

WISNER, D. A., and J. S. GURIK, Holly Sugar Co., Plant Pathology Laboratory,
Troy, CA 95378. A PCR-Based Method for Differentiation of *Rhizoctonia solani*
Genetic Groups

VAUGHN, K.M., AND C.M. RUSH, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, Bushland,
TX 79012. - Preliminary studies on the presence of three sugar beet seedling pathogens
from major production areas in the USA.

Three major soil-borne pathogens which cause sugar beet seedling diseases are *Aphanomyces*,
Rhizoctonia, and *Pythium*. Presently in the United States, there are no label fungicides for
Aphanomyces, but fungicides for control of *Rhizoctonia* and *Pythium* are available. Tachigaren
is a systemic fungicide that is effective against *Aphanomyces* spp., *Pythium* spp., and some strains
of *Rhizoctonia* spp. This fungicide is developed by Sankyo of Tokyo, Japan, and is labeled for
use in most countries in Europe, but not in the USA. We are interested in getting EPA
clearance for Tachigaren in the USA. As part of this effort, we are trying to determine the
geographical distribution of *Aphanomyces* and other major sugar beet seedling pathogens
throughout the major growing areas in the USA. This information will be used in trying to
secure a label for Tachigaren. So far, soil samples from Idaho (Nyssa and Nampa factory
districts), the Red River Valley (Moorehead & Minn-Dak factory district), and Colorado (Ft.
Morgan & Greeley factory district) have been screened. *Rhizoctonia* was predominantly isolated
from Idaho and Colorado. Low levels of *Aphanomyces* were also found in Colorado. Soil
samples from the Red River Valley showed high levels of *Aphanomyces*, with some *Rhizoctonia*
isolated.