight. On spruce, the disease is limited to areas where single-

<sup>1</sup> Prepared by Jack R. Sutherland, Senior Research Scientist, Pacific Forestry Centre, 506 W. Burnside Road, Victoria, B.C. V8Z 1M5, CANADA. delight occurs, but the fungus can survive and spread on the alternate host. The life cycle of *C. monesis* is essentially the same as that of *C. pirolata*.

#### **Symptoms** (203, 206)

Like Inland spruce cone rust on other species of spruce, *C. monesis* causes premature opening of Sitka spruce cones and destroys seeds. Affected cones dry prematurely and turn brown, which distinguishes them from healthy (green) cones in late summer. Other than sporulation on the leaves, evidence of damage to single-delight is likely similar to that of Inland spruce cone rust on its nonconifer hosts.

#### Signs (203, 206) Table 1.

Pycnia and pycniospores develop on cone scales, presumably in mid-summer. Yellow-orange aeciospores are shed *en masse* from cones that open prematurely in middle to late summer. Uredinia are light, yellow-orange, round, and form on the undersurface of single-delight leaves in summer and early fall. Telia are round, waxy, and yellow (turning dark brown) and form in early summer on the undersurfaces of the same, or other, leaves (on diseased plants) that bore uredinia.

#### **Damage** (206)

*Chrysomyxa monesis* can severely damage Sitka spruce cones and reduce seed yields.

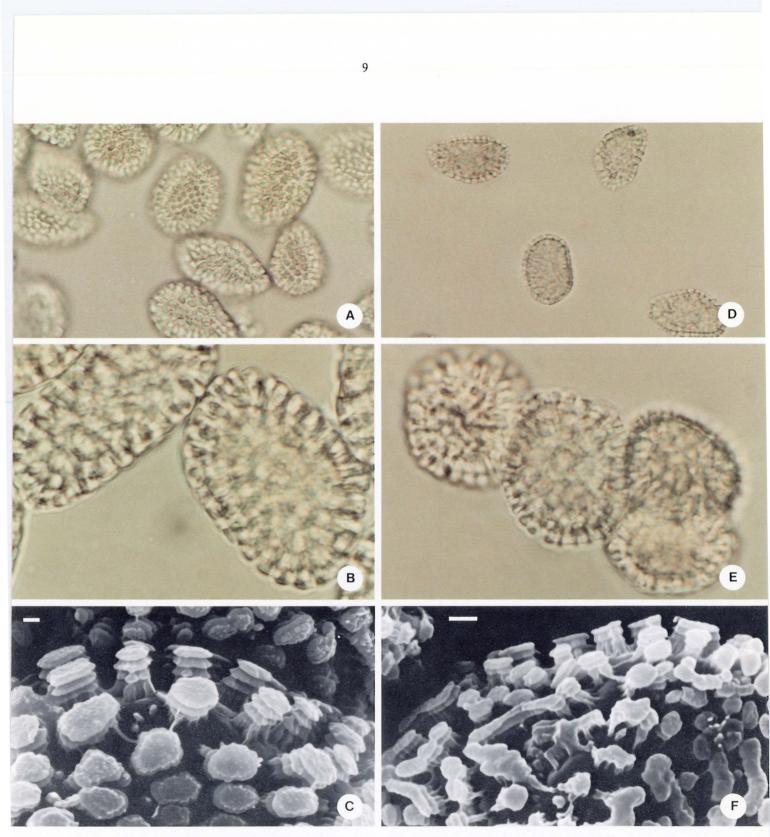
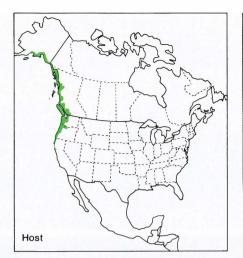


Figure 12. Chrysomyxa monesis aeciospores (A, B, and C) and urediniospores (D, E and F). Note the columnar, fluted and truncate warts in median optical section of the aeciospores; in surface view of the aeciospores the warts appear stellate or lobate. Chrysomyxa monesis is distinguished from C. pirolata by narrow fluted warts, instead of broad polygonal warts (Fig. 4) on both the aeciospores and urediniospores. Magnifications: A = 50X, B = 125X, C = 5000X, bar is 1  $\mu$ m long, D = 50X, E = 125X, and F = 2000X, bar is 1  $\mu$ m long (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).



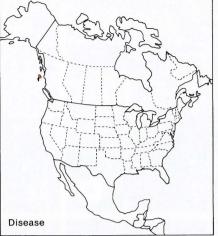


Figure 13. North American distribution of Coastal spruce cone rust on Sitka spruce. (9, 37, 82, 90, 106, 156, 203, 206).

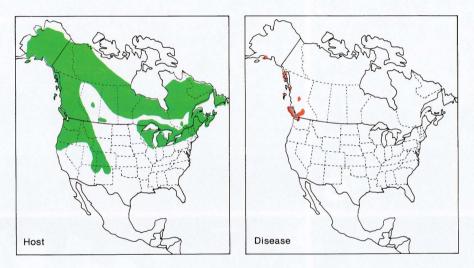


Figure 14. North American distribution of Coastal spruce cone rust on singledelight. (9, 37, 91, 156, 161, 203).

#### **Distribution** (9, 37, 82, 203)

*Chrysomyxa monesis* is a north Pacific coastal species, ranging from Alaska to southern British Columbia, and occasionally inland in British Columbia on its alternate host single-delight (156). On its sole conifer host, Sitka spruce, the disease occurs only in the Queen Charlotte Islands, British Columbia (206). Figures 13 and 14.

### Southern pine cone rust<sup>1</sup>

#### Cronartium strobilinum (Arth.) Hedgc. & Hahn

This disease sporadically causes severe losses of first-year strobili of susceptible pine species in both natural stands and seed orchards in certain areas of the southern United States. The disease occurs only in those areas of the Atlanta and Gulf Coastal Plain where the susceptible pine hosts and the alternate hosts (evergreen *Quercus* sp.) grow in proximity. Southern cone rust has been known to occur in the southern U.S. for nearly 100 years, but only since the development of commercial pine seed orchards has its importance has been fully recognized. In addition to the direct losses caused by the disease, there is a destructive interaction with coneworms, which cause additional losses of both first- and second-year strobili.

#### Life History (77, 79, 80, 94, 120, 121) Figure 16.

*Cronartium strobilinum* is a heteroecious, fullcycled rust with pycnia and aecia produced annually on first-year female strobili of slash (*Pinus elliottii* var. *elliottii*) and longleaf (*P. palustris*) pines, and uredinia and telia produced annually on deciduous and evergreen oak leaves and perhaps perennially on the leaves of the evergreen species. The pathogen develops very rapidly in the strobili, and produces pycnia and aecia within 4 months of infection.

Under proper temperature and humidity conditions, basidiospores that are produced from telia on oak leaves may infect pine strobili in late winter (December-February), from the time strobili emerge from the bud scales until the scales close after pollination. Pycnia develop from 4-6 weeks after infection (March-April) followed by aecia and aeciospores, which are typically formed several weeks after the pycnia (April-May). At maturity, the aecia rupture through the infected scales, and the bright-orange aeciospores are exposed to wind and rain dissemination.

Susceptible leaves of both deciduous and evergreen oaks may be infected by the aeciospores in late spring and early summer. The disease is intensified on the oaks by the formation of urediniospores, which develop from early summer into the late fall. In some years, uredinia and urediniospores may still be present in the late winter, when pine strobili are forming. Telia first appear in early fall and reach full maturity on the evergreen oaks in winter (late November-January). The telia produce the basidiospores that infect susceptible strobili.

#### Symptoms (79, 94, 121)

Strobili infected by *C. strobilinum* undergo hypertrophy, rapidly becoming 3-4 times normal size (Figure 15); the internal tissues are disrupted, and the bases of adjoining scales become fused. Prior to aecial eruption, the infected cone scales become reddishorange. After aeciospore production, the cones rapidly desiccate, turn reddish-brown and fall from the tree.

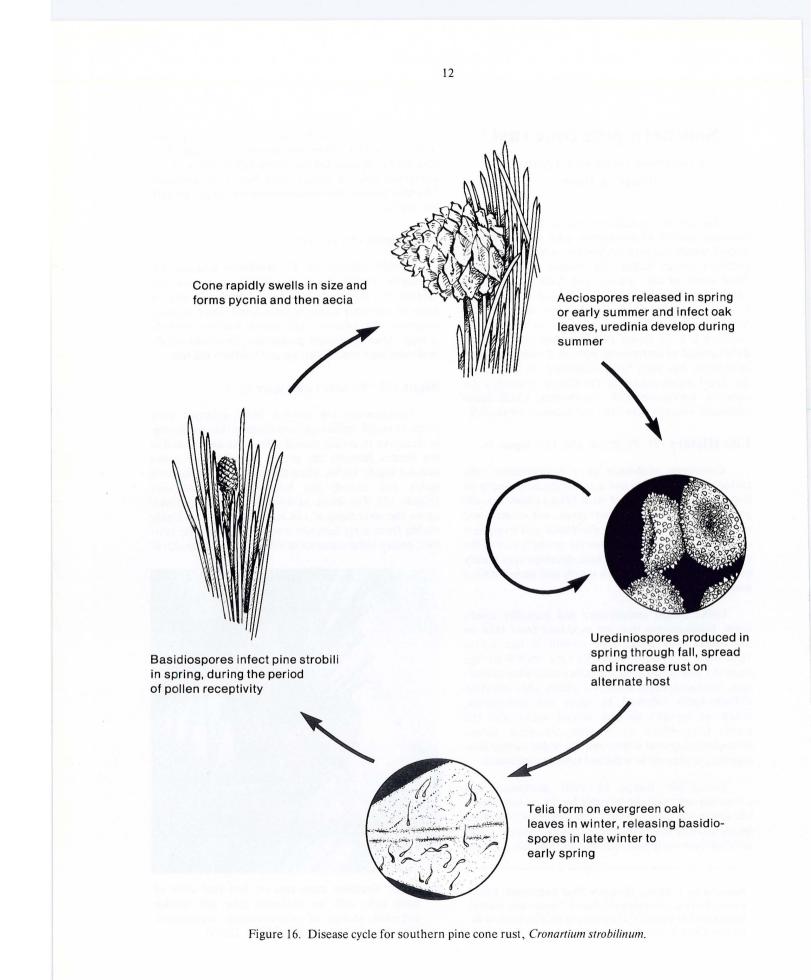
#### Signs (77, 79) Table 1 and Figure 17.

Pycniospores are exuded from enlarged cone scales in viscid, amber-colored droplets that are strongly attractive to certain insects. The aecia are formed in the tissues beneath the pycnia. The infected cones become highly visible when the aecia rupture the cone scales and expose the bright-orange aeciospores (Figure 15). The small, yellow-orange uredinia develop on the undersides of oak leaves and may be highly visible from early summer into late winter. The hairlike, brown telial columns develop on the underside of



Figure 15. Southern cone rust on first-year cone of slash pine with the ruptured cone gall surface exposing masses of yellow-orange aeciospores. Healthy cone at arrow. (T. Miller, USFS).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Prepared by T. Miller, Research Plant Pathologist, USDA Forest Service, Southeastern Forest Experiment Station, Department of Forestry, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611, U.S.A.



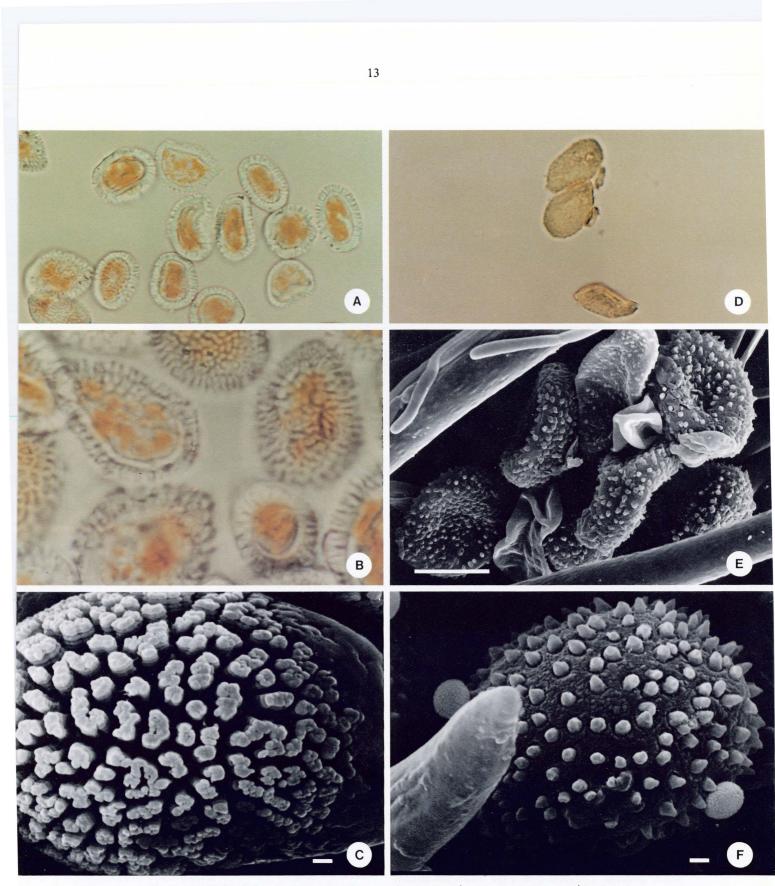


Figure 17. Cronartium strobilinum aeciospores (A, B and C) and urediniospores (D, E and F). Magnifications: A = 50X, B = 125X, C = 5000X, bar is 1  $\mu$ m long, D = 50X, E = 2000X, bar is 10  $\mu$ m long, and F = 5000X, bar is 1  $\mu$ m long. The tubular structures in E and F are trichomes from oak leaves (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).



Figure 18. Brownish telia (at arrows) and yellow-orange uredinia of *Cronartium strobilinum* on the underside of a live oak leaf (A.T. Drooz, USFS).

the evergreen oak leaves and may be visible as early as October but reach maturity in late winter (Figure 18). Under proper conditions of humidity and temperature, the teliospores germinate to produce the basidiospores, which infect strobili.

#### Damage (77, 79, 117, 120, 121)

The ultimate damage caused by southern pine cone rust is the loss of potential seed production from infected cones. While the disease alone can cause cone mortality, equally important losses result from the interaction between the disease and coneworms (*Dioryctria* spp.), especially the south coastal coneworm, *D. ebeli* Mutuura & Munroe. Populations of this coneworm build up in rusted conelets, and larvae migrate throughout a tree attacking healthy cones.

In the southeastern United States, this disease can greatly reduce seed yields. Periodic losses of first-year slash pine cones in Georgia and Florida have been serious, averaging 20% in the 1960's, with losses sometimes up to 90%. Heavy losses elsewhere (Alabama and Mississippi Gulf Coast and further east) have been more sporadic. Longleaf pine cone losses are usually less severe. Epidemics occur where the susceptible pine species are associated with evergreen oaks, especially live oak (*Quercus virginiana* var. *virginiana*) and sand live oak (*Q. virginiana* var. *geminata*) and when temperature and humidity conditions are optimum for infection by the different spore forms.

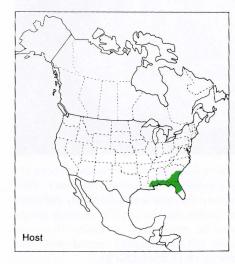
Although infection of oak leaves may occur annually, damage is insignificant.

#### Distribution

*Conifer hosts.* Slash pine, south Florida slash pine (*P. elliottii* var. *densa*), and longleaf pine are affected in the southeastern United States. On slash pine and south Florida slash pine, the range is from southeastern South Carolina southwest along the Gulf Coast to southeastern Louisiana and central Florida (28, 77, 79, 82, 85, 94, 117, 120, 121, 122, 188). Figure 19. On longleaf pine, it ranges from eastern North Carolina southwest along the Gulf Coast to Louisiana (and Texas?) and central Florida (28, 77, 79, 82, 85, 94, 117, 120, 121, 122, 188). Figure 20. Distribution of *C. strobilinum* on pines is determined largely by the presence of the principal alternate hosts, live oak and sand live oak (82, 117, 186).

Alternate or nonconifer hosts. Cronartium strobilinum occurs widely on oaks in the southern and southeastern U.S. and uredinia of the fungus have been identified on certain species in the central U.S.. The nonconifer hosts and distributions are:

Distribution	References
USA : AR, IL, LA, MS, NC	79,188
USA : NC	79
USA : FL	79
USA: GA, NC; Southeastern and Gulf Coast	79,85,117
USA : NC,TX	79
USA : MS	79
USA: FL	79,188
USA : IA,KS,MO	79,188
USA : FL	79
USA : FL, MS, TX	28,79,188
USA : Southeastern and Gulf Coast	82
USA : VA	79
USA : AR, FL, MS, NC, SC, TX	79,188
USA : FL,LA,MS,NC,TX	79
and there there will a serve the	79
	USA : AR,IL,LA,MS,NC USA : NC USA : FL USA : GA,NC; Southeastern and Gulf Coast USA : NC,TX USA : MS USA : FL USA : IA,KS,MO USA : FL USA : FL,MS,TX USA : Southeastern and Gulf Coast USA : VA USA : AR,FL,MS,NC,SC,TX



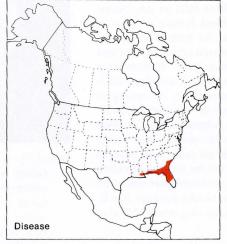
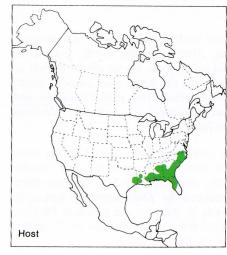


Figure 19. North American distribution of southern pine cone rust on slash pine. (28, 77, 79, 82, 85, 94, 106, 117, 120, 121, 188).



