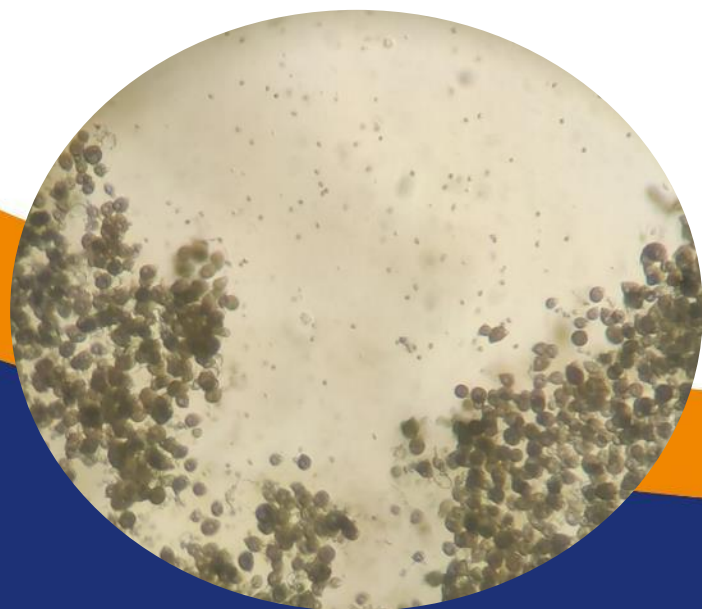




Harper Adams  
University



# Incidence, pathogenicity and management of UK raspberry *Phytophthora*

Eithne Browne – CTP PhD Student, NIAB East Malling

## Supervisors:

HAU: Prof Simon Edwards

NIAB: Dr. Charlotte Nellist

BCPC diseases review

19<sup>th</sup> October 2022



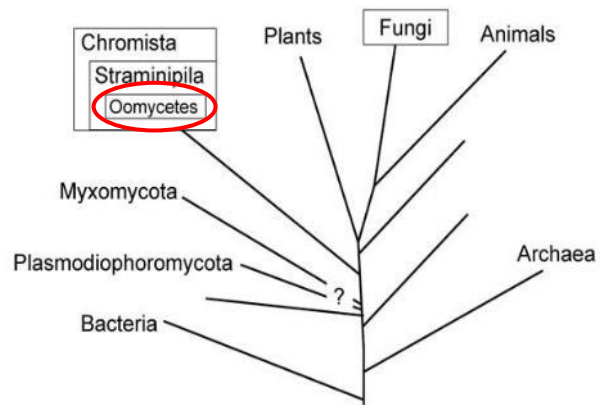
# Raspberry Root Rot – more than *Phytophthora*?

*Phytophthora* ≠ fungi

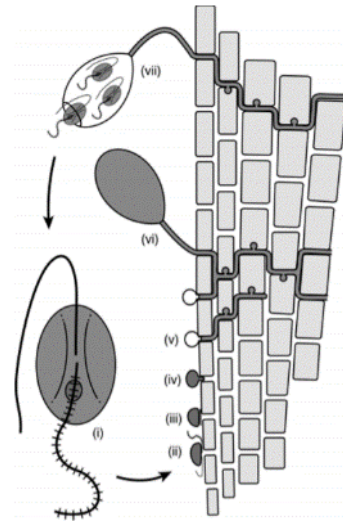
Specialised zoospores which travel through free water

*P. rubi* and *P. idaei* reported to be most prevalent in UK, global distribution is changing

Further insight into disease, species present and alternative *Phytophthora* control methods on UK farms is needed to ensure optimum productivity for the growers



Heffer Link, V., M.L. Powelson, and K.B. Johnson. 2002



Harham *et al.*, 2001

Above ground symptoms



Below ground symptoms



# Project Objectives

1. Identify the pathogen spp. present in diseased plants on U.K farms through grower site sampling, isolation and molecular identification
2. Determine the pathogenicity of species obtained from sampling through disease trials
3. Assess the risk of these new species to UK production, how management practices can mitigate this





# WP1 - Field sampling and Grower Surveys

- Symptomatic and asymptomatic samples from grower sites in England and Scotland taken and pathogens isolated from canes and roots
- Samples taken in Autumn 2020 and 2021 with help of BSPP Covid-19 PhD Student Fund



