

Outline

- Puccinia psidii a brief introduction
- Biosecurity system in Australia
- Australian biosecurity preparedness and
 - response to P. psidii
- What next?



Photo: Angus Carnegie, NSW I&I

A brief introduction

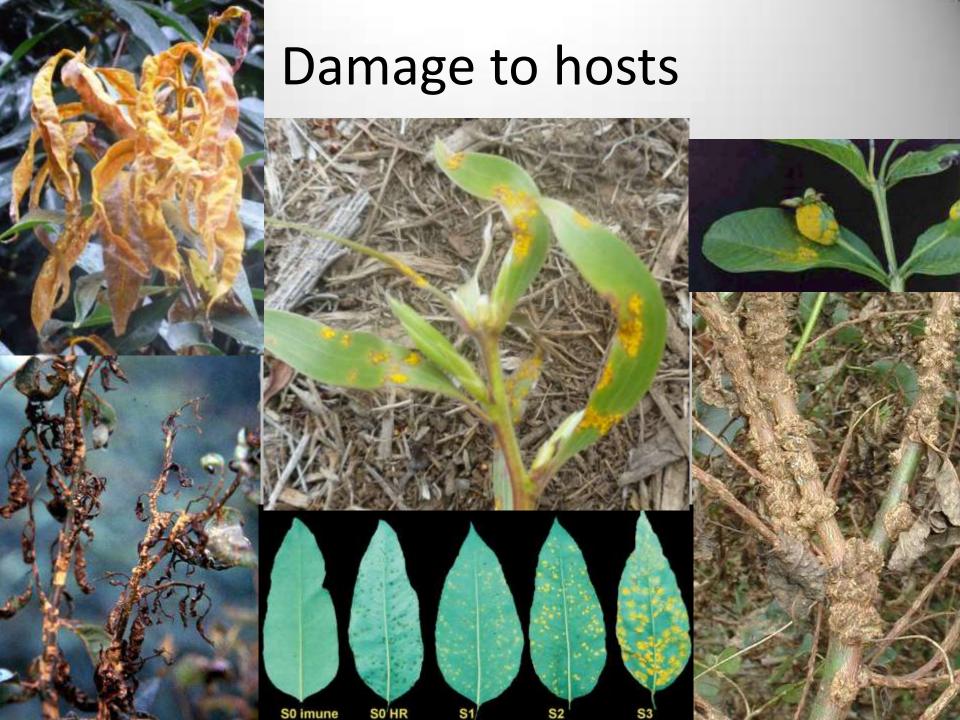
- Puccinia psidii, first described from guava in Brazil in 1884 by Winter.
- Several other rusts on Myrtaceae also described by Winter and others in South America.
- Many of these considered synonyms of P. psidii by later workers.
- A new name provided for the anamorph by Simpson et al 2006 and two additional anamorphs described as distinct species.

A brief introduction

- A new strain contributed to the demise of the allspice industry in Jamaica in the 1930's.
- First described from *Eucalyptus* species in Brazil in 1940's.
- Reduces yield in guava orchards.
- Has become a major pest of Eucalyptus plantations in South America.
- Spread to Florida in the 1970's.

Global Distribution





Basidiospore germination, Life Cycle host penetration, haustorium development Young leaf/shoot/ Fruit/flower bud Aeciospore Young leaf/shoot/ fruit/flower bud Urediniospore germination, host penetration Teliospores Young leaf/shoot/ fruit/flower bud Urediniosori Aeciospore germination, host penetration, haustorium development