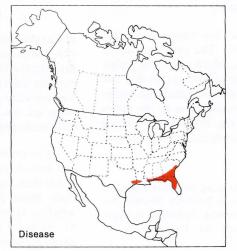


Figure 20. North American distribution of southern pine cone rust on longleaf pine. (28, 77, 79, 82, 85, 94, 106, 117, 120, 121, 188).

### Southwestern pine cone rust<sup>1</sup>

#### Cronartium conigenum Hedgc. & Hunt

This disease, which affects cones, branches and stems, is the only major cone disease in Mexico. To date, the disease has been reported only on trees in the forest, but it has the potential to cause severe losses in seed orchards because it attacks both the cones and vegetative growth of its hosts.

#### Life History (78, 79, 146, 157) Figure 22.

*Cronartium conigenum* is heteroecious and fullcycled, with pycnia and aecia on cones or stems, and uredinia and telia on oak leaves. Cone infections are thought to be biennial and completely or partially systemic while stem and branch infections are often perennial. The pathogen is systemic in both deciduous and evergreen oak leaves.

Basidiospores, produced from telia on oak leaves, are wind-disseminated, and infect female strobili, or pine stems, in the spring, about the time of pollination and shoot elongation. The diseased cones enlarge and pycnia are produced 1-2 years later. Pycniospores exude from cones in viscid droplets. A year later aecia form. The aeciospores are released in the spring to early summer and disseminated by wind and possibly by rain. They infect oak leaves, where uredinia develop during the summer. The urediniospores infect additional leaves and spread the rust on oaks. Telia develop in summer or fall, depending on the time of infection by urediniospores, which are produced year-round on evergreen oak leaves. Telia eventually produce basidiospores, which are capable of infecting susceptible pine tissues.

#### Symptoms (78, 79, 143, 146)

Diseased cones become 2-4 (occasionally 10) times normal size (Figure 21). The pathogen stimulates parenchyma production, while restricting xylem and sclerenchyma. Cones, therefore, are fleshy, and their surface is only slightly differentiated into scales. Aecia and aeciospores are produced over the entire surface area of cones, making them bright orange (Figure 23). Insects are frequently attracted to the pyc-

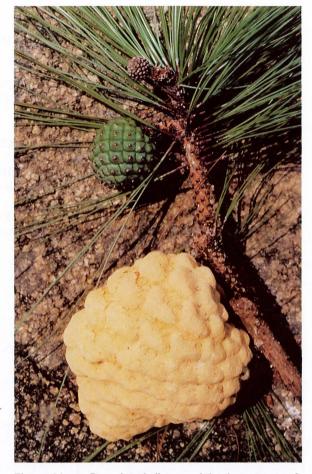


Figure 21. A *Pinus leiophylla* var. *chihuahuana* cone affected by *Cronartium conigenum* (bottom). Diseased cones are enlarged and have poorly differentiated cone scales; masses of yellow-orange aeciospores cover the cone scales. A healthy, first-year cone is at the top and a healthy second-year cone is in the middle (B.H. Ebel, USFS).

nial exudation and to the aeciospores for both oviposition and feeding. After cones die, brittle, hard, cone skeletons remain on the trees. Cones are completely or partially infected, and the latter may produce seeds. Various cone shapes result from partial infection, and some are not recognizable as *C. conigenum* infections until aeciospores form.

*Cronartium conigenum* also causes lobulate stem and branch galls with more cortical and less vascular tissue than healthy stems (Figure 24). The galls differ from those produced by *Endocronartium harknessii*, which is sympatric in Arizona and northern Mexico, by the more restricted stem connection of *C. conigenum*; i.e., lobulate rather than globose.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Prepared by Rodolfo Salinas Quinard and Jose Francisco Resendiz Martinez, Laboratoro de Patologia, Instituto Nacional de Investigaciones Forestales, Secretaria de Agricultura y Recursos Hidraulicos, Av. Progresso No. 5, Coyoacan 21, D.F., MEXICO.

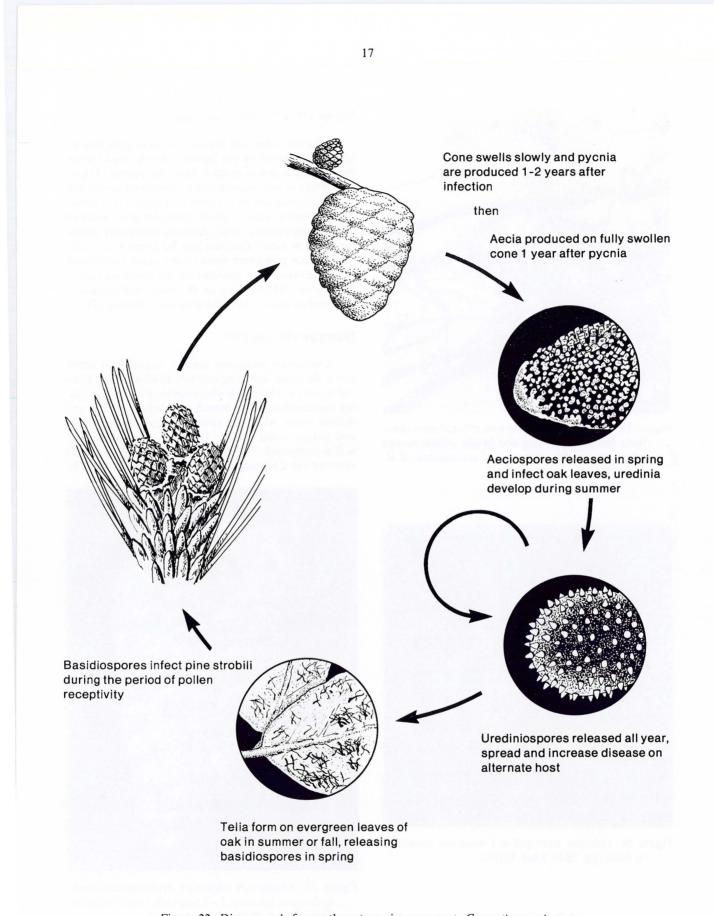


Figure 22. Disease cycle for southwestern pine cone rust, Cronartium conigenum.



Figure 23. A *Cronartium conigenum* affected pine cone. Note the enlarged size and bright yellow-orange color, due to the presence of aeciospores (B.H. Ebel, USFS).

**Signs** (78, 157) Table 1 and Figure 26.

Infected cones and branch and stem galls may be initially identified by the amber-colored, viscid droplets of pycniospores exuded from the pycnia (Figure 25). Bright orange aeciospores are produced on swollen cones in spring and early summer (Figure 21). Following aeciospore release, aecial remnants give cones an ash gray appearance; dead, diseased cones may persist for a year or more. Uredinia may be found year-round and produce pale-green spots on the upper surface and bright yellow-orange pustules on the lower surface of oak leaves. Telia develop on the lower leaf surface as light to dark brown, hair-like structures (Figure 27).

#### **Damage** (78, 146, 157)

Cronartium conigenum has the largest host range and is the most damaging tree rust in Mexico and Central America, where it destroys cones and seeds, reducing regeneration. Also, branch galls reduce growth and deform trees, while the rarer stem gall weaken trees and reduce wood quality. Losses in Mexico are not well-documented, but heavy cone damage has been reported for Chihuahua pine (*Pinus leiophylla* var. chi-



Figure 24. Lobulate stem gall of *Cronartium conigenum* on *Pinus* spp. (B.H. Ebel, USFS).



Figure 25. Cronartium conigenum pycniospores exude in droplets (arrows) 1 – 2 years after cone infection (B.H. Ebel, USFS).

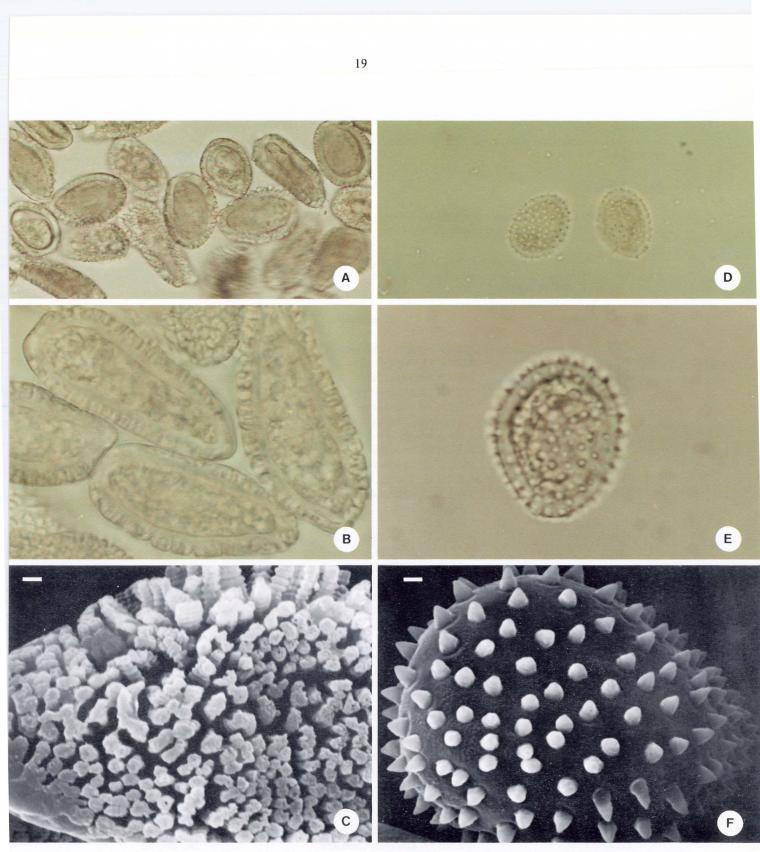


Figure 26. Cronartium conigenum aeciospores (A, B and C) and urediniospores (D, E and F). Note the thick cell wall on both types of spores and that annuate knobs consist of numerous cushion-like discs stacked on top of one another (upper portion of C and middle of F). Magnifications: A = 50X, B = 125X, C = 5000X, bar is 1  $\mu$ m long, D = 50X, E = 125X and F = 5000X, bar is 1  $\mu$ m long (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).

*huahuana*) in Arizona, and Montezuma pine (*P. montezumae*) and wheelbarrow torchwood pine (*P. oocarpa*) in Guatemala.

#### Distribution

Cronartium conigenum occurs throughout Mexico and Central America on many pines and oaks (41, 56, 79, 146, 175). In the United States it is restricted to southern Arizona on Chihuahua pine and several oaks. (66, 78, 79, 82, 144, 146, 188). The most common Mexican host is Chihuahua pine. Figure 28. Although documentation is poor, the hosts and general distribution are:

#### **Conifer hosts**

Hosts	Distribution	References
Pinus attenuata	MEXICO : Baja California Sur	152
Pinus ayacahuite	MEXICO : Hidalgo, Veracruz	152
Pinus cembroides	MEXICO : Veracruz	152
Pinus cooperi	MEXICO : Durango	56,146
Pinus durangensis	MEXICO : Michoacan, Sonora	146
	Durango, Chihuahua	(50)
D: 1	(also British Honduras)	(59)
Pinus engelmannii	MEXICO : Durango	152
Pinus greggii	MEXICO : Coahuila	152
Pinus hartwegii	MEXICO : Puebla, D.F., Mexico,	56,146,152
Pinus lawsonii	MEXICO : Michoacan, Guerrero Puebla, Oaxaca	146
Pinus leiophylla var.	USA : AZ	28,56,66,78,79,82
chihuahuana	MEXICO : Chihuahua, Durango,	144,146,152,175,188
	Hidalgo, Mexico,	
	Michoacan, Puebla	
	(also Guatemala)	(175)
Pinus lumholtzii	MEXICO : Chihuahua, Durango, Zacatecas	56,146,152
Pinus michoacana	MEXICO : Michoacan	146,152
Pinus montezumae	MEXICO : Coahuila, Mexico,	146,152,175
	Morelos, Puebla	
	(also Guatemala)	(45,146,157,175)
Pinus oocarpa	MEXICO : Chiapas, Durango,	56,146,152,175
1	Guerrero, Oaxaca	,,,
	(also Guatemala,	(45,59,146,157,175)
	Honduras, and Nicaragua)	(15,5),110,157,175)
Pinus patula	MEXICO : Hidalgo, Mexico	56,146,152
Pinus pinceana	MEXICO : Coahuila	152
Pinus ponderosa var.	MEXICO : Coahuila, Chihuahua,	56,146,152
arizonica	Durango	50,110,152
Pinus pseudostrobus	MEXICO : Hidalgo, Michoacan,	56,146,152,175
1 mus pseudostroous	Oaxaca, Tlaxcala, Veracruz	50,110,152,175
	(also El Salvador)	(112)
Pinus rudis	MEXICO : Coahuila, Mexico, Veracruz	152
Pinus teocote	MEXICO : Chiapas, Coahuila,	56,146,152
I mus leocore	Hidalgo, Mexico,	50,140,152
	Michoacan	
	whenoacan	

**Note:** All of the above pines are affected in Mexico (146,152), where *C. conigenum* occurs in the Sierra Madre Occidental, Sierra Madre Oriental, and in southern Mexico; it ranges from Chihuahua and Coahuila at least as far south as Oaxaca and Chiapas.

#### Alternate or nonconifer hosts

Hosts	Distribution	References
Quercus arizonica	USA : AZ	66,79,188
Quercus chrysolepis	USA : AZ	79
Quercus dunnii	USA : AZ	66
Quercus emoryi	USA : AZ	28,66,78,79,188
Quercus grisea	USA : AZ	28,66,79
Quercus hypoleucoides	USA : AZ	78,79,188
Quercus oblongifolia	USA : AZ	66,79
Quercus rugosa	USA : AZ	66,79

Note: The oak species affected by Cronartium conigenum in Mexico are not well defined.



Figure 27. *Cronartium conigenum* telial horns on the underside of *Quercus* sp. leaves (R. Salinas Quinard, Sec. Agr. Re. Hid.).

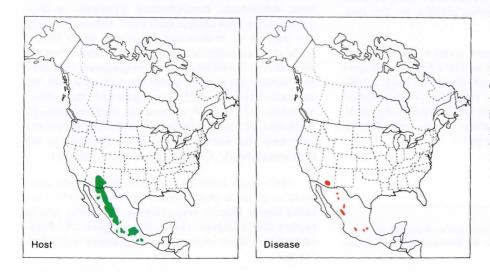


Figure 28. North American distribution of southwestern pine cone rust on its main host, Chihuahua pine. (41, 44, 45, 56, 59, 66, 78, 79, 112, 118, 130, 144, 146, 152, 157, 175, 188).

## Western gall rust<sup>1</sup>

### Endocronartium harknessii (J.P. Moore) Y. Hiratsuka

This disease causes branch and stem galls on numerous hard (two and three needle) pines throughout western North America. Except for two pine species in California (34), the disease rarely occurs on cones; however, it has the potential to severely damage cones, cone-bearing branches, and the boles of host trees in seed orchards where cultural practices such as irrigation could favor the disease.

#### **Life History** (29, 86, 126, 141, 173, 204, 205, 206) Figure 30.

*Endocronartium harknessii* is widespread on North American hard pines, sometimes affecting their cones. The pathogen is autoecious, and usually produces teliospores that have morphological characteristics of aeciospores. They germinate directly and infect other pines. Although pycniospores may be produced on some pines, their function is questionable.

Infection of hosts of all ages is by winddisseminated teliospores in spring to early summer, especially during rainy periods. The pathogen enters through succulent current year's needles, and infection spreads to stems or ovulate cones. A gall or canker forms at the infection site later the same year, or the next.

The rust is perennial and often long-lived. Teliospore production on galls or cankers begins 2-4 years after infection and usually continues annually until the tree or branch dies following girdling by the rust, secondary fungi, or insects.

Aecia develop under bark scales in the spring and early summer, and mature within a few days (Figure 29). During periods of high humidity, they release teliospores for 3-8 weeks, coinciding with initiation and elongation of the current year's vegetative growth. When present, pycnia precede peridia and develop within the bark covering the gall.



Figure 29. A stem and cone infection of Bishop pine by *Endocronartium harknessii*; note the salmon colored peridia (arrow) on the gall (J.W. Byler, USFS).