# Pathogenicity Testing - Detached leaf trials

- Sterile raspberry leaves were floated on nonsterile soil extract infested with Peronosporales species. After 7 days, leaf area, lesion area and percentage disease were recorded via APS Assess 2.0 software.
- Quick, inexpensive test of host susceptibility and pathogenicity

Results  
on my  
poster



Control



*P. citricola*



*P. citrophthora*



*P. cryptogea*



*P. erythrosepatica*



*P. rubi*



*Pp. vexans*



*Pp. litorale*



# Further info on my poster, Thankyou

Thank you to the following for their help and guidance:

**My supervisors and advisors** Dr Charlotte Nellist, Prof. Simon Edwards, Felicidad Fernández, Dr Suzanne Litthaeur

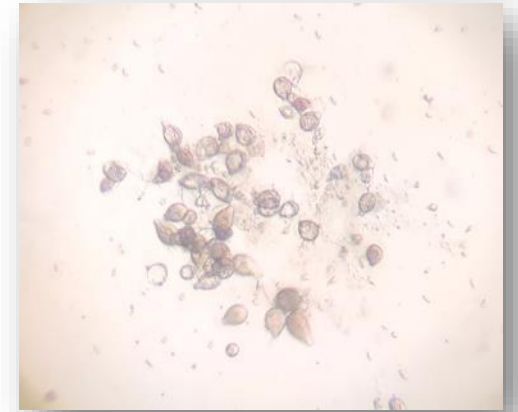
**NIAB EMR Pathology department** (Prof. Xiangming Xu, Dr Tom Passey, Joyce Robinson, Jennifer Kingsnorth)

**NIAB EMR Farm and Glasshouse Staff**

**Driscoll's Pathology team** (Dr Jenny Broome, Dr Kelly Ivors)

**Berry Gardens Growers Ltd.;** Richard Harnden, BG Agronomy team

**E-mail: [eithne.browne@niab.com](mailto:eithne.browne@niab.com)**



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University**



# Understanding the genetic basis of Ramularia disease resistance in barley

8th Annual BCPC DISEASES  
Review

19/10/2022

Laura Roehrig

Supervisors:

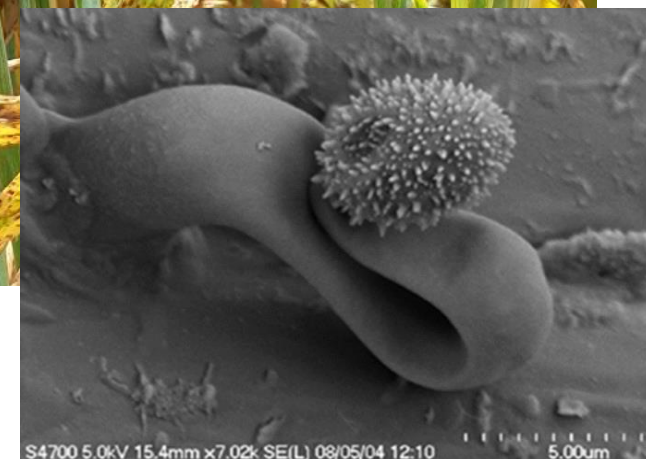
Francois Dussart, Joanne  
Russell Kelly Houston, James  
Brosnan, Steven Spoel, & Neil  
Havis





# Introduction to *Ramularia collo-cygni*

- Causative agent of *Ramularia* leaf spot (RLS) of barley
- Ascomycete fungus of the family *Mycosphaerellaceae* in the class Dothideomycetes
- Considered a threat to barley production since 1980's
- Outbreaks in all temperate regions worldwide
- Affects grain quality and can cause yield losses ranging between 20% to 70%





# How do we control RLS in Barley?

- Control mostly via foliar fungicide applications (QoI, SDHI, DMI)
- Resistance against QoI fungicides has quickly evolved in *R. collo-cygni* populations
- SDHI and DMI resistance reported in the UK and Germany
- Ban of the multisite active chlorothalonil in Europe
- No known source of plant genetic resistance to RLS



