

## Florida Plant Diagnostic Network Update



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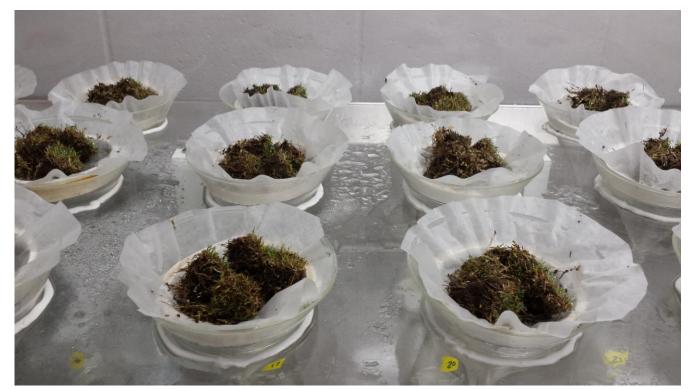
#### **Abstract**

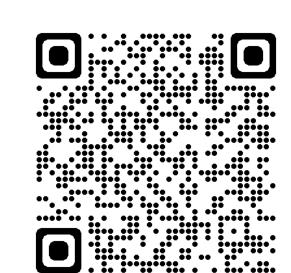
The University of Florida plant diagnostic system comprises seven laboratories representing pathology, nematology, and entomology with all three disciplines co-located on the main campus in Gainesville and the others at research and education centers from the Panhandle to the southern tip of the state. Ranging from temperate to subtropical, Florida's climate encourages a wide variety of crops as well as pests. Several of the labs can receive samples from out of state and the main pathology lab receives samples from international clients as well, giving our diagnosticians experience with crops and pests from abroad before they make their way to US shores. This poster provides highlights and developments from the Tropical Research and Education Center in Homestead, the Plant Diagnostic Center and Nematode Assay Lab in Gainesville, the Gulf Coast Research and Education Center in Wimauma and the North Florida Research and Education Center in Quincy. This year included new crops like hemp and vanilla, old foes like citrus greening and laurel wilt, and common adversaries such as Tomato spotted wilt virus and root-knot nematode. It was a busy year with thousands of samples, new people joining the team, increasing molecular capabilities, new nematode thresholds and sampling procedures, first reports, research papers, extension publications, and workshops.

### Nematode Assay Lab

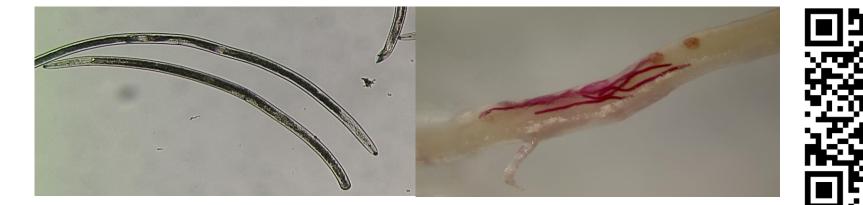
>6000 samples per year

New mist chamber extraction method for diagnosing root-knot nematodes from warm-season turf and new risk thresholds