#### Symptoms (29, 34, 135, 140, 143, 173, 205)

Perennial, woody galls form at infection sites on stems, branches, or cones (Figure 31). Galls are globose, subglobose, hemispherical, pyriform, or irregularly shaped and enlarge each year. Although usually less than 10 cm in diameter, some may reach 30 cm. Galls are well-delimited, and small witches' brooms may occur at the infection site. Conspicuous "hip cankers" sometimes partially girdle the stem and shift the stem axis line (Figure 32). Cone galls on bishop (*Pinus muricata*) and shore (*P. contorta* var. *contorta*) pines in California are usually continuous with stem galls at the cone base, but sometimes the gall is confined to the cone and peduncle. Cone scales are then deformed.

Galls result from the fungus stimulating the cambium to produce excess xylem and parenchyma. Diseased tissues may be very resinous. Following peridia rupture and teliospore release, the sloughed off, affected bark may form distinctive collars above and below the gall.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Prepared by Jack R. Sutherland, Senior Research Scientist, Pacific Forestry Centre, 506 W. Burnside Road, Victoria, B.C. V8Z 1M5, CANADA.

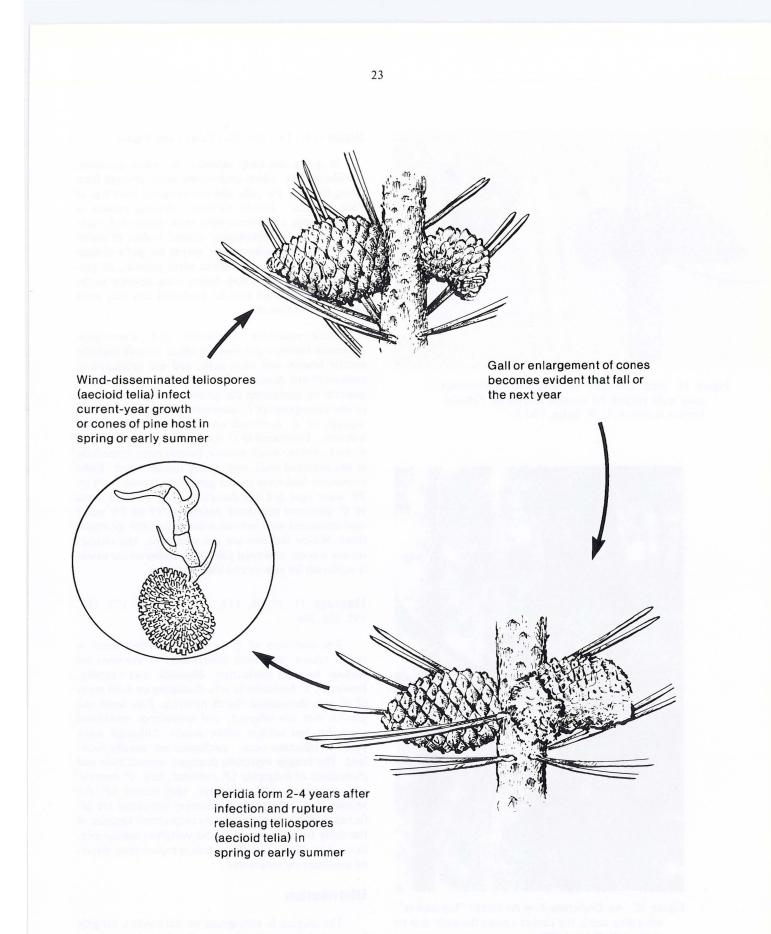


Figure 30. Disease cycle for western gall rust, Endocronartium harknessii, on pine cones.

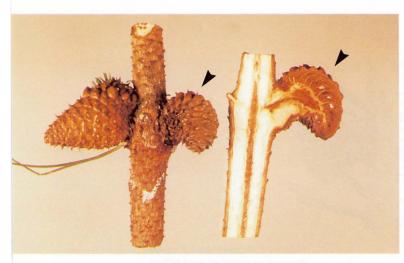


Figure 31. Stem and cone swelling and an abnormal cone scale pattern (at arrows) caused by *Endocronartium harknessii* (J.W. Byler, USFS).



Figure 32. An *Endocronartium harknessii* "hip canker" on a pine stem; the canker causes the stem axis to shift (J.W. Byler, USFS).

Signs (141, 173, 205, 206) Table 1 and Figure 33.

In spring and early summer, the white, rounded, sac-like peridia, which enclose the aecia, emerge from living bark on the galls and the marginal swellings of "hip cankers". Peridia rupture, releasing masses of yellow-orange teliospores (this spore form of *E. harknessii* has the morphological characteristics of aecio-spores = aecioid teliospores), giving the gall a distinctive orange appearance. Pycnia, when present, are produced within the gall bark before aecia develop in the spring. Pycnial fluid may be produced and may ooze from the bark fissures.

Endocronartium harknessii and Cronartium quercuum (eastern gall rust) produce morphologically similar branch and stem galls, and are sympatric in eastern North America. The two fungi can be distinguished by comparing the germination characteristics of the aeciospores of C. quercuum with the aecioid teliospores of E. harknessii on 2% water agar at high humidity. Compared to C. quercuum the germ tubes of E. harknessii are much shorter, branch more (especially at the proximal end), and usually remain intact. Endocronartium harknessii spores germinate equally well on 2% water agar and oak-decoction agar, whereas those of C. quercuum germinate poorly (10%) on 2% water agar compared with oak-decoction agar (90% germination). Where the two are not sympatric, the characteristic woody, perennial galls of E. harknessii are usually sufficient for year-round identification.

**Damage** (1, 35, 36, 113, 135, 141, 145, 173, 181, 199, 205, 206)

The discovery of E. harknessii affecting cones is rather recent, and little information is available on damage to seed production, dispersal, and viability. However, E. harknessii is very damaging on hard pines of all ages throughout North America. Tree form and growth rate are affected, and sometimes individual trees die, but seldom entire stands. Although wave vears of infection occur, epidemics are usually localized. The fungus especially damages regeneration and plantations of lodgepole (P. contorta), jack (P. banksiana), ponderosa (P. ponderosa), and Scotch (P. sylvestris) pines. Occasionally, nursery seedlings are affected, but the problem may go undetected because of the delay between infection and symptom appearance. Serious problems can arise when symptomless, infected seedlings are outplanted.

#### Distribution

The disease is widespread on hard pines, ranging from southern Alaska, Yukon Territory, and south-

western Northwest Territories southward in the west to California, New Mexico, and Arizona. It is abundant across Canada to the Maritime Provinces, in the Lake States, and from the Eastern States south to Virginia (1, 5, 37, 86, 113, 143, 144).

Western gall rust's general distribution follows that of its most important hosts: jack pine, lodgepole pine, ponderosa pine, and shore pine (49, 125, 199). This disease affects cones of jack pine in Manitoba and Ontario (37), shore pine in British Columbia and California (34, 37), and bishop pine and Monterey pine (P. radiata) in California (35). Since it has such a limited host and geographic distribution on cones, no disease distribution map is given. The hosts and distribution are:

Hosts	Distribution	References
Pinus attenuata	USA : CA	86,123
Pinus banksiana	CANADA : AB, MB, NB, NS, NT,	3,17,37,38,75,
	ON, PQ, SK	86,104,113,192
	USA : ID, MI, MN, WI	138,143,195
Pinus canariensis	USA:?	86
Pinus contorta	CANADA : AB, BC, NB, NS, NT, ON,	8,34,37,
	PQ,SK,YT	47,86,111,148
	USA: AK,CA,CO,ID,MT,OR,	5,48,73,89,141,143,
	SD,UT,WA,WY	145,166,188
Pinus coulteri	USA : CA	86,123,141,143,188
Pinus halepensis	USA:?	6
Pinus jeffreyi	USA : CA, MI, NV, OR, WA	99,143,188
Pinus mugo	CANADA : AB, BC, NB	37,86,111,166
	USA : MN	17
Pinus muricata	CANADA : BC	86,111,166
	USA : CA	34,35
Pinus nigra	CANADA: BC,ON,PQ	37,86,111,166
Pinus pinaster	CANADA: BC	37,86,111,166
Pinus ponderosa	CANADA : BC,ON	29,37,73,86,105
	USA: AZ,CA,CO,ID,MA,MT,	5,138,143,145,166
	ND,NE,NM,NV,OR,	188,194,199
	SD,UT,WA,WY	
Pinus radiata	CANADA : BC	34,35,86,111
	USA : CA, OR, WA	135,136
Pinus resinosa	CANADA : NB,PE	37
Pinus sabiniana	USA : CA, WA	143,188
Pinus strobus	CANADA : PQ	37
Pinus sylvestris	CANADA : AB,BC,MB,NB,NS, ON,PE,PQ,SK	29,37,86,111
	USA : ID, MD, MI, MN, ND,	75,109,125,126,138,143,166,
	NK,NY,PA,SD,VA,WA, WI	169,194
Pinus thunbergii	USA:?	86

**Note:** Besides the above hosts, *Endocronartium harknessii* affects, via artificial inoculation: Japanese red pine (*Pinus densiflora*), slash pine (*P. elliottii* var. *elliottii*) and South Florida slash pine, *P. elliottii* var. *densa*, Apache pine, *P. engelmannii*, planted pine, *P. pinea*, loblolly pine, *P. taeda* and Virginia pine, *P. virginiana* (149, 201, 206). Apparently, the rust occurs in northern Mexico, but host records and distribution are not documented.

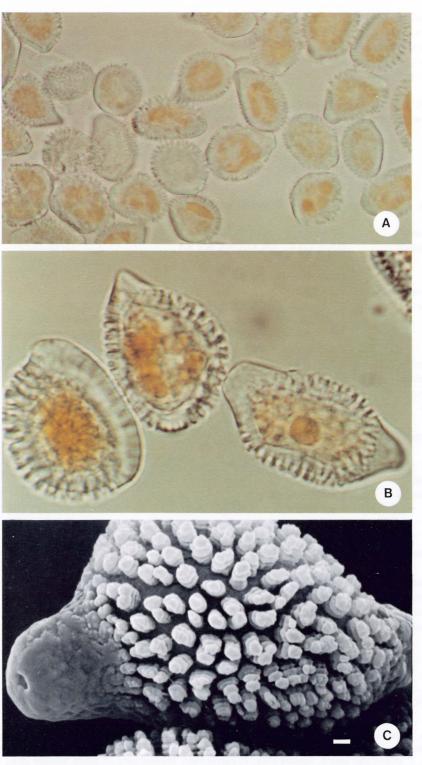


Figure 33. Endocronartium harknessii aecioid teliospores are verrucose with annulated processes and form in chains (not shown). Magnifications: A = 50X, B = 125X, and C = 5000X, bar is 1  $\mu$ m long (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).

(44) [26] [46] (47) Munitoba and mantoba end (44) (50) (46) part (44) (50) (46) part (44) (50) (40) part (44) (50) (40) part (46) (50) part (40) (10) (10) part (40) (10)

Stages	Chrysomyxa pirolata *,206	Chrysomyxa monesis 203,206	Cronartium strobilinum <sup>77,79,80</sup>	Cronartium conigenum 78,79,146,157	Endocronartium harknessii 206
Pycnia					
frequency: season:	annual June-July	annual June-July	annual March-April	biennial May-June (Arizona)	rare or absent spring
Pycniospores shape:	indeterminate	_	obovoid to ellipsoid or oblong to ovoid	oblong to obovoid or ovoid	ovoid
size (µm): color:	 golden	2	$1.9 \times 2.8$ white	$2 \times 3.6$	-
Aecia					
frequency: season:	annual July-September	annual July-September	annual March-June	biennial March-July	none
Aggiognoras					
Aeciospores shape:	broadly ellipsoid, obovoid or rhomboid	fusiform and clavate to oblong and broadly ovoid	obovate to ellipsoid, rarely globoid	sphaeroid to obovoid or ellipsoid	none
size (μm): size range (μm):	- 17-35 × 25-37	 17-25 × 29-45	$15.3 \times 26.0$ $13-17 \times 23-29$	$17.3 \times 31.2$ $15-20 \times 27-35$	
wall diameter (µm): color:	2 - 4.7 yellow-orange	1 - 2 yellow-orange	3.2 cadmium yellow to capucine yellow	3.3 bright orange	
Uredinia			cupuente yenow		
season:	May-September	May-September	all year	all year	none
sorus color:	yellow-orange	yellow-orange	salmon orange to grenadine red	pale green	
Urediniospores					
shape:	ellipsoid to obovate	ellipsoid or obovoid	globoid to ovoid or ellipsoid	sphaeroid to obovoid, rarely ellipsoid	none
size (µm):	-	-	$14.7 \times 22.4$	$17.7 \times 24.7$	
size range (μm): wall diameter (μm):	$18-27 \times 13-24$ 0.4 - 1.0	$15-22 \times 23-34$ 0.5 - 1.0	$13-17 \times 20-26$ 2.3	$16-20 \times 21-28$ 2.6	
color:	orange-yellow	orange-yellow	cadmium yellow	capucine yellow	
Telial					
season:	May-June	May-June	December-February	June-July (Arizona)	May-June
Teliospores					
shape:	irregularly oblong or ellipsoid	irregularly oblong or ellipsoid	fusiform-oblong to fusiform	oblong to fusiform	subglobose to long-ellipsoid
size (µm): size range (µm):	- 7-9 × 12-19	- 6-12 × 12-22	$14.8 \times 30.5$ $10-18 \times 23-41$	$15.6 \times 34.3$ $10-23 \times 20-55$	- 17-24 × 23-34
color:	(telia are light orange, turning brown later)	(telia are yellow, turning dark brown later)	brownish	brownish	orange
Basidial					
season:	May-June	May-June	January-February	Enders a second a strand to a	none
Basidiospores					
shape:	round-globoid	round-globoid	-	-	none
size (µm):	Contract the state of the state		-	-	
size range (µm): color:	5-7	5-7			
0101.	incelle state pute seven	The local sector of the	States of Line 1. Line 1.	A MARK SHIPS THE REAL	

## Table 1. Summary Table for the Life Histories and the Morphology and Morphometrics of the Spores of the Rust Fungi affecting Cones

See reference numbers in Literature cited, except \* = Sutherland, J.R., S.J. Hopkinson and S.H. Farris. 1984. Inland spruce cone rust, *Chrysomyxa pirolata*, in *Pyrola asarifolia*, and cones of *Picea glauca*, and morphology of the spore stages. Can. J. Botany 62: 2441-2447; All ranges given for *Cronartium* spp. are extreme ranges. All size measurements are averages. (-) indicates data unavailable.

## **Cone and Seed Diseases Caused by Fungi Other than Rusts**

### The seed or cold fungus<sup>1</sup>

Caloscypha fulgens (Pers.) Boud.

This seed-borne pathogen was first found causing pre-emergence losses of seeds in Ontario (58) and then in English forest nurseries (153) on seeds imported from western North America. The pathogen acquired its common names because it is seed-borne (seed fungus) and because it spreads from diseased to healthy seeds during cold periods such as when seeds are stratified or when they are sown in cold soils (153). Salt (153) in England described and named the fungus Geniculodendron pyriforme Salt. Subsequently the fungus was isolated from stored seeds in British Columbia (178), Oregon and Washington (76). Paden et al. (139) related the anamorph (imperfect state) of G. pyriforme to its teleomorph (perfect state), Caloscypha fulgens. Seeds acquire the fungus when cones contact forest litter, where C. fulgens lives.

**Life History** (58, 67, 127, 139, 154, 177, 180, 181, 197, 200) Figure 35.

Caloscypha fulgens is an operculate discomycete with bright-orange (exterior often stained blue-green), cup-shaped fruiting bodies (1-5 cm diameter). It grows under conifers and fruits in the spring, especially soon after snowmelt (Figure 34). Ascospores and conidia apparently function only in dissemination of the fungus in the forest, since seed infection results from mycelium inhabiting forest litter.

Cones that contact infested forest duff or soil are invaded; thus, ground-collected cones, particularly from squirrel caches, most often contain diseased seeds. The fungus should not be present in seedlots from seed orchards where cones are picked from trees

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Prepared by Jack R. Sutherland, Senior Research Scientist, Pacific Forestry Centre, 506 W. Burnside Road, Victoria, B.C. V8Z 1M5, CANADA.



Figure 34. Cup-shaped Ascocarps of *Caloscypha fulgens*. These cup-shaped structures appear on forest litter (A) in early spring, they have an orange hymenium and exterior (B), portions of the latter frequently stain-blue green (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).

