



## **SOUTH-NORTH RESEARCH COOPERATION**

# **Reflections on the encounter with the academic culture in Denmark**

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PhD Stipendiat*

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UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN



# DISPOSITION

## **A. MY RESEARCH PROJECT**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

**2. AIMS**


**3. MATERIALS AND METHODS**

**4. RESULTS**

**5. CONCLUSIONS**

## **B. REFLECTION ON THE ENCOUNTER WITH THE ACADEMIC CULTURE IN DENMARK**

**1 CONTEXT FOR MY SCHOLARSHIP**



## **SOUTH-NORTH RESEARCH COOPERATION PhD PROJECT ON QUINOA**

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# Characterization of diseases infecting quinoa *Chenopodium* spp. and search for sources of resistance to Downy mildew (*Peronospora variabilis*)

*Carla Colque-Little*



# 1. Introduction

Sand Dunes Chipaya, Oruro-Bolivia

*Chisi way mama*

quinoa

quinua

inca rice

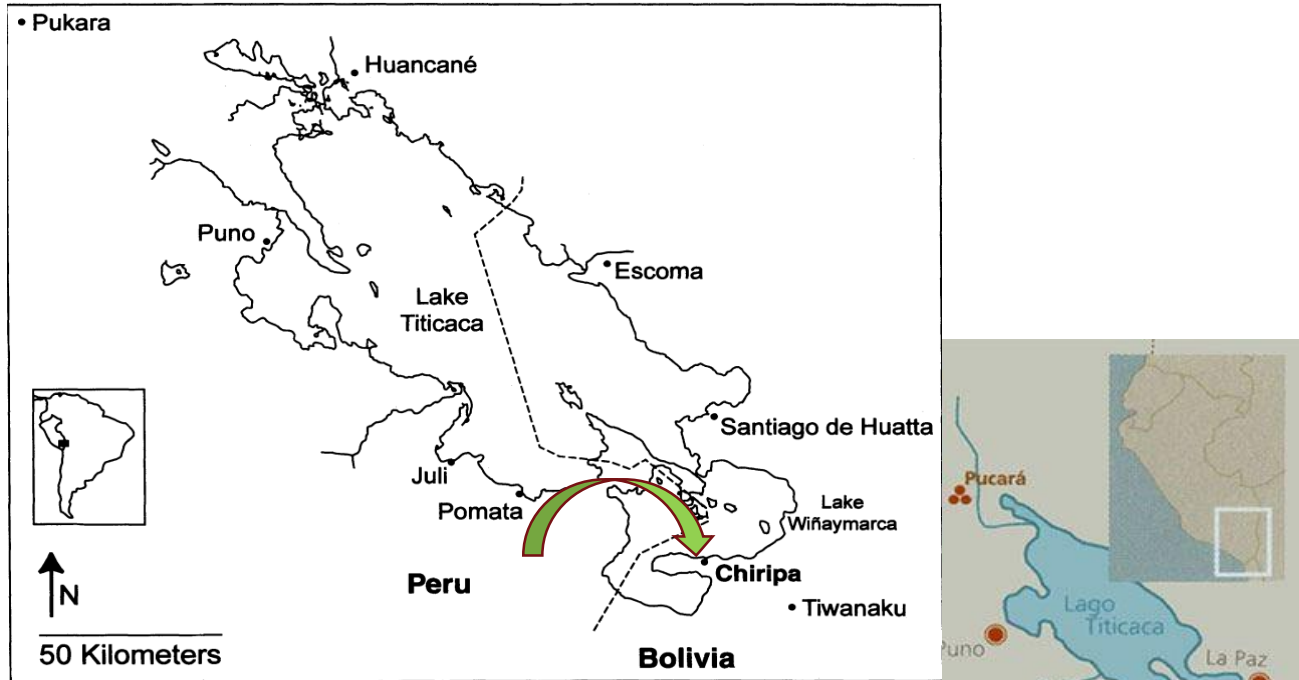
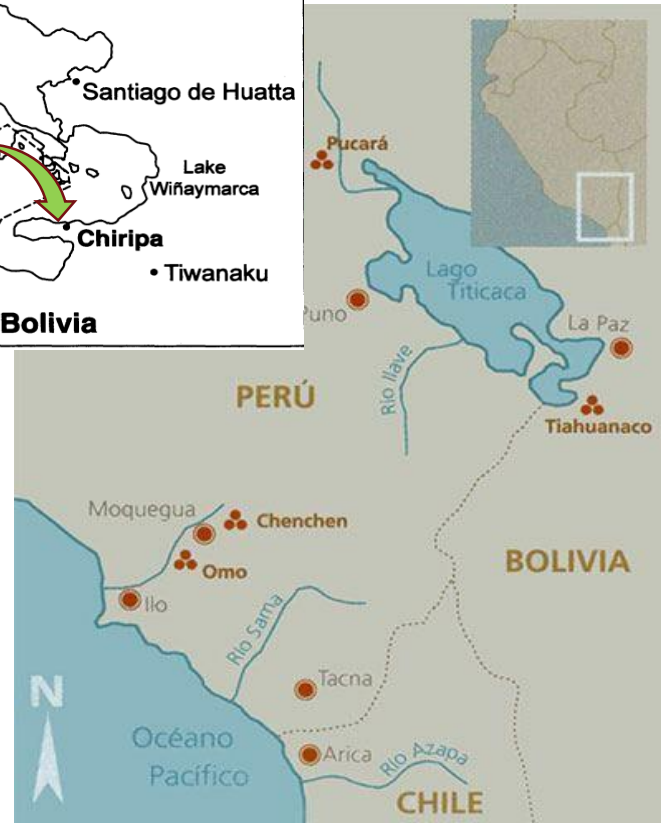