# Characterising genetic regions against resistance to RLS:

## Genome Wide Association Study

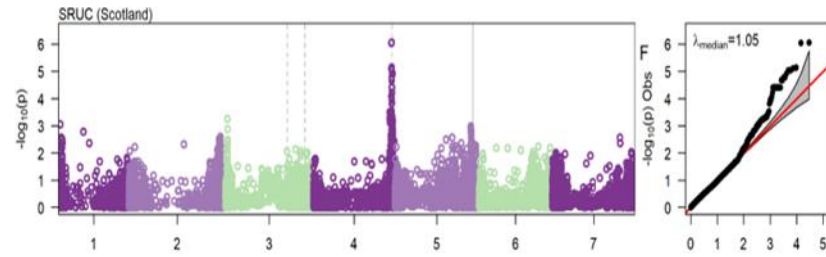
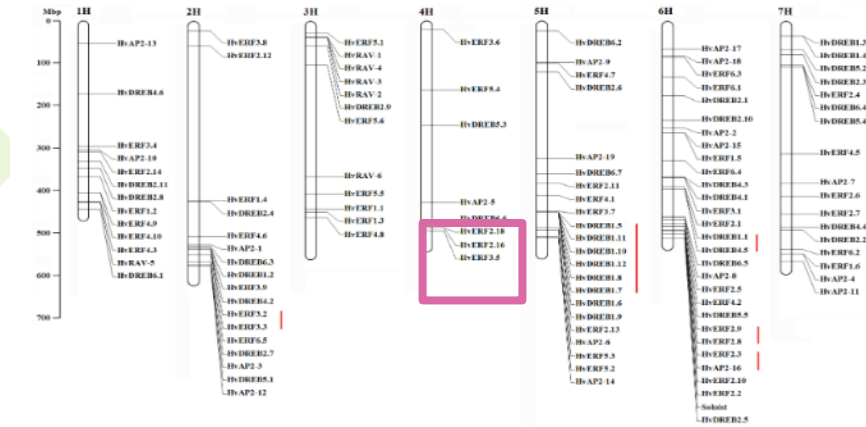


Fig. 1: Manhattan and Q-Q Plot of GWAS Study of 238 spring barley varieties.

# The Identification of ethylene-responsive genes (ERFs) in barley:



Guo, B., Wei, Y., Xu, R., Lin, S., Luan, H., Lv, C., ... & Xu, R. (2016). Genome-wide analysis of APETALA2/ethylene-responsive factor (AP2/ERF) gene family in barley (*Hordeum vulgare* L.). *PLoS One*, 11(9), e0161322.

## Future Work:

Characterising the gene expression of three identified ethylene-responsive genes in a subset of spring barley varieties



# Impact of ACC on Rcc-growth and development:

## Disease symptoms

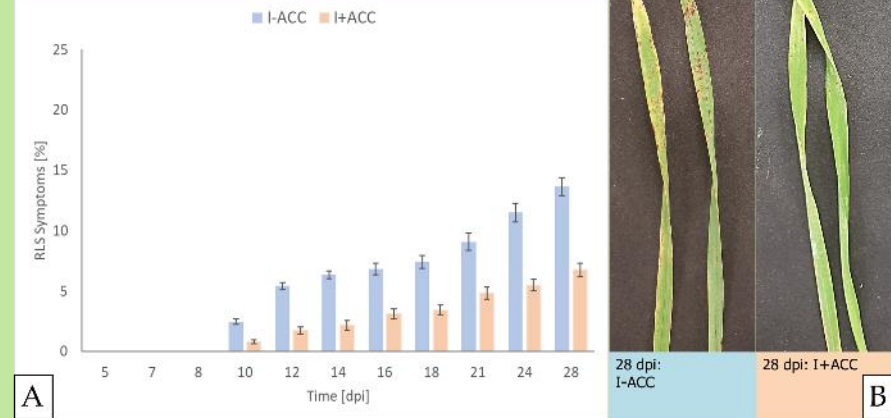


Fig. 2: *Ramularia* Leaf Spot Symptoms (RLS) post treatment with 10 mM ACC/H<sub>2</sub>O. I-ACC: Rcc-Inoculated plants treated with H<sub>2</sub>O as a control; I+ACC: Rcc-Inoculated plants treated with 10 mM 1-aminocyclopropane-1-carboxylic acid (ACC). A: Bar chart showing average RLS disease symptoms in percent per prophyll leaf area of 12 leaves and standard error. B: Pictures showing disease symptoms 28-days post inoculation.