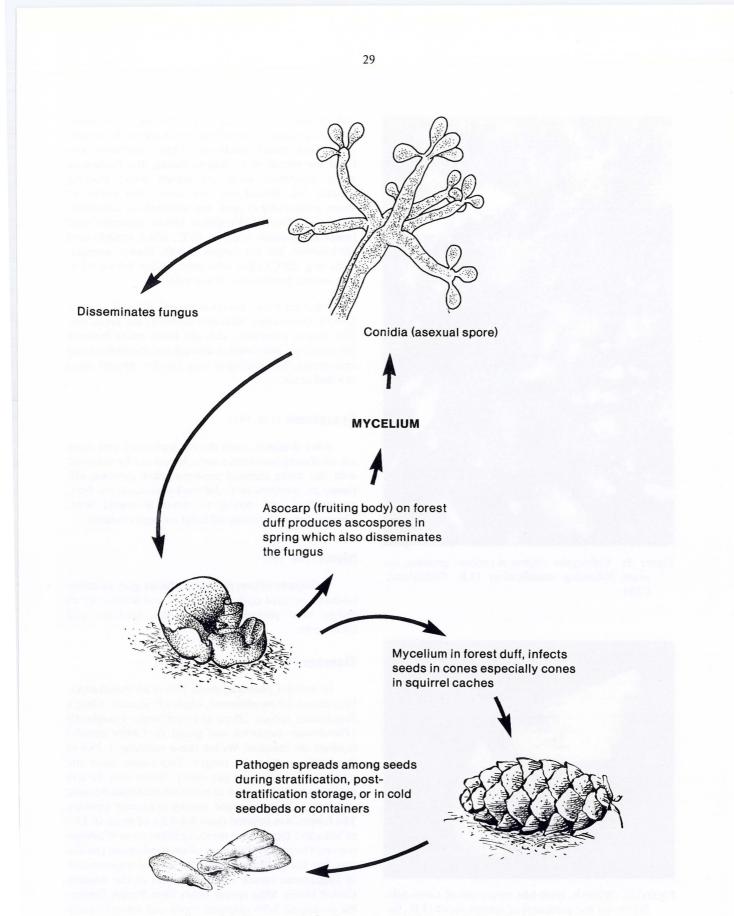


Figure 35. Disease cycle for the seed or cold fungus, Caloscypha fulgens.



Figure 36. *Caloscypha fulgens* mycelium growing on seeds following stratification (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).



Figure 37. Whitish, crust-like mycelium of *Caloscypha fulgens* on the seedcoats of spruce seeds (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).

and do not contact forest litter. Disease incidence in seedlots depends on how long cones are on the ground under cool, moist conditions. These conditions also favor the spread of *C. fulgens* during stratification or when moistened seeds are stored above freezing (Figure 36). Spread can also occur after seeds are sown, particularly in cool, wet seedbeds or container-nursery medium. Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) seed losses are greatest at about 10°C, which retards seed germination, but not fungus growth. Higher temperatures (e.g. 20°C) allow seed germination before infection occurs; germinants are not infected.

Infection by *C. fulgens* is preceded by the formation of microscopic infection cushions on seedcoats. The fungus penetrates through holes made beneath the cushions, and ramifies throughout the embryo and endosperm. The pathogen may survive several years in killed seeds.

#### Symptoms (154, 181)

Since diseased seeds do not germinate and there are no aboveground symptoms, losses can be confused with the more classical pre-emergence damping-off. However, contents of *C. fulgens*-killed seeds are firm, mummified, and similar to those of sound seed, whereas typical damping-off fungi rot seed contents.

#### Signs (154, 197)

*Caloscypha fulgens* produces whitish-gray infection cushions on seed coats (Figure 37) and sometimes an indigo blue pigment between the seedcoat and endosperm.

#### Damage (58, 76, 154, 178, 181, 197)

In British Columbia, about 25% of all stored Sitka, Engelmann (P. engelmannii), white (P. glauca), white x Engelmann spruce (Picea sp.) and some Douglas-fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii) and grand fir (Abies grandis) seedlots are infested. Within these seedlots, 1-35% of the seeds contain the fungus. Depending upon the number of seeds sown per cavity, losses may be less severe in container than in bareroot nurseries because the fungus cannot spread among container cavities. The fungus was isolated from 0.4-4.8% of seeds in 13% of Sitka and Engelmann spruce seedlots from Washington and Oregon. At this level of seed infection, the disease has the potential to impede natural regeneration of Engelmann spruce in certain areas of the western United States. Sitka spruce seeds from British Columbia contained 0-5% diseased seeds and caused patchy emergence in British bareroot nurseries during cool



Figure 38. Indigo-colored mycelium of *Caloscypha fulgens* growing from Sitka spruce seed on water agar (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).

springs, especially when sowing was abnormally early. In Ontario bareroot nurseries, white spruce, red spruce (*P. rubens*) and eastern white (*Pinus strobus*) and Scotch (*P. sylvestris*) pine seed germination was reduced by up to 98%.

#### **Isolation** (178, 197)

*Caloscypha fulgens* can be isolated by plating surface-sterilized (30% hydrogen peroxide for 30 minutes) seeds on 1.5% water agar and incubating at 15-20°C. Cultures produce an indigo or orange pigment, or both (Figures 38 and 39) and the hyphae, which usually branch at a right angle, are thick and verrucose (Figure 40). Conidiophores and conidia are distinct (Figure 41). The cultural (139) and conidiophore characteristics are:

#### CULTURES

**Surface**: texture loose cottony, sometimes tufted; orange in the center, fading to hyaline at the margin or multi-colored (blue-green-grayish) throughout; margin somewhat diffuse or uneven.

**Reverse**: pale orange or blue-green; center fading to cream at margin; no diffusion zone.

#### CONIDIOPHORES, CONIDIA AND HYPHAE

**Conidiophores**: from aerial hyphae  $200-550 \ \mu m$  high; smooth pale yellow to yellow-brown below; in





Figure 39. Cultures of *Caloscypha fulgens* on potatodextrose agar; surface view (above) showing whitish mycelium and indigo pigment, reverse view (below) showing indigo and pale orange pigments (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).

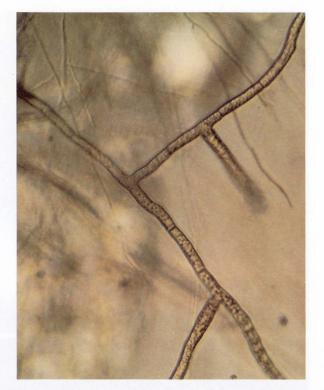


Figure 40. Verrucose hyphae of *Caloscypha fulgens*; note right-angle branching (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).

diameter  $8-17 \mu m$  broad below, tapering to  $3.6-6 \mu m$  above, unbranched up to 220  $\mu m$ , then more or less dichtomously branched; hyaline above.

**Conidiogenous cells**: sympodulae; in verticils of three or four, or paired, rarely single;  $16 - 50 \,\mu\text{m}$  long;  $3.2 - 5.2 \,\mu\text{m}$  broad below; taping to  $2.4 - 8 \,\mu\text{m}$ .

**Conidia**: 4.6-7.6  $\times$  3.2-4.0  $\mu$ m; holoblastic; smooth, hyaline, obovate, dry.

**Hyphae**: hyaline when young; older hyphae with greenish-blue or brownish tinge, granular, right-angle branching, septum near base of each branch, cells  $71-190 \times 10-18 \,\mu$ m.

#### Distribution

*Caloscypha fulgens* is widespread in North America. Ascocarps are common in the Rocky Mountains during early spring on soil or litter under conifers (67, 70, 103, 127, 164, 170, 187). Canadian records are from: AB, BC, MB, NB, ON, and PQ (37, 58, 67, 103, 111, 153, 154, 178, 181). In the United States, *C. fulgens* is reported from New York to the Pacific Coast (162, 164), but records are poor for central, southern and eastern states. Records are for: AK, AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NY, OR, UT, WA, WY (43, 76, 103, 150, 153, 154, 162, 197). Figure 42.

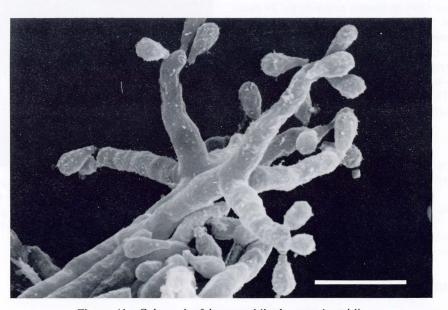


Figure 41. Caloscypha fulgens conidiophore and conidia (X 2400), bar is 10  $\mu$ m (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).

The fungus affects conifer seeds in Ontario, Utah, Idaho, and along the Pacific Coast from Alaska to Oregon (see following list). However, because of its wide distribution on litter, it may affect seeds elsewhere. The hosts and distributions are:

Hosts	Distribution	References
Abies grandis	CANADA:BC	181
	USA:Pacific Northwest	43
Abies lasiocarpa	USA : ID,UT	197
Picea engelmannii	CANADA : BC	76,178,181
	USA : ID, OR, UT, WA	197
Picea glauca	CANADA : BC, ON	58,178,181
Picea sitchensis	CANADA : BC	154,178,181,200
	USA : AK, OR, WA	76
Pinus contorta	CANADA : BC	37
Pinus resinosa	CANADA : ON	58
Pinus strobus	CANADA : ON	58
Pinus sylvestris	CANADA: ON	58
Pseudotsuga menziesii	CANADA : BC	178,181

**Note:** Besides natural occurrences, *Caloscypha fulgens* infects artificially inoculated seeds of: jack pine, *Pinus banksiana*; Norway spruce, *Picea abies*; black spruce, *P. mariana* (58); Japanese larch, *Larix kaempferi*, and western hemlock, *Tsuga heterophylla* (153).

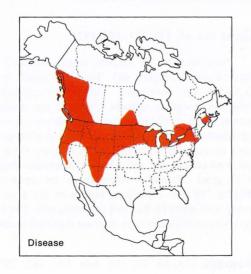


Figure 42. North American distribution of the seed or cold fungus on all hosts. (37, 43, 58, 67, 70, 76, 103, 111, 127, 150, 153, 154, 162, 163, 164, 170, 178, 181, 187, 197).

### Sirococcus blight<sup>1</sup>

#### Sirococcus strobilinus Preuss

Sirococcus blight, caused by S. strobilinus, is a disease of the North Temperate Zone, where it affects numerous conifer species in nurseries, young regeneration, and sometimes older trees (65). Funk (65) lists numerous taxonomic synonyms of S. strobilinus. In 1982, the disease was reported to be seed-borne on spruce (*Picea* spp.) in container nurseries in coastal British Columbia (182). It is thought that seeds become infected when the pathogen invades old cones, and seedlots become contaminated with infected seeds when old cones are inadvertently included in cone collections. To date, seedlots from spruce seed orchards have been Sirococcus-free, probably because the cones are removed each year.

#### **Life History** (64, 65, 160, 172, 181, 182, 183, 193) Figure 43.

Sirococcus strobilinus is a sphaeropsid coelomycete; with only pycnidiospores known to occur. It is seedborne on Sitka (*Picea sitchensis*), white (*P. glauca*), Engelmann (*P. engelmannii*), and white  $\times$  Engelmann spruce (*Picea* sp.) in British Columbia container nurseries. In cones, the fungus apparently infects fully developed seeds, but the mode of infection is not known. In container cavities, it probably spreads from diseased to healthy seeds prior to germination. Postgermination spread occurs from disease foci originating from seed-borne inoculum. Because *S. strobilinus* has no other known spore type, each new outbreak in nurseries apparently originates from inoculum on seeds or comes into the nursery by wind-blown rain.

The disease affects young shoots and seedlings during periods of high humidity, mild temperature, (10-20°C), and low light intensity, which are common in forests and nurseries where the disease occurs. Symptoms appear 2-4 weeks after inoculation, and shoot-tip or seedling death and subsequent sporulation occur as little as 3 weeks later. Pycnidia on necrotic tissues produce masses of pycnidiospores, which are disseminated by rain or nursery irrigation. The fungus overwinters in diseased tissues and sporulates the following spring.

#### Symptoms (64, 160, 165, 171, 172, 181, 182, 183)

*Sirococcus strobilinus* causes tip-dieback and branch and stem cankers on current year's growth (Figure 44). The fungus enters at the base of newly developed needles and spreads rapidly into the stem. A resin drop is often exuded at the site of infection. Distal foliage droops, turns yellow or brownish-red, and, within a month, needles die from the base distally. Elongate, sunken, purplish cankers may develop at the infection site, restricting stem growth locally and causing a crook of the shoot tip. Killed seedlings remain upright (Figure 45).

In container nurseries, hosts include Sitka, white, Engelmann, and white × Engelmann spruces (Figures 46 and 47). Because the primary inoculum is seedborne, symptoms usually appear on random germinants of specific seedlots from emergence through secondary needle formation and leader development. In bareroot nurseries, the same seedling species are affected as in container nurseries plus others, especially pines such as lodgepole (Pinus contorta) and Douglasfir (Pseudotsuga menziesii). In bareroot nurseries, primary inoculum appears to come from nearby diseased trees and cones or windbreaks rather than from infested seed. On bareroot stock, symptoms usually appear in late summer through fall on 1 + 0 seedlings or in the spring on 2 + 0 plants. Fall symptoms can be confused with frost damage. Lodgepole pine susceptibility may vary by provenance. Seeds infected by S. strobilinus often have shrunken contents.

#### Signs (64, 65, 134, 171, 181, 182)

Pycnidia form on necrotic tissues within 3 weeks after infection (Figure 48). They are small, rounded (0.3 - 1.0 mm diameter), and semi-immersed, with wide and irregular ostioles. Pycnidia are singular, in groups, or in confluent groups. Immature pycnidia are light butterscotch color, but become grayish-green or black at maturity. Pycnidiospores (Figure 49) are hyaline, two-celled, and asymmetrically spindle-shaped ( $3 \times 15 \mu m$ ). Pycnidia often form on cone scales, (Figure 50) and mycelium occurs in the seed endosperm and embryo but not on seedcoats. Pycnidia or spores have not been seen in or on diseased seeds.

**Damage** (36, 64, 93, 115, 160, 172, 182, 183, 190, 196)

Damage occurs in nurseries and juvenile stands throughout much of the North Temperate Zone of North America. Multiple infections may kill or deform seedlings and trees. Damage to the current year's

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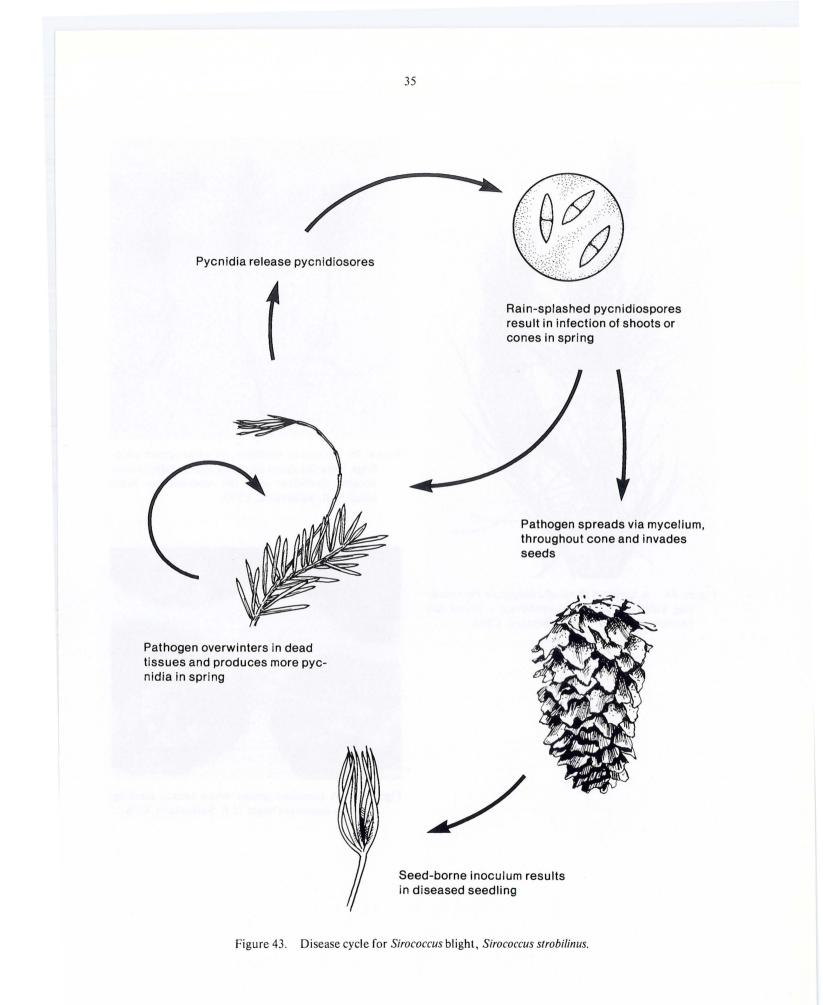




Figure 44. A terminal shoot of a lodgepole pine seedling killed by *Sirococcus strobilinus*; a lateral has become dominant (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).



Figure 45. *Sirococcus strobilinus* on white spruce seedlings. Note the shoot tip crook and that the laterals become dominant after the terminal has been killed (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).



Figure 46. A container grown white spruce seedling killed by *Sirococcus* blight (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).



Figure 47. White spruce killed by *Sirococcus strobilinus*. Note the three stages of symptom development (left, initial, right, advanced); needles are killed from the base outward (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).

shoots and cones adversely affects growth or seed production. The disease also affects regeneration and mature trees. Western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*) regeneration has been extensively and severely damaged in southeastern Alaska for over a decade (Figure 51). Elsewhere, damage in natural stands appears light. Red pine (*P. resinosa*) plantations in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick recently suffered up to 70% mortality from multiple infection of crown branches. Douglas-fir branch mortality of 10-50% has been reported in British Columbia.

