

Summary

The mycelial growth, sporulation and sensitivity to the fungicide Benlate of a selected group of *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides*, the causal agent of anthracnose of *Stylosanthes*, collected from naturally occurring infection in different regions of South America were studied. The mycelial radial growth ranged from 11.6 to

40.8 mm after 7 days of culturing on oatmeal agar medium (OMA), with a significantly higher growth rate of most isolates collected in Carimagua, Colombia, a selection and breeding site for species of *Stylosanthes*. No significant difference in sporulation among 70 out of the 77 studied isolates was found. The sensitivity to Benlate, measured as mycelial radial growth after 7 days of culturing on OMA amended with 0.25 µg/ml Benlate—taking the radius as a percent of the control—ranged from 3.6% to 79.0% with a tendency to a higher sensitivity of the isolates collected in Carimagua. The results confirm the high variability of the South American population of the pathogen.