



Biotecnia

E-ISSN: 1665-1456

biotecnia@ciencias.uson.mx

Universidad de Sonora

México

Rivas Garcia, Tomas; Hernandez Montiel, Luis Guillermo; Murillo Amador, Bernardo;
Nieto Garibay, Alejandra; Chiquito Contreras, Roberto Gregorio; Rincon Enriquez, Gabriel
IDENTIFICATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF *Fusarium* spp. FROM MUSKMELON
IN NORTHWEST MEXICO

Biotecnia, vol. 20, núm. 3, septiembre-diciembre, 2018, pp. 71-75
Universidad de Sonora

Available in: <https://www.redalyc.org/articulo.oa?id=672971088010>

- How to cite
- Complete issue
- More information about this article
- Journal's homepage in redalyc.org

redalyc.org

Scientific Information System

Network of Scientific Journals from Latin America, the Caribbean, Spain and Portugal

Non-profit academic project, developed under the open access initiative

IDENTIFICATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF *Fusarium* spp. FROM MUSKMELON IN NORTHWEST MEXICO

IDENTIFICACIÓN Y CARACTERIZACIÓN DE *Fusarium* spp EN MELÓN CULTIVADO EN EL NOROESTE DE MÉXICO

Tomas Rivas García¹, Luis Guillermo Hernandez Montiel^{1*}, Bernardo Murillo Amador^{1*}, Alejandra Nieto Garibay¹, Roberto Gregorio Chiquito Contreras² and Gabriel Rincon Enriquez³

¹ Centro de Investigaciones Biológicas del Noroeste, Av. Instituto Politécnico Nacional 195, Playa Palo de Santa Rita Sur, CP 23096, La Paz, Baja California Sur, México.

² Facultad de Ciencias Agrícolas, Universidad Veracruzana, Circuito Gonzalo Aguirre Beltrán s/n, Zona Universitaria, CP 91090, Xalapa, Veracruz, México.

³ Centro de Investigación y Asistencia en Tecnología y Diseño del Estado de Jalisco, Av. Normalistas 800, Colinas de la Normal, CP 44270, Guadalajara, Jalisco, México.

ABSTRACT

Muskmelon (*Cucumis melo* L.) is a primary crop of Mexico. Nevertheless, the fruit has a high susceptibility to postharvest fungal diseases. *Fusarium* species are one of the main causes of diseases that limit production of muskmelon. The objective of this study was to characterize and identify by taxonomic keys and molecular markers species of *Fusarium* related to rot of muskmelon var. *Reticulatus* in Northwest Mexico. To identify the causative agent, fruits were collected from cultivated fields. The isolated fungi were inoculated on muskmelon to determine its pathogenicity. Morphological analyses as well as molecular techniques confirmed that the pathogen was the fungus *Fusarium proliferatum*.

Keywords: Muskmelon, *Fusarium* spp., *Fusarium proliferatum*, Molecular identification.

RESUMEN

El melón (*Cucumis melo* L.) es uno de los principales cultivos en México. Sin embargo, la fruta tiene una alta susceptibilidad a enfermedades fúngicas a nivel de poscosecha. Algunas especies de *Fusarium* son las causantes de enfermedades que limitan la producción de melón. Los objetivos de este estudio fueron caracterizar e identificar por medio de claves taxonómicas y marcadores moleculares las especies de *Fusarium* relacionadas con la pudrición de melón var. *Reticulatus* en el noroeste de México. Para identificar al agente causante, se colectaron frutos de campo provenientes de huertas comerciales. Los hongos aislados se inocularon en melón para determinar su patogenicidad. El análisis morfológico y las técnicas moleculares confirmaron que el patógeno fue el hongo *Fusarium proliferatum*.

Palabras clave: Melón, *Fusarium* spp., *Fusarium proliferatum*, Identificación molecular.

INTRODUCTION

Muskmelon (*Cucumis melo* L.) is one of the most economically important fruit crops of Mexico with production close to 560,000 tons produced in approximately 22,000 ha

(Vargas-Gonzalez *et al.*, 2016). The Northwestern region of Mexico stands out as the most important producer of muskmelon var. *Inodorus* and *Reticulatus* (Arellano *et al.*, 2017). However, despite its economic importance, production of this crop is limited because the fruit has a high susceptibility to fungal diseases, causing a reduction in postharvest life and consequently decreasing commercialization availability (Guo *et al.*, 2007). The most common pathogens of muskmelon are *Alternaria cucumerina*, *A. Alternaria*, *Fusarium* spp., *Sphaerotheca fuliginea*, *Trichothecium roseum*, among others (Bi *et al.*, 2006; Chew-Madinaveitia *et al.*, 2008; Wang *et al.*, 2010).