In nurseries, losses are due to seedling mortality and culling. Serious mortality (>50%) of ponderosa pine (*P. ponderosa*) seedlings in scattered patches in Idaho seedbeds and black spruce (*P. mariana*) seedlings (17-24% seedling loss) in Newfoundland has been reported, as has up to 25% infection of lodgepole pine in Pacific Northwest nurseries. Sitka and white spruces and lodgepole and ponderosa pines are affected in British Columbia, and the incidence has increased recently with increased spruce production.

In British Columbia, *S. strobilinus* was found in 57% of seedlots of Sitka, white, Engelmann, and white  $\times$  Engelmann spruces, and 0.3-3.1% of the seeds were diseased. The pathogen was especially prevalent in seeds with shrunken contents (Figure 52).



Figure 48. Globose, black pycnidia of *Sirococcus strobilinus* on killed lodgepole pine seedling (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).



Figure 49. Spindle-shaped, single-septate pycnidiospores (X200) of *Sirococcus strobilinus* (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).

#### **Isolation** (64, 165, 182)

The pathogen can be isolated by surface-sterilizing seeds with 0.5% sodium hypochlorite for 5 minutes or 30% hydrogen peroxide for 30 minutes, rinsing twice in sterile distilled water, plating on 2% malt agar, and incubating at 20°C (8 hours light). The fungus grows from diseased seeds or sporulates on germinants. *Sirococcus* can be isolated from diseased seedling or cone tissues after surface-sterilization in 0.5% sodium hypochlorite for 1-2 minutes, followed by three sterile-distilled water rinses, plating on a nutrient agar medium, and incubating as above. Figure 53 shows cultures of the fungus. The cultural and conidiophore characteristics (65) are:

#### CULTURES

**Surface**: texture downy-felty; yellowish-green to greenish-gray with hyaline border; margin somewhat uneven to bayed.

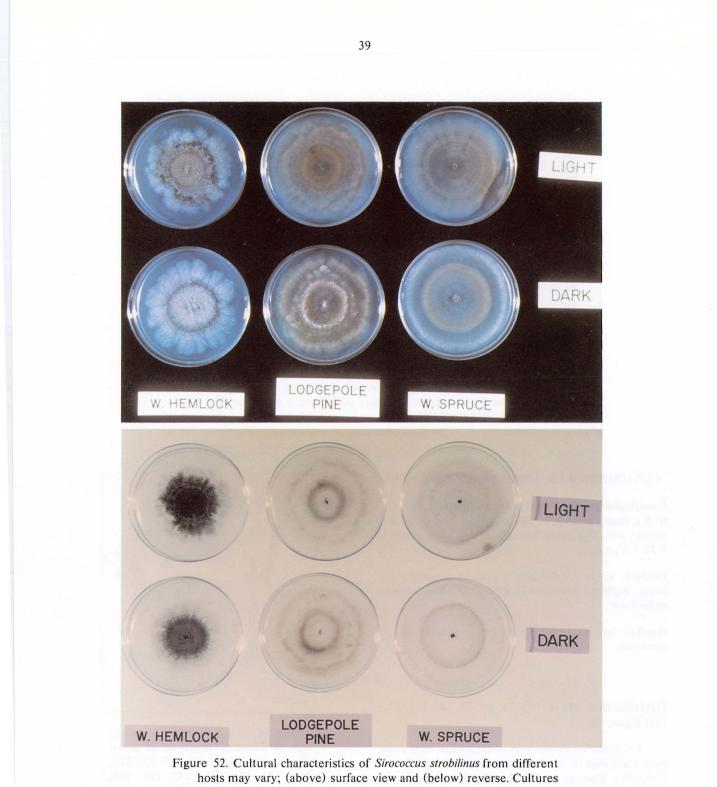
**Reverse**: yellowish-green to greenish-gray at center, fading to hyaline at border; no diffusion zone.



Figure 50. Small, black pycnidia (at arrows) of *Sirococcus strobilinus* on Sitka spruce cone scales (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).



Figure 51. *Sirococcus* blight on western hemlock regeneration (T.H. Laurent, USFS).



were reared in either the light or dark. (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).

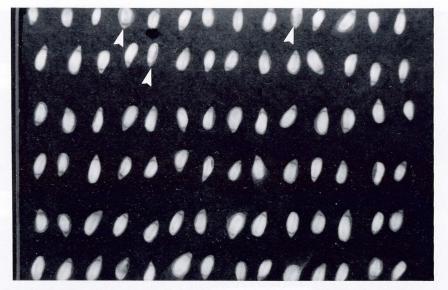


Figure 53. Radiograph of spruce seeds, those with shrunken contents (arrows) have a higher incidence of *Sirococcus strobilinus* than filled seeds (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).

#### CONIDIOPHORES, CONIDIA AND HYPHAE

**Conidiophores:** simple or branched septate, each cell with a single phialide at the tip or just below septum,  $10-45 \ \mu m$  long; phialides tapering, sharply pointed,  $6-12 \times 2 \ \mu m$ .

**Conidia**:  $13-15 \times 2-2.5 \ \mu$ m; medianly 1-septate, tips acute, slightly constricted at septum; hyaline, acerose to fusiform.

**Hyphae**: hyaline, interwoven; cavity simple;  $30-50 \ \mu m$  thick.

**Distribution** (37, 43, 65, 71, 89, 93, 140, 165, 171, 182) Figure 54.

*Sirococcus strobilinus* occurs along the west coast from California to Alaska and in the interior of British Columbia. Damage is prevalent in the Great Lakes region, southern Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island, and scattered in the central and eastern United States.

The pathogen has been reported on seeds or cones of Engelmann spruce in British Columbia (182), white  $\times$  Engelmann spruce in British Columbia (182), white spruce in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Nova Scotia and British Columbia (37, 182), black spruce

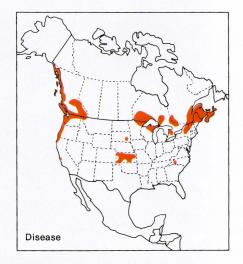


Figure 54. North American distribution of *Sirococcus* blight on all hosts. (7, 33, 37, 46, 64, 71, 87, 93, 110, 111, 115, 116, 134, 137, 138, 160, 165, 166, 171, 173, 182, 184, 185, 189, 191, 193, 196).

(*P. mariana*) in Manitoba, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia (37), Sitka spruce in British Columbia (182), red pine (*P. resinosa*) in Nova Scotia (37), and Scotch

pine in (*P. sylvestris*) New Brunswick (37). All British Columbia records are from forest nurseries. The hosts and distribution are:

Larix laricinaCANADA : PQ37Libocedrus decurrensCANADA : BC111,166Picea abiesCANADA : PQ37USA : KS,NC71,165Picea engelmanniiCAN : BC37,111,182Picea glaucaCANADA : AB,BC,MB,NB,NS,PE,PQ,SK37,111,116,182 andJ. Sutherland,unpublished dataPicea marianaCANADA : MN,NB,NS,PE,PQ37,116,193Picea marianaCANADA : MN,NB,NS,PE,PQ37,116,193Picea pungensCANADA : NS165Picea rubensCANADA : NS, NS165Picea sitchensisCANADA : NS37USA : KS165Picea sitchensisCANADA : BC37,182USA : AK,CA7,171Pinus albicaulisCANADA : BC37,93,110USA : AK,CA37,93,110USA : AK,CA7,171Pinus contortaCANADA : AB,BC37,93,110USA : CA17111Pinus contortaCANADA : CA171Pinus contortaUSA : CA171Pinus ponderosaCANADA : BC37,87USA : CA171160,171Pinus resinosaCANADA : NB,NS,ON,PE33,37,115,134,137USA : MI,NB,WI185185Pinus strobusCANADA : NB,NS,ON37Pinus strobusCANADA : NB37 </th <th>Hosts</th> <th>Distribution</th> <th>References</th>	Hosts	Distribution	References
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Pinus thunbergii CANADA : NB 37	Pinus strobus	CANADA : NB,NS,ON	37
	Pinus sylvestris	CANADA : NB	37
Pseudotsuga menziesii CANADA : BC 37	Pinus thunbergii	CANADA : NB	37
	Pseudotsuga menziesii	CANADA : BC	37

### Pitch canker<sup>1</sup>

### *Fusarium moniliforme* Sheld. var. *subglutinans* Wollenw. & Reink.

The pitch canker disease damages pine plantations and seed orchards in the southeastern United States. Seed orchards supply the genetically improved seeds required for reforestation in this region. Disease impacts are increasing in spite of (and sometimes because of) the specialized practices used to produce the crop. During the approximately 19 months between production of female strobili and maturation of pine seeds, there are numerous potential opportunities for the causal pathogen to reduce seed yields. At this time, determination of a complete disease cycle on pine reproductive structures awaits further investigation, therefore no disease cycle is presented for this disease.

### **Life History** (10, 20, 25, 53, 54, 55, 63, 68, 96, 101, 119, 128, 159, 198)

Fusarium moniliforme var. subglutinans [F. subglutinans (Wollenw. & Reinking) Nelson, Toussoun & Marasas comb. nov.] infects a variety of vegetative and reproductive structures at different stages of maturity, and produces a diversity of symptoms on southern pine species. Disease symptoms include pitch canker, shoot dieback, abortion of strobili and conelets, cone necrosis, and seed deterioration. Since the pitch canker disease occurs sporadically in time and space, only the peak and recovery phases of epidemics are well documented.

Inoculum of *F. moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* is airborne, and maximum dispersal occurs during precipitation in turbulent air. Theoretically, the pathogen could be introduced into strobili by wind or by contaminated pollen in spring when the scales are open, but these mechanisms have yet to be demonstrated. The pathogen normally requires a fresh wound as an infection court. Outbreaks of shoot dieback are usually initiated from late summer through fall.

Harvesting of slash (*Pinus elliottii* var. *elliottii*) and loblolly (*P. taeda*) pine cones produces wounds during the optimum infection period in the fall and can result in multiple infections throughout the tree. In slash pine seed orchards, trunk cankers often develop at injuries caused by mechanical tree shakers. In loblolly pine seed orchards, tearing cones from branches creates infection courts in the crown.

An array of insects feed on female strobili throughout their growth and maturation period and possibly create infection courts for the pathogen. These insects may also transmit the pathogen into the cones. The deodar weevil (*Pissodes nemorensis* Germar) and pine tip moth (*Rhyacionia* spp.) create wounds on shoots that may become infected by airborne spores of the pathogen. Deodar weevils, their associated galleries, and chip cocoons are frequently contaminated by *F. moniliforme* var. *subglutinans*.

Weather-related injuries caused by wind and hail also serve as entry points. Hurricanes and tornadoes have contributed to the intensification of pitch canker in seed orchards of loblolly, shortleaf (*P. echinata*), and Virginina (*P. virginiana*) pines.

Various stress factors predispose trees to infection. Drought and late-summer applications of ammonium nitrate to promote flowering are implicated in increasing the trees' susceptibility to the pathogen.

#### **Symptoms** (15, 30, 54, 55, 83, 128, 129)

*Fusarium moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* causes mortality of female flowers and mature cones (Figure 55), and the deterioration of seeds in slash and loblolly pines (Figure 56). Infected loblolly pine cones tend to be misshapen and smaller than normal (Figures 57 and 58). Scales on infected green cones of slash and loblolly pine at harvest time have a purple discoloration (Figures 55 and 59). Some infected loblolly cones have a necrotic tip characterized by internal resin pockets. External resinous lesions colonized by *F. moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* are also observed on some loblolly pine cones.

Internal seed tissues infected by F. moniliforme var. subglutinans range from potentially sound (based on a radiograph) to badly deteriorated (Fig. 60) to mummified (Figure 56). Radiographs of many infected seeds show the gametophyte shrunken from the seed-coat and a slight deterioration of the embryo. Microscopic examination reveals a lack of cellular organization of the tissue and the presence of hyphae throughout the seed (Figure 61).

The two primary symptoms on vegetative structures are pitch canker and shoot dieback. Pitch canker is characterized by a bleeding, resinous canker on the trunk or large branches. The canker is usually sunken and the bark is retained, while the wood beneath the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Prepared by Jane B. Barrows-Broaddus, Research Plant Pathologist, Southeastern Forest Experiment Station, USDA Forest Service, Carlton Street, Athens, Georgia 30602, U.S.A.

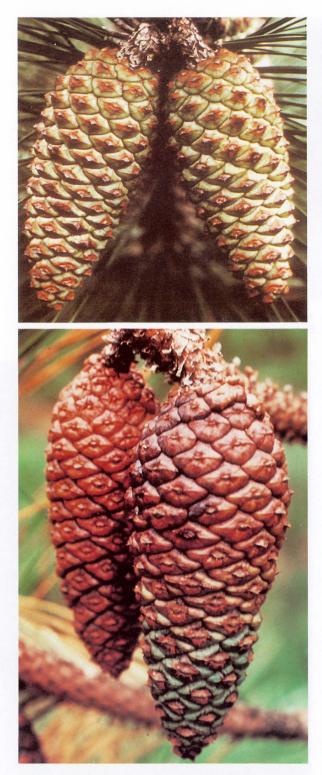


Figure 55. Slash pine cones, healthy (above) and with pitch canker natural infection (below); differences in cone size are not due to the disease (T. Miller, USFS).



Figure 56. A slash pine seed infected with the pitch canker fungus (whitish, cottony growth) (T. Miller, USFS).

canker is deeply pitch-soaked. Pitch-soaking of the underlying wood and the absence of swelling or callus help separate pitch canker from the other canker diseases of pines.

Shoot dieback in the upper crown results from lesions forming on the late-summer flushes of growth (Figure 62). In autumn, fully developed needles on infected shoots turn yellow to reddish brown. These "flags" continue to appear during winter into spring. Spread of the cankers down the lateral shoots is frequently arrested at one of the lower nodes. In the spring, new shoots may be fully expanded before they are killed by girdling in the older tissue. Needles that remain on the dead shoots eventually turn gray to grayish brown. Witches' brooms develop in some trees when shoots form in response to repeated infection and dieback.



Figure 57. *Fusarium moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* hyphae on loblolly pine cones, note cone distortion (J.B. Barrows-Broaddus, USFS).



Figure 58. Healthy loblolly pine cone and a cone stunted by *Fusarium moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* affected (stunted) (L.D. Dwinell, USFS).



Figure 59. Necrosis of loblolly pine cones caused by *Fusarium moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* (L.D., Dwinell, USFS).

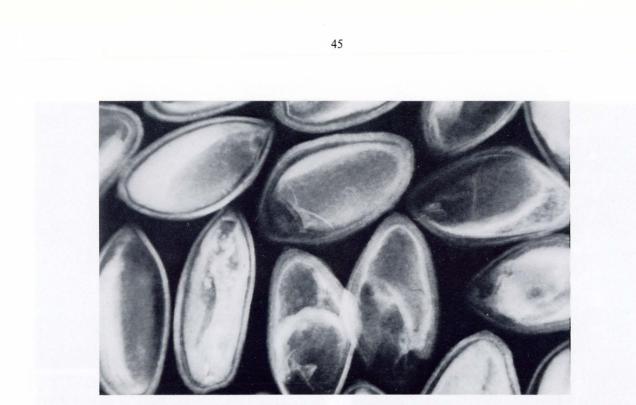


Figure 60. Radiograph of slash pine seed infected by *Fusarium moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* showing deterioration of gametophyte tissues and embryo (T. Miller, USFS)

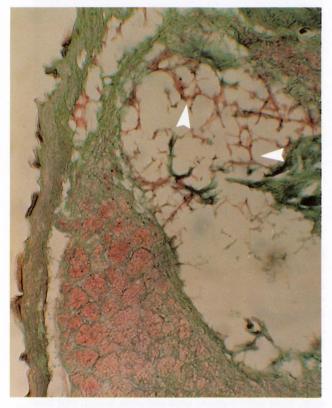


Figure 61. Fusarium moniliforme var. subglutinans hyphae (arrows) in the gametophyte tissue of a loblolly pine seed (J.B. Barrows-Broaddus, USFS).

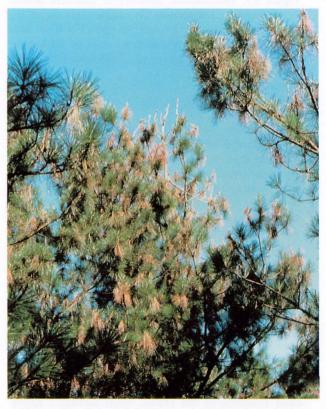


Figure 62. Shoot dieback in a loblolly pine seed orchard caused by *Fusarium moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* (J.B. Barrows-Broaddus, USFS).



Figure 63. Sporodochia (arrows) of *Fusarium moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* on needle scars on an infected slash pine branch; sporodochia have also been observed on infected cones of slash pine (G.M. Blakeslee, University of Florida, U.S.A.).

