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of interesting species were isolated such as *Metarrhizium flavoviridae* var. *flavoviridae*, which was recorded for the first time in a cave system.

Our results underline the mycoodiversity of hypogean environments and, in particular, shows that the anthropogenic influence strongly affects the mycobiota in such semi-closed environments.

Environment, ecology and interactions

Poster nr. 49

Genetic diversity of the chestnut blight fungus *Cryphonectria parasitica* and its associated hypovirus in Portugal

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The European chestnut (*Castanea sativa* Mill.) agro-ecosystem has been of high social, economic, and landscape importance in Portugal. Chestnut blight caused by the fungus *Cryphonectria parasitica* is considered a major cause of the decline of chestnut trees across Europe. *C. parasitica* is an ascomycete (Diaporthales) that is native to eastern Asia. Infection of chestnut trees with this pathogen is typically associated with extensive bark necrosis (so-called cankers) on stems and branches, resulting in the subsequent death of the part of the tree above the infection point. Chestnut blight in Portugal was first reported in 1992 and since expanding in distribution. Here, we investigated the invasion history of *C. parasitica* and its associated hypovirus in Portugal. For this, we characterized 137 isolates collected between 2013 and 2014 in four chestnut stands for virus-infection, vegetative compatibility (vc) type, mating type and microsatellite haplotype. A total of 33 haplotypes and four vc types were observed, although the Portuguese *C. parasitica* population is currently dominated by a single haplotype and a single vc type (EU-11). Further diversification may be expected due to ongoing sexual recombination, but eventually also to new migration and additional introductions. *Cryphonectria hypovirus* 1 (CHV-1) was found in two populations. Genetic analysis of the six CHV-1 isolates obtained revealed that three viral strains belong to the Italian subtype and three to the French subtype, which suggest different, independent introductions.

Keywords: Chestnut, *Cryphonectria parasitica*, microsatellite