

No# Title	305 Pine wilt disease: progress in understanding the dynamics and developing control measures
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Session description	The pine wood nematode (PWN), <i>Bursaphelenchus xylophilus</i> , is an invasive organism native to North America which causes huge damage in pine forests in eastern Asian countries (Japan, China, Korea and Taiwan) and Europe (Portugal and more recently Spain) where it was accidentally introduced. The PWN is carried by native insects of the genus <i>Monochamus</i> . Once inoculated by the insect to the pine during maturation feeding or oviposition, the PWN can develop and cause the wilt of pine needles and the tree death within a few weeks if environmental conditions are favorable to the disease expression. Some measures are applied to prevent further invasions, to detect new infestations, to eradicate local populations, and to limit population spread. However, controlling the pine wilt disease is very difficult. This session consists of oral communications and posters presenting the disease situation and the latest research progresses in understanding the nematode pathogenicity and effects on the tree hosts, interaction with insect-vector, disease spread dynamics and management.