

Resistance to Leaf Spot Caused by *Cercosporidium personatum* in Wild *Arachis* Species

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ABSTRACT

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Ninety-six accessions of wild *Arachis* species were evaluated for reactions to the late leaf spot pathogen *Cercosporidium personatum*. Lesions were formed on leaflets of all accessions but were small and nonsporulating on all accessions of sections *Erectoides*, *Triseminalae*, *Extranervosae*, *Rhizomatosae*, and *Caulorhizae*. Species in section *Arachis* had lesions from 0.16 to 1 mm in diameter; 15 accessions had no sporulating lesions, and in the others, sporulation of lesions ranged from slight to extensive. Frequency of infection (number of lesions per square centimeter of leaf area) and percentage of defoliation varied greatly within each section and species.

The two leaf spot diseases of peanut (*Arachis hypogaea* L.) caused by *Cercospora arachidicola* Hori and *Cercosporidium personatum* (Berk. & Curt.) Deighton are the most important diseases on a world scale (11,18). Losses in yield of about 10% attributable to leaf spots have been estimated in the United States despite the use of chemical control measures (11). In the semiarid tropics, peanut is grown almost entirely by small-scale farmers who can rarely afford to use chemical crop protection practices, and under these conditions, yield losses exceeding 50% are common (6). Screening for resistance to leaf spots has received considerable attention in recent years, and a number of resistant sources have been reported in cultivated peanut (2,8,9,13-15,18,22,23,26-28).

Wild *Arachis* species are potential sources of resistance to various peanut diseases, and in recent years, there has been considerable emphasis on screening wild *Arachis* species for resistance to leaf spots (1,3,4,7,12,16-19,28).

We report the results of a laboratory test where the components of resistance to *C. personatum* were determined for 96 accessions of wild *Arachis* species.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

All test entries were identified by collector and collector numbers, USDA

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Plant Inventory (PI) numbers, and ICRISAT (ICG) numbers because many species names in common use have not been validly published. Accessions of wild *Arachis* species (Table 1) were received mostly from the United States. Plants were grown outdoors in cylindrical concrete tanks 60 cm in diameter × 75 cm deep containing a mixture of soil, sand, and farmyard manure (3:3:1, v/v) at the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Patancheru, Andhra Pradesh, India. Leaves were collected from each test entry at the end of the 1982 rainy season. Young, fully expanded leaves with no visible damage were excised through the pulvinus, washed in running tap water, and arranged with their petioles buried in a layer of sterilized sand in plastic seed trays 56 cm long × 25 cm wide × 5 cm deep (29). The sand was moistened with Hoagland's nutrient solution (10). For entries where the leaves were too small for convenient handling in this manner, a suitable stem piece with attached leaves was used. All entries were tested at the same time, and there were five replicates for each entry arranged in a randomized block design. Leaves of a *C. personatum*-susceptible peanut cultivar, TMV 2, were included as a control. Trays were covered with clear plastic sheets and placed in plant growth chambers (Percival Refrigeration & Mfg. Co., Boone, IA) at 25 C with a 12-hr photoperiod for 24 hr before inoculation.

Inoculum of *C. personatum* from a single lesion on a susceptible cultivar in the field was produced on detached leaves of TMV 2 in a growth chamber. Conidia were harvested with a cyclone spore collector (ERI Instrument Shop, Iowa State University, Ames), suspended in sterile distilled water containing Tween

80 (0.2 ml/1,000 ml of water), and adjusted to about 1×10^5 conidia per milliliter. Trays were removed from the growth chambers, and conidial suspensions were atomized onto the leaves. Trays were again covered with plastic sheets and placed in the growth chamber. Hoagland's nutrient solution was added as required. Disease development was assessed 30 days after inoculation, and the following components of resistance were evaluated:

Infection frequency. Total lesions on all leaves were counted with a stereomicroscope. Leaf area was measured with a leaf area meter (Hayashi Denkoh Co. Ltd., Tokyo, Japan). Infection frequency was expressed as number of lesions per square centimeter of leaf area.

Percentage of defoliation. Abscised leaflets were counted for each replicated leaf and percentage of defoliation was calculated.

Lesion diameter. Five randomly selected lesions on each leaflet were measured with an ocular micrometer.

