

**REASERCH REGARDING THE PATHOGEN AGENT
Phytophthora parasitica Dast. ON THE HOST *Petunia hybrida* Hort.**

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Abstract

The fungus *Phytophthora parasitica* Dast., produces crown and root rot and has a wide circle of host plants, mostly horticultural crops. The fungus once installed can cause significant damage, leading even to the point of crop loss. Although this fungus has been described in earlier works, it has not been reported in recent years, but the climatic conditions of the year 2014 were favorable to the appearance and evolution of the micromycetes in the *Pythiaceae* family. In the last decade the pathogen *Phytophthora parasitica* Dast. Has been reported only sporadically. Also the increase in imports of horticultural material in the past few years favors the risk of transmission and spread of the fungus. In the crops of *Petunia hybrida* Hort. from the Municipality Greenhouses of Iasi and the Botanical Garden of Iasi, in the month of April 2014, there have been established a number of plants attacked by the pathogen agent *Phytophthora parasitica* Dast. Within this paper observations were made both in the field and in the laboratory. Measurements were made based on the symptoms of attack, the fungal morphological characters and the reference monographs.

Key words: *Phytophthora parasitica*, *Petunia hybrida*, root and crown rot.