#### Signs (12, 13, 14, 16, 22, 52, 53, 101, 102)

Mycelium is often present on the outer surfaces of badly deteriorated loblolly pine cones (Figure 57). Sporodochia of *F. moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* occur routinely on infected, small diameter branches (Figure 63). These fruiting bodies are found during all seasons of the year and are most frequently located in fascicular scars. Sporodochia range from 1-3 mm in diameter and are a light salmon-orange color (*sensu* Ridgeway). Except for supporting conidiophores, the sporodochia normally contain macroconidia (Figure 64).

Microscopic sporodochia (0.06 - 0.2 mm in diame-ter) occur on dead shoots. On Virginia pines, microscopic sporodochia are also observed on the surfaces of infected needles and in the axils and sheaths of buds emerging directly below a dead shoot.

Spores of *F. moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* are present throughout the year and can be recovered from dead branches in the crown, from rainwater falling through infected trees, and from the air. *Fusarium moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* is also isolated from forest soils, surfaces of pine needles, branches, boles, and





Figure 64. Two types of conidia produced by *Fusarium* moniliforme var. subglutinans; (top) macroconidia, (bottom) microconidia (400X) (G.M. Blakeslee, University of Florida, U.S.).

from bark and debris adhering to tree-shaker pads. Pathogenicity tests of these isolates on slash and loblolly pines indicate that *F. moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* occurs naturally in mixed populations of pathogenic and saprophytic strains.

#### **Damage** (2, 23, 53, 54, 101, 128, 129, 147, 158)

Damage to southern pines by *F. moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* includes tree mortality, growth suppression, stem deformation, seed and cone losses, and loss of seedlings in affected nursery beds.

Screening of selected loblolly pine seedlots has

shown internal contamination by *F. moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* ranging from 0-11%. Preliminary observations on slash pine indicate that the amount of infection in a given seedlot may vary from 0-98%. Infection of the seeds by the pathogen decreases viability and causes post-emergence damping-off. At this time, it is not known if seedling mortality attributed to pitch canker in forest tree nurseries and movement of the disease from nurseries into field sites are due to infections originating in contaminated seeds.

Loblolly pines generally recover from outbreaks of shoot dieback, but at the height of an epidemic, considerable loss of the cone crop may occur. The impact of the disease on cone yield, however, varies from orchard to orchard. For example, most of an 86% decline in cone yield in one loblolly pine seed orchard was attributed to shoot dieback, while in another loblolly pine orchard, cones initiated during an epidemic resulted in a record cone and seed crop. Damage assessment of shoot dieback should include the relative susceptibilities of individual clones and their cone production histories, since both vary by genotype.

In slash pine seed orchards, where main stem cankers are common, the primary damage occurs when the trees break at the canker during snow and ice storms. Removal of diseased trees for sanitation shortens the life span of a seed orchard.

#### **Isolation** (15, 128)

To isolate *F. moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* from seeds, the seeds are soaked in 2% hydrogen peroxide for 5 minutes, then washed twice (3 minutes each time) in deionized, sterile water and blotted dry on sterile, absorbent paper. Under aseptic conditions, the seedcoats are removed with a sterile razor blade and forceps and plated three to six seeds per petri dish on a *Fusarium*-selective culture medium. The plates are incubated at 24°C with a 12 hour photoperiod for 5-7 days. Cultural and conidiophore characteristics (102 and Booth, C. 1971. The genus *Fusarium*. Commonwealth Mycol. Institute, Kew, Surrey, England) are illustrated in Figures 65 and 66 and described below:

#### **CULTURES**

**Surface**: texture cottony to felty and generally dense; color white to greyish white, pink to purple, margins even.

**Reverse**: buff to wine-red becoming purple to dark purple; no diffusion zone.

#### CONIDIOPHORES, CONIDIA, AND HYPHAE

**Conidiophores**: phialides (monophialides and polyphialides) may be formed either on unbranched conidi-

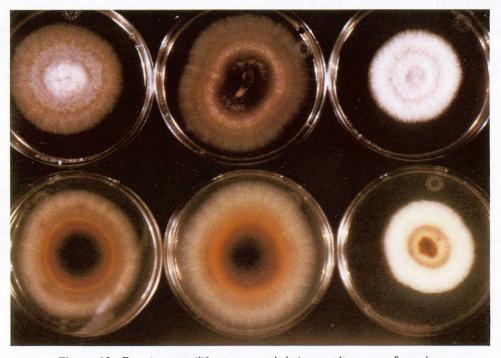


Figure 65. *Fusarium moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* cultures, surface view (above) and reverse (below) (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).



Figure 66. Fusarium moniliforme var. subglutinans forms both mono- (M) and polyphialides (P), (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).

ophores or as cells (phialides, polyphialides, and phialophores) in complex branching patterns; microconidia only in false heads, never in chains.

**Conidia:** microconidia 0-3-septate,  $8-12 \times 2.5-3.0 \mu$ m, hyaline, oval to obclavate; macroconidia thin-walled, sickle-shaped, 3-5 septate,  $32-53 \times 3-4.5 \mu$ m.

**Hyphae**: hyaline when young, becoming pink and finally purple.

**Distribution** (6, 11, 13, 19, 21, 26, 51, 53, 54, 55, 81, 82, 83, 84, 95, 100, 101, 147) Figures 67 and 68.

Pitch canker of southern pines now extends from Virginia to southern Florida and west to eastern Texas. An outbreak of shoot dieback on loblolly and pond (*Pinus serotina*) pines in plantations in eastern North Carolina is currently causing concern. Since 1974, the disease has been confirmed on loblolly, longleaf (*P. palustris*), shortleaf, slash, and Virginia pines in approximately 50 seed orchards.

Stem and branch cankers are found most frequently on slash, south Florida slash (*P. elliottii* var. *densa*), longleaf, Virginia, shortleaf, and eastern white (*P. strobus*) pine. Infrequent stem cankers on loblolly pine contain only narrow wedges of pitch-soaked tissue. Shoot dieback occurs primarily on planted slash and sand (*P. clausa*) pines in Florida and on loblolly pine in seed orchards throughout the southeastern United States.

Other hosts include pitch (*P. rigida*) and Table Mountain (*P. pungens*) pine in the United States and Western Indian pine (*P. occidentalis*) in Haiti. Monterey (*P. radiata*) and Scotch (*P. sylvestris*) pines, which are not native to the southeastern United States, become diseased and produce sporodochia when seedlings are artifically inoculated.

The relative susceptibility of inoculated seedlings of southern pine species varies as follows: Virginia and shortleaf pines, highly susceptible; slash, loblolly, and pitch pines, moderately susceptible; and pond and eastern white pines, relatively resistant. These rankings

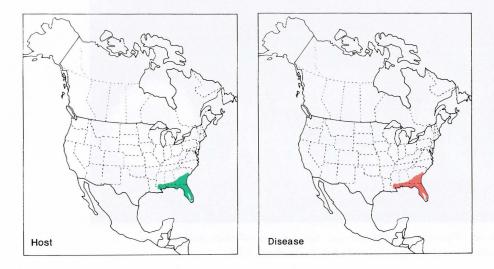


Figure 67. North American distribution of pitch canker on slash pine. (10, 19, 22, 24, 33, 98, 106, 128, 137, 147, 158, 184). often change in field trials; species ranked as relatively resistant may develop a high incidence of disease

under the influence of environmental stress and inoculum pressure. The hosts and distribution are:

Hosts	Distribution	References
Pinus clausa	USA : FL	26
Pinus echinata	USA : AL,NC,MS,TN,VA	51,95,176
Pinus elliottii var. densa	USA : FL	19
Pinus elliottii var. elliottii	USA : FL,GA	10,51,54,147
Pinus occidentalis	Haiti	84
Pinus palustris	USA : GA	51
Pinus pungens	USA : NC, VA	18
Pinus radiata*		81
Pinus rigida	USA : NC,VA	18
Pinus serotina	USA : NC	100
Pinus strobus	USA : VA	6
Pinus sylvestris*		82
Pinus taeda	USA : GA, AL, MS, NC, SC, TX	15,55,95,96,100
Pinus virginiana	USA : TN, AL, NC	11,14,83,95,176

\* Seedlings artifically inoculated with F. moniliforme var. subglutinans developed symptoms of pitch canker disease.

Note: In general, disease distribution follows natural ranges of susceptible, southern pine species.

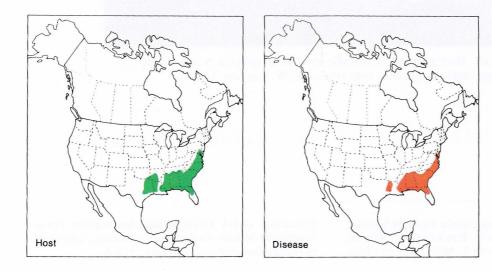


Figure 68. North American distribution of pitch canker on loblolly pine. (50, 54, 96, 101, 106, 128, 137, 188).

## Cone and Seed Diseases of Minor Importance<sup>1</sup>

Table 2 contains diseases that up to now have only been documented to cause minor damage to seeds or cones. However, the importance of any of the diseases can increase in localized areas when conditions such as weather are favorable. The importance of some of these fungi could increase as cones and seeds of their hosts are produced in seed orchards where cultural or other conditions could enhance damage. Perhaps many of these fungi are classed as being of minor importance simply because they have not been well studied.

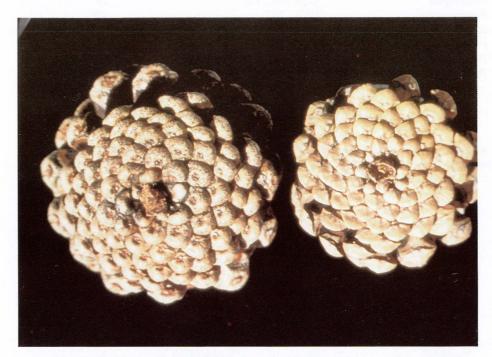


Figure 69. Dark pycnidia of *Diplodia pinea* on an infected Austrian pine cone (left) and a healthy cone (right) (G.W. Peterson, USFS).

<sup>1</sup> Prepared by Jack R. Sutherland, Senior Research Scientist, Pacific Forestry Centre, 506 W. Burnside Road, Victoria, B.C. V8Z 1M5, CANADA and T. Miller, Research Plant Pathologist, USDA Forest Service, Southeastern Forest Experiment Station, Department of Forestry, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611, U.S.A.



Figure 70. Yellow-whitish aecia of *Pucciniastrum americanum* on white spruce cones (Maritime Forest Research Centre, CFS).

Pathogen	Host(s)	Location	Remarks	References
<i>Chrysomyxa woroninii</i> Tanz	Picea glauca P. mariana	USA:AK	Found on ovulate strobili	Phytopathology 74: 456-461.
Cronartium quercuum (Berk.) Miyabe Peridermium cerebrum Peck) Eastern gall rust	Pinus banksiana Quercus spp.	USA : MI	Reduces cone size, increases cone abortion. Widespread as a stem and branch gall of many pines.	28, 194
Lasiodiplodia theobromae (Pat.) Griff & Maubl. Diplodia gossypina Cke.)	Pinus elliottii var. elliottii	USA : FL, GA	Extensively damages nearly mature cones and seeds of some slash pine seedlots. Causes tip dieback in south- ern forest tree nurseries.	128, 151
D <i>iplodia pinea</i> (Desm.) Kickx <sup>7</sup> igure 69.	Pinus sylvestris P. nigra P. muricata P. sabiniana Pseudotsuga menziesii	CANADA:ON USA: NE, CA	Fruits on second year Scotch pine cones. Widely distributed in Canada and the United States as a shoot tip blight or shoot canker on many pine species and Douglas-fir. Damage rating is moderate.	36: 1977-79, 1981; 72, 88, 92 G. Peterson, personal communication
Discella strobilina Died.	Picea mariana	CANADA:ON	Fruits on black spruce cone scales.	36:1967; 37
Elliottinia (Sclerotinia) kerneri (Wettst.) Kohn	Abies balsamea	CANADA:ON,PQ	Causes abnormally dense branching of twigs and staminate flower buds on apical stems of balsam fir. Black sclerotia in staminate flowers. Damage information unavailable.	57, 72
Fusarium oxysporum Schlecht.	Pseudotsuga menziesii	USA:OR	In Douglas-fir seeds and on seedcoats; causes pre- emergence damping-off.	69
<i>Hericium abietis</i> (Weir ex Hubert) Harr.	Tsuga mertensiana	CANADA:BC	A white pitted decay of mountain hemlock cones.	36:1956; 37
<i>Melampsora abietis-canadensis</i> (Farl.) Ludwig Conifer-aspen rust	Tsuga canadensis Populus spp.	CANADA:ON USA:from New England to PA,WI and NC	Widespread on eastern hemlock twigs and cones. Low damage rating. Pycnia and aecia on hemlock; uredinia and telia on foliage of various poplars. In early summer, produces golden-yellow powdery masses of spores on cone surface. These dry up, blacken, and adhere to twigs. Seeds	36:1978-79; 62, 131, 188

nonviable.

### Table 2. Cone and Seed Diseases of Minor Importance in North America

Pathogen	Host(s)	Location	Remarks	References
<i>Melampsora medusae</i> Thuem. Conifer-aspen rust	Pseudotsuga menziesii Larix laricina Populus deltoides P. tremuloides	CANADA:BC, ON	On Douglas-fir and tamarack cones. Widely distributed in Canada and USA as a very damaging needle rust of larch, fir, spruce, pine, and Douglas- fir. Pycnia and aecia (with pale to orange-yellow aecio- spores) are produced on current-year needles or cones; uredinia and telia on poplar foliage.	131 36:1978, 1981; 131, 206
Pucciniastrum americanum (Farl.) Arth. American spruce- raspberry rust Figure 70.	Picea engelmannii P. glauca Rubus spp.	CANADA:BC, NB, MB USA: on alternate host and spruce cones in MN	Affects current-year needles, and rarely spruce cone scales, in Canada. Damage rating usually low. Pycnia and aecia (with orange-yellow aecio- spores) on spruces; uredinia and telia on red raspberry.	188, 206
<i>Pucciniastrum epilobii</i> Otth Fir-fireweed rust	Abies amabilis A. balsamea A. concolor A. grandis A. lasiocarpa Epilobium spp.	Widespread throughout host distribution in Canada and USA	Widespread on current-year needles and fir cone scales. Damage rating low to mod- erate. Pycnia and aecia (with pale to orange-yellow aeciospores) on firs; uredinia and telia on fireweed.	36:1978; 72, 188, 206
Schizophyllum commune Fr.	Pseudotsuga menziesii	USA:WA	White mycelial mats on Douglas-fir cones or cone clusters. Mats frequently hinder seed extraction and may deteriorate seeds in cones stored at high moisture and temper- atures near 20°C.	167
Trichoderma viride Pers.	Pseudotsuga menziesii	CANADA:BC	Hyphae in the seed coat of healthy Douglas-fir seeds, but not observed in endosperm or embryo.	27

### Table 2. (continued). Cone and Seed Diseases of Minor Importance in North America

53

## **Disease-Insect Interactions**<sup>1</sup>

Both diseases and insects damage cones and seeds of North American conifers, but the potential for disease-insect interactions destroying cones and seeds has received little research attention. Certain destructive disease-insect complexes are documented, while others are suspected. Several insects are attracted to the exudation produced by the pycnial stage of rust fungi on infected cones. In the case of southern pine cone rust (124), coneworms (Dioryctria spp.) are attracted to infected, hypertrophied conelets for oviposition and feeding. Populations of coneworms increase rapidly in the rusted conelets, with several times more larvae developing in rusted than healthy conelets. After the diseased conelets die, the increased population of coneworms causes increased damage to secondyear cones. A similar relationship is likely for the southwestern pine cone rust. Coneworms also feed on cones damaged by Inland spruce cone rust in British Columbia, (Figure 71), indicating that their association with rust-infected cones is widespread. Insects which may occur incidentally on pycnia-bearing cones could be involved in spermatization of rusts.

Two seedbugs, *Leptoglossus corculus* (Say) and *Tetyra bipunctata* (H.-S.) are thought to be involved in the fungal deterioration of slash pine seeds, either as vectors or by creating wounds that permit entry of the fungi. The two pathogens that damage slash pine cones and seed, *Fusarium moniliforme* var. *subglutinans* and *Lasiodiplodia theobromae*, are frequently present in both cone and seed tissues. The mode of infection of these two pathogens is still unknown, but a relationship with cone and seed insects is a distinct possibility.

Although the magnitude of disease-insect interactions affecting seed production is still incompletely understood, managers need to be aware of known or suspected disease-insect complexes so that they can follow available recommendations for preventing or reducing losses.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Prepared by T. Miller, Research Plant Pathologist, USDA Forest Service, Southeastern Forest Experiment Station, Department of Forestry, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611, U.S.A. and Jack R. Sutherland, Senior Research Scientist, Pacific Forestry Centre, 506 W. Burnside Road, Victoria, B.C. V8Z 1M5, CANADA.

