First report of *Fusarium cerealis* on *Anthoxanthum aristatum* Boiss. in Poland

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Specimens of *Anthoxanthum aristatum* Boiss – expansive segetal weed in cereals were collected in Western Poland in 2017. Symptomatic stems were sterilized in 3% NaClO, rinsed in water, and incubated on potato dextrose agar (PDA) at 24 °C. A large number of *F. cerealis* (Cooke) Sacc. strains were found. On PDA the colonies reached 90 mm in seven days. The aerial mycelium was woolly, with an intense dark red or carmine color. Macroconidia were falcate and elliptically curved. Apical cells were slightly curved and gradually narrowing, basal cells were pedicellate. Macroconidia with five septa reached a size of 43–62 × 5–6 µm. Microconidia were absent. Chlamydospores are intercalary, hyaline, single or in chains, 11–18 µm in diam. Genetic analyses of translation elongation factor 1-alpha (TEF) were conducted following Geiser et al. (2004). The obtained PCR products were sequenced and one accession was deposited in the NCBI database (MG925040). A BLAST search of the *Fusarium* MLST database revealed that the sequence had 100% identity to TEF-1a sequences of *F. cerealis* (DQ531560-CBS 314.73). A pathogenicity test was conducted by injecting 50 µl of macroconidia suspension (10⁵ spores/ml) on three-week-old *A. aristatum* seedlings (20 plants in

three series). All plants were covered with plastic bags and incubated at 24 °C. 6–8 days after inoculation, damping off of the seedlings was found only on plants treated with *F. cerealis*. The same fungus was isolated following the protocol described above. To our knowledge (Farr and Rossman 2018), this is the first report of *F. cerealis* on *A. aristatum* in Poland.

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