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## STEMPHYLIUM IN SUGAR BEET — FACTORS INFLUENCING INFECTION ABSTRACT

Since 2007 the yellow leaf spots identified as *Stemphylium beticola* nom. prov. cause sugar yield losses up to 40% in Dutch sugar beet production every year (Hanse, 2013, Hanse and Raaijmakers, 2014, Hanse *et al.*, 2015). The infestation appears in June-August on the leaves of sugar beet. From infested sugar beet leaves several isolates were obtained. Those isolates were used in climate room experiments to investigate the variability in tolerance of sugar beet varieties. Also experiments on the required circumstances for successful infection of sugar beet leaves by *Stemphylium beticola* nom. prov. are presented.