It has been identified that the postharvest rot caused by *Fusarium* species is one of the major diseases limiting production of muskmelon (Yuan *et al.*, 2013; Mahdikhani and Davoodi, 2016). Furthermore, *Fusarium* spp. produce toxins that affect not only the quality of melons but of all food in general, as well as causing human health problems (Leslie and Summerell, 2006; Sui *et al.*, 2014). *Fusarium* species are generally identified based on phenotypic characteristics (Booth, 1971; Gerlach and Nirenberg, 1982; Nelson *et al.*, 1994), however, some species of this plant pathogen can be morphologically similar, which can confuse and make identification through traditional methods difficult (Summerell *et al.*, 2010; Aoki *et al.*, 2014).

The use of molecular techniques to complement the identification of *Fusarium* spp. facilitates phylogenetic identification and improves accuracy in identifying different species (Li *et al.*, 2016; Wang *et al.*, 2016; Araujo *et al.*, 2017). Among the most common PCR based techniques used for identification of *Fusarium* spp. are Random Amplified Polymorphic DNA (RAPD) (Singha *et al.*, 2016), Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism (RFLP) (Zarrin *et al.*, 2016), Internal Transcript Spacer (ITS) (Ghaffar *et al.*, 2016), Intergenic Space (IGS) (Peltomaa *et al.*, 2016), Elongation Factor (TEF-1- α) (Arif *et al.*, 2012), tubulin (β -Tub) (Wang *et al.*, 2014), and Inter-Simple Sequence Repeat (ISSR) (Moncrief *et al.*, 2016).

Timely identification of any causal agent of disease permits establishing the best management plan for crop plants and a possible improvement in selection programs

*Autores para correspondencia: Luis Guillermo Hernandez Montiel
Correo electrónico: lhernandez@cibnor.mx

Recibido: 08 de febrero de 2018

Aceptado: 29 de marzo de 2018

to find the best plant tolerant varieties to diseases (Cunniffe *et al.*, 2015; Martinelli *et al.*, 2015; Ray *et al.*, 2017). Therefore, the objective of this study was to (i) characterize the aggressiveness of the various isolates of *Fusarium* spp. on fruits of muskmelon var. *Reticulatus* and (ii) determine their identity by molecular markers.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Isolation of *Fusarium* spp

The fungi were isolated from rot caused by *Fusarium* spp. in fruits of muskmelon var. *Reticulatus* that were cultivated in a commercial orchard located in Todos Santos, Baja California Sur, Mexico at latitude: 23.45° and longitude: -110.23°. Isolates were performed from the infected part of the fruit, taking segments that were 0.5 cm² which were disinfected by washing with 1% (v/v) sodium hypochlorite for 3 min and then washed two times with sterile distilled water. Segments were deposited in Petri dishes with potato dextrose agar medium (PDA, at a dose of 39 g/L) mixed with 0.5% Bactrol 2 × (streptomycin at 18.5%, oxytetracycline hydrochloride at 2%). All culture dishes were incubated at 28°C for 10 days. Pure cultures were obtained from hyphal tips and each pure fungus isolated was maintained on PDA Petri dishes and slants at 4°C.

Pathogenicity test

Muskmelon var. *Reticulatus* fruit was selected after reaching commercial maturity and disinfected by washing with 1% (v/v) sodium hypochlorite for 3 min and washed with sterile distilled water. Four equidistant 2-mm wounds in diameter were performed in each fruit, and inoculated with 10 µL of a suspension adjusted to 1 × 10⁶ spores/mL of each phytopathogenic fungus isolated. As control, a fruit group was wounded and inoculated only with sterile distilled water. Five fruits were used per treatment and the experiment was repeated twice. The muskmelons were deposited in sterilized plastic containers and stored at 27°C and 90% RH for 7 days to determine disease incidence (incidence (%) = Fi/Tf (100) where Fi = number of infected fruit and Tf = total fruit) and lesion size in mm. Each phytopathogenic fungus of the damaged fruit was re-isolated in Petri dishes with PDA, to confirm Koch's postulates.

