

Additional Information on Coniochaeta tetraspora (SA42)

ORIGIN OF STOCK: (additional information)

Soil Sample collection information: Arid chaparral soil; 3,000 feet elevation, north of Upland and Claremont, California, near the San Antonio Dam on the lower southern slopes of the San Gabriel Mountains, Southern California; Adenostoma fasciculatum (=chamise) the dominant shrub. Collected by Jeff LaFavre (California State University, Los Angeles) on September 4, 1975, less than a week after a wildfire (August 31, 1975) had ravaged the area.

Coniochaeta tetraspora (SA42) was isolated by Jeff LaFavre in 1976, employing a soil dilution technique and glucose ammonium nitrate agar (Gochenaur, S. E. 1964. A modification of the immersion tube method for isolating soil fungi. Mycologia 56:921-923.). The soil was heated and surface litter destroyed by the wildfire 4 days earlier (see unpublished M.S. thesis: LaFavre, J. S. 1977. Mycoecology of a chamise chaparral: Microfilamentous soil fungi from burned and unburned soils. M.S. Thesis, California State Univ., Los Angeles.).

IF UNPUBLISHED: (additional information)

Coniochaeta tetraspora was isolated a number of times, particularly from recently burned areas of the chaparral. Strains SA42 and SA451 were kept as representative of those isolates. Coniochaeta tetraspora (but no specific strain) is mentioned briefly in the publication of a new species of Coniochaeta: Mahoney, D. P., and J. S. LaFavre. 1981. Coniochaeta extramundana with a synopsis of other Coniochaeta species. Mycologia 73:931-952. (Reprint enclosed) D. Mahoney suggested the use of C. tetraspora to Dr. David Perkins and Dr. Namboori Raju and provided them with the culture. They have used it in their ongoing cytologic and genetic research on pseudohomothallic species. The FGSC accession number for Coniochaeta tetraspora (SA42) will be published in their forthcoming publication.

COMMENTS: (additional information)

Growth Media employed for C. tetraspora: Difco corn meal agar (CMA) and modified Leonian's agar (ML) (for ML see Malloch, D. 1981. Moulds, Their Isolation, Cultivation and Identification. University of Toronto Press, Toronto, Canada. 97 pp. -- xerox of ML recipe attached).

Incubation conditions: normal laboratory temperature and lighting.

A brief composite description of Jeff LaFavre's many C. tetraspora isolates (including strains SA42 and SA451) from corn meal agar cultures is as follows (LaFavre, 1977): Both strains were extremely fertile, producing many perithecia and many asci per perithecium in approximately 3 weeks.