Identifying fungal factors affecting Fusarium virguliforme aggressiveness and SDS development



Fusarium virgulifrome



Objectives

- Identification of fungal genes involved in the development of SDS
- Identification and characterization of pathways involved in virulence and pathogenesis
- Detection of the karyotypic variation among Fusarium virguliforme isolates

Limitations

- Lack of genetic material (mutants, sequences...)
- Lack of tools to manipulate genes in the pathogen

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 - Generate REMI mutants
 - Generate and collaborate to generate sequence material
- Lack of tools to manipulate genes in the pathogen
 - Optimize transformation system
 - Optimize site directed mutagenesis

- Lack of genetic material
 - Generate REMI mutants
 - ~800 mutants have been generated so far
 - Mutants screened for conidiation and growth pattern
 - One mutant with impaired ability to grow on lignin and to infect soybean has been selected for further studies

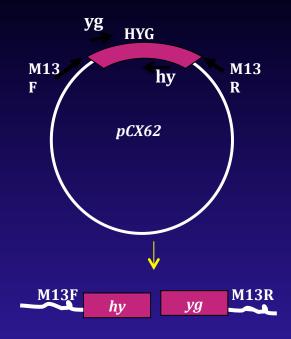
- Lack of genetic material
 - Generate and collaborate to generate sequence material
 - Necessary in identifying targets for disruption
 - Expedite gene disruption
 - Permits genomic and comparative genomic studies (complements karyotyping, population studies...)

- Lack of tools to manipulate genes in the pathogen
 - Optimize transformation system
 - A split-maker approach is being tested to disrupt genes
 - Developing auxotrophs
 - Three genes are being targeted at this point (cloned from virguliforme)
 - Snf1, grx, and fsr1

Site directed mutagenesis

1. PCR on Mont-1 and pCX62 using grx2 and HYG primers respectively





2. Fusion PCR on HYG and grx2



3. F. virguliforme (Mont-1) transformation using 3'grx2-hyg and 5'grx2-hyg

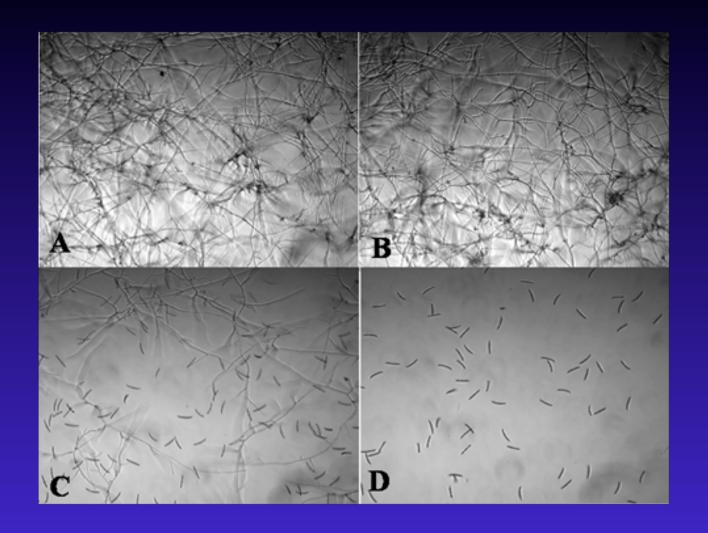
5' hy

yg 3'

Glyceollin

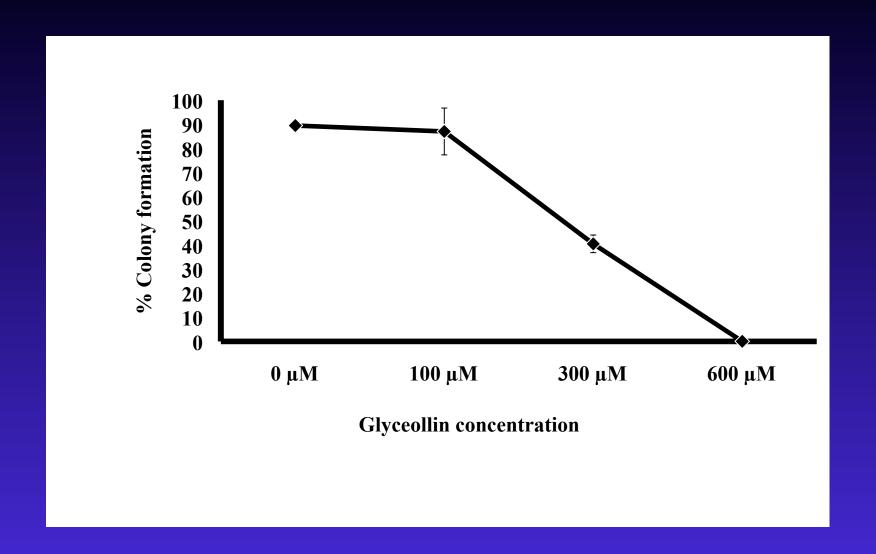
- Genes differentially expressed upon exposure to glyceollin
- Glyceollins are the major phytoalexins in soybean