Sporulation. Lesions were examined under a stereomicroscope (×70) and the degree of *C. personatum* sporulation was scored visually on a five-point scale, where 1 = no or very few stromata, no sporulation; 2 = few stromata, some with slight sporulation; 3 = stromata over most of lesion, moderate sporulation; 4 = stromata on the entire lesion, moderate to profuse sporulation; and 5 = dense production of stromata with profuse sporulation (27).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Reactions of the standard susceptible peanut cultivar and the wild *Arachis* species to *C. personatum* are presented in Table 1. The susceptible check cultivar showed 100% defoliation, indicating that the development of *C. personatum* was satisfactory for evaluating the reactions of wild *Arachis* species against the pathogen. Infection frequency varied from 0.9 to 82.3. Several wild *Arachis* species had a higher infection frequency than the susceptible peanut cultivar (Table 1). However, lesions were small and nonsporulating on all accessions of sections *Erectoides*, *Triseminalae*, *Extranervosae*, *Rhizomatosae*, and *Caulorhizae*. Fifteen accessions in section *Arachis* had no sporulating lesions, nine had sparse (sporulation index 1.2-3.0)

sporulation, and two sporulated profusely (sporulation index 5.0). Percentage of defoliation varied from 1 to 100. Most of the wild *Arachis* species in section *Arachis* showed a high percentage of defoliation, but a high proportion of entries in section *Rhizomatosae* showed no defoliation. Although all accessions of the same species are botanically similar, reactions to *C. personatum* varied markedly among accessions. For instance, one accession (K 7988) of *A. duranensis* had a low infection frequency (eight lesions per square centimeter of leaf area)

and defoliation (35%), whereas the other accession (GKBSPSc 30077) of the same species had a high infection frequency (33.3 lesions per square centimeter of leaf area) and defoliation (100%). Similar variability was also observed among accessions of other species including *A. batizocoi*, *A. monticola*, *A. paraguariensis*, *A. villosulicarpa*, *A. hagenbeckii*, and *A. glabrata* (Table 1).

Abdou et al (1) screened a number of wild *Arachis* species for resistance to *Cercospora arachidicola* and *Cercosporidium personatum* under laboratory

conditions and found several immune and highly resistant species in the sections *Arachis*, *Erectoides*, *Rhizomatosae*, and *Extranervosae*. None of the entries in our investigation was immune to *C. personatum*; however, the lesions were small and nonsporulating. Abdou et al (1) reported that three accessions of *A. villosulicarpa* were immune to *C. personatum* in the United States, but in our investigation, tiny, nonsporulating lesions of *C. personatum* were observed on two accessions of *A. villosulicarpa*. An unidentified species of *Arachis* (GKP

Table 1. Reactions of wild *Arachis* species to *Cercosporidium personatum*

Section Series Species	Collector initial and number or other identity ^a	Plant inventory number (PI)	ICRISAT peanut accession number (ICG)	Components of resistance to <i>C. personatum</i>			
				Infection frequency (lesions/cm ²)	Defoliation (%)	Lesion diameter (mm)	Sporulation index ^b
Arachis							
<i>Annuae</i>							
<i>A. duranensis</i> ^c	K 7988	219823	8123	8.0	35.0	0.49	1.8
<i>A. duranensis</i> ^c	GKPSpSc 30069	...	8201	13.3	75.0	0.46	1.0
<i>A. duranensis</i> ^c	GKBSPSc 30070	...	8202	13.7	70.0	0.84	2.0
<i>A. duranensis</i> ^c	SKBSPSc 30074	...	8957	6.2	60.0	0.90	2.8
<i>A. duranensis</i> ^c	GKBSPSc 30075	...	8205	13.9	93.9	0.84	1.0
<i>A. duranensis</i> ^c	GKBSPSc 30061	...	8196	18.3	91.1	0.55	1.0
<i>A. duranensis</i> ^c	GKBSPSc 30077	...	8207	33.3	100.0	0.51	1.0
<i>A. batizocoi</i>	GKBSPSc 30079	...	8209	28.5	80.0	0.36	1.4
<i>A. batizocoi</i>	GKBSPSc 30083	...	8211	14.8	50.0	0.33	1.0
<i>A. batizocoi</i>	GKBSPSc 30080	...	8958	18.9	95.0	0.43	1.2
<i>A. batizocoi</i>	GKBSPSc 30081	...	8210	9.7	55.0	0.46	1.0
<i>A. spegazzinii</i> ^c	GKP 10038	262133	8138	12.7	75.0	0.79	3.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GK 30006	...	8190	8.6	62.3	0.28	1.0
<i>Perennes</i>							
<i>A. correntina</i> ^c	K 7830	262137	8133	15.9	5.0	0.23	1.0
<i>A. stenosperma</i> ^c	HLK 410	338280	8126	19.4	30.0	0.16	1.0
<i>A. chacoense</i> ^c	GKP 10602	276235	4983	17.4	32.6	0.26	1.0
<i>A. helodes</i> ^c	GK 30036	...	8955	16.6	35.0	0.38	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	Manfredi 5	...	8918	30.6	70.0	0.62	1.8
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GK 30031	...	8952	23.3	60.0	0.47	2.2
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GK 30035	...	8954	6.8	60.0	0.20	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GK 30017	...	8194	16.5	70.0	0.64	2.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKBSPScZ 30085	...	8959	8.6	50.0	0.31	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKBSPSc 35001	...	8164	6.7	40.0	0.34	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKSSc 30093	...	8212	11.9	0.0	0.21	1.0
<i>Amphiploides</i>							
<i>A. monticola</i>	HLK 104	331338	8135	33.5	33.9	1.00	5.0
<i>A. monticola</i>	GKBSPSc 30063	...	8198	37.1	100.0	0.68	5.0
Erectoides							
<i>Tetrafoliolatae</i>							
<i>A. paraguariensis</i>	KCF 11462	...	8130	8.8	0.0	0.22	1.0
<i>A. paraguariensis</i>	GKPSc 30118	...	8214	6.7	60.0	0.36	1.0
<i>A. paraguariensis</i>	GKPSc 30109	...	8963	15.2	90.0	0.23	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKPSc 30126	...	8215	10.5	85.0	0.22	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKPSc 30134	...	8973	8.4	0.0	0.28	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GK 30016	...	8948	5.5	15.0	0.25	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GK 30007	...	8191	6.5	10.0	0.26	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	HLKHe 565-6	388398	8141	27.7	50.0	0.32	1.0
<i>Procumbensae</i>							
<i>A. appressipila</i> ^c	GKP 10002	...	8129	19.8	5.0	0.24	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKP 9990	261877	8127	21.8	20.0	0.29	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKP 9993	261878	8128	23.5	65.0	0.34	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GK 30003	...	8945	37.2	60.0	0.28	1.0
Triseminalae							
<i>A. pusilla</i>	GKP 12922	338449	8131	12.0	25.0	0.45	1.0
Extranervosae							
<i>A. villosulicarpa</i> (2n = 20)	8142	4.0	33.6	0.47	1.0
<i>A. villosulicarpa</i> (2n = 40)	8143	8.7	99.9	0.31	1.0
Rhizomatosae							
<i>Eurhizomatosae</i>							
<i>A. burkartii</i>	A 52	261851	...	2.0	0.0	0.09	1.0
<i>A. hagenbeckii</i>	HLKO 349	338305	8922	82.3	93.9	0.49	1.0
<i>A. hagenbeckii</i>	HL 486	338267	8146	67.3	0.0	0.30	1.0
<i>A. glabrata</i>	HLKHe 552	338261	8149	11.2	0.0	0.35	1.0
<i>A. glabrata</i>	HLKHe 553	338262	8150	42.6	0.0	0.25	1.0
<i>A. glabrata</i>	HLKHe 560	338263	8151	32.7	0.0	0.19	1.0