Dr Neil Havis  
Prof Ian Bingham  
Dr Francois Dussart

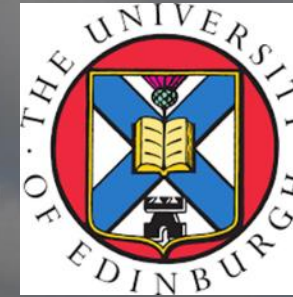
Hons Students:  
Izzy Hall  
Francesca Piatti

PhD Students:  
Emilio Balducci  
Diana Garzon



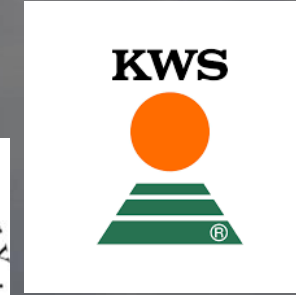
Prof James Brosnan  
Dr Frances Jack

Dr Joanne Russel  
Dr Kelly Houston



Prof Steven Spoel  
Dr Annis Richardson

Dr Klaus Oldach



Cov-19 PhD  
Impact Fund



Questions?  
Come and see  
my poster!



**ANASTASIA'S PRESENTATION WILL  
BE ADDED SHORTLY**

# **Early Detection and Spread of Tomato Powdery Mildew (TPM) in Commercial Glasshouses**

19<sup>th</sup> October 2022





# The Epidemiology and Management of *Cladosporium* on Raspberry

Lauren Farwell

Supervisors:

Prof. Xiangming Xu (NIAB @ East Malling)

Prof. Naresh Magan (Cranfield University)



# The Problem:

*Cladosporium* is an opportunistic pathogen of raspberries forming skin lesions when conditions are right making fruit unmarketable.

