



A deepen knowledge of *Colletotrichum lupini*, a major threat for Lupin cultures

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► To cite this version:

Riccardo Baroncelli, Guillaume Dubrulle, Henri Lepilleur, Daniele da Lio, Morgane Chalopin, et al.. A deepen knowledge of *Colletotrichum lupini*, a major threat for Lupin cultures. 12th European Foundation for Plant Pathology (EFPP) & 10th French Society for Plant Pathology (SFP) Conferences: "Deepen Knowledge in Plant Pathology for Innovative Agro-Ecology", May 2017, Dunkerque, France.
. hal-01870122

HAL Id: hal-01870122

<https://hal.science/hal-01870122>

Submitted on 7 Sep 2018

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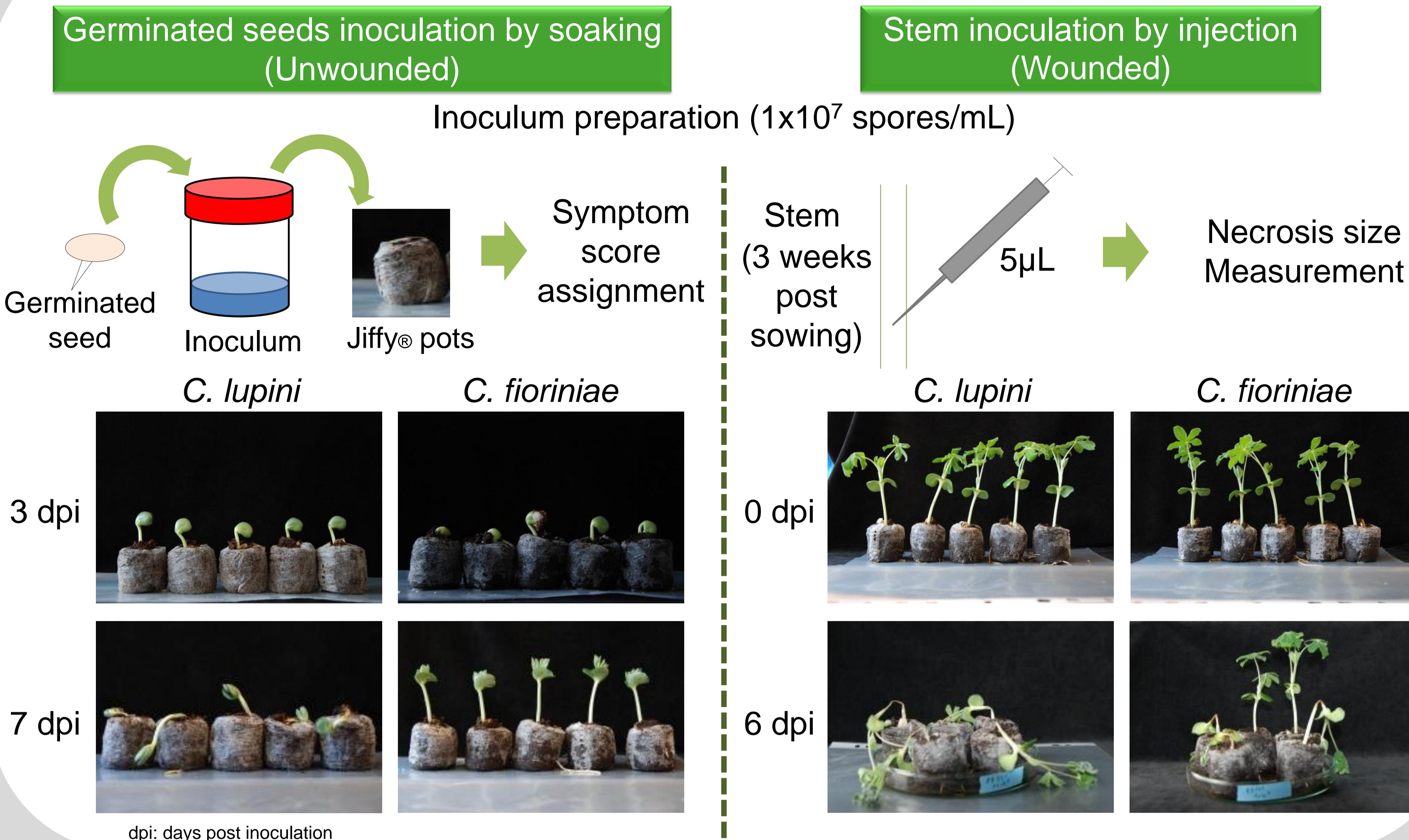