Micrographs

Tissue sample of 0.5 cm² were collected from fruit inoculated with each phytopathogenic fungi and fixed in glutaraldehyde at 2% (v/v) for 5 min. After that, each sample was washed with sterile distilled water and partially dehydrated in an ethanol gradient (30, 50, 70, 80, 95 and 100%) for 20 min. Critical point drying was carried out with CO₂ and samples were subjected to a bath of gold coating. Samples were examined by scanning electron microscopy (SEM) (Hitachi®, S-3000N).

Morphological identification

The fungi isolates were cultured in PDA and carnation leaf agar (CLA, at a dose of 10 g/mL) at 28°C for 7 days

(Schroers *et al.*, 2016). The morphological characteristics of each fungus were determined using taxonomic keys described by Booth (1971), Gerlach and Nirenberg (1982) and Nelson *et al.* (1994).

Molecular identification

The fungi isolates were cultured in potato dextrose broth (PDB, at a dose of 39 g/L) at 27°C for 7 days. DNA extraction was performed following the method of Ochoa *et al.* (2007). For identification of each fungus, the region ITS1-5.8S-ITS4 of rRNA was amplified using primers ITS1 (5'-TCCGTAG-GTGAACCCTGCGG-3') and ITS4 (5'-TCCTCCGCTTATTGATAT-GC-3') (White *et al.*, 1990). For the amplification of the tubulin (β-Tub), primers BT3 (5'-CGTCTAGAGGTACCCATACCGGCA-3') and BT5 (5'-GCTCTAGACTGCTTTCTGGCAGACC-3') (Tooley *et al.*, 2001). Finally, the amplification of the elongation factor (TEF-1-α) with primers EF-1α (5'-ATGGGTAAGGAAG-ACAAGAC-3') and EF2 (5'-GGAAGTACCAGTGATCATGTT-3') (O'Donnell *et al.*, 1998). The PCR protocol was performed as follows: mix reaction (25 µL) consisted of 1X Buffer, 1.5 mM MgCl₂, 1 µM of each set of primers, 0.2 mM dNTPs, 1 µL of DNA and 0.04 U µL⁻¹ Platinum Taq polymerase (Invitrogen). All reactions were performed in a thermocycler (iCycler Bio-Rad, Model T100) with the following parameters: preheating 3 min at 95°C, followed by 30 cycles of denaturation at 95°C for 1 min, 30 sec alignment at 58, 52 and 55°C for ITS, EF1-α and BT, respectively; an extension for 45s at 72°C and a final extension of 72°C for 10 min. The PCR products were separated by electrophoresis in agarose gel 1% and visualized under UV trans-illuminator. All PCR products were purified with the QIAquick (Qiagen) kit and sequenced (Genewiz, New Jersey, USA). The ITS1-5.8S-ITS4, β-Tub and TEF-1-α regions of each fungus isolated were compared to sequences from type strains held in GenBank DNA database using Basic Local Alignment Search Tool BLAST.

Phylogenetic analysis

To study the evolutionary relationship between different members of the species complex *F. proliferatum*, a phylogenetic analysis using MEGA 6.0 (Tamura *et al.*, 2013) was performed. ITS marker for a selection of relevant sequences was performed in the literature and obtained by a BLAST search. The method used was maximum parsimony. Clade was inferred based on 1000 bootstrap replicates. Strains of *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *melonis* (AY354393.1) is representative of complex species in the genus that cause rot in melon. *Fusarium foetens* (KF467433.1) was used as the out-group.

Statistical analysis

The data were processed by one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA). Statistical data analyses were performed using the software program Statistica 6.0 (StatSoft software package, Tulsa, OK), and the post hoc least significant difference Fisher test ($p \leq .05$) was used for comparison of the means. Data for disease incidence of fruit were transformed into the arcsine square root values to normalize distribution before analysis of variance.

RESULTS

Pathogenicity of *Fusarium* spp

Five fungi were isolated from muskmelon fruit with rot and catalogued as FMP1, FMP2, FMP3, FMP4 and FMP7 (Table 1). Fruit rot was evident by the second day after inoculation with each fungus. The fruits showed color changes from dark brown, with thickening of tissue, dry fluffy exocarp was observed, to white coloration and slightly pink. At the advanced stages of rot, cracks or fissures formed on the shell with abundant white aerial mycelium. These symptoms correspond to rot caused by *Fusarium* spp. in muskmelon. In the pathogenicity test, all fungus produced 100% disease incidence. As for the lesion diameter, the muskmelons inoculated with FMP2 strain showed a greater lesion size.

