



Records of microfungi associated with plants in the Kemaliye district, Erzincan, Turkey

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Abstract: A search for microfungi associated with plants in Kemaliye district (Erzincan, Turkey) was carried out. As a result of field and laboratory studies, 89 species on 60 different host plants are listed. These species belong to Ascomycota (67 species) and Basidiomycota (22 species), with 27 of them corresponding to new records for Turkey.

Key words: biodiversity, coelomycetes, *Cytospora*, *Diplodia*, inventory, *Microdiplodia*, *Phoma*.

Introduction

Turkey is one of the richest areas in the middle latitudes in terms of plant diversity. The main reasons for this are different climate zones, geomorphological and soil diversity, and the localization of the area at the junction of three phytogeographic regions (Euro-Siberian, Mediterranean and Irano-Turanian). About 12 000 species of plants are known for Turkey and a high number of new species are still being described (Avcı 2005). This diversity of potential host species is an important factor for a high diversity of microfungi in Turkey. First data on micromycetes were recorded by Bremer et al. (1947, 1952) and Petrak (1953). Investigation of microfungi of Turkey has increased during the last decade. Although microfungi are among the most important organisms in the world, only limited and incomplete information is currently available for most species and current estimates of species numbers for fungi in Turkey.

Kemaliye District (Erzincan Province) is situated in the Irano-Turanian phytogeographic region on the Anatolian Diagonal, which is one of the main endemic centres of Turkey. According to the grid square system adopted by Davis (1965–1985), Kemaliye is located in the squares B7. The study area is mountainous with elevations ranging from 600 to 3500 m. The climate of the province is Mediterranean and continental.

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