

This short description was prepared in the framework of the EU FP7 project DROPSA - Strategies to develop effective, innovative and practical approaches to protect major European fruit crops from pests and pathogens (grant agreement no. 613678). This pest was listed in the DROPSA alert list for *Vaccinium* fruit.

Diaporthe australafricana (Ascomycota)

Fruit pathway: *D. australafricana* was found virulent in blueberry fruit (in experiments, Elfar et al., 2013). It is also intercepted in blueberry fruits (FreshFruitPortal, 2014).

Other pathways: plants for planting; the fungus causes lesions on stems and shoots (Latorre et al., 2012).

Hosts: *Vaccinium corymbosum* (CABI CPC; new host in Elfar et al., 2013 & Latorre et al., 2012); *Corylus avellana* (new host, Guerrero and Perez, 2013); *Vitis vinifera* (Latorre et al., 2012). Udayanga et al. (2014) mention *D. australafricana* was recently found on *Persea americana* in the USA (without reference).

Distribution: South America: Chile (Elfar et al., 2013; Guerrero and Perez 2013; Latorre et al., 2012), Oceania: Australia; Africa: South Africa (Latorre et al., 2012); North America: USA (California; Lawrence et al., 2014). *D. australafricana* was first reported from Australia and South Africa (on *Vitis vinifera*; Latorre et al., 2012).

Damage: The pest causes stem canker and dieback, lesions on stems and necrosis of shoots (Latorre et al., 2012). It was observed on as much as 15% of plants in plantations in central and southern Chile since 2006; in experiments, It was shown to be highly virulent in shoots, stems and fruit of blueberry (Elfar et al., 2013).

Other information: *D. australafricana* has been detected in several new crops (incl. *Vaccinium*) and places in recent years, and may present a risk. No information was found on transmission modes (and whether they would facilitate its transfer from fruit consignment to hosts). Udayanga et al. (2014) note the need to investigate population structure and species boundaries with additional isolates of *D. australafricana* and *D. rudi*.

Recorded impact: Moderate	Intercepted: Yes	Spreading/invasive: Yes
----------------------------------	-------------------------	--------------------------------

References:

- CABI CPC. Crop Protection Compendium. CAB International, UK. <http://www.cabi.org/cpc>
- Elfar, K., Torres, R., Díaz, G. A., and Latorre, B. A. 2013. Characterization of *Diaporthe australafricana* and *Diaporthe* spp. associated with stem canker of blueberry in Chile. *Plant Dis.* 97:1042-1050.
- FreshFruitPortal. 2014. China intercepts fungus in Chilean blueberry shipment. December 12th, 2014. New Items at <http://www.freshfruitportal.com/news/2014/12/12/china-intercepts-fungus-in-chilean-blueberry-shipment/?country=chile>
- Guerrero J. 2013. First Report of *Diaporthe australafricana*-Caused Stem Canker and Dieback in European Hazelnut (*Corylus avellana* L.) in Chile. *Plant Disease*, Volume 97, Number 12, Page 1657
- Latorre BA, Elfar K, Espinoza JG, Torres R, Díaz GA. 2012. First Report of *Diaporthe australafricana* Associated with Stem Canker on Blueberry in Chile. *Plant Disease*, May 2012, Volume 96, Number 5, Page 768
- Lawrence D, Travadon R, Baumgartner K. 2014. Diversity of *Diaporthe* species causing woodcanker diseases of fruit and nuts crops in northern California. 2014 APS-CPS Joint meeting. August 9-13. Minneapolis, Minnesota. http://www.apsnet.org/meetings/Documents/2014_meeting_abstracts/aps2014abO126.htm (accessed August 2015)

Udayanga D, Castlebury LA, Rossman AY, Hyde KD. 2014. Species limits in *Diaporthe*: molecular re-assessment of *D. citri*, *D. cytospora*, *D. foeniculina* and *D. rudis*. *Persoonia* 32, 2014: 83–101