

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON
Te Whare Wananga o te Upoko o te Ika a Maui



September 5, 1997

Fungal Genetics Stock Center
Dept. of Microbiology
Univ. of Kansas Medical Center
Kansas City, Kansas 66160-7420

Dear Curator of the Culture Collection,

Enclosed with this letter you will find 2 cultures of Podospora austrohemisphaerica Lundqvist sp. nov. (a heterothallic Podospora). These are strains #185 and 250-8. They are growing on Difco corn meal agar (CMA) and are producing only the Phialophora anamorph. To produce the ascosporic stage we mate them on Difco CMA containing sterile wild rabbit droppings. The details of that mating are provided on the enclosed information sheet entitled "Podospora austrohemisphaerica Lundqvist sp. nov." under the subtitle "Information relevant to herbarium material being submitted to the New York Botanical Garden". This sheet was sent to Dr. Barbara Thiers at the NY Botanical Garden along with a dried culture of that mating. Also enclosed is my letter to her and an additional sheet marked "Comments". Although I have filled out your accession form which I pulled off your WEB site, much of the information is on the other enclosures.

As you will note from the enclosures, the 2 mating strains were not recognized as such when cultures were submitted to ATCC and CBS. However, our discovery of heterothallism warrants, we feel, the deposit of these strains with you also. Hopefully, despite the rather slow production of an ascosporic stage and the relatively few perithecia that result, someone will take an interest in its genetics. Certainly, they are more likely to come across it in their search for an organism that has genetic potential if they see it in your catalogue.

The manuscript which describes Podospora austrohemisphaerica is nearing completion. All the illustrations are ready and most of the other details as well. Four people will coauthor the paper, including Nils Lundqvist from Sweden (the senior author and author of the new species), Laura Lorenzo from Argentina, and Ann Bell and myself (Dan Mahoney) from New Zealand. It will be submitted to MYCOLOGIA in the near future. Ann and I have handled the cultural aspects of the study. As your time permits, please send me the accession numbers. I am presently in New Zealand where I spend most of each year but will be returning to Southern California on Sept. 15th to teach during the Fall Quarter. Until Sept. 15th, my Email address in New Zealand is <dmahoney@matai.vuw.ac.nz>. After that I can be reached in the States at Email address <74473.1145@compuserve.com>. My address in Southern California is the following: Biology Dept., California State University at Los Angeles (CSULA), 5151 State Univ. Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90032.