Table 1. Pathogenicity test of *Fusarium* spp. on muskmelon var. Reticulatus.

Tabla 1. Prueba de patogenicidad de *Fusarium* spp. en melón var. Reticulatus.

Strain	Disease incidence	Lesion size (mm)
FMP1	100% a*	17.78 d
FMP2	100% a	27.05 a
FMP3	100% a	19.65 c
FMP4	100% a	15.14 e
FMP7	100% a	21.86 b

*Means followed by the same letter in the column do not significantly differ from each other according to least significant difference test ($p < .05$).

Morphological identification of *Fusarium* spp

Five days after incubation, all fungus development white mycelium that covered the entire plate and produced a violet pigment in PDA and CLA medium. The fungi produced hyaline mycelium, white color, dense and aerial, slim macroconidia with a length of 22-29 μm and a width of 4.3-6.5 μm , with a curved apical cell with 3-5 septa. Microconidia had a length of 6.78 to 8.44 μm and a width of 2.43 to 3.12 μm , without septa forming any aggregates. Chlamydospores were observed (Fig. 1). These characteristics observed in the fungi isolated confirm the identification of *Fusarium* spp.

Molecular identification and phylogenetic analysis

PCR products of approximately ≈ 600 , 500 and 800 bp in size for ITS1-5.8S-ITS4, β -Tub and TEF-1- α regions were obtained, respectively. All fungi isolated (FMP1, FMP2, FMP3, FMP7 and FMP4) were identified as *F. proliferatum*. The phylogenetic tree obtained based on the sequences of *F. proliferatum* within the ITS1-5.8S-ITS4 region after alignment, showed that fungi isolated belong to the same clade (Fig. 2). In comparing these sequences with others of the same species, the strains FMP1, FMP2, FMP3, FMP7 and FMP4 form a distinct pathogenic clade to the consensus sequences, indicating that the phytopathogenic fungi isolated are species-specific.

DISCUSSION

Although *F. proliferatum* have been reported as a pathogen of maize (Nguyen *et al.*, 2016), soy (Chang *et al.*,

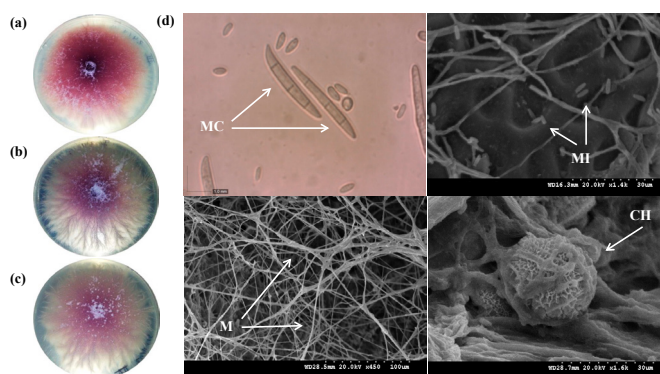


Figure 1. Identification of *Fusarium* spp. Morphological characteristics of FMP1 strain (a), FMP3 strain (b) and FMP7 strain (c) of *Fusarium* cultured in PDA at 28°C for 7 days. Microscopic characteristic of FMP1 strain of *Fusarium* (d), macroconidia [MC], microconidia [MI], mycelium [M] and chlamydospore [CH].

Figura 1. Identificación de *Fusarium* spp. Características morfológicas de la cepa FMP1(a), FMP3 (b) y FMP7 (c) de *Fusarium* cultivado en PDA a 28°C por 7 días. Característica microscópica de la cepa FMP1 de *Fusarium* (d), macroconidios [MC], microconidios [MI], micelio [M] y clamidosporas [CH].

