

Genus *Cytospora* (Diaporthales) in China

Xinlei Fan, Yingmei Liang, Chengming Tian

Beijing Forestry University, China

Members of the genus *Cytospora* are often reported as endophytes, saprobes or phytopathogens, primarily causing canker diseases. They occur on a wide range of hosts and have a worldwide distribution. Although several species have in the past been reported from China, the vast majority are not known from culture or DNA phylogeny. *The primary aim of the present study was thus to clarify the taxonomy and phylogeny of a large collection of Cytospora species associated with diverse hosts in China. Cytospora spp. were collected in northeast, northwest, north and southwest China, indicating that the cold and dry environments favour these fungi. In this study, we provide an assessment of 51 Cytospora spp. in China, focussing on 38 species represented by 88 isolates from 28 host genera. Based on a combination of morphology and a six-locus phylogeny (ITS, LSU, act, rpb2, tef1- α and tub2), 13 new species and one new combination are introduced. The majority of the species investigated here appear to be host-specific, although further collections and pathogenicity studies will be required to confirm this conclusion.*