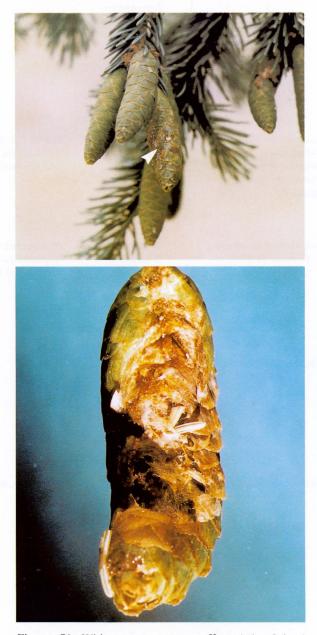


Figure 71. White spruce cones affected by Inland spruce cone rust were subsequently attacked by coneworms (arrow on upper cone). Note yelloworange cone rust spermatia on the lower cone (J.R. Sutherland, CFS).

# **Cone and Seed Problems Caused by Abiotic Factors**<sup>1</sup>

Also known as nonpathological or physiological diseases, abiotic diseases, as the name implies, are not caused by pathogens. Examples range from damage caused by environmental factors such as frost and drought to physiological abnormalities arising from nutrient deficiencies or excesses and reactions to phytotoxic chemicals, including pesticides. Abiotic diseases are typically characterized by one or more of the following: (i) They do not spread from affected to unaffected plants or tissues because no pathogen is involved; consequently, there is no sign (e.g. sporulation or mycelium) of a pathogen. (ii) Damage often results in chlorosis, abnormal discoloration, stunting, or twisting rather than death; if killed, tissues often desiccate. (iii) Damage develops rapidly after exposure to a phytotoxic chemical (Figure 72) or following a frost (Figure 73). (iv) Damage may follow a distinct pattern on a tree or within a seed orchard, e.g., most severe

<sup>1</sup> Prepared by Jack R. Sutherland, Senior Research Scientist, Pacific Forestry Centre, 506 W. Burnside Road, Victoria, B.C. V8Z 1M5, CANADA. damage nearest the source of a phytotoxic chemical or on the windward side of a tree affected by a drifting chemical. (v) Several different plant species may be affected, including ground cover plants. Evidence of feeding or physical damage, which usually characterizes insect or animal damage, is absent for abiotic diseases. Ordinarily, young strobili from the bud stage through pollination would be most affected by abiotic diseases. Affected strobili may cease development, abort, or both, while external evidence of damage to older cones is less noticeable. In older cones, however, seed size and viability could be reduced. Normally, abiotic damage is not confined to cones or male flowers, but is also associated with needles and perhaps woody tissues.

Prevention is the best management strategy for reducing losses to abiotic diseases in seed orchards. Damage caused by climatic extremes is impossible to eliminate completely, but it may be reduced by careful attention to where seed orchards are established, e.g., not locating an orchard in a frost pocket, and not establishing a seed orchard for a given species beyond its natural range. Seed orchards should not be established



Figure 72. Douglas-fir flowers damaged by an unidentified chemical (D.S. Ruth, CFS).



Figure 73. Frost damaged Douglas-fir conelets (R.S. Hunt, CFS).

near sources of toxic chemicals.

Soil and moisture relationships are important considerations in preventing abiotic diseases in seed orchards. Locating a seed orchard on soils that are droughty, poorly drained, or excessively acid or alkaline can predispose trees to extreme physiological stress or render them susceptible to attack by pathogens and insects.

The intensive management generally imposed on seed orchards may require the use of an array of chemi-

cals, including fertilizers, insecticides, and herbicides. Considerable care is required to assure that the proper chemical or formulation is applied at the rate, time, and growth phase recommended for a particular plant or pest. It is important to remember that cones and foliage of different phenological ages may vary in susceptibility to potential chemical damage. Finally, great care should always be given to assuring that insecticides and herbicides are directed only at the target pest or plant species. Many chemicals can become dangerous environmental hazards to nontarget organisms, including man, when applied improperly.

## Detection and Management of Cone and Seed Diseases<sup>1</sup>

#### Detection

The first step in detecting cone and seed diseases is to obtain an inventory of the diseases, and other potential pests, such as insects, that occur on the orchard's species in the area where a seed orchard is to be, or has been, established or in the locality where cones will be collected from native stands. For diseases, this information is usually available from local forest pathologists. An inventory will identify the diseases that have affected cones, and perhaps seeds, in the past and may indicate their relative importance. In both forest stands and seed orchards, the importance of a particular disease may vary from year to year, depending upon factors, such as weather, which affect both hosts and pathogens. An additional consideration in seed orchards is that cultural practices such as application of fertilizers and irrigation, which influence the abundance or phenology of cone crops, may affect disease severity. Seed orchard trees of non-local origin or exotic species may be affected more severely by a disease than are indigenous trees. Estimates of cone losses due to diseases and other factors may be obtained at the same time that estimates are made of orchard productivity. Procedures have been published for estimating cone productivity (31,32) and both cone productivity and pest damage (60, 61) in southern U.S. pine seed orchards. Similar procedures need to be developed and implemented elsewhere in North America, incorporating many of the features developed in the southern U.S. However, because of differences in factors such as tree species, cone phenology (e.g., 1versus 2-year cones), climate, and pests, it is likely that many different monitoring systems will evolve across North America to meet local requirements.

While diseases of cones are most likely to be noticed when the cones are on the trees, diseases of seeds and seed-borne pathogens are usually first observed after radiography and seed stratification, during germination tests or after germination in the nursery. While the role that certain seed-associated fungi play in seed health is known, the importance of the many so-called saprophytes, such as *Penicillium* and *Aspergillus*, which are often prevalent during seed germination testing, is not well defined. Indeed, many of these fungi may simply be indicators of poor quality seeds rather than being the cause of deterioration. Seed-borne fungi often can be detected under the low-power magnification (10-20X) of a hand lens or stereomicroscope; however, a mycologist or plant pathologist should identify the fungi. The reliability of a particular assay technique depends upon the abundance of the fungus and the number of seeds that are examined. After preliminary observations are made to estimate the relative abundance of the fungus, a biometrician can determine the sizes of the seed samples needed to detect the fungus at specific confidence levels. For example, based on preliminary data, it was determined that a 500-seed sample is required from each seedlot to detect the seed fungus (see earlier chapter). With that size of sample, there is a 5% probability that C. fulgens will not be detected when the infestation level is 1% or less. The standard procedure for detecting seed-borne fungi is to plate the seeds on a nutrient medium (see earlier sections). Since this technique is very time consuming and unreliable when the pathogen infestation level is low, immunological assays are being developed for detecting certain seed-borne pathogens of conifers. Their main advantages are their specificity, rapidity, and greater accuracy because seed sample size can be increased many fold.

Sometimes seed-borne pathogens are first noticed in the nursery affecting germinants or young seedlings, e.g. *Sirococcus* blight. A seed-borne pathogen can be suspected when a particular disease appears on germinants or young seedlings of a specific seedlot, especially over several years, and in localities where inoculum is not available from nearby sources, such as windbreak trees. Some seed-borne pathogens, such as the seed

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fungus, may cause abnormally high pre-emergence losses.

#### Management

Cone and seed diseases are best managed by using an integrated approach consisting of orchard monitoring, cultural practices, and application of fungicides. Other factors being equal, a seed orchard site often can be selected to avoid certain diseases. For example, in British Columbia, Inland spruce cone rust affects up to 60% of the cones in a spruce seed orchard near Salmon Arm, but the disease does not occur in spruce orchards 50 km south at Vernon, where the drier and hotter summer climate excludes the rust's alternate hosts. Similarly, locating slash (Pinus elliottii var. elliottii) and longleaf (P. palustris) pine orchards out of the range of southern pine cone rust would be an effective strategy. Locating seed orchards in areas that are as free as possible of major pests should be a criterion in selecting seed orchard sites. An alternative is to rid the area immediately around the orchard of diseased trees and the alternate hosts of rusts. For example, removing trees infected with western gall rust for 275 m around hard pine orchards should alleviate losses from this disease. Areas that may be subject to high levels of toxic or injurious chemicals in the air should not be selected for seed orchards. When establishing an orchard, diseasefree stock should be used to prevent introducing diseases into the orchard. Sanitation practices, including roguing and destroying diseased and old cones, should be helpful in control of some diseases. Because cone pathogens such as the pitch canker fungus enter cones via wounds, precautions should be taken to minimize wounding of cones, including that done by insects.

Although cultural and related practices will help alleviate losses to cone and seed diseases, fungicides may need to be applied either occasionally or routinely. depending upon the regularity and severity with which a disease occurs. To date in North American seed orchards, only southern pine cone rust and Inland spruce cone rust have consistently caused enough damage to warrant application of fungicides (122 and J. Sutherland, unpublished). The specific fungicide that is used for disease control will depend upon numerous criteria, including efficacy, possible phytotoxicity, cost, and timing. Based on experience with southern cone rust and Inland spruce cone rust, fungicides should be applied to protect during the infection period, which is from emergence of strobili through scale closure after pollination. Systemic fungicides hold particular promise for control of rusts and other diseases of cones because they may allow a considerable reduction in the number of fungicide applications required and less critical timing of applications and because they may eradicate already established fungi as well as protecting cones from pathogens.

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## **Glossary of Cone and Seed Disease Terms**

- Aborted ovule: First year: Any potential seed that aborts (ceases development) during the first growing season or conelet stage of development. Second year: Any potential seed that aborts during the second growing season.
- **Abscission**: Separation of leaves, flowers, or fruit from plants, generally associated with deterioration of a specialized layer of thin-walled cells.
- Aecioid teliospores: Teliospores with the morphological characteristics of aeciospores produced by other rust fungi, e.g. the genus *Endocronartium*.
- Aeciospore: One of the spore types produced by a rust fungus. Formed in and released from fruiting structure called an aecium.
- Aecium (Aecia, plural): A structure in which aeciospores are produced; develops after the spermogonium (pycnium) and before the uredinium in the life cycle of a rust fungus.
- Alternate host: One or the other of the two unlike host plants parasitized by a heteroecious fungus, such as a typical rust fungus.
- Alternation: Successive occurrence of a rust fungus on its two alternate hosts during its life cycle.
- Ascomycete: A large group of fungi producing their sexual spores, ascospores, within a structure termed an ascus (asci, plural).
- Asexual stage (state) or spore: Either a vegetative stage or a reproductive stage in the life cycle of a fungus in which nuclear fusion is absent and in which reproductive spores are produced by mitosis or simple nuclear division. Synonym: imperfect stage, anamorph.
- Atrophy: Underdevelopment in size or function of a plant part or organ.
- Autoecious (of a rust): Completing its life cycle on one host plant; the opposite of heteroecious.

- Axis (of a cone or strobilus): The central, rod-like core of a cone (strobilus) to which scales and bracts are attached.
- **Basidiomycete:** A large group of fungi, including the rusts, which are characterized by the production of spores, typically four, on a basidium.
- **Basidiospore**: The spore produced by the sexual stage of the basidiomycetes. Basidiospores are winddisseminated and spread a disease by causing new infections.
- **Blight**: A general term for a plant disease causing rapid death or dieback.
- **Bract**: A thin, leaf-like structure interspersed with the scales of cones. In certain cones, bracts are very noticeable, e.g., Douglas-fir.
- **Canker**: A definite, relatively localized, necrotic lesion primarily of the bark and cortical tissues of stems and roots.
- Catkin: A male strobilus which produces pollen.
- Chlorosis: An abnormal yellowing of foliage.
- **Chlorotic:** Abnormally diffused or patterned yellowing of normally green plant parts.
- **Cone**: A female strobilus of pines during the second season of development, or of other conifers that produce mature cones and seed in a single season.
- **Conelet:** A female strobilus of: (a) pines during the first season of development following pollination, and (b) early stages of cone development of conifers in which cones develop in one season.
- **Cone stalk**: The pedicel, or stem-like structure attaching a cone to the branch.
- **Conidium (Conidia, plural)**: Asexual spore of a fungus, typically produced terminally on a specialized hypha termed a conidiophore.

- **Contaminants**: Impurities; specifically spores, cells, or hyphae present on pollen, seeds, or strobili that can, under proper conditions, grow, spread, and cause damage.
- **Controlled pollination**: Transfer of pollen from a known source to receptive flower parts of a known seed parent, all other pollen being excluded.
- **Cotyledons**: First leaves developed in the embryo of a seed.
- **Culture**: The process of securing the growth of fungi or other microorganisms upon artificial media (isolation), or of parasitic organisms (like rusts) upon host plants; the organism or organisms resulting from the culturing process.
- **Decay**: The decomposition of plant tissue by fungi and other microorganisms.
- **Dieback**: The progressive dying of stems and branches from the tip downward.
- **Disease:** Unfavorable change of the function or form of a plant from normal; caused by a pathogenic agent, unfavorable environment, or phytotoxic chemical.
- **Disease cycle**: The chain of events involved in disease development, including the stages of development of the pathogen and the effect of the disease on the host.
- **Dormancy (in spores)**: Resting stage in which germination may be delayed until the spores become mature and viable and external conditions are favorable.
- **Dormant**: Being in a state of dormancy, such as perennial plants and teliospores of certain rusts during winter.
- **Endemic**: Native to the country or region; the regular occurrence of a disease with little variation in abundance.
- **Endocyclic (of rusts)**: Having a life cycle with spermogonial and aecial spore stages only, in which the spores that appear to be aeciospores function as teliospores to produce basidiospores, may be referred to as aecidioid telia or telial aecia.
- Endosperm: In conifers, the haploid (1n) material (gametophyte tissue) surrounding the embryo, which provides food reserves for the seed.

- **Epicotyl**: Portion of the axis of a plant embryo or seedling stem above the cotyledons.
- **Epidemic**: Pertaining to a disease that has built up rapidly and reached injurious levels over a large area.
- **Epiphytotic**: Suddenly and destructively affecting plants in a locality, as an epiphytotic disease.
- **Etiology:** In pathology, that phase in the study of a disease which deals with the causal factor, the pathogen, and its relations with the host.
- **Female flowers**: The female strobili of conifers prior to and during pollination.
- Fertile scale: A cone scale that is capable of producing seed.
- Filled seed: Mature ovule containing an embryo and nutritive (gametophyte) tissue enclosed in layers of protective tissue (seedcoat), capable of development into a plant similar to the one that produced it. (See potentially sound seed).
- **Fruit body (fruiting body)**: A spore-producing or spore-bearing structure; e.g., an aecium, uredinium, or telium of the rust family.
- **Fungus (Fungi, plural)**: An undifferentiated plant lacking chlorophyll and conductive tissues.
- Gall: A pronounced swelling on a plant caused by certain fungi, bacteria, insects, or nematodes.
- Germ tube: The hypha produced by a germinated fungus spore which, with continued growth, develops into a mycelium.
- **Gymnosperm:** A division in the classification of plants; a plant that bears naked seeds, as the conifers.
- Habit: The general, external, and characteristic appearance or manner of growth of animals or plants (e.g. fungi).
- Habitat: The natural place of growth of a fungus or other organism.
- Haustorium (Haustoria, plural): A specialized projection of hyphae of a parasitic fungus, which penetrates a host cell and serves as an absorbing organ, characteristic of rust fungi.

- Heteroecious (of a rust): Completing its life cycle on two unrelated plants (alternate hosts); compare with autoecious.
- "Hip canker": A canker on one side of the trunk of pine, partially or almost completely grown over, caused by western gall rust (*Endocronartium harknessii*).
- Host: The plant on or in which a pathogen or parasite exists.
- Host-range: All hosts that a particular pathogen attacks.
- **Hyperplasia**: Abnormal production of cells, causing enlargement of some part of a plant.
- **Hypertrophy**: Abnormal enlargement of cells, causing enlargement of some part of a plant.
- **Hypha (Hyphae, plural)**: One of the filamentous threads that make up the mycelium (the fungus body).
- **Hypocotyl**: That part of the axis of an embryo or stem of a seedling between the cotyledons and the radicle.
- Imperfect state (or stage), anamorph: A phase of the life cycle of a fungus in which asexual spores (e.g. aeciospores, urediniospores) are produced.

Infect: To invade and cause a disease.

- **Infest**: To be present within an area (or plant or soil) in such numbers as to be a disease hazard.
- **Inoculate**: To place a pathogen on or in a host in a position in which it is capable of infecting.
- **Inoculum**: The spores, mycelium, sclerotia, or other propagules of a pathogen which initially infect a host or crop.
- Latent infection: An established infection that does not show its presence.
- Lesion: A defined area of necrotic (dead) cells or tissue.
- Life cycle (of rust fungi): The stages (states) between one spore form and the development of the same spore form again. There are commonly five spore stages in the life cycle of tree rusts (the spermogo-

nial or pycnial, aecial, uredinial, telial, and basidial stages, denoted by the numerals O, I, II, III, IV), but there may be no development, or no knowledge, of one or more of the stages.

Life history: The stages involved in the development, progression, and spread of a disease, including spore production by the pathogen, infection of the host(s), and development of the disease (compare to life cycle).

Lobulate: Having small lobes.