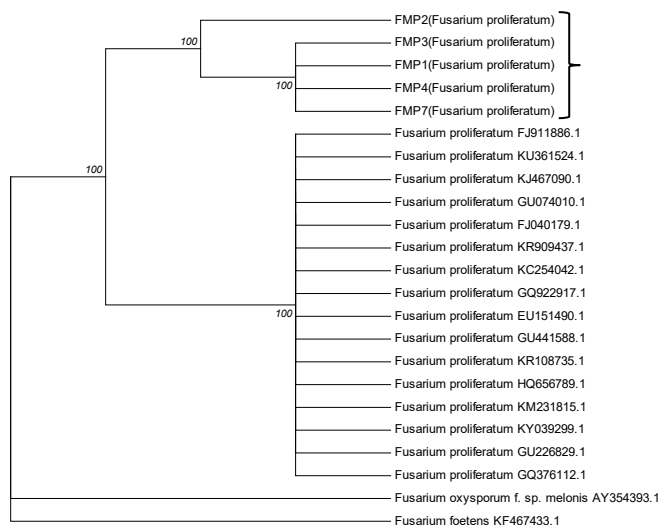


Figure 2. Maximum-parsimony phylogram of FMP1, FMP2, FMP3, FMP4 and FMP7 nucleotide fragments obtained from *Fusarium proliferatum* strains in comparison with corresponding *Fusarium* spp. sequences from the database (indicated by accession numbers). Bootstrap values ($n = 1000$ repetitions).

Figura 2. Filograma de máxima parsimonia de fragmentos de nucleótidos de FMP1, FMP2, FMP3, FMP4 y FMP7 obtenidos a partir de cepas de *Fusarium proliferatum* en comparación con secuencias de la base de datos de *Fusarium* spp. (indicadas por los números de acceso). Valores de Bootstrap ($n = 1000$ repeticiones).

2015), garlic (Dugan *et al.*, 2003), tomato (Gao *et al.*, 2016), pineapple (Stępień *et al.*, 2011), onion (Carrieri *et al.*, 2013), among others, this is the first report of *F. proliferatum* infecting muskmelon var. Reticulatus in Northwestern Mexico. The identification of genus and species of *Fusarium* spp. was carried out through phenotypic characteristics and different molecular markers (Booth, 1971; Gerlach and Nirenberg, 1982; Nelson *et al.*, 1994). Even though the molecular identification of fungi is based on genomic regions as the internal transcribed spacer region (ITS) (Schoch *et al.*, 2012; Blaali

et al., 2013), many species of *Fusarium* contain orthologous regions making the identification unreliable through the use of only the ITS region. Some coding regions of nuclear genes have elongation factor 1- α (TEF-1- α) and tubulin (β -Tub), that allow for identification of *Fusarium* species because they contain only a single copy in its genus and it has high polymorphism even in species relatively close genetically (Geiser *et al.*, 2004; Kroon *et al.*, 2004). Regions such as ITS, TEF-1- α and β -Tub, are currently more utilized for identifying the various species of *Fusarium* (O'Donnell *et al.*, 2015; Stakheev *et al.*, 2016; Araújo *et al.*, 2017).

The results of pathogenicity tests showed that *F. proliferatum* is a fungus capable of infecting muskmelons on average within two days, so its quick and timely identification, will allow for better monitoring and optimization strategies for disease control (Araújo *et al.*, 2017). Early and accurate detection of phytopathogenic through phenotypic taxonomy methods and PCR techniques are used routinely in plant pathology laboratories, improves the quantity and quality of food through the implementation of various strategies to control plant diseases (Sanzani *et al.*, 2014). Although rot caused by *Fusarium* spp. has been controlled with synthetic fungicides, the use of biocontrol agents and plant extracts can be an efficient alternative for the control of various species of *Fusarium* (Zhao *et al.*, 2013; Gopi and Thangavelu, 2014; Vargas-Gonzalez *et al.*, 2016).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The authors are thankful and recognize CONACYT for providing financial support with SEP-CONACYT project 181972, Problemas Nacionales project 2015-01-352 and the CONACYT fellowship grant awarded to T. Rivas Garcia; and we also recognize the help provided by Ernesto Diaz for his excellent technical assistance and to M. Córdoba-Matson for editorial services. **Dr. Luis Guillermo Hernandez Montiel and Dr. Bernardo Murillo Amador are co-director of the doctoral thesis of the student Tomas Rivas Garcia.**

REFERENCES

- Aoki, T., O'Donnell, K. y Geiser, D.M. 2014. Systematics of key phytopathogenic *Fusarium* species: current status and future challenges. *Journal of General Plant Pathology*. 80: 189-201.
- Araújo, N.A.F., Pasqual, M., Pio, L.A.S., Alves, E., Matos, N., Moura, N. y Costa, S.D.S. 2017. Identification and aggressiveness of four isolates of *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *cubense* from Latundan banana in Brazil. *Journal of Phytopathology*. 165: 257-264.
- Arif, M., Chawla, S., Zaidi, M.W., Rayar, J.K., Variar, M. y Singh, U.S. 2012. Development of specific primers for genus *Fusarium* and *F. solani* using rDNA sub-unit and transcription elongation factor (TEF-1 α) gene. *African Journal of Biotechnology*. 11: 444-447.
- Arellano, J.D.J.E., Menchaca, A.R., Ramos L.A.G. y Chavarría, S.L. 2017. Strategies, alliances and business portfolio to develop melon competitiveness in the Comarca Lagunera, Mexico. *Nova Scientia*. 9: 1-23.