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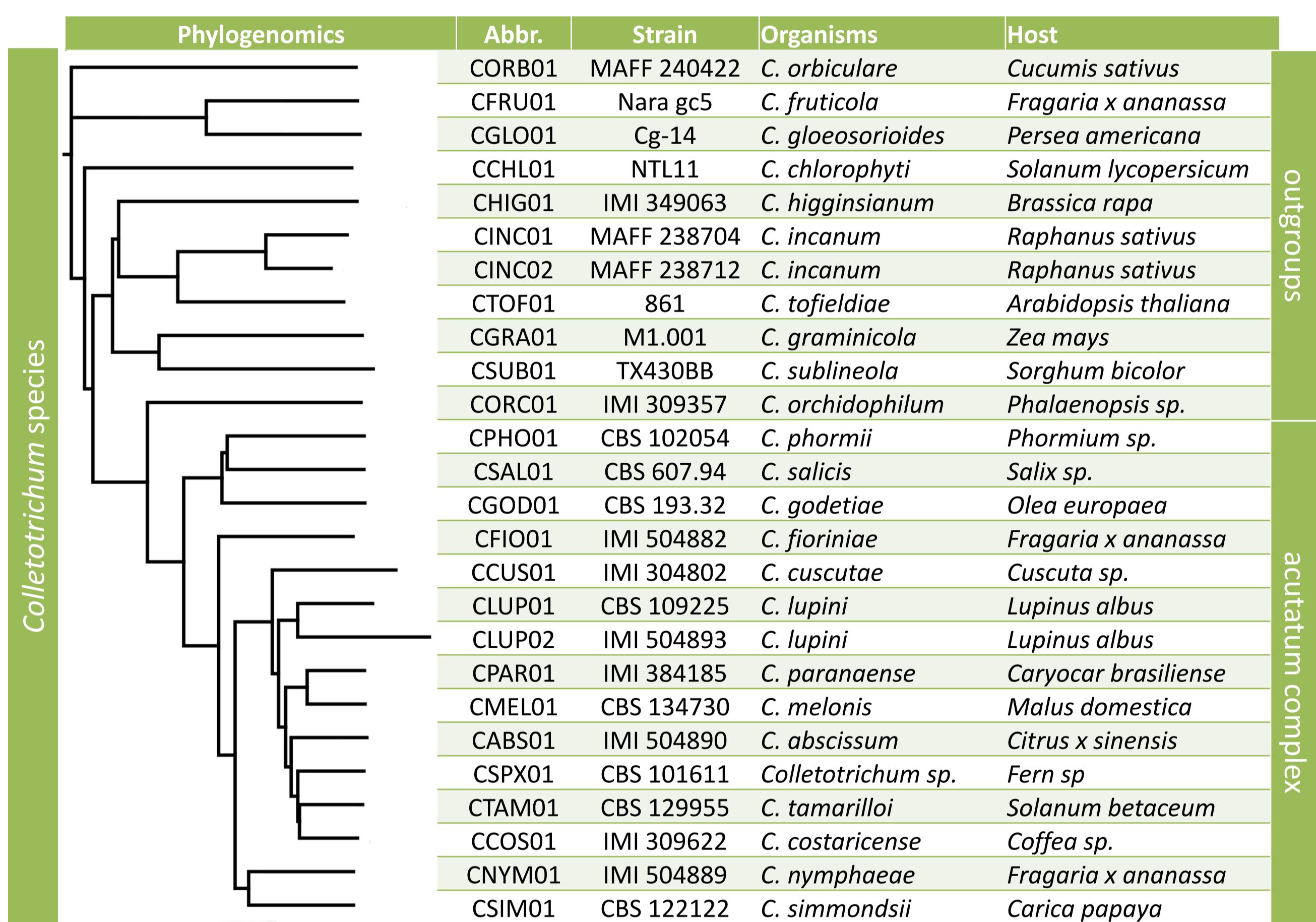
BACKGROUND

- The *Colletotrichum acutatum* species complex (CAsc) includes about 31 species that infect a wide diversity of crop plants worldwide.
- Colletotrichum lupini* is a species within the CAsc, specific to his host. It is a major threat on Lupin (*Lupinus spp.*). On the contrary, *C. fioriniae*, which is also in the CAsc and can infect a wide host range.
- In addition to its economic impact, *C. lupini* is a useful model to study host speciation process.
- The aim of the project is to gain an understanding in the molecular factors involved in pathogenicity and the genomic signature associated with host specificity in plant pathogenic fungi.