Effect of glyceollin on F. virguliforme



A) no glyceollin; B) 100 μM glyceollin; C) 300 μM glyceollin; D) 600 μM glyceollin

Effect of glyceollin on F. virguliforme



cDNA-AFLP

Fungal tissue preparation

Total RNA extraction from fungal tissue

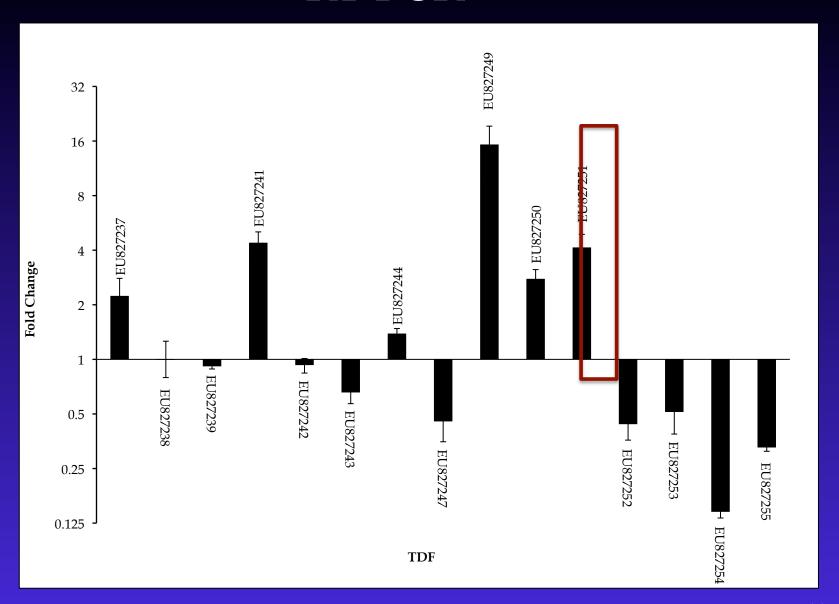
double stranded cDNA preparation

cDNA-AFLP

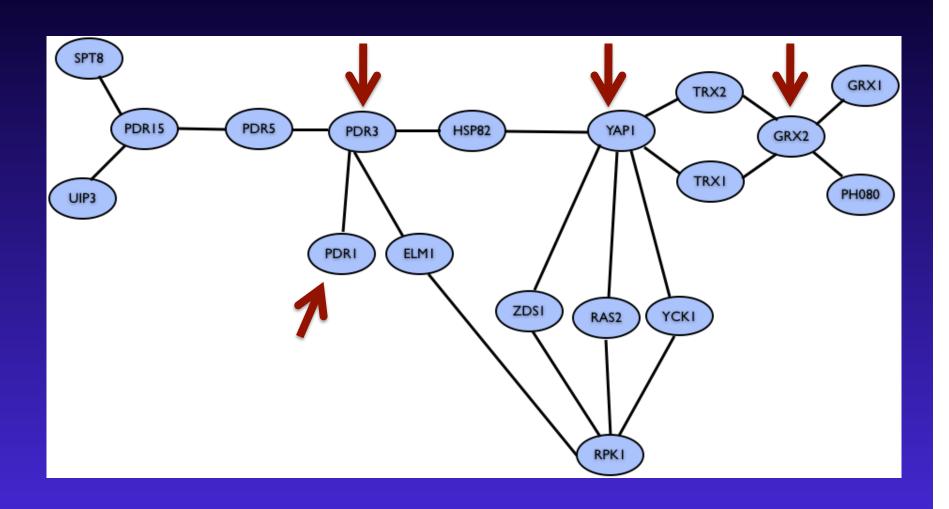
RT-PCR



RT-PCR



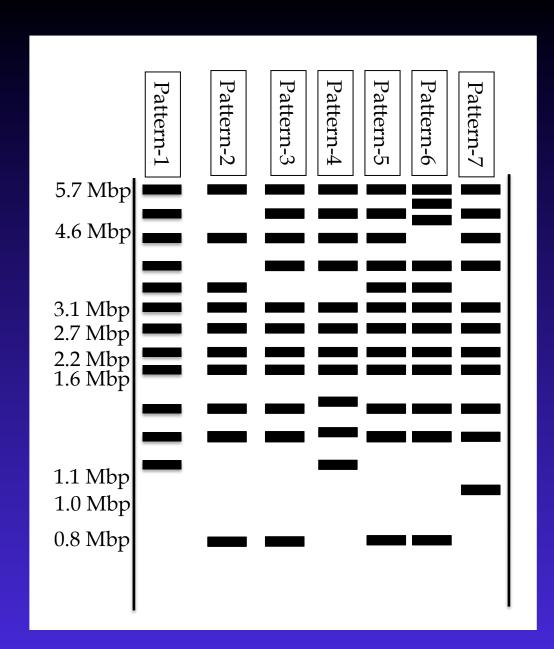
Hypothetical interactome of *F. virguliforme*