(continued on next page)

10596, PI 276233) in the section *Rhizomatosae* was immune to both leaf spot pathogens in the United States (1) and India (28). In our investigation, however, the same accession developed numerous tiny nonsporulating lesions. Abdou et al (1) and Nevill (17) reported that *A. chacoense* was susceptible to *C. personatum* in the United States and Nigeria, respectively, but an accession of this species was resistant in India (28). Nevill (17) did not observe any *C. personatum* lesions on *A. stenosperma* (HLK 410) in Nigeria, but in our

investigation, minute nonsporulating lesions developed on the same species.

These differences in disease reaction may be associated with variability of the pathogen; interaction between the host, pathogen, and environment; preinoculation environment; or incorrect identification of or variation within the host species. The differences may also be due to variation in methods of evaluation and in interpretation of results. Some of the previous observations were made on plants in field plots or on potted plants exposed to natural inoculum. This led to

problems in identifying the agent or agents responsible for lesions on leaflets when the lesions did not have fructification. Hence we decided to use a laboratory screening technique in this study.

The reason for examining the reactions of wild *Arachis* species to *C. personatum* is that we hope to transfer many useful characters from them to the cultivated peanut, especially resistance to *C. arachidicola* and *C. personatum*. It is important to determine the reaction of each accession of each species to these

Table 1. (continued from preceding page)

