

Leaf endophytes and host genotype in *Populus* affect severity of damage from the necrotrophic leaf pathogen, *Drepanopeziza populi*.

Contact: David Weston, (865) 241-8323, westondj@ornl.gov

Funding: DOE Office of Science, Biological and Environmental Research, Genomic Science Program
And Fellowship programs: DOE GCEP, Heinz, and NSF Graduate Research Fellowship.

Background

- Fungal leaf endophytes and host plant genotypes may interact to determine plant disease severity, but mechanism by which fungal leaf endophytes alter disease is unknown.

Science

- The interactions of different fungal endophytes and *Drepanopeziza populi* were evaluated on the host plant, *Populus angustifolia*.
- Preliminary assessment of the mechanism of interaction, based on host gene expression across a range of defense-related genes was made.

Significance

- this