New risk thresholds for lance nematodes on warm-season turf





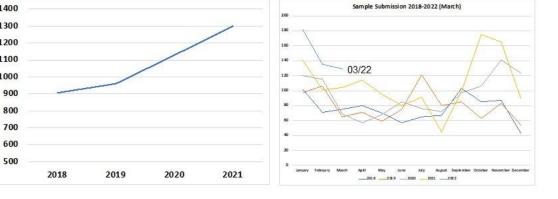


Scotch bonnet pepper TSWV

A. Kawecka, C. Griffin & M. Gibson - 2022 **Carrot Southern Blight** Athelia rolfsii

## **Tropical Research and Education Center**

1. Sample submission increasing every year. 2021: 1300 samples!

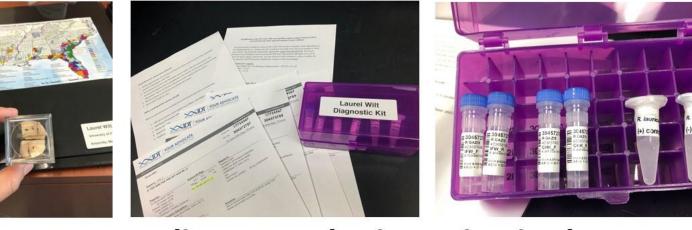




Diagnostic

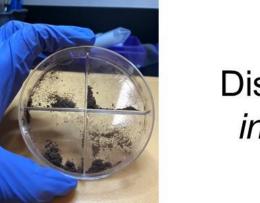
Guide





3. Monstera rust disease under investigation!

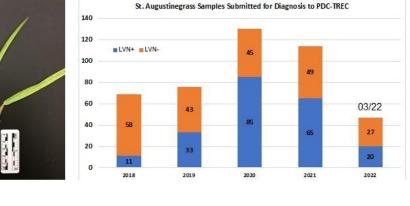




Disease Note in progress

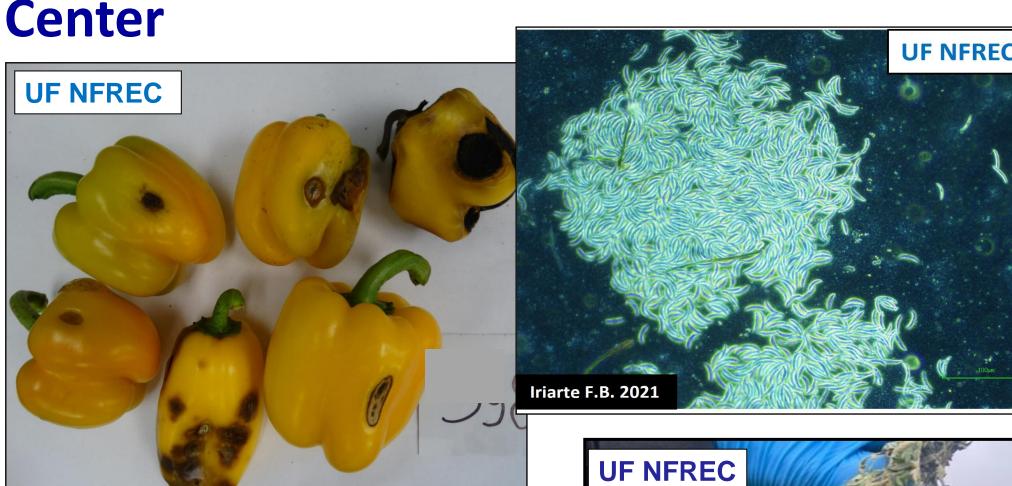
4. Lethal Viral Necrosis on St. Augustine "Floratam" grass on the rise!





Lethal disease (caused by SCMV) spreading through SoFL

# North Florida Research and Education





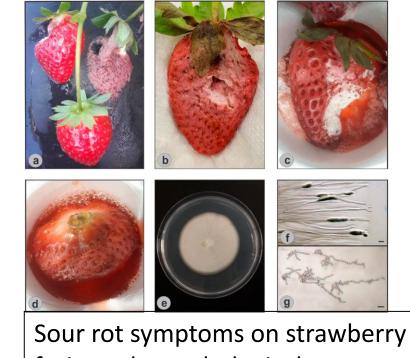
#### • 3 first reports published: • Sour rot of strawberry caused by *Geotrichum candidum*

**Gulf Coast Research and Education Center** 

- https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-05-20-0936-PDN Diaporthe phaseolorum causing stem canker of hemp https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-06-20-1174-PDN
- Botrytis cinerea causing leaf spot on strawberry https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-05-21-1082-PDN



•615 samples in 2021

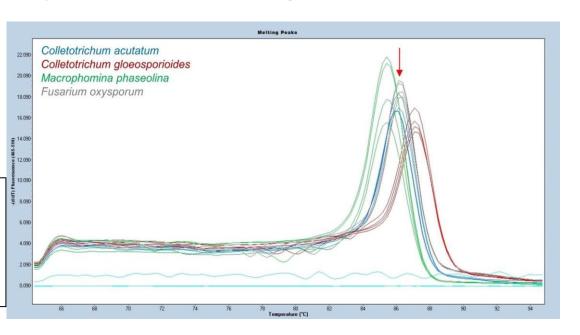


fruit, and morphological characteristics of the fungus

High-resolution melting analysis implemented as regular

service for rapid diagnosis of strawberry samples:

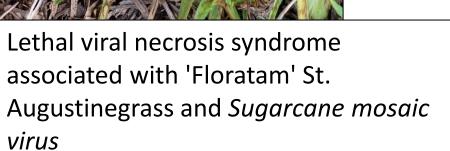
Melting peaks of strawberry crown rot pathogens and a common soilborne fungus (Fusarium oxysporum, red arrow) nttps://doi.org/10.1094/PHYTO-12-20-0556-R



## **Rapid Turfgrass Diagnostic Service**

- 772 samples in 2021
- International samples
- Increase in SCMV samples

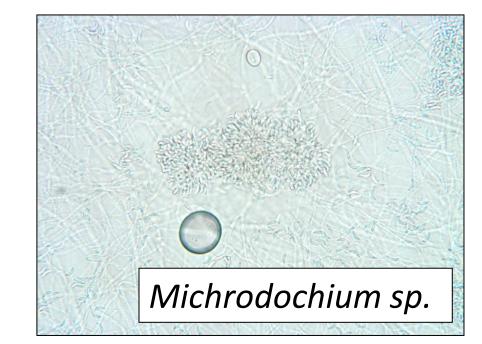






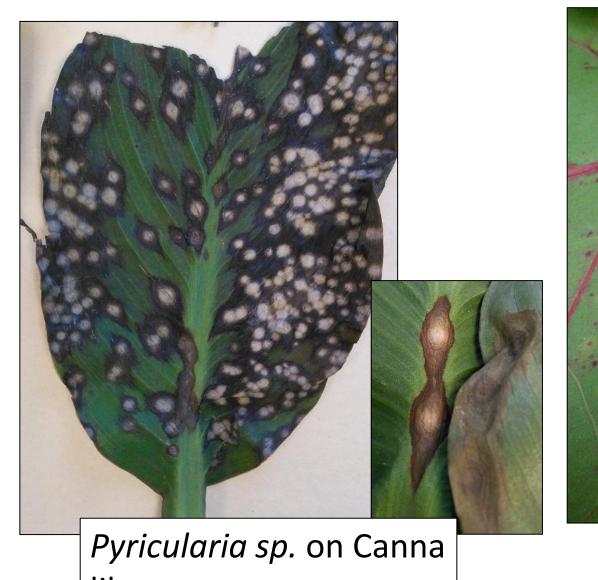


Mosaic disease on CitraBlue St. Augustinegrass caused by Sugarcane mosaic virus

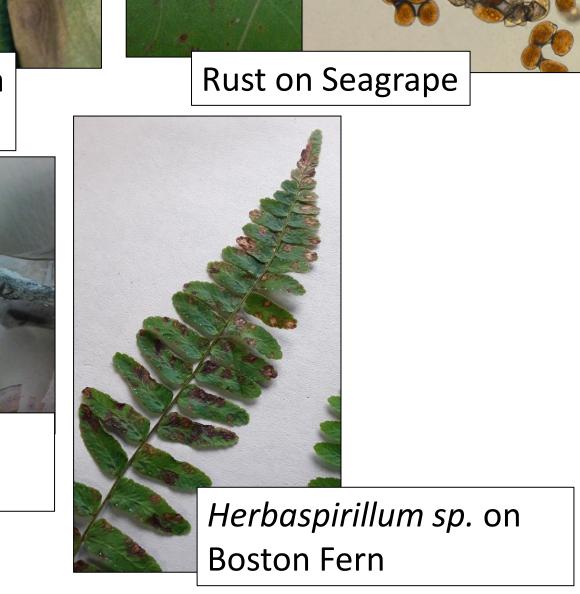


### Plant Diagnostic Center (hub lab, Gainesville)

2100 Samples in 2021- 41% palms



New fungus (in Cystostereaceae) on Privet



## **Funding**

USDA-NIFA award # 2021-37621-35791

UF-IFAS plant diagnostic clinical service fees