Section Series Species	Collector initial and number or other identity ^a	Plant inventory number (PI)	ICRISAT peanut accession number (ICG)	Components of resistance to <i>C. personatum</i>			
				Infection frequency (lesions/cm ²)	Defoliation (%)	Lesion diameter (mm)	Sporulation index ^b
<i>A. glabrata</i>	HLK He 571	338265	8153	49.0	0.0	0.23	1.0
<i>A. glabrata</i>	GKP 9827	262796	8935	34.0	0.0	0.25	1.0
<i>A. glabrata</i>	GKP 9830	262797	8936	16.4	20.0	0.30	1.0
<i>A. glabrata</i>	HL 489	338257	8147	50.1	5.0	0.25	1.0
<i>A. glabrata</i>	HL 489	338257	...	44.7	0.0	0.24	1.0
<i>A. glabrata</i>	GK 30020	...	8950	2.3	0.0	0.08	1.0
<i>A. glabrata</i>	...	231318	8178	75.7	0.0	0.26	1.0
<i>A. glabrata</i>	GKPSc 30116	...	8966	5.3	0.0	0.12	1.0
<i>A. glabrata</i>	GKPSc 30138	...	8975	2.2	0.0	0.08	1.0
<i>A. glabrata</i>	GKPSc 30120	...	8968	0.9	0.0	0.08	1.0
<i>A. glabrata</i>	GKPSc 30122	...	8969	1.6	0.0	0.08	1.0
<i>A. glabrata</i>	GKP 9649	262844	8165	16.4	0.0	0.17	1.0
<i>A. glabrata</i>	GKP 9834	262798	8170	70.4	0.0	0.48	1.0
<i>A. glabrata</i>	GKP 9882	262286	8171	78.6	15.0	0.31	1.0
<i>A. glabrata</i>	GKP 10596	276233	4984	49.4	35.0	0.22	1.0
<i>A. glabrata</i>	GKP 9893	...	8938	3.2	15.0	0.39	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	HLK He 569	...	8924	3.7	0.0	0.08	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKPSc 30135	...	8974	6.8	0.0	0.12	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKPSc 30111	...	8964	5.2	5.0	0.08	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKPSc 30132	...	8972	8.1	0.0	0.15	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	HLO 333	338316	8145	37.4	0.0	0.21	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	HL 492	338284	8148	27.2	5.0	0.27	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	HLK He 567	338299	8152	34.5	0.0	0.18	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	K 7934	201856	8154	53.4	15.0	0.68	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKP 9566	262812	8155	25.9	0.0	0.32	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKP 9567	262818	8156	43.9	0.0	0.21	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKP 9580	262825	8158	40.0	0.0	0.24	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKP 9592	262828	8159	64.8	15.0	0.22	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKP 9618	...	8160	48.7	0.0	0.22	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKP 9634	262836	8161	28.2	0.4	0.20	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKP 9645	262841	8162	67.7	20.0	0.27	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKP 9667	262848	8166	62.7	0.0	0.33	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKP 9797	262808	8933	38.9	10.0	0.18	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKP 9806	262792	8167	34.3	85.0	0.19	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKP 9813	262793	8168	32.6	0.0	0.35	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKP 9935	262301	8941	40.0	56.4	0.20	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKP 9553	262801	8925	16.2	10.0	0.26	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKP 10120 P1.1	276202	8943	22.8	0.0	0.39	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKP 9574	262820	8927	40.8	0.0	0.27	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKP 9921	262296	8939	39.6	100.0	0.22	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	GKP 10120 P1.2	276202	8944	63.4	69.4	0.24	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	(1960)	...	8172	42.6	35.0	0.30	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	2A5	...	8916	1.5	0.0	0.10	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp. ^d	Ex. Coimbatore	...	8903	3.1	0.0	0.09	1.0
Caulorhizae							
<i>A. repens</i>	210	...	8187	22.3	0.0	0.15	1.0
Not known							
<i>Arachis</i> sp. ^e	Ex. Dharwar	...	8189	36.1	10.0	0.38	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	2A2	...	8180	2.8	15.0	0.12	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	2A1	...	8179	1.0	0.0	0.13	1.0
<i>Arachis</i> sp.	2A7	...	8183	4.0	5.0	0.09	1.0
Control							
<i>A. hypogaea</i>	TMV 2	...	221	19.1	100.0	1.96	5.0
SE ±				12.64	22.82	0.087	0.16
C.V. (%)				52.50	84.80	28.200	13.80

^aCollector names: A = Arriola, B = Banks, C = Coradin, F = Fugarazzo, G = Gregory, H = Hammons, He = Hemsy, K = Krapovickas, L = Langford, O = Ojeda, P = Pietrarelli, S = Simpson, Sc = Schinini, and Z = Zurita.

^bExtent of sporulation scored on a five-point scale, where 1 = no sporulation and 5 = extensive sporulation.

^c*Nomen nudum*.

^d*Arachis* sp. received as *A. marginata* from Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, Coimbatore, India, is a Rhizomatous species.

^e*Arachis* sp. received as *A. prostrata* from Tamil Nadu Agriculture University, Coimbatore, India, is yet to be identified.

important pathogens. Most attention is now concentrated on the species in section *Arachis* because these are cross-compatible with *A. hypogaea* (5,16,20,21,24,25). It is evident that there is a considerable variation among the species in section *Arachis* in components of resistance to *C. personatum* examined in this study. The choice of parents from wild *Arachis* species for interspecific hybridization should be based on knowledge of components of resistance to *C. personatum*. For example, in spite of high infection frequency and defoliation, accessions with small non-sporulating lesions are also useful in developing peanut cultivars with resistance to *C. personatum*.

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