

SP10-05

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Cassava wild species: Diseases evaluation in different regions of Brazil

It is clear that cassava wild relatives are a reservoir of useful genes to be transferred to the cultivated species *Manihot esculenta*. However, the number of traits already identified is low when compared with the existent diversity. In this work, cassava wild relatives accessions of the *Manihot anomala*, *M. caerulescens*, *M. dichotoma*, *M. flabellifolia*, *M. glaziovii*, *M. jacobinensis*, *M. peruviana* and *M. tomentosa* were evaluated for disease incidence and severity in different regions of Brazil. Seedlings planted in Sao Miguel das Matas (SMM), Tancredo Neves (TN) and Cruz das Almas (CA), in the Bahia State and in Petrolina (PT) in the Pernambuco State were evaluated monthly from 6 to 12 month after planting. All the diseases observed are common to the cultivated cassava. In Bahia the incidence of anthracnose, rust, brown leaf spot (BLS), white leaf spot and diffuse leaf spot was observed. In PT, the disease incidence was limited to sporadic lesions of BLS. BLS was the most frequent and severe disease, with the highest values registered in SMM, TN and CA. Regardless of the region, accessions of *M. glaziovii* were most susceptible and *M. flabellifolia* most resistant to BLS. Accessions with high levels of resistance for all the diseases evaluated were identified, except in *M. glaziovii* where all the accessions were highly susceptible to BLS and anthracnose. As far as we know this is the first survey of disease incidence and severity in cassava wild species in Brazil.