

## **Greenhouse Evaluation of Wild *Arachis* Species for Resistance to *Athelia rolfsii***

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*Athelia rolfsii* (Curzi) C.C. Tu & Kimbr. is the one of the most damaging pathogens of cultivated peanut, causing the soilborne disease known regionally as white mold, stem blight, or southern blight. Because the genetic base for cultivated peanut is narrow, wild *Arachis* species may possess novel sources of disease resistance. We evaluated 18 accessions representing 15 *Arachis* species (*batizcoi*, *benensis*, *cardenasii*, *correntina*, *cruziana*, *diogoi*, *duranensis*, *herzogii*, *hoehnei*, *kempff-mercadoi*, *kuhlmannii*, *microsperma*, *monticola*, *simpsonii*, *williamsii*) in the greenhouse for resistance to *Athelia rolfsii*. Inoculations were conducted on intact plants propagated from rooted cuttings inoculated with mycelial plugs. Plants were maintained in an enclosed chamber with high humidity, and lesion length was measured at 4, 6, 10, and 12 days after inoculation. Preliminary results indicate that *Arachis batizcoi* (PI 468326 and PI 468327), *Ar. herzogii* (PI 476008), and *Ar. cruziana* (PI 476003) were among the most susceptible entries with a mean lesion length >46 mm at 12 days after inoculation. *Arachis microsperma* (PI 666096 and PI 674407) and *Ar. diogoi* (PI 468354) were among the more resistant entries, along with the resistant controls Georgia-03L and U.S. mini-core entry CC650 (PI 478819), with mean lesion lengths <15 mm at 12 days after inoculation. These results should be useful to peanut geneticists seeking additional sources of resistance to *Athelia rolfsii*.