Figure 1 Map of Lake Titicaca Basin (Bruno and Whitehead 2003)

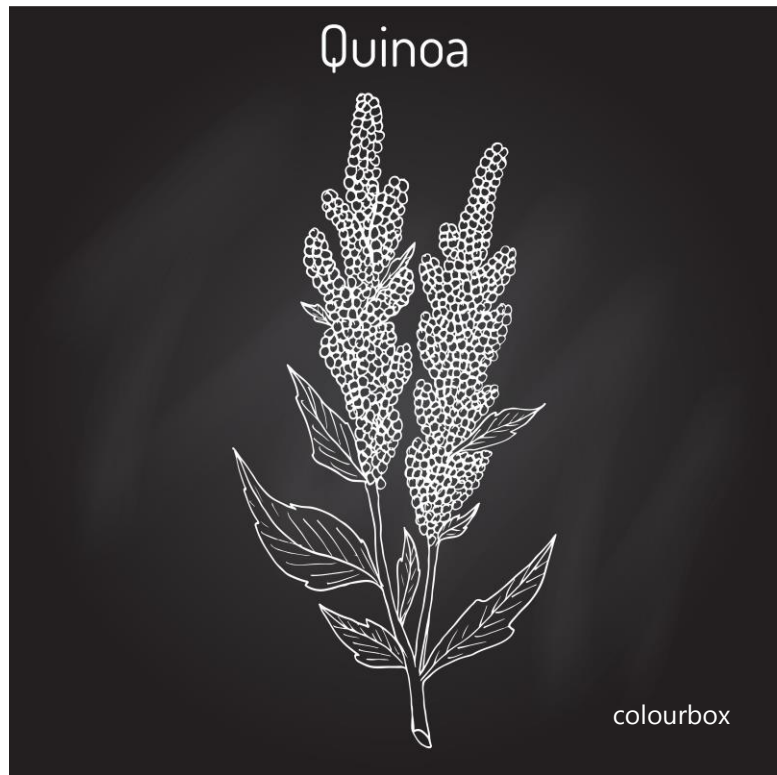


<https://historiaperuana.pe/wp-content/uploads/mapa-cultura-tiahuanaco.jpg>



Picture 1. Chiripa Aschological site. *Bolivia es Turismo*. Oct, 2018

- A dycotyledonous herbaceous plant with edible seeds.  
Bbelonging to Order Cariophylliales and Amaranthacea family.  
As a chenopod (goose foot) closely related to beets, chard and spinach



## Why an exceptional food?

- Protein  $\approx$ 15%
- Lysine ,  
isoleucine
- Minerals and  
vitamins

- Polyphenols,  
phytosterols, and  
flavonoids with possible  
nutraceutical benefits
- Good proportions of  
omega-6 and vitamin E

