

SAM: Sustainable Anthracnose Management for Watermelon and Cucumber Growers in the Eastern U.S

Meeting Minutes- March 28, 2025

Objective 1 (iii): Host specificity and race-typing.

Personnel attended – Dr. Bhabesh Dutta, Dr. Navjot Kaur, Dr. Pamela Roberts, Dr. Doug Higgins, Dr. Sarah Pethybridge, Dr. Marin Brewer, Amanda McVay, Olga Khmelnitsky

Seeds for screening the isolates has been received by both **PI Roberts** and **Co-PI Higgins** for race typing and host specificity projects.

VA state- Will conduct race typing and host specificity for isolates from northern states (NY, VA, and DE)

FL state- Will conduct race typing and host specificity for southern states (GA, NC, SC)

Race 1 (BASF), Race 1 (Sakata) and Race (Sakta) (Positive controls) were shared by **Co-PI Shaker** and were sent to **Co-PI Higgins** (VA). **Co-PI Higgins** will share the positive controls with FL.

Co-PD Brewer's lab sent GA isolates to FL for race typing (n=20), additional five isolates will be sent as well. They received two older isolates from SC as well.

Wendy will share two older isolates from SC has (Race 1 (cantaloupe) and Race 2 (watermelon) of *C. orbiculare*) to both VA and FL to be included in race typing panel.

Isolates from DE and NC are undergoing still undergoing initial species resolution process due to multiple species they recovered and will be shared with VA and FL groups for race typing projects.

Olga mentioned that NY will send isolates in coming weeks to VA (**Co-PI Higgins**) for race typing and Co-PD Brewer for the genome sequencing projects.

PI Roberts and Amanda will send a list of FL isolates to **Co-PD Brewer** for selecting the isolates for genome sequencing and will use those for race typing and fungicide sensitivity assays.

Co-PI Higgins will select isolates from VA to share it with Co-PD Brewer for genome sequencing projects.