

de la Cerda K, Hsiang T, Joshi V. 2010. *Waitea circinata* from turfgrass in British Columbia. Plant Disease 94:277.

In Canada, *Waitea circinata* was first identified from buckwheat (*Fagopyrum* sp.) in 1965 in Ontario (4). In 2004, the fungus was found on diseased putting greens of *Poa annua* and *Agrostis stolonifera* near Toronto, Ontario (2). In late July 2009, symptoms on *A. stolonifera* resembling those of brown ring patch were seen at a golf course in Kelowna, British Columbia. Brown rings with light-colored, cottony growth were observed on a putting green with mixed *P. annua* and *A. stolonifera*, originally seeded with *A. stolonifera* cv. Penncross. Following a short incubation of the diseased grass at 25°C, hyphae of a *Rhizoctonia*-like fungus, not matching the characteristics of *R. cerealis* or *R. solani*, were seen. Symptomatic leaves were surface sterilized in 1% hypochlorite and plated onto potato dextrose agar (PDA) amended with streptomycin. After 1 week at 23°C, the plates contained white colonies that were 5 cm across. DNA was extracted and amplified with primers ITS1/ITS4 and sequenced with ITS1. The 600-bp sequence (deposited in GenBank as GU176409) from the internal transcribed spacer (ITS) region of ribosomal DNA showed a 100% match in the overlapping range with sequence FJ755879 from GenBank, which is annotated as *W. circinata* var. *circinata*. Pathogenicity was tested at 23°C by inoculating 3-week-old *A. stolonifera* 'Penncross' plants grown in Magenta boxes and incubated for 15 days after inoculation with ground wheat seed inoculum of *W. circinata*. Within 1 week, significant blighting of leaves and sheaths was observed as well as spherical orange brown sclerotia that were 2 to 5 mm in diameter on sheaths. These sclerotial features match characteristics of *W. circinata* var. *circinata* (1). Symptomatic leaves were plated on PDA and fungal growth characteristic of *W. circinata* was recovered. *W. circinata* was previously reported as the causal agent of brown ring patch on *A. stolonifera* in Japan (3), as a pathogen of *P. annua* in the United States (1), and as a pathogen of both species in Ontario, Canada (2). To our knowledge, this is the first report of *W. circinata* from turfgrass in western Canada.