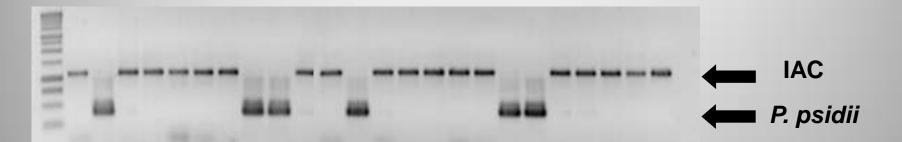


Preparedness in Australia



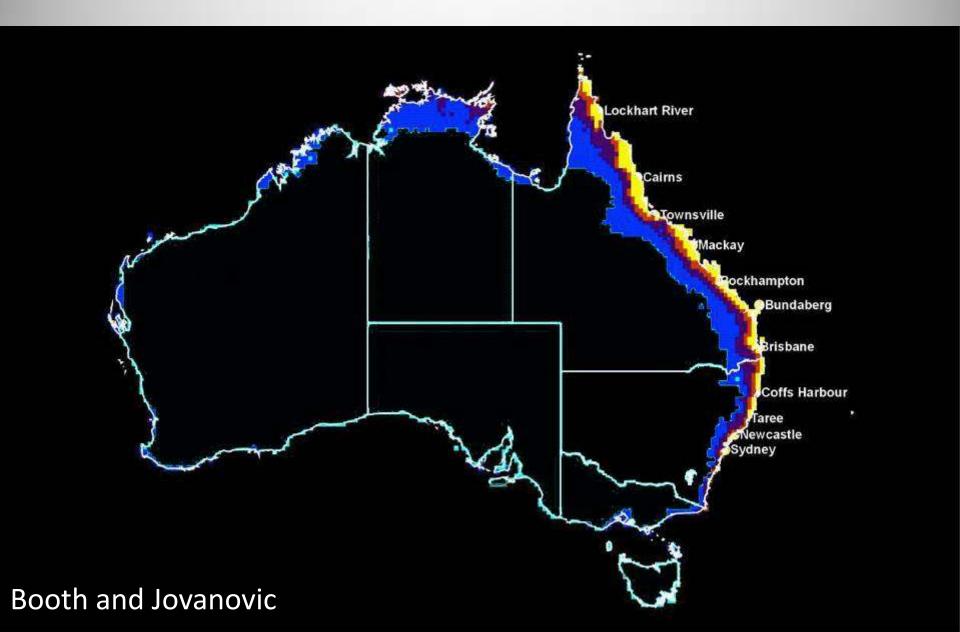
- Australia is centre of diversity for Myrtaceae
- Approx. half of the world's 147 genera and ~3,000 species
- ACIAR-funded project
 - Developed a DNA diagnostic test
 - Climate risk mapping for Australia
 - Susceptibility testing of Australian Myrtaceae species
- DAFF
 - Pathways risk analysis
 - Contingency plan

Highly sensitive nested PCR test

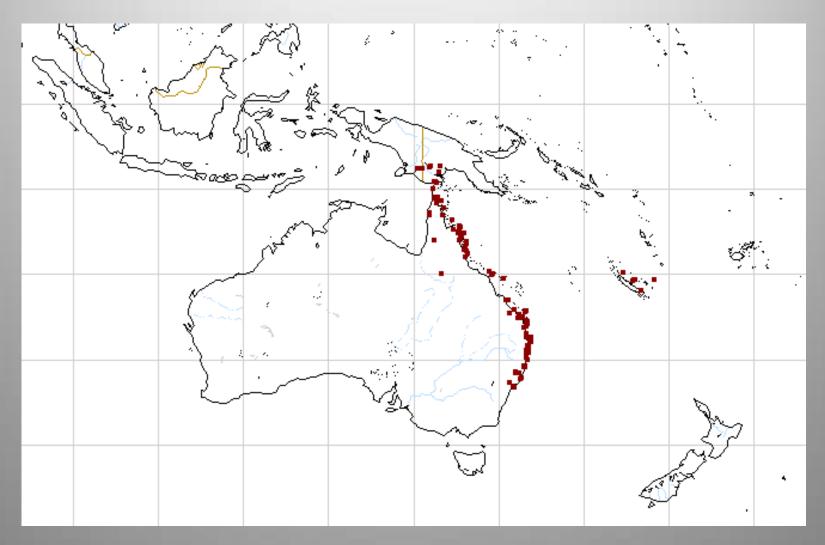


- •The nested PCR can detect as few as 4 spores on a leaf sample.
- •Spores have been detected:
 - In commercial pollen
 - On personal effects of plantation visitors, including clothing, cameras and spectacles
 - On container and timber surfaces
 - •In 2004, spores were detected on a shipment of timber from Brazil and identified as *P. psidii*

Climatic risk mapping



Distribution of the highly susceptible host *Melaleuca quinquenervia*– an ecologically important riparian species (locations based on herbarium specimens)



Rust Risk Pathways



Plant Biosecurity in Australia

- Based on an agreement between plant industries and government.
- Peak industry bodies sign an agreement ('the DEED') and contribute funds.
- Not all plant industries have signed up.
- Industry liaison through Plant Health Australia (PHA).
- Forestry has not signed
 - Which peak body?
 - Industry in poor economic state.
 - Many state-owned forestry companies.
 - No specified limits to cost contribution for incursion response.

