

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.

Exobasidium maculosum (Basidiomycota)

Fruit pathway: The fungus occurs on fruit (Talbot Brewer et al., 2014). No information was found on the transmission modes of this fungus (and whether these would facilitate transfer from infected fruit to host plants).

Other pathways: plants for planting; the fungus also occurs on leaves (Talbot-Brewer et al., 2014).

Hosts: *Vaccinium virgatum*, *V. corymbosum*, hybrids (Talbot Brewer et al., 2014).

Distribution: North America: USA (South-East; Talbot Brewer et al., 2014; Farr and Rossman, 2015; Smith, 2014). In South-East USA, the fungus was originally thought to be *E. vaccinii*, which also occurs in Europe (and other parts of the world – Farr and Rossman, 2015). There is no information on whether some previous records of *E. vaccinii* in Europe (or elsewhere in the world) relate to *E. maculosum*.

Damage: *E. maculosum* causes fruit spot and leaf spot (Talbot Brewer et al., 2014). It cause an emerging disease and its prevalence has been increasing throughout Southeastern USA (Talbot Brewer et al., 2014). In Mississippi, it was previously considered to be occasional and of minor importance, but is currently reported more often and is responsible for significant fruit loss. Up to 60-70% losses have been reported at some sites (Smith, 2014).

Other information: There is an uncertainty on whether this fungus only occurs in the USA, because it was described very recently and was originally confused with *E. vaccinii*, which has a wider distribution (Talbot Brewer et al., 2014). However, *E. maculosum* causes an emerging disease of *Vaccinium* and was retained here.

Recorded impact: High	Intercepted: Not known	Spreading/invasive: Yes
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References:

- Farr DF, Rossman AY. 2015. Fungal Databases, Systematic Mycology and Microbiology Laboratory, ARS, USDA. <http://nt.ars-grin.gov/fungalatabases> (accessed August 2015)
- Smith B. 2014. Exobasidium Leaf and Fruit Spot: Disease Management. Mississippi Vaccinium Journal. Volume 3, Issue 3 July-September 2014. Pages 2-5.
- Talbot Brewer M, Turner AN, Brannen PM, Cline WO, Richardson EA. 2014. Exobasidium maculosum, a new species causing leaf and fruit spots on blueberry in the southeastern USA and its relationship with other Exobasidium spp. parasitic to blueberry and cranberry. Mycologia May/June 2014 vol. 106 no. 3 415-423.