- Bi, Y., Ge, Y.H., Li, Y.C., Wang, J.J., Mao, X.Y. y Li, X.W. 2006. Postharvest acibenzolar-S-methyl treatment suppresses decay and induces resistance in Hami melon. *Acta Horticulturae*. 1: 393-399.
- Blaalid, R., Kumar, S., Nilsson, R.H., Abarenkov, K., Kirk, P.M. y Kausarud, H. 2013. ITS1 versus ITS2 as DNA metabarcodes for fungi. *Molecular Ecology Resources*. 13: 218-224.
- Booth, C. 1971. The genus *Fusarium*. Commonwealth Mycological Institute, Kew.
- Carrieri, R., Raimo, F., Pentangelo, A. y Lahoz, E. 2013. *Fusarium proliferatum* and *Fusarium tricinctum* as causal agents of pink rot of onion bulbs and the effect of soil solarization combined with compost amendment in controlling their infections in field. *Crop Protection*. 43: 31-37.
- Chang, K.F., Hwang, S.F., Conner, R.L., Ahmed, H.U., Zhou, Q., Turnbull, G.D., Strelkov, S.E., McLaren, D.L. y Gossen, B.D. 2015. First report of *Fusarium proliferatum* causing root rot in soybean (*Glycine max* L.) in Canada. *Crop Protection*. 67: 52-58.
- Chew-Madinaveitia, Y.L., Vega-Piña, A., Palomo-Rodríguez, M. y Jiménez-Díaz, F. 2008. Main melon (*Cucumis melo* L.) diseases at different planting dates in the region Lagunera, Mexico. *Revista Chapingo Serie Zonas Áridas*. 7: 133-138.
- Cunniffe, N.J., Koskella, B., Metcalf, C.J.E., Parnell, S., Gottwald, T.R. y Gilligan, C.A. 2015. Thirteen challenges in modelling plant diseases. *Epidemics*. 10: 6-10.
- Dugan, F.M., Hellier, B.C. y Lupien, S.L. 2003. First report of *Fusarium proliferatum* causing rot of garlic bulbs in North America. *Plant Pathology*. 52: 426.
- Gao, J., Wang, J., Yang, C., Wang, Y., Yang, L.N. y Lu, B.H. 2017. *Fusarium proliferatum*, a new pathogen causing *Codonopsis lanceolata* root rot in China. *Plant Disease*. 101: 1679.
- Geiser, D.M., Jiménez-Gasco, M., Kang, S., Makalowska, I., Veeraraghavan, N., Ward, T.J. y O'Donnell, K. 2004. FUSARIUM-ID v. 1.0: a DNA sequence database for identifying *Fusarium*. *European Journal of Plant Pathology*. 110: 473-479.
- Gerlach, W. y Nirenberg, H.I. 1982. The genus *Fusarium*-a pictorial atlas. *Mitteilungen aus der Biologischen Bundesanstalt Land Forstwirtschaft Berlin-Dahlem*. 209: 1-406.
- Ghaffar, R., Anwar, W., Imtiaz, K., Shafiq, M., Subhani, M.N. y Haider, M.S. 2016. Diversity of internal transcribed spacer (ITS) region of *Fusarium* isolates in Pakistan. *Journal of Animal and Plant Sciences*. 26: 1368-1373.
- Gopi, M. y Thangavelu, R. 2014. Suppression of *Fusarium* wilt disease of banana by Zimmu (*Allium cepa* L. x *Allium sativum* L.) leaf extract. *African Journal of Microbiology Research*. 8: 2904-2915.
- Guo, Y., Liu, L., Zhao, J. y Bi, Y. 2007. Use of silicon oxide and sodium silicate for controlling *Trichothecium roseum* postharvest rot in Chinese cantaloupe (*Cucumis melo* L.). *International Journal of Food Science and Technology*. 42: 1012-1018.
- Kroon, L.P.N.M., Bakker, F.T., Van Den Bosch, G.B.M., Bonants, P.J.M. y Flier, W.G. 2004. Phylogenetic analysis of *Phytophthora* species based on mitochondrial and nuclear DNA sequences. *Fungal Genetics and Biology*. 41: 766-782.
- Leslie, J.F. y Summerell, B.A. 2006. The *Fusarium* laboratory manual. Ames, Iowa, USA. John Wiley & Sons.
- Li, H.L., Yuan, H.X., Fu, B., Xing, X.P., Sun, B.J. y Tang, W.H. 2016. First report of *Fusarium pseudograminearum* causing crown rot of wheat in Henan, China. *Plant Disease*. 100: 220.

