

### Is oospore production of *Phytophthora infestans* modulated by level and components of partial resistance?



J. Clement, B. Marquer and D. Andrivon INRA Rennes (France), UMR BiO3P

## Introduction Partial resistance



- Slows down the rate at which disease increases within a single plant or population of identical plants [Van der Plank, 1968]
- Partial resistance can act by:
  - 1. Lengthening the latent period
  - 2. Reducing progress of parasite in plant tissue
  - 3. Limiting spore production
  - 4. Reducing infectivity (success of infection)
- Can be measured
  - I in the field (visual score) NIAB scores, AUDPC, ...
  - in controlled conditions (calibrated tests)

Components of partial resistance

## Introduction Sexual reproduction

Conservation stage during the hard season

- Phytophthora infestans = Heterothallic species
  - Presence of the two mating type (A1 and A2) required to induce differenciation of sexual organs
  - a Controlled by sexual hormons



This is a simplified disease cycle for late blight of potato.

## **Introduction** Oospore production vs. partial resistance



Æ How partial resistance (during colonisation stage) could modulate oospore production ?

- What we know...
  - In whole plants :

More oospores for medium levels (NIAB scores) (Hanson & Shattock, 1998) or for high levels (Strömberg & al, 2001) of partial resistance

In leaf discs :

More oospores on medium level (Hanson & Shattock, 1998; Drenth & al, 1995; Strömberg & al, 2001) or sometimes on low level (Hanson & Shattock, 1998) with some exceptions

#### BUT

- Results obtained for only one pair of strains in each case
- What do field scores mean regarding partial resistance?

## **Objectives**

Link quantitative and qualitative characteristics of partial resistance and oospore production for different pairs:

Effect of partial resistance levels
 Effect of components of resistance/aggressiveness

# Approach

- Testing behaviour of strains on cultivars with differents levels of partial resistance
- Assessing oospore production by pairs of these strains



# Materials ...

#### **Plant material**

### Æ 10 cultivars of Solanum tuberosum

- 2 reference cultivars
  - Bintje, Désirée
- 7 old cultivars, bred before introduction of Solanum demissum R genes

Robijn, Roode Industrie, Furore, Rosafolia, Möwe, Herbstrote, Noorstar

I cultivar built by INRA and interesting to test inra114-92T





## Materials ... Pathogen



- 6 strains of Phytophthora infestans
  - 4 A1
    2 A2
    8 possible pairs

Chosen for their aggressiveness on cv. Bintje in earlier tests



# ... and methods

#### Test of aggressiveness

- Detached leaflets
- Three aggressiveness components







Aggressiveness Index AI :

AI = Log( LA\*SP/LP)



## ... and methods Production of oospores

- Inoculation
  - 8 couples on 10 cultivars
  - 2 inoculation mode
  - 6 leaflets/modality





- Counting of oospores
  - Pretreatment with bleach



- Grinding
- Measurement of concentration with haemocytometer

## **Results** Aggressiveness/components of resistance

- Interaction between strains and cultivars for each component
  - No consensus ranking of cultivars for their level of resistance on each component
  - Each interaction strain/cultivar must be considered separately



# **Results** Aggressiveness of a couple?



Aggressiveness data for each strain <u>alone</u>

■ Objective : link characteristics of resistance/ aggressiveness to oospore production

- Oospore Þ one pair = 2 compatible strains
- What is aggressiveness of a pair???

$$\frac{\text{aggr}_{A1} + \text{aggr}_{A2}}{2}$$

max or min  $(aggr_{A1}; aggr_{A2})$ 

è Mean of each parameter

#### Results

04

#### **Oospore production vs. aggressiveness index**





- Variability between reps
- For each pair :

**F**The more aggressive the pairs, the higher the oospore production

FMixed inoculation gives often more oospores

#### **Results**

# 04

**A1-**4

AI

#### **Oospore production vs. aggressiveness index**











**Oospores/mm<sup>3</sup>** 

- Variability between reps
- For each pair :

**F**The more aggressive the pairs, the higher the oospore production



#### **Results** Oospore production vs. aggressiveness index

Same conclusion when pooling all data.



Which component has more influence in oospore production?
 Hypotheses :

- 1. Lesion area : rapidity of strain growth
- 2. Latent period : rapidity of growth start
- 3. Spore production perhaps energy and metabolites allocated for sporulation could be a disadvantage in oospore production



Role in meeting of strains





• 2 kinds of response according to pairs:

> FHigher oospore production for medium levels of resistance for this component 🕁

> FHigher oospore production for lower levels of resistance for this component (

ΙΔ

# **Discussion / Perspectives**



- First results show : differential production of oospore on cultivar with
  - I differents components of partial resistance
  - different levels of partial resistance
  - è Analyses must be continued
- Repeatability of experiment must be checked
  - data collected, but not analysed yet
- An interesting question is
   « How to measure the aggressiveness of a pair of strains? »

# Thank you for your attention

Thank you to :

INRA Ploudaniel J.E. Chauvin R. Pellé For implicating in my work





Name	Mating type	Lesion area	Spores/cm <sup>2</sup>	
P46	A1	-	_	
2BEK21	A1	+	+	
20EK24	A1	-	+	
2BP3-06	A1	+	-	
P8	A2	-	-	
2BP6-07	A2	+	+	

## **Results** Oospore production vs. partial resistance

Pair n°	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Lesion Area	(	C	$\bigstar$	$\bigstar$	C	C	C	$\bigstar$
Latent Period	$\bigstar$	$\bigstar$	(	(	(	$\bigstar$	$\bigstar$	$\bigstar$
Spore Production	(	$\bigstar$	(	(	(	(	$\bigstar$	$\bigstar$

FHigher oospore production for

medium level of resistance for this component

**Iower level** of resistance for this component