Quinoa is the grain crop with most nutrients per 100 calories. It has no cholesterol and does not cause allergies (FAO, 2013)



Tahua, Salinas de Garci Mendoza.Oruro, Bolivia (Shores of salt flat)

## Resilient crop

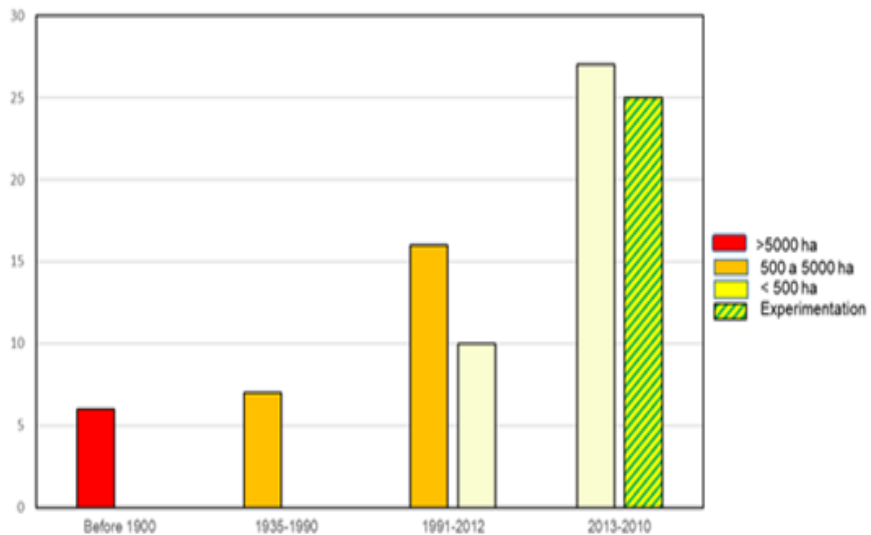
Able to survive high altitudes, thin and cold air, hot sun, salty or sandy soil, little rainfall, and sub-freezing temperatures.



# Quinoa world expansion

1991-2012		2013-2010	
Argentina	7	Austria (1990-)	*8
Bolivia	1/2	Brazil (1997-2003)	
Chile	*6	China (1997-2003)	5
Colombia		Czech Republic (1990-)	
Ecuador	3	Denmark (1997-2003)	*
Peru	*2	Germany (1990-)	
		India (1997-2003)	4
		Italy (1993-)	
		Israel	*
		Japan	
		Lebanon	
		Netherlands (1993-)	*
		Pakistan (2011)	
		Poland (1990-)	
		Spain	
		Sweden (1990-)	
		Turkey (2006-)	
		Australia	
		Belgium	
		Bulgaria	
		Costa Rica	
		Egypt (2006-)	
		Finland	
		Greece (1990-)	
		Jordan	
		Laos	
		Madagascar	
		Malawi	
		Mali	
		Morocco (2008-2012)	
		Namibia	
		Nepal	
		New Zealand	
		Romania	
		Russia	
		United Arab Emirates	
		Venezuela	
		Algeria	
		Bhutan	
		Burkina Faso	
		Cameroon	
		Chad	
		Djibouti	
		Ethiopia	
		Ghana	
		Guinea	
		Iran	
		Iraq	
		Kyrgyzstan	
		Mauritania	
		Niger	
		Portugal (2008-2012)	
		Senegal	
		Somali	
		South Sudan	
		Sri Lanka	
		Sudan	
		Syria (2006-)	
		Tajikistan	
		Togo	
		Uganda	
		Yemen	
		Zambia	

Number of quinoa growing countries timeline and quantity of produce



Quinoa worldwide development in 1973



Quinoa worldwide development in 1993



Quinoa worldwide development in 2003



Quinoa worldwide development in 2013

Figure 2. Quinoa growing countries timeline and quantity of produce (compiled by author from Public science and (Bazile et al., 2016) (Bazilie, D., Baudron, F., 2015).

