Herpotrichia juniperi



Herpotrichia juniperi

Brown felt blight (Engl.), schwarzer Schneeschimmel (Deut.), ? (Franc.), ? (Ital.), Pajčevinasta črnoba iglavcev (Slowen.)

Host species

Picea species, Pinus cembra, Pinus mugo, Abies alba, Juniperus communis L..

Symptoms

Fungal threads form a brown-black compact felt who covers single shouts to small trees. Black, round fruiting bodies grow on infected, dead needle.

Causal agent

Herpotrichia juniper appears in 900m - 2000m N.N. The disease developing starts with temperature at -5° C and only under the snow. Therefore most damage is caused in areas with plenty and long-lasting snow like the foothills of the Alps. The fungal infects mostly young and weak trees or the lower level of old tree branches.

Possibilities of errors

Herpotrichia juniper can be differed from Herpotrichia coulteri only when the spores are observed mocroskopic.

Effects

Dying of the infected branches. When the whole tree (seedling) is infected, *Herpotrichia juniper* is lethal.

Control

Infected plant or parts should be cut and burned in the whole vegetation period. High ground vegetation should be cleared to minimize the infection risk. Control with fungicide would have to be done several times in the year and over a long time.