Asian Soybean Rust: last reports from Argentina

**INTRODUCTION**

Soybean production in Argentina rose to 38.3 million tons with a planted area of 14.4 million hectares in 2004/05 growing season. Asian Soybean Rust (ASR), caused by *Phakopsora pachyrhizi* H. Sydow & Sydow, was detected in 2002 in a limited area in the northeast of the country, extended rapidly throughout Northwest and Northeast soybean growing regions in 2003-2004 and through Pampeana Region in 2004-2005.

Disease severity during 2003-2004 ranged from 72 to 232 pustules/cm² in soybean and 5 to 78 in kudzu, and from 1 to 15 uredinia/lesion in soybean and 1 to 10 in kudzu. Telia were found in the following provinces: Chaco, Santiago del Estero and Salta during 2004 and in Entre Ríos (Villaguay) in 2005, reaching 31º S in March 2005. Last winter ASR was found by several researchers on volunteer soybean plants from July to September in some provinces.

**FIELD SURVEYS**

**UREDINIOSPORES GERMINATION**

Leaf samples collected in Villaguay, Entre Ríos province, during May 2005, were maintained at –18 ºC for 6 months. Urediniospores were induced to germinate at different temperatures in 3 selected media. Results were evaluated after 5-20 hours.

**PRELIMINARY EXPERIENCES WITH FUNGICIDES**

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**FUNGICIDES ASSAYS (VEDIA, CHACO province)- 2005**

This study was possible by the support of UBA (UBACyT G020) and Syngenta Agro.