Fig. 3. Quinoa worldwide development 1973-2013 (Bazilie, D., Baudron, F., 2015)

# Quinoa Production, area and yield

## Abiotic stressor

- Agricultural Practices
- Little or no replacement of soil fertility

## Biotic Stressor

- Climate change negative effects
- Population dynamics of pests and **diseases**
- Lack of **seed** production

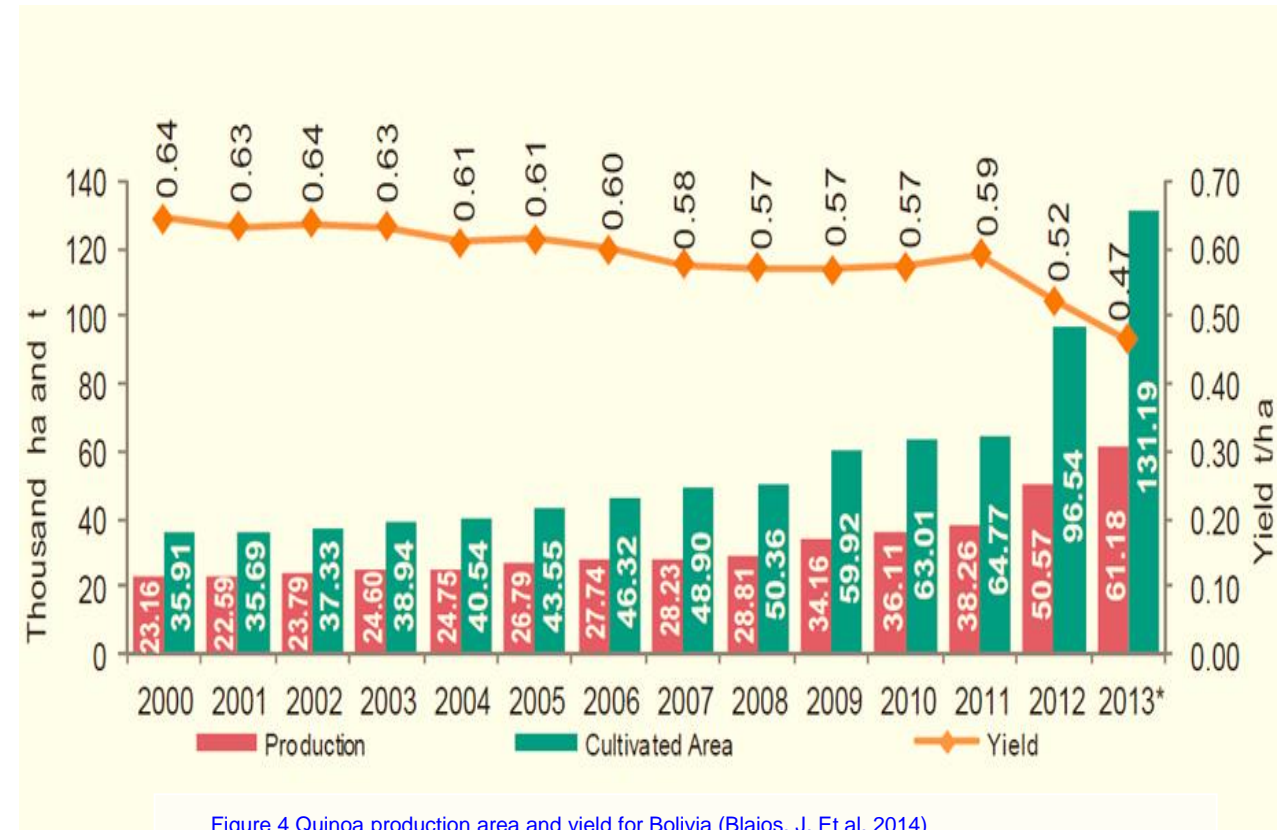


Figure 4 Quinoa production area and yield for Bolivia (Blajos, J. Et al. 2014)

## 2. Aims

1. Find genetic resources with resistance to the main pathogen (*Peronospora variabilis*) infecting quinoa worldwide
2. Characterise new emerging diseases in the foliar/seed pathobiota system In Denmark.