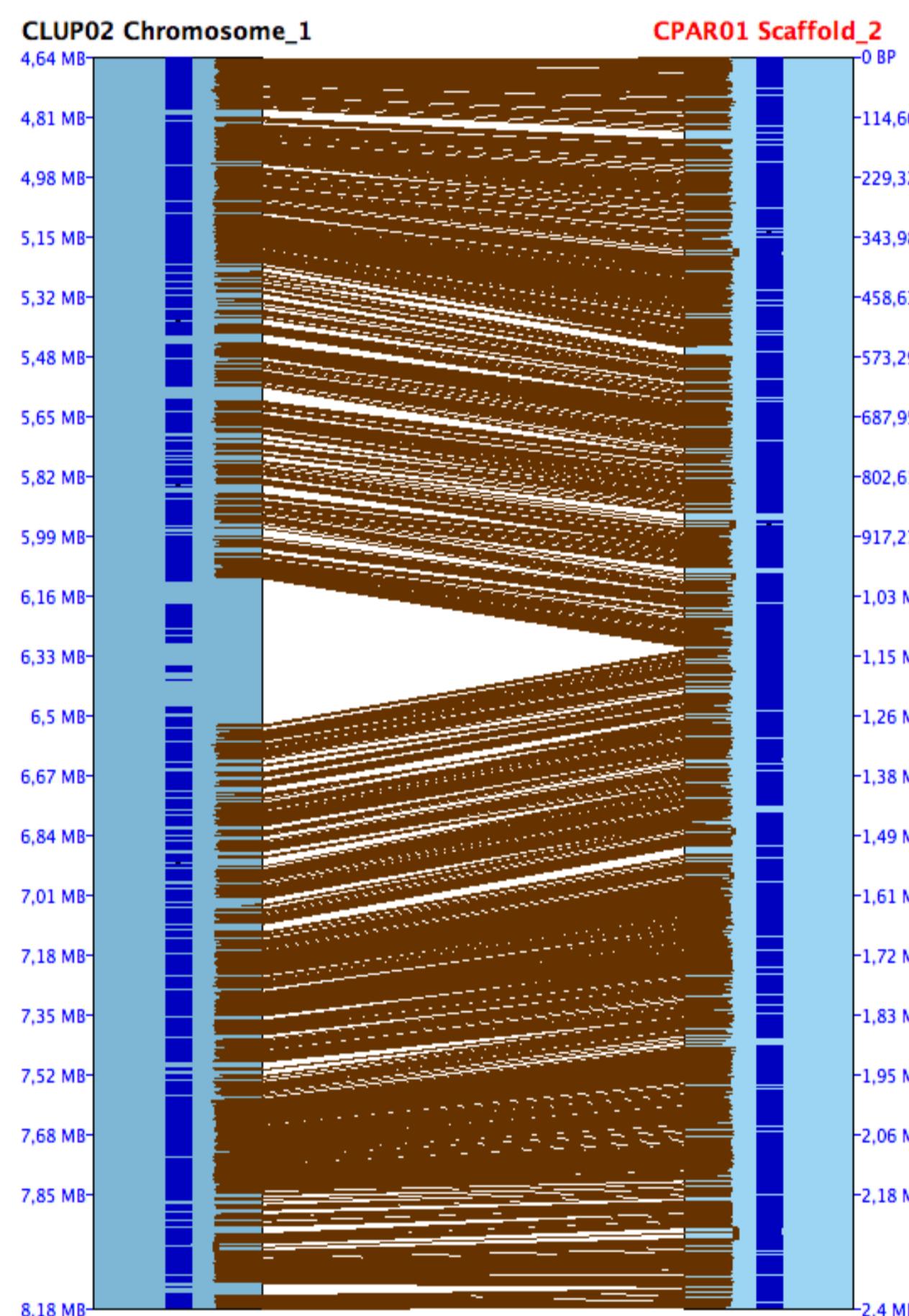
HOST SPECIFICITY



GENOME SEQUENCES

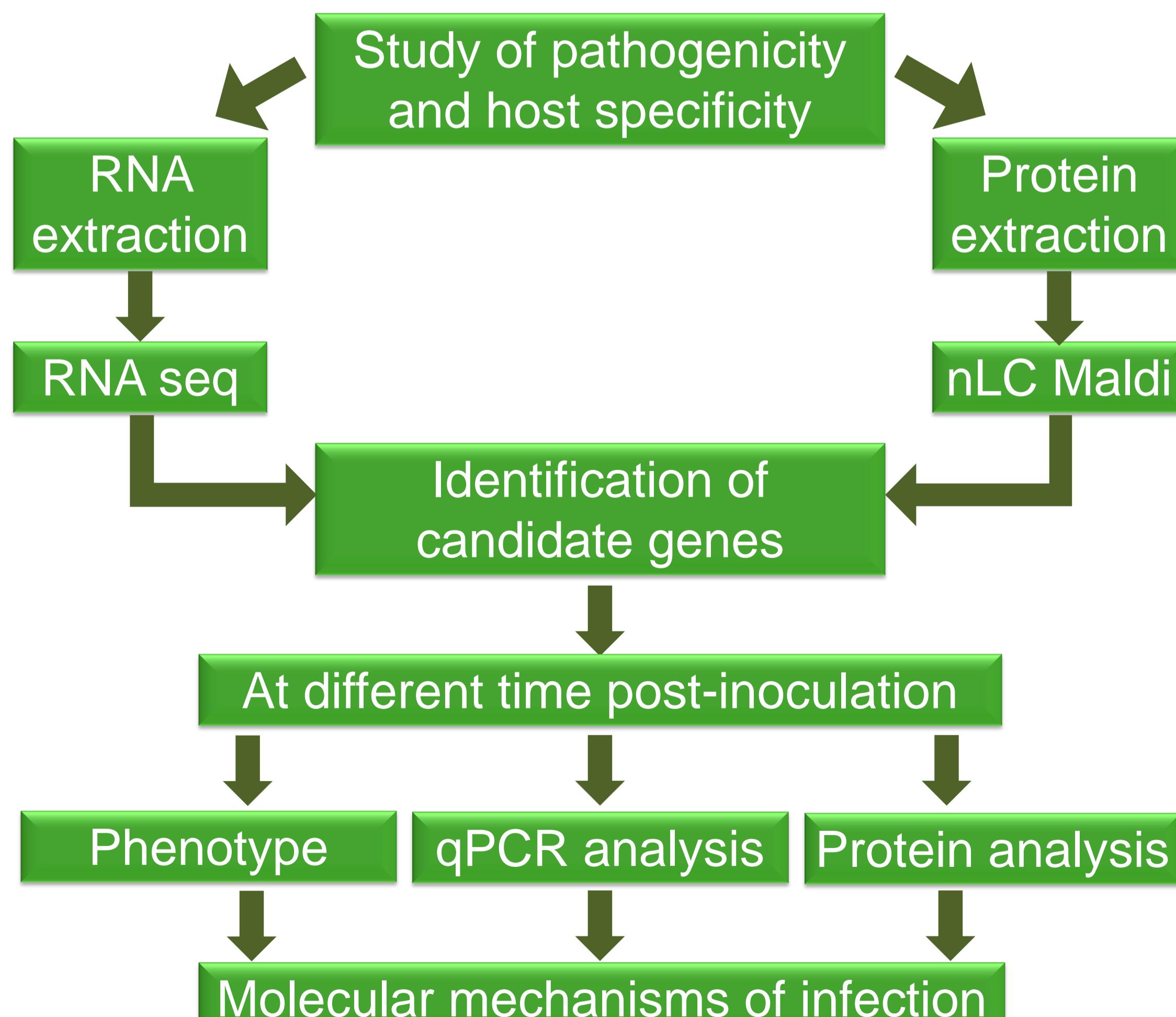


SYNTENY AND SPECIES SPECIFIC REGIONS



- Comparing full genome alignments of the *C. lupini* genomes and other *Colletotrichum* spp. we were able to identify ***C. lupini* specific regions (SSR)**
- One single region (SSR1) of 0.4 Mb **does not show any similarity** with any other genomes analyzed and is present in all *C. lupini* genomes analyzed
- SSR1 harbors **28 putative genes** of which: 9 do not have any similarity with known proteins in public databases and 10 have been predicted to form a PKS/NRPS Hybrid Gene Cluster
- Those genes will be used to investigate their **role in *C. lupini* pathogenicity**

ONGOING ANALYSIS



RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

Pathogenicity tests were developed, focusing on the inoculum concentration, inoculation methods and symptom scoring to study the interaction.

Preliminary tests of infection reveal that *C. lupini* produces symptoms in both infection methods (i.e. with and without wound). On the contrary, *C. fioriniae* did not produce symptoms on unwounded plants.

We could suppose that *C. lupini* host specificity relies on the early stage of infection during the entry of the fungi through plant epidermis.

The genome sequences enabled to identify specific regions of *C. lupini* that might be involved in the ability of this species to infect Lupin plants.

The coming methodological approach will contribute to identify pathogenicity factors and host specificity mechanisms.