Incursion response in Australia

- Decisions made by CCEPP
 - Chaired by CPPO (DAFF, federal)
 - Representative from each state and territory
 - Representative from each affected industry
 - Observer from PHA
- Cost sharing based on pest categorisation
 - Category 1 80% industry/20% government
 - Category 2 50% industry/50% government
 - Category 3 20% industry/80% government
 - Category 4 100% government
- Managed by state agency.

P. psidii in Australia

- Detected on a cut-flower property, 23rd April, 2010
 - Usual diagnostic channels not used
 - Identified as *Uredo rangelii* based on morphology
 - P. psidii contingency plan removed from DAFF website



Photo: Angus Carnegie, NSW I&I

- CCEPP meeting on 30th April declared it ineradicable
 - Forest industry not represented
 - Environmental agencies represented
 - Delimiting surveys not completed
 - DNA analysis not undertaken
 - Presumptions about behaviour based on experience with cereal rusts
 - Cut flower industry had not signed DEED precedent?

P. psidii in Australia



- NSW agency continued efforts to contain but with limited resources.
- Industry lobbying led to reinstatement of emergency response in July.
- Infected plants had been moved through nursery trade.
- Rust detected in native forests.
- Emergency response called off in December 2010.
- Rust found in a Queensland nursery, December 2010.

Host range

- 125 host species from 35 genera in Australia
 - Host species in Australia now outnumber those in the rest of the world.
- Host testing indicates several Eucalypt species are susceptible, but most have some genetic resistance.
- Inoculation tests unsuccessful for *Psidium* guajava, but infected guavas subsequently found.

Impact

Severe on:

- Choricarpia leptopetala
- Melaeuca quinquenervia
- •Rhodamnia rubescens
- Rhodomyrtus psidioides
- Agonis flexuosa
- •Gossia (=Austromyrtus) inophloia
- Syzygium anisatum
- •S. jambos



Photos: Angus Carnegie, NSW I&I



Queensland funding

- Susceptibility of key Queensland eucalypt species to Puccinia psidii
- Epidemiology
 - Factors influencing spread and impact of disease
- Host range
 - Variability within species
- Pathogen variability
 - Are there differences in isolate pathogenicity?
 - Is the pathogen changing over time?

DAFF (federal) funding

- Identification of resistance genes
- Fungicides
- Phylogenetic position of P. psidii
- Phenotyping
- Genomic sequencing