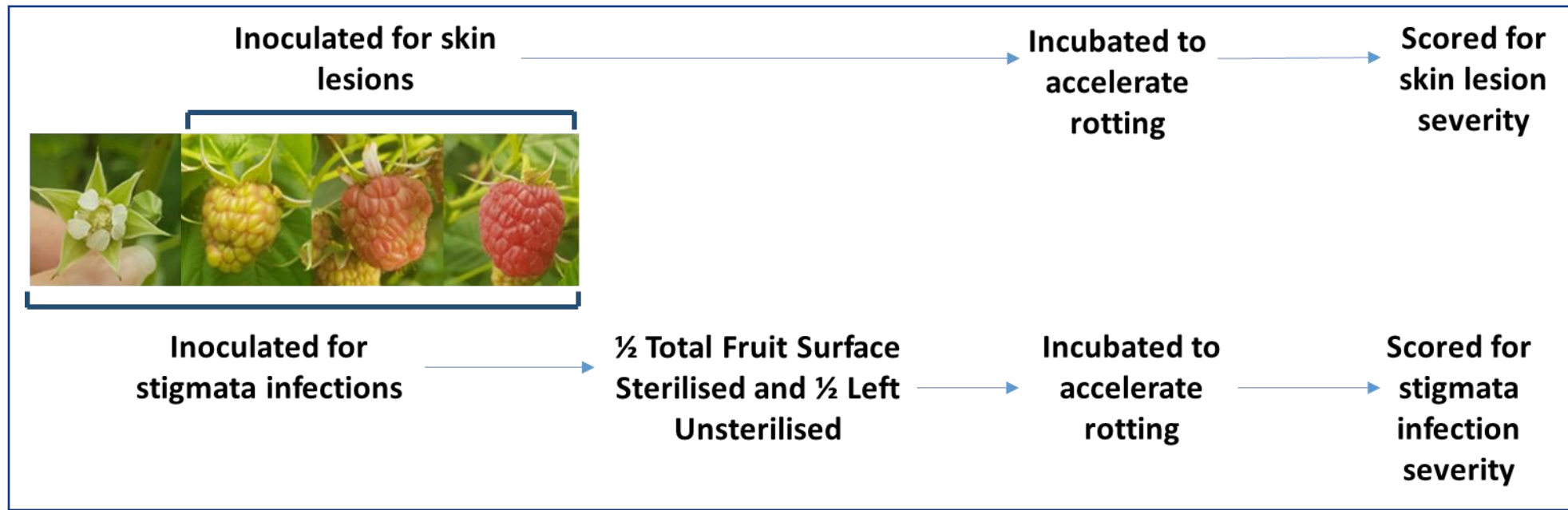


- *Cladosporium* infection and symptoms often appear close to harvest and can result in product rejections by suppliers.
- *Cladosporium* was present on over **50%** of fruit at one farm in Kent<sup>1</sup>.
- Currently only one other study has focused on *Cladosporium* on raspberries, and this was performed in the USA.



# What stages of fruit development are susceptible to *Cladosporium*?

- Previous work has shown ripening and ripe fruit are susceptible to skin lesions<sup>2</sup>, but no studies have investigated if green fruit are susceptible.
- As *Cladosporium* is a saprophyte, the dead stigmata may provide material for *Cladosporium* to colonise earlier in development.
- **Knowing when fruit are susceptible allows for better timing of control measures.**



# What stages of fruit development are susceptible to *Cladosporium*?

## Skin Lesion Susceptibility:

Green fruit were not susceptible to *Cladosporium* skin lesions. Ripe fruit are more susceptible to skin lesions than ripening fruit (odds ratio 2.04, S.E. 0.283).

## Stigmata Infection Susceptibility:

No significant difference in stigmata infection scores across fruit developmental stages (Wald  $X^2(3) = 7.08$ ,  $p = 0.069$ ).

- **All stages of development are susceptible to stigmata infections.**

There was significantly higher stigmata infection scores in unsterile fruit than sterile fruit (Wald  $X^2(1) = 160.5$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ).

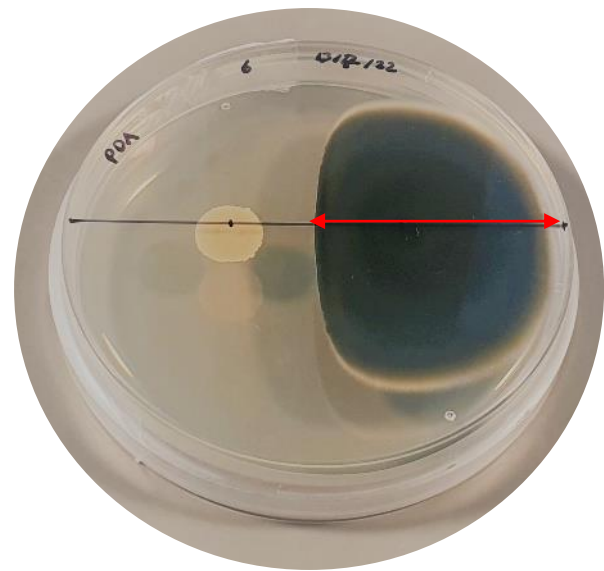
- ***Cladosporium* appears to colonise the surface of stigmata more than penetrating into the stigmata.**



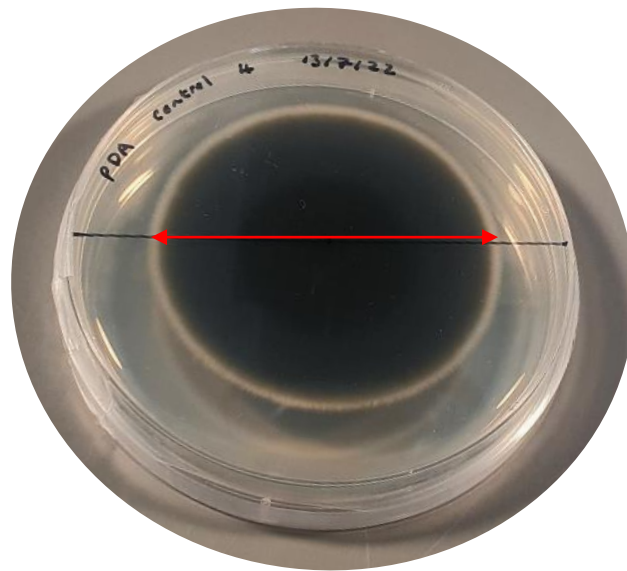


# Can Biological Control Agents be a Viable Management Strategy for *Cladosporium* on Raspberries?

As *Cladosporium* appears to mainly be colonising the surface of raspberries, BCAs may be a good option for control.



