Transferability of SSR markers from related Uredinales species to the coffee rust *Hemileia vastatrix*

M. Cristancho and C. Escobar

Plant Pathology Department, National Coffee Research Centre, CENICAFE (Colombia National Center for Coffee Research), Plan Alto, Chinchiná-Caldas, Colombia

Corresponding author: M. Cristancho
E-mail: marco.cristancho@cafedecolombia.com

Received July 10, 2008
Accepted August 27, 2008
Published October 28, 2008

**ABSTRACT.** The aim of the present research was to test the transferability of simple sequence repeat (SSR) markers developed in two Uredinales species to *Hemileia vastatrix*, coffee rust. The development of efficient techniques for the identification of *H. vastatrix* isolates is imperative, given the continuous development of new races. The transferability of 25 SSR markers developed in the related Uredinales species *Puccinia coronata f. sp lolli* and *Melampsora linii* to *H. vastatrix* was tested. A low level of transferability of SSRs was detected, and only 4 potential markers that can be used to fingerprint the coffee rust races were identified.

**Key words:** Coffee rust; Simple sequence repeats