Mini data sheet on *Puccinia psidii*

Added in 1998 – Deleted in 2003

Reasons for deletion:
The PRA (02-9886 & 9891) concluded that the risk for the pest *Puccinia psidii* was low due to the climatic requirements of this rust. In 2003, it was therefore removed from the EPPO Alert List.

Puccinia psidii (eucalyptus rust)

Why	*P. psidii* came to our attention because a recent publication stressed that the quarantine status of this disease may have been overlooked.
Where	Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Jamaica, Paraguay, Puerto Rico, Trinidad, Uruguay, USA (south of Florida), Venezuela. Unconfirmed reports in India, South Africa and Taiwan.
On which plants	Myrtaceae and particularly *Eucalyptus* species. Reported on *Callistemon speciosus*, *Eugenia* spp., *Melaleuca leucodendron*, *Pimenta* spp. *Psidium* spp. (including guavas), *Zysygium jambos*, *Myrcia* spp.
Damage	Typical rust symptoms which reduce plant growth.
Pathway	Eucalyptus plants for planting (wood?) from infested countries. It was shown that contaminated pollen, seed and personal items (e.g. footwear, spectacles, clothes…) could ensure long distance dissemination of the fungus.
Possible risks	*Eucalyptus* are important trees in Mediterranean countries. Losses are reported in Brazil, particularly in nurseries and young plantations. Trees are rarely killed (unless young, susceptible cultivars are affected), but growth is reduced. Fungicide applications and planting of resistant genotypes are possible control methods.
Source(s)	Coutinho, T.A.; Wingfield, M.J.; Alfenas, A.C.; Crous, P.W. (1998) Eucalyptus rust: a disease with the potential for serious international implications. Plant Disease, 82(7), 819-825. Langrell, S.R.H.; Tommerup, I.C.; Zauza, E.A.V.; Alfenas, A.C. (2003) PCR based detection of *Puccinia psidii* from contaminated *Eucalyptus* germplasm-implications for global biosecurity and safeguarding commercial resources (Abstract 5.3 of a paper presented at the 8th International Congress of Plant Pathology, Christchurch, New Zealand (2003-02-02/07).

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