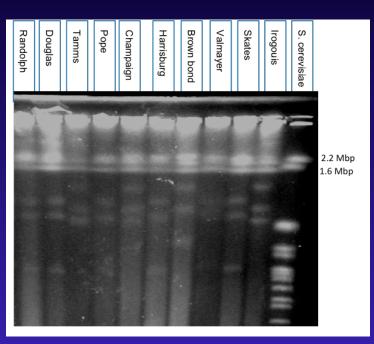


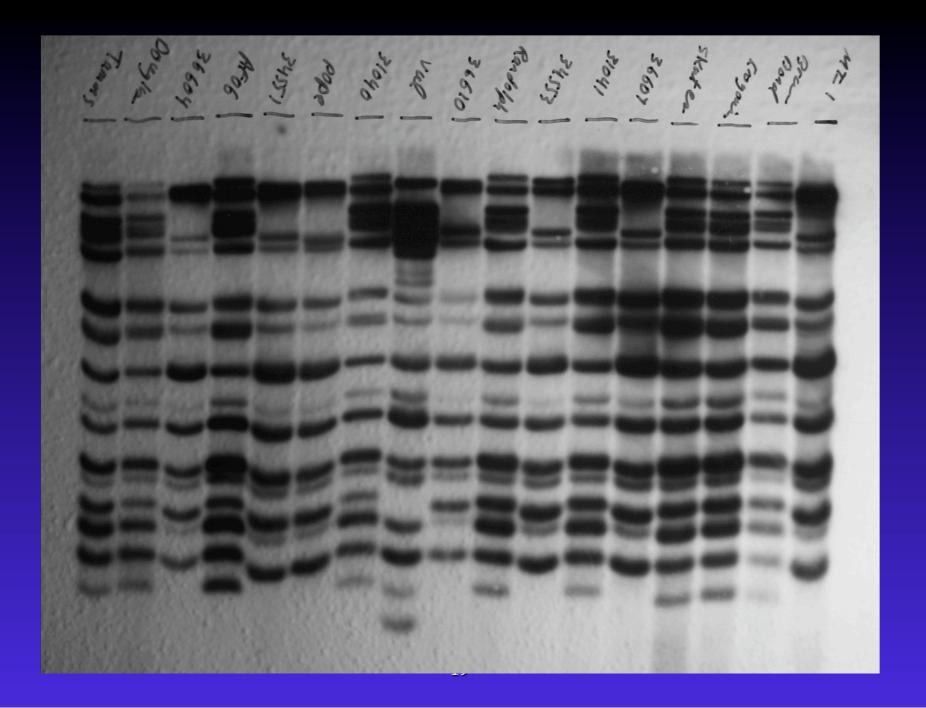
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Isolate	Geographical origin
Iowa07	Iowa
Mont-1	provided by NSRC, Illinois
Vick07	Illinois
Af06	Illinois
ARC07	Illinois
Carmi07	Illinois
22292	Illinois
31039	Illinois
31040	Illinois
31041	Illinois
22823	Indiana
22825	Indiana
34551	Argentina
34553	Argentina
36604	Argentina
36607	Argentina
36610	Argentina







Pathogenecity assay



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