- Mahdikhani, M. y Davoodi, A. 2016. Evaluation of biocontrol potential of rhizosphere antagonist bacterial strains on *Fusarium* wilt and plant growth in muskmelon plants. *American-Eurasian Journal of Sustainable Agriculture*. 10: 15-23.
- Martinelli, F., Scalenghe, R., Davino, S., Panno, S., Scuderi, G., Ruisi, P., Villa, P., Stroppiana, D., Boschetti, M., Goulart, L.R., Davis, C.E. y Dandekar, A.M. 2015. Advanced methods of plant disease detection. A review. *Agronomy for Sustainable Development*. 35: 1-25.
- Moncrief, I., Garzon, C., Marek, S., Stack, J., Gamliel, A., Garrido, P., Proaño, F., Gard, M., Dehne, H. y Fletcher, J. 2016. Development of simple sequence repeat (SSR) markers for discrimination among isolates of *Fusarium proliferatum*. *Journal of Microbiological Methods*. 126: 12-17.
- Nelson, P.E., Dignani, M.C. y Anaissie, E.J. 1994. Taxonomy, biology, and clinical aspects of *Fusarium* species. *Clinical Microbiology Reviews*. 7: 479-504.
- Nguyen, T.T.X., Dehne, H.W. y Steiner, U. 2016. Histopathological assessment of the infection of maize leaves by *Fusarium graminearum*, *F. proliferatum*, and *F. verticillioides*. *Fungal Biology*. 120: 1094-1104.
- O'Donnell, K., Kistler, H.C., Cigelnik, E. y Ploetz, R.C. 1998. Multiple evolutionary origins of the fungus causing Panama disease of banana: concordant evidence from nuclear and mitochondrial gene genealogies. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 95: 2044-2049.
- O'Donnell, K., Ward, T.J., Robert, V.A., Crous, P.W., Geiser, D.M. y Kang, S. 2015. DNA sequence-based identification of *Fusarium*: current status and future directions. *Phytoparasitica*. 43: 583-595.
- Ochoa, J.L., Hernández-Montiel, L.G., Latisnere-Barragán, H., de La Luz, J.L. y Larralde-Corona, C.P. 2007. Isolation and identification of pathogenic fungi from orange *Citrus sinensis* L. Osbeck cultured in Baja California Sur, Mexico. *CYTA-Journal of Food*. 5: 352-359.
- Peltomaa, R., Vaghini, S., Patiño, B., Benito-Peña, E. y Moreno-Bondi, M.C. 2016. Species-specific optical genosensors for the detection of mycotoxigenic *Fusarium* fungi in food samples. *Analytica Chimica Acta*. 935: 231-238.
- Ray, M., Ray, A., Dash, S., Mishra, A., Achary, K.G., Nayak, S. y Singh, S. 2017. Fungal disease detection in plants: Traditional assays, novel diagnostic techniques and biosensors. *Biosensors and Bioelectronics*. 87: 708-723.
- Sanzani, S.M., Li Destri Nicosia, M.G., Faedda, R., Cacciola, S.O. y Schena, L. 2014. Use of quantitative PCR detection methods to study biocontrol agents and phytopathogenic fungi and oomycetes in environmental samples. *Journal of Phytopathology*. 162: 1-13.
- Schoch, C.L., Seifert, K.A., Huhndorf, S., Robert, V., Spouge, J.L., Levesque, C.A. y Miller, A.N. 2012. Nuclear ribosomal internal transcribed spacer (ITS) region as a universal DNA barcode marker for fungi. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 109: 6241-6246.
- Schroers, H.J., Samuels, G.J., Zhang, N., Short, D.P., Juba, J. y Geiser, D.M. 2016. Epitypification of *Fusisporium* (*Fusarium*) *solani* and its assignment to a common phylogenetic species in the *Fusarium solani* species complex. *Mycologia*. 108: 806-819.
- Singha, I.M., Kakoty, Y., Unni, B.G., Das, J. y Kalita, M.C. 2016. Identification and characterization of *Fusarium* sp. using ITS and RAPD causing fusarium wilt of tomato isolated from Assam, North East India. *Journal of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology*. 14: 99-105.