BCA Plate



Control Plate

- Two fungal BCAs on a Raspberry Agar-based Medium
- Three bacterial BCAs on LB agar/PDA Media
- Diameter of *Cladosporium* is recorded at 3 time points (days 2, 4 and 9 post BCA application).
- Minimum 9 plate replicates per BCA, N= 65).

# Can Biological Control Agents be a Viable Management Strategy for *Cladosporium* on Raspberries?

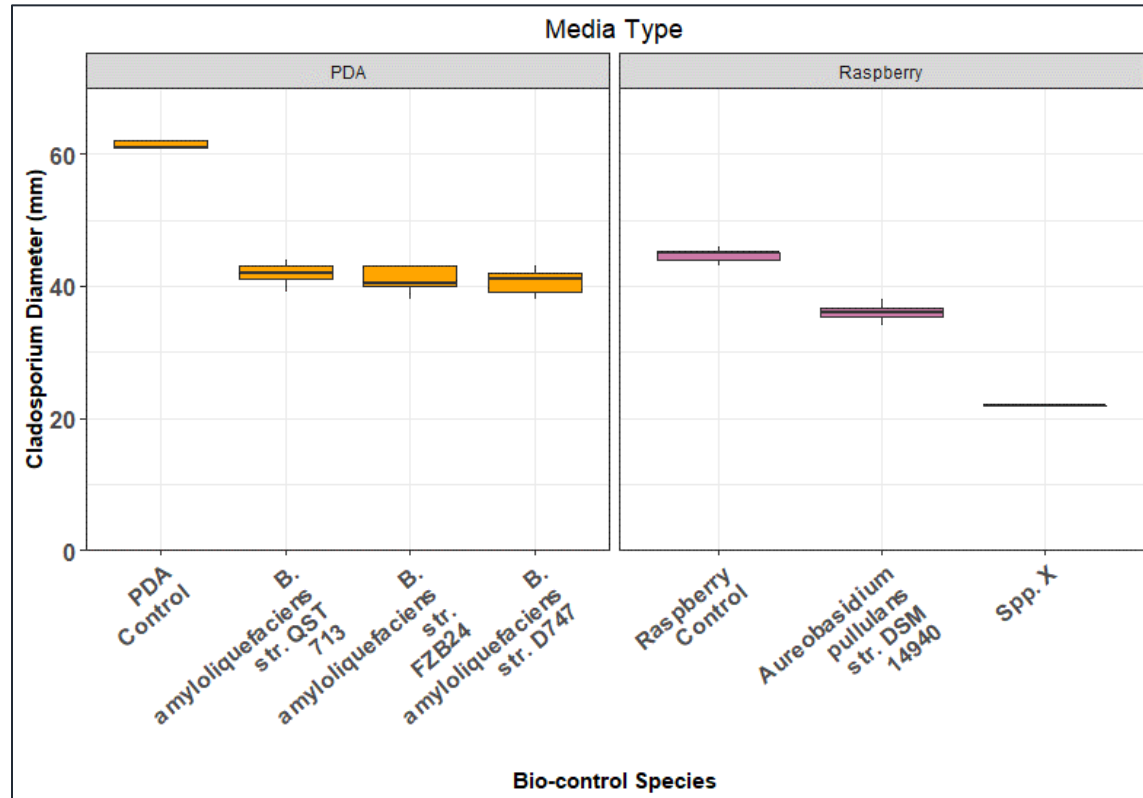


Fig. 1. The diameter of *Cladosporium* colonies on PDA/Raspberry Media 9 days post inoculation with a BCA.

- All BCAs caused a reduction in the growth of *Cladosporium* on media.
- The results are yet to be statistically analysed.
- This is a sterile environment. In reality, BCAs need to contend with a dynamic ecosystem to control disease.



# Acknowledgements:

- Prof. Xiangming Xu
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- Joyce Robinson



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