

Mycobiota on the phylloplane of the Harton plantain (*Musa AAB*), in Francisco Javier Pulgar Municipality, Zulia state, Venezuela.

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Abstract

In the Francisco Javier Pulgar Municipality, major producing region of plantain Harton (*Musa AAB*) in Zulia state, production is being seriously limited by foliage fungal diseases. Because of this problem, an identification of the mycobiota of the phylloplane of plantain was undertaken to determine the diversity of fungi (saprophytes and pathogens). During the period June – November, 1999, four samples in each one of the nine selected farms were taken. The sample area was 99 ha, and was determined using Cochran's formula. Leaves with diverse lesion types and were collected and sections of them incubated for 5-15 days in petri dishes containing wet and sterilized filter paper and at an average environment temperature of 25-28 °C. Microscopic analysis made possible the identification of 49 fungi, 21 of which were saprophytes and 28 pathogens. Of the total fungus species identified, 38 were classified as mitosporic fungi, 9 in the Ascomycota Division, 1 in Basidiomycota and 1 in Oomycota.

Key words: Phylloplane, mycobiota, plantain Harton (*Musa AAB*), pathogen fungi.

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