- Sui, Y., Droby, S., Zhang, D., Wang, W. y Liu, Y. 2014. Reduction of *Fusarium* rot and maintenance of fruit quality in melon using eco-friendly hot water treatment. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*. 21: 13956-13963.
- Stakheev, A.A., Khairulina, D.R. y Zavriev, S.K. 2016. Four-locus phylogeny of *Fusarium avenaceum* and related species and their species-specific identification based on partial phosphate permease gene sequences. *International Journal of Food Microbiology*. 225: 27-37.
- Stępień, Ł., Koczyk, G. y Waśkiewicz, A. 2011. Genetic and phenotypic variation of *Fusarium proliferatum* isolates from different host species. *Journal of Applied Genetics*. 52: 487-496.
- Summerell, B.A., Laurence, M.H., Liew, E.C. y Leslie, J.F. 2010. Biogeography and phylogeography of *Fusarium*: a review. *Fungal Diversity*. 44: 3-13.
- Tamura, K., Stecher, G., Peterson, D., Filipski, A. y Kumar, S. 2013. MEGA6: molecular evolutionary genetics analysis version 6.0. *Molecular Biology and Evolution*. 30: 2725-2729.
- Tooley, P.W., Goley, E.D., Carras, M.M., Frederick, R.D. y Weber, E.L. 2001. Characterization of *Claviceps* species pathogenic on sorghum by sequence analysis of the β -tubulin gene intron 3 region and EF-1 α gene intron 4. *Mycologia*. 93: 541-551.
- Vargas-González, G., Álvarez-Reyna, V.D.P., Guigón-López, C., Cano-Ríos, P., Jiménez-Díaz, F., Vásquez-Arroyo, J. y García-Carrillo, M. 2016. Pattern of use high risk pesticides in the crop of melon (*Cucumis melo* L.) in the Comarca Lagunera. *Ecosistemas y Recursos Agropecuarios*. 3: 367-378.
- Wang, Y., Xu, Z., Zhu, P., Liu, Y., Zhang, Z., Mastuda, Y. y Xu, L. 2010. Postharvest biological control of melon pathogens using *Bacillus subtilis* EXWB1. *Journal of Plant Pathology*. 92: 645-652.
- Wang, J.H., Zhang, J.B., Li, H.P., Gong, A.D., Xue, S., Agboola, R.S. y Liao, Y.C. 2014. Molecular identification, mycotoxin production and comparative pathogenicity of *Fusarium temperatum* isolated from maize in China. *Journal of Phytopathology*. 162: 147-157.
- Wang, R.Y., Gao, B., Li, X.H., Ma, J. y Chen, S.L. 2016. First report of *Fusarium solani* causing *Fusarium* root rot and stem canker on storage roots of sweet potato in China. *Plant Disease*. 100: 650.
- White, T.J., Bruns, T.D., Lee, S.B. y Taylor, J.W. 1990. Amplification and direct sequencing of fungal ribosomal RNA genes for phylogenetics. In: Innis M.A., Gelfand, D.H., Sninsky, J.J. y White, T.J. PCR protocols: A Guide to Methods and Applications. New York, NY, Academic Press, pp 315-322.
- Yuan, L., Bi, Y., Ge, Y., Wang, Y., Liu, Y. y Li, G. 2013. Postharvest hot water dipping reduces decay by inducing disease resistance and maintaining firmness in muskmelon (*Cucumis melo* L.) fruit. *Scientia Horticulturae*. 161: 101-110.
- Zarrin, M., Ganj, F. y Faramarzi, S. 2016. Development of a polymerase chain reaction-restriction fragment length polymorphism method for identification of the *Fusarium* genus using the transcription elongation factor-1 α gene. *Biomedical Reports*. 5: 705-708.
- Zhao, Q., Ran, W., Wang, H., Li, X., Shen, Q., Shen, S. y Xu, Y. 2013. Biocontrol of *Fusarium* wilt disease in muskmelon with *Bacillus subtilis* Y-IV. *BioControl*. 58: 283-292.