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NOTES

Vascular wilt in takamaka (*Calophyllum inophyllum*) and the bark beetle *Cryphalus trypanus*

M. Vielle

Department of Forestry, Ministry of Environment, PO Box 445, Victoria, Mahé,
SEYCHELLES

A recent study of the vascular wilt fungus *Verticillium calophylli* (Wiehe, 1949) (now considered to be in the genus *Leptographium*) infecting takamaka trees *Calophyllum inophyllum* L. in Seychelles identified the bark beetle *Cryphalus trypanus* Sampson, 1914 (Coleoptera: Scolytidae) as a vector of the pathogen (Wainhouse *et al.* 1998).

The beetle breeds in takamaka branches and is abundant in trees infected with vascular wilt, burrowing into leaf petiole scars and cut branches. The vascular wilt fungus was cultured from beetles collected from infected trees, identifying *C. trypanus* as the likely vector of the pathogen in Seychelles (Wainhouse *et al.* 1998).

C. trypanus is endemic to Seychelles (Beaver 1987) and has been recorded from Mahé, Silhouette and Marianne (Sampson 1914). It has previously been recorded breeding only in *Northea hornei* (M.M. Hartog) Pierre (Sampson 1914; Beaver 1987) 300m above sea level.

References

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