Long-cycled: See macrocyclic.

- **Macrocyclic, long-cycled (of rusts)**: Having a life cycle involving the aecial, telial, basidial, and usually the spermogonial and uredinal spore states.
- Male flowers: The male strobili (catkins) of conifers which produce pollen.
- Microcyclic, short-cycled (of rusts): Having a life cycle involving only the telial and basidial (and sometimes the spermogonial) spore stages.
- **Micropyle**: A minute opening into an ovule through which the pollen grain normally passes to reach the pollen chamber.
- **Mold (Mould):** Any profuse or woolly fungus growth on damp or decaying matter or on the surface of plant tissue.
- **Mycelium**: A mass of hyphae that forms the vegetative, filamentous body of a fungus.
- Necrosis: Death of cells, especially when tissues become dark; commonly a symptom of infection and disease.
- **Ovule**: The female tissue of a seed that develops into a seed after fertilization by pollen.
- **Parasite**: An organism living on and nourished by another living organism.

Pathogen: An organism capable of causing disease.

Pathogenic: Producing disease or capable of doing so.

**Perfect state (or stage), teleomorph**: A phase of the life cycle of a fungus in which spores (e.g. basidio-spores) are formed after nuclear fusion; the telial stage in rust fungi.

- **Peridermium**: An aecium with a blister-like, tongueshaped, or cylindric peridium.
- **Peridium (of rusts)**: The outer, enveloping membrane of fruit bodies.
- **Phenology**: Relations between plant functions and seasonal climatic changes, such as temperature or day length, especially as such changes affect periodic phenomena such as leafing, flowering, and dormancy.
- **Pollen sac:** The structure in which developing pollen of a coniferous male flower (strobilus) is enclosed.
- **Pollen tube**: An outgrowth of a germinating pollen grain through which the sperm passes to fertilize the egg.
- **Pollination**: The transfer of pollen to a receptive female flower.
- **Potentially sound seed**: Seed filled with apparently undamaged tissue on which viability has not been tested.
- **Pycnidiospore**: An asexual (anomorph) spore or conidium produced within a pycnidium.
- **Pycnidium (Pycnidia, plural):** An asexual (anamorph) type of fruiting body, typically flaskshaped, in which asexual spores or conidia are produced.
- **Pycniospore**: A spore (also called a spermatium) produced in the fruit body of rust fungi called a pycnium.
- **Pycnium (Pycnia, plural)**: A fruit body containing pycniospores, produced after the basidium and before the aecium in the life cycle of a rust (also called a spermogonium).
- **Radicle**: That portion of the axis of an embryo from which the root develops.

Rot: See decay

- **Rust**: Parasitic fungi of the order Uredinales; the disease caused by a fungus of the order Uredinales.
- **Saprophyte**: An organism using dead organic material as food.
- **Scale**: The structures of a cone upon which the seeds are borne.

- Sclerotium (Sclerotia, plural): A firm, frequently rounded, multicellular resting stage produced by certain fungi.
- Seedcoat: The hard covering of a seed.
- Seed orchard: A plantation of clones or seedlings from selected trees cultured for seed production.
- Seed potential: Two times the number of fertile cone scales or the maximum number of seeds a cone is capable of producing.
- Serotinous: Pertaining to cones that remain closed on the tree for several months to a year or more after maturity.
- Sexual stage (state): The stage in the life cycle of a fungus in which spores are produced after sexual fusion. Synonym: perfect stage, teleomorph.

Short-cycled: See microcylic.

- Sign: The pathogen or its parts or products seen on the host plant.
- **Sorus (sori, plural)**: A compact mass of spores or fruiting structure found especially in the rusts and smuts.

Spermogonium: See pycnium.

- **Spore**: The reproductive structure of the fungi and other lower plants.
- **Sporodochium (Sporodochia, plural)**: A mass of conidiophores on a mound or mass of hyphae; occurs in the fungus genus *Fusarium*.

Sporulate: To produce and release spores.

- **Strobilus (strobili, plural)**: The male and female reproductive structures of conifers.
- **Susceptible**: Vulnerable to attack by an organism or damage by a non-living agent.
- **Symptom:** The evidence of disturbance in the normal development and function of a host plant, e.g., chlorosis, necrosis, and galls.
- **Systemic**: Spreading internally throughout the plant body, said of a pathogen or a chemical.
- **Teliospore**: The spore stage of the rust fungi from which basidia and basidiospores are produced.

- **Telium (Telia, plural)**: A fruit body containing teliospores, produced after the uredinium and before the spermogonium in the life cycle of a rust.
- **Urediniospore**: Spore borne in a uredinium, and capable of infecting the same host on which it originated; also called urediospore.

Uredinium (Uredinia, plural): A fruit body contain-

ing urediniospores, produced after the aecium and before the telium in the life cycle of a rust; also called uredium.

Virulence: Degree of being pathogenic.

Wilt: A type of plant disease characterized by the sudden loss of turgor and collapse of the succulent parts of the affected plants.

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## List of Cone and Seed Disease Hosts by Scientific Name

(40,44,74,106,107,108,118,130,152,161,188)

#### Scientific name

#### Common name

Abies Mill. Abies amabilis (Dougl.) Forbes Abies balsamea (L.) Mill. Abies concolor (Gord. & Glend.) Lindl. ex Hildebr. Abies grandis (Dougl. ex D. Don) Abies lasiocarpa (Hook.) Nutt. Epilobium L. Larix Mill. Larix kaempferi (Lamb.) Carr. Larix laricina (Du Roi) K. Koch Libocedrus decurrens Torr. Moneses uniflora (L.) Grav Picea A. Dietr. Picea abies (L.) Karst. Picea engelmannii Parry ex Engelm. Picea glauca (Moench) Voss Picea mariana (Mill.) B.S.P. Picea pungens Engelm. Picea rubens Sarg. Picea sitchensis (Bong.) Carr. Pinus L. Pinus albicaulis Engelm. Pinus attenuata Lemm. Pinus avacahuite Ehrenb. Pinus banksiana Lamb. Pinus canariensis Smith Pinus cembroides Zucc. Pinus clausa (Chapm. ex Engelm.) Vasey ex Sarg. Pinus contorta Dougl. ex Loud. Pinus contorta Dougl. ex Loud. var. contorta Pinus cooperi Blanco Pinus coulteri D. Don Pinus densiflora Sieb. & Zucc. Pinus durangensis Martinez Pinus echinata Mill. Pinus elliottii var. densa Little & Dorman Pinus elliottii Engelm. var. elliottii Pinus engelmannii Carr. Pinus glabra Walt. Pinus greggii Engelm.

fir Pacific silver fir balsam fir white fir grand fir subalpine fir fireweed larch Japanese larch tamarack incense-cedar single-delight spruce Norway spruce Engelmann spruce white spruce black spruce blue spruce red spruce Sitka spruce pine whitebark pine knobcone pine Mexican white pine jack pine Canary Island pine Mexican pinyon (pine) sand pine lodgepole pine shore pine Cooper pine Coulter pine Japanese red pine Durango pine shortleaf pine South Florida slash pine slash pine Apache pine spruce pine Gregg pine

#### Scientific name

#### Common name

Pinus halepensis Mill. Pinus hartwegii Lindl. Pinus jeffreyi Grev. & Balf. Pinus lambertiana Dougl. Pinus lawsonii Roezl. Pinus leiophylla var. chihuahuana (Engelm.) Shaw Pinus lumholtzii Rob. & Fern Pinus michoacana Martinez Pinus montezumae Lamb. Pinus mugo Turra Pinus muricata D. Don Pinus nigra Arnold Pinus occidentalis Swartz Pinus oocarpa Schiede Pinus palustris Mill. Pinus patula Schl. & Cham. Pinus pinaster Ait. Pinus pinceana Gord. Pinus pinea L. Pinus ponderosa Dougl. ex Laws. Pinus ponderosa var. arizonica (Engelm.) Shaw Pinus pseudostrobus Lindl. Pinus pungens Lamb. Pinus radiata D. Don Pinus resinosa Ait. Pinus rigida Mill. Pinus rudis Endl. Pinus sabiniana Dougl. Pinus serotina Michx. Pinus strobus L. Pinus sylvestris L. Pinus taeda L. Pinus teocote Schl. & Cham. Pinus thunbergii Parl. Pinus virginiana Mill. Populus L. Populus deltoides Bartr. Populus tremuloides Michx. Pseudotsuga menziesii (Mirb.) Franco Pyrola L. Pyrola asarifolia Michx. Pyrola dentata Sm. Pyrola elliptica Nutt. Pyrola grandiflora Radius Pyrola minor L. Pyrola picta Sm. Pyrola rotundifolia L. Pyrola secunda L. Pyrola virens Schweigg. Quercus L. Quercus alba L. Quercus arizonica Sarg. Quercus bicolor Willd.

Aleppo pine Hartweg pine Jeffrey pine sugar pine Lawson pine Chihuahua pine Lumholtz pine Michoacan pine Montezuma pine mugo or Swiss mountain pine bishop pine Austrian pine Western Indian pine wheelbarrow torchwood pine longleaf pine jelecote pine maritime pine Pince pinyon (pine) planted pine ponderosa pine Arizona pine false Weimouth pine Table Mountain pine Monterey pine red pine pitch pine rudis pine Digger pine pond pine eastern white pine Scotch (Scots) pine loblolly pine Aztec pine Japanese black pine Virginia pine cottonwood or aspen eastern cottonwood trembling aspen Douglas-fir wintergreen large or pink wintergreen Nootka wintergreen shinleaf arctic wintergreen lesser wintergreen painted pyrola Muguet de Bois one-sided wintergreen greenish-flowered wintergreen oak white oak Arizona white oak swamp white oak

# Scientific name

Quercus chapmanii Sarg. Quercus chrysolepis Liebm. Quercus dunnii Kellogg Quercus emoryi Torr. Quercus grisea Liebm. Quercus hypoleucoides A. Camus Quercus ilicifolia Wangenh. Ouercus incana Bartr. Quercus laevis Walt. Quercus laurifolia Michx. Quercus macrocarpa Michx. Quercus myrtifolia Willd. Quercus nigra L. Quercus oblongifolia Torr. Quercus phellos L. Quercus prinus L. Ouercus rugosa Nee Quercus stellata Wangenh. Quercus virginiana Mill. var. virginiana Quercus virginiana var. geminata (Small) Sarg. Rubus L. Tsuga (Endl.) Carr. Tsuga canadensis (L.) Carr. Tsuga heterophylla (Raf.) Sarg. Tsuga mertensiana (Bong.) Carr.

#### Common name

Chapman oak canyon live oak Dunn oak Emory oak gray oak silverleaf oak bear oak bluejack oak turkey oak laurel oak bur oak myrtle oak water oak Mexican blue oak willow oak chestnut oak netleaf oak post oak live oak (typical) sand live oak raspberry hemlock eastern hemlock western hemlock mountain hemlock

# List of Cone and Seed Disease Hosts by Common Name

(40,44,74,106,107,108,118,130,152,161,188)

Scientific name

#### Common name

## Arctic wintergreen Arizona pine Arizona white oak Aspen Aleppo pine Apache pine Austrian pine Aztec pine Balsam fir Bear oak **Bishop** pine Black spruce Bluejack oak Blue spruce Bur oak Canary Island pine Canyon live oak Chapman oak Chestnut oak Chihuahua pine Cooper pine Cottonwood Coulter pine Digger pine Douglas-fir Dunn oak Durango pine Eastern cottonwood Eastern hemlock Eastern white pine Emory oak Engelmann spruce European black pine False Weimouth pine Fir Fireweed Grand fir Gray oak Greenish-flowered wintergreen Gregg pine

## Pyrola grandiflora Radius Pinus ponderosa var. arizonica (Engelm.) Shaw Quercus arizonica Sarg. Populus L. Pinus halepensis Mill. Pinus engelmannii Carr. Pinus nigra Arnold Pinus teocote Schl. & Cham. Abies balsamea (L.) Mill. Quercus ilicifolia Wangenh. Pinus muricata D. Don Picea mariana (Mill.) B.S.P. Quercus incana Bartr. Picea pungens Engelm. Quercus macrocarpa Michx. Pinus canariensis Smith Quercus chrysolepis Liebm. Quercus chapmanii Sarg. Quercus prinus L. Pinus leiophylla var. chihuahuana (Engelm.) Shaw Pinus cooperi Blanco Populus L. Pinus coulteri D. Don Pinus sabiniana Dougl. Pseudotsuga menziesii (Mirb.) Franco Quercus dunnii Kellogg Pinus durangensis Martinez Populus deltoides Bartr. Tsuga canadensis (L.) Carr. Pinus strobus L. Quercus emoryi Torr. Picea engelmannii Parry ex Engelm. see Austrian pine Pinus pseudostrobus Lindl. Abies Mill. Epilobium L. Abies grandis (Dougl. ex D. Don) Lindl. Quercus grisea Liebm. Pyrola virens Schweigg. Pinus greggii Engelm.

#### Common name

Hartweg pine Hemlock Incense-cedar Jack pine Japanese black pine Japanese larch Japanese red pine Jeffrey pine Jelecote pine Knobcone pine Kuro-matsu Larch Large wintergreen Laurel oak Lawson pine Lesser wintergreen Live oak (typical) Loblolly pine Lodgepole pine Longleaf pine Lumholtz pine Maritime pine Mexican blue oak Mexican pinyon (pine) Mexican white pine Michoacan pine Monterey pine Montezuma pine Mountain hemlock Mugo pine Muguet de Bois Myrtle oak Netleaf oak Nootka wintergreen Norway spruce Oak One-sided wintergreen Pacific silver fir Painted pyrola Pince pinyon (pine) Pine Pink wintergreen Pitch pine Planted pine Pond pine Ponderosa pine Post oak Raspberry Red pine Red spruce Rudis pine Sand live oak Sand pine

# Scientific name

Pinus hartwegii Lindl. Tsuga (Endl.) Carr. Libocedrus decurrens Torr. Pinus banksiana Lamb. Pinus thunbergii Parl. Larix kaempferi (Lamb.) Carr. Pinus densiflora Sieb. & Zucc. Pinus jeffreyi Grev. & Balf. Pinus patula Schl. & Cham. Pinus attenuata Lemm. see Japanese black pine Larix Mill. Pyrola asarifolia Michx. Quercus laurifolia Michx. Pinus lawsonii Roezl. Pyrola minor L. Quercus virginiana Mill. var. virginiana Pinus taeda L. Pinus contorta Dougl. ex Loud. Pinus palustris Mill. Pinus lumholtzii Rob. & Fern. Pinus pinaster Ait. Quercus oblongifolia Torr. Pinus cembroides Zucc. Pinus ayacahuite Ehrenb. Pinus michoacana Martinez Pinus radiata D. Don Pinus montezumae Lamb. Tsuga mertensiana (Bong.) Carr. Pinus mugo Turra Pyrola rotundifolia L. Quercus myrtifolia Willd. Quercus rugosa Nee Pyrola dentata Sm. Picea abies (L.) Karst. Ouercus L. Pyrola secunda L. Abies amabilis (Dougl.) Forbes Pyrola picta Sm. Pinus pinceana Gord. Pinus L. see large wintergreen Pinus rigida Mill. Pinus pinea L. Pinus serotina Michx. Pinus ponderosa Dougl. ex. Laws. Quercus stellata Wangenh. Rubus L. Pinus resinosa Ait. Picea rubens Sarg. Pinus rudis Endl. Quercus virginiana var. geminanata (Small) Sarg. Pinus clausa (Chapm. ex Engelm.) Vasey ex Sarg.

## Common name

Scotch (Scots) pine Shinleaf Shore pine Shortleaf pine Silverleaf oak Single-delight Sitka spruce Slash pine South Florida slash pine Spruce Spruce pine Subalpine fir Sugar pine Swamp white oak Swiss mountain pine Table Mountain pine Tamarack Trembling aspen Turkey oak Virginia pine Water oak Western hemlock Western Indian pine Wheelbarrow torchwood pine Whitebark pine White fir White spruce White oak Willow oak Wintergreen

# Pinus sylvestris L. Pyrola elliptica Nutt. Pinus contorta Dougl. ex Loud. var. contorta Pinus echinata Mill. Quercus hypoleucoides A. Camus Moneses uniflora (L.) Gray Picea sitchensis (Bong.) Carr. Pinus elliottii Engelm. var. elliottii Pinus elliottii var. densa Little & Dorman Picea A. Dietr. Pinus glabra Walt. Abies lasiocarpa (Hook.) Nutt. Pinus lambertiana Dougl. Quercus bicolor Willd. see mugo pine Pinus pungens Lamb. Larix laricina (Du Roi) K. Koch Populus tremuloides Michx. Ouercus laevis Walt. Pinus virginiana Mill. Quercus nigra L. Tsuga heterophylla (Raf.) Sarg. Pinus occidentalis Swartz Pinus oocarpa Schiede Pinus albicaulis Engelm. Abies concolor (Gord. & Glend.) Lindl ex. Hildebr. Picea glauca (Moench) Voss Quercus alba L.

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Scientific name

Quercus phellos L.

Pyrola L.

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