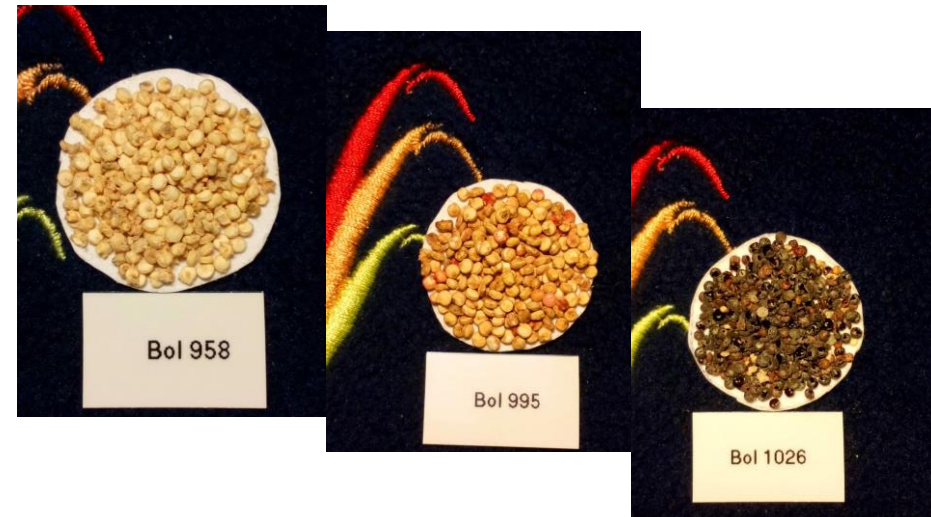
## Hypotheses

- Genetic variation of downy mildew disease resistance could be observed among the 124-Bolivian quinoa accessions. Based on this well-differentiated genetic populations and admixtures could be postulated
- A number quantitative trait loci (QTLs) could be be associated with downy mildew resistance. These markers may provide a tool to be utilized in molecular quinoa breeding as marker-assisted selection

### 3. Materials and Methods



# Self polinated genotypes



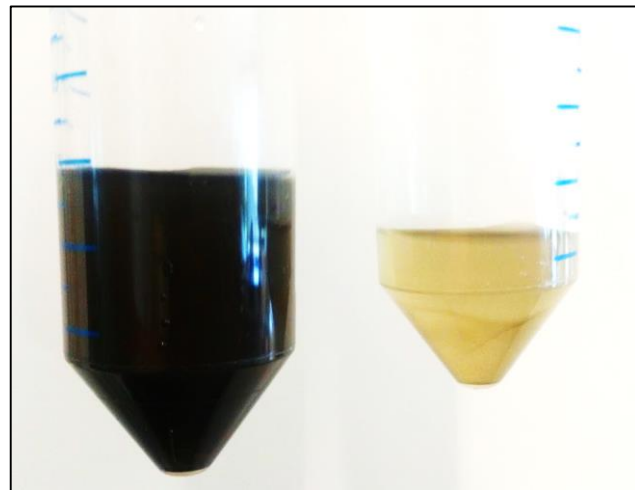
# Pathogen isolation propagation

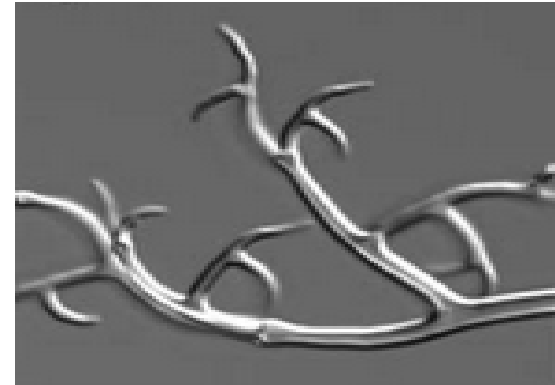
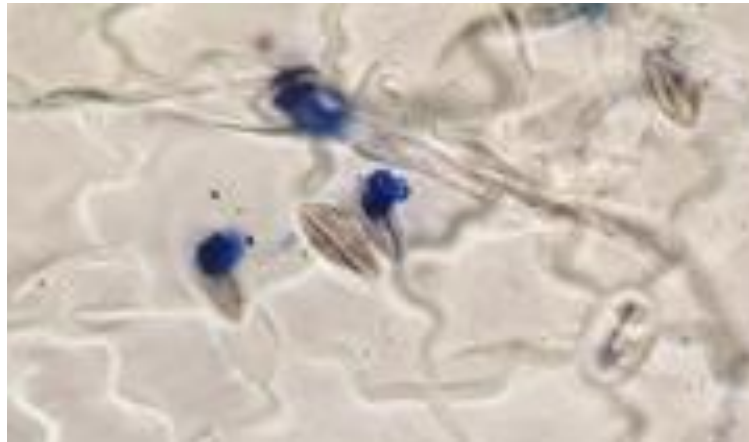


*Chenopodium album* or flat hen

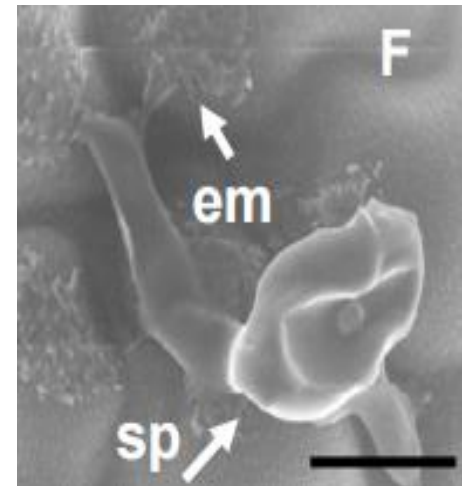






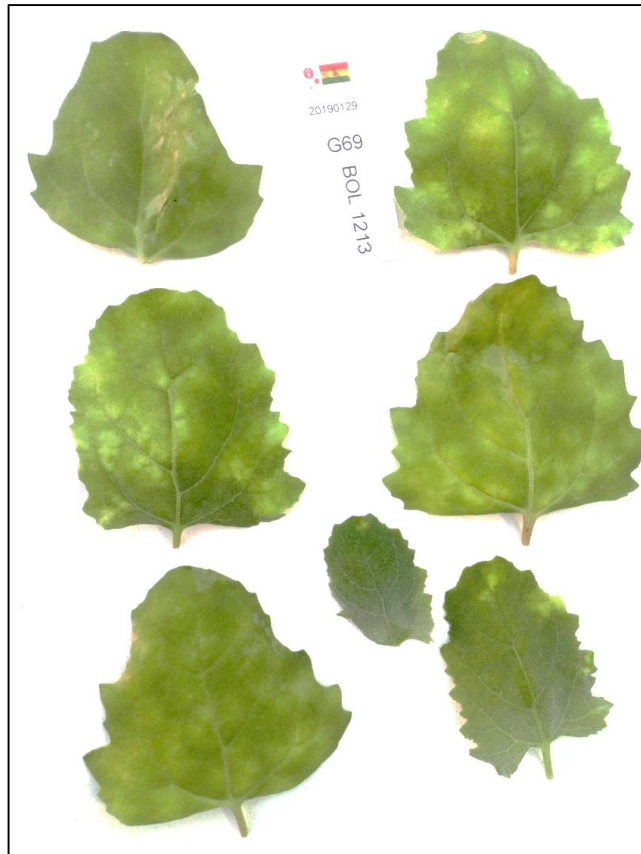


Choi, et al 2008. Mycopath 165

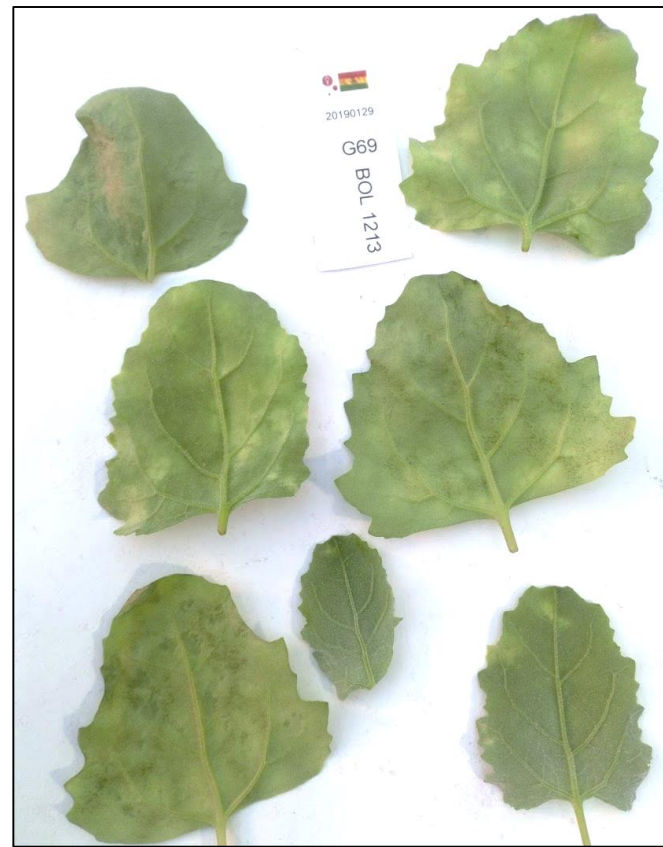




# Measuring porcentage of pathogenicity



Severity=% adaxial side with lesion



Sporulation=% lesion covered by spores in the abaxial side

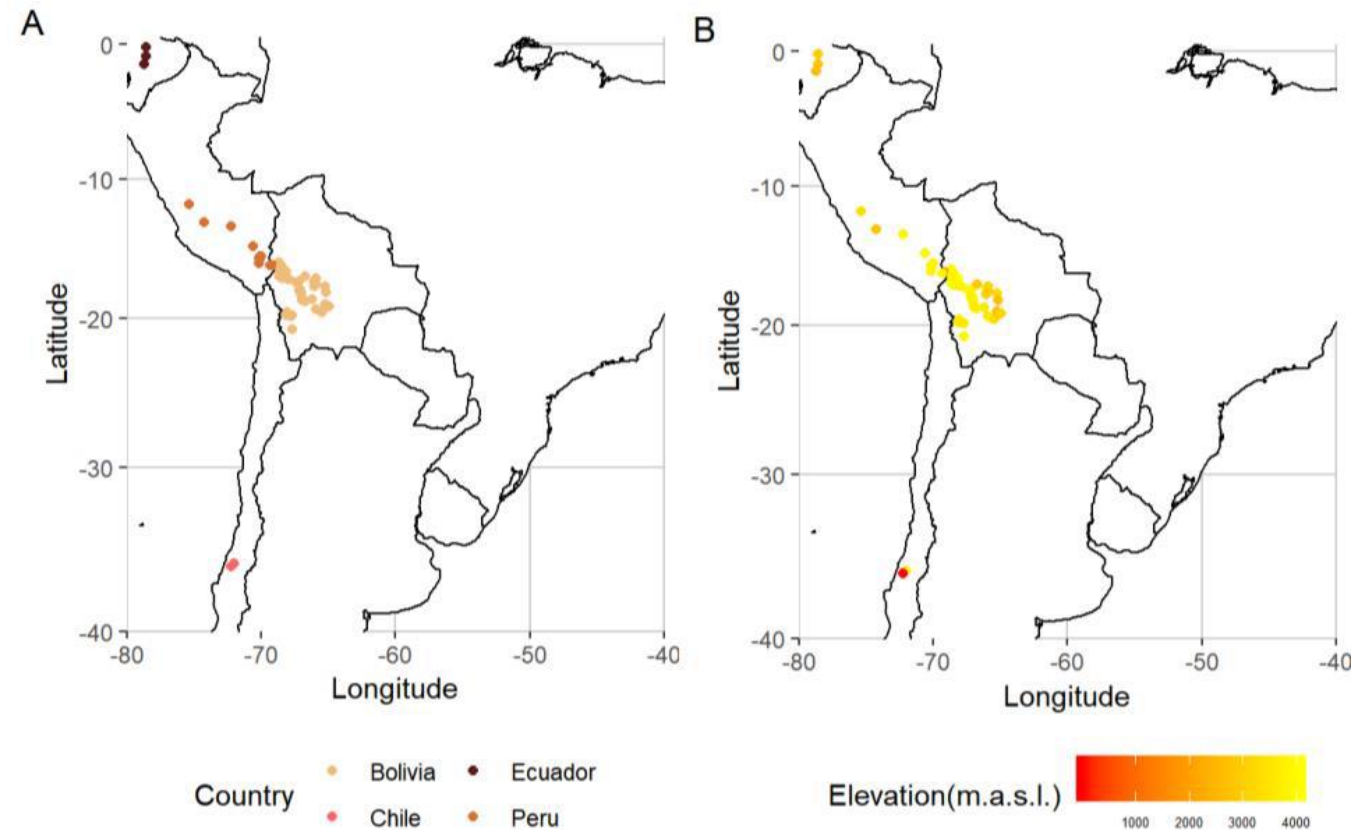


# 4 Results