Thank you for your attention



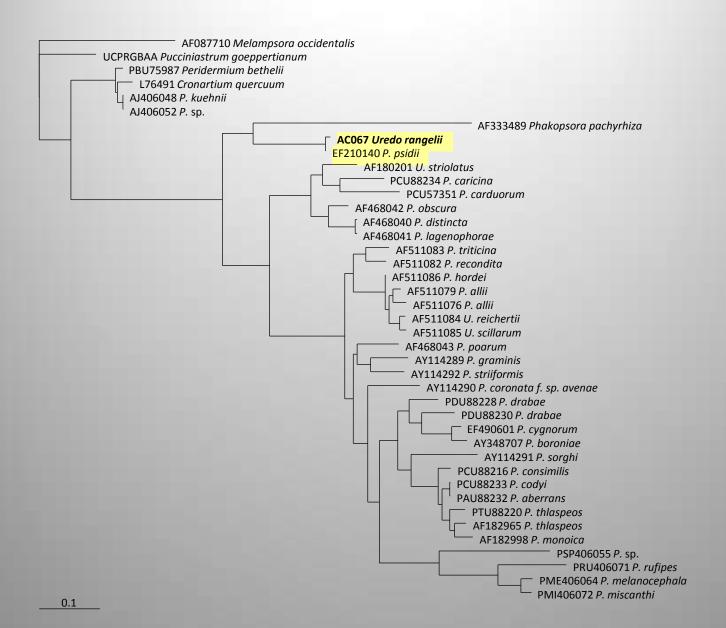


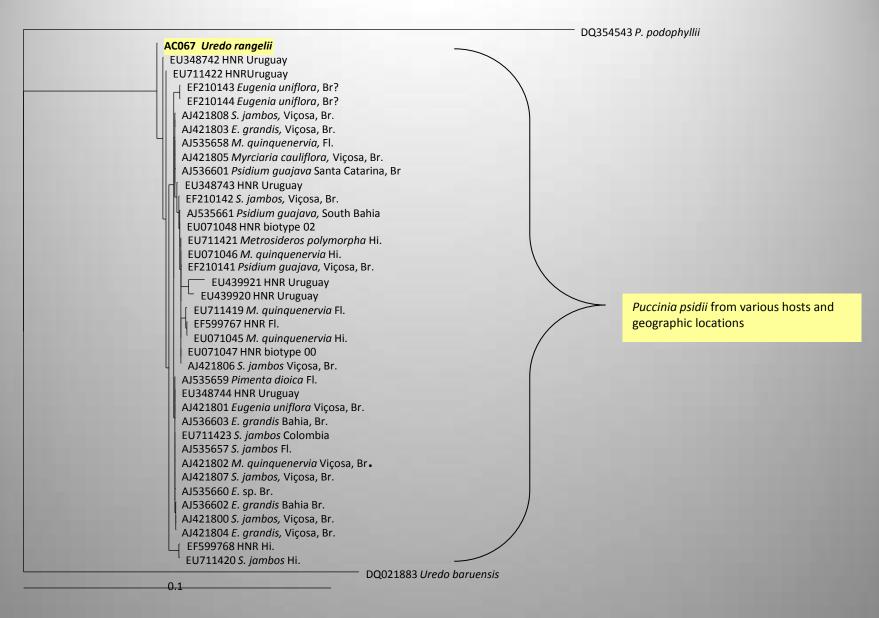
Impact on flower production – food source/regeneration



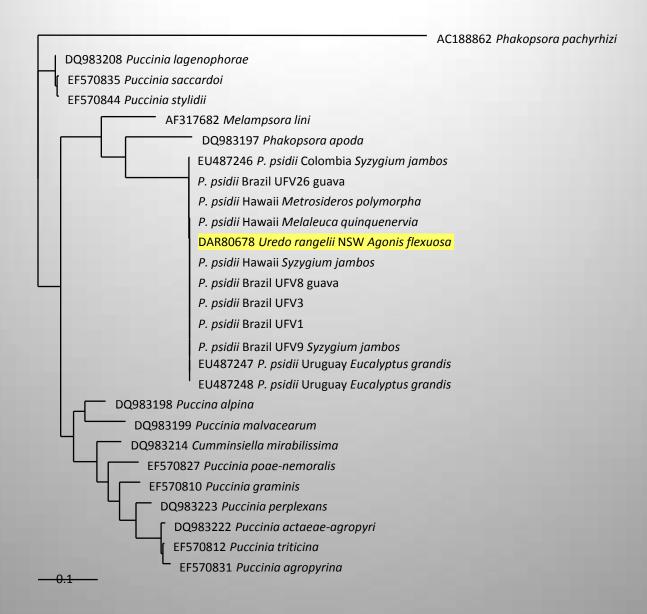
Microsatellite analysis

- A single MLG from 7 host species
 - Agonis flexuosa
 - Metrosideros collina
 - Melaleuca quinquenervia
 - Rhodamnia rubescens
 - Syncarpia glomulifera
 - Syzygium australe
 - Tristania neriifolia





Maximum Likelihood tree based on rDNA internal transcribed spacer sequences. Abbreviations: Br. = Brazil, E. = Eucalyptus, Hi. = Hawaii HNR = Host not recorded (in GenBank), M. = Melaleuca, P. = Puccinia, S. = Syzygium



Maximum Likelihood tree based on partial beta tubuulin 1 sequences, bar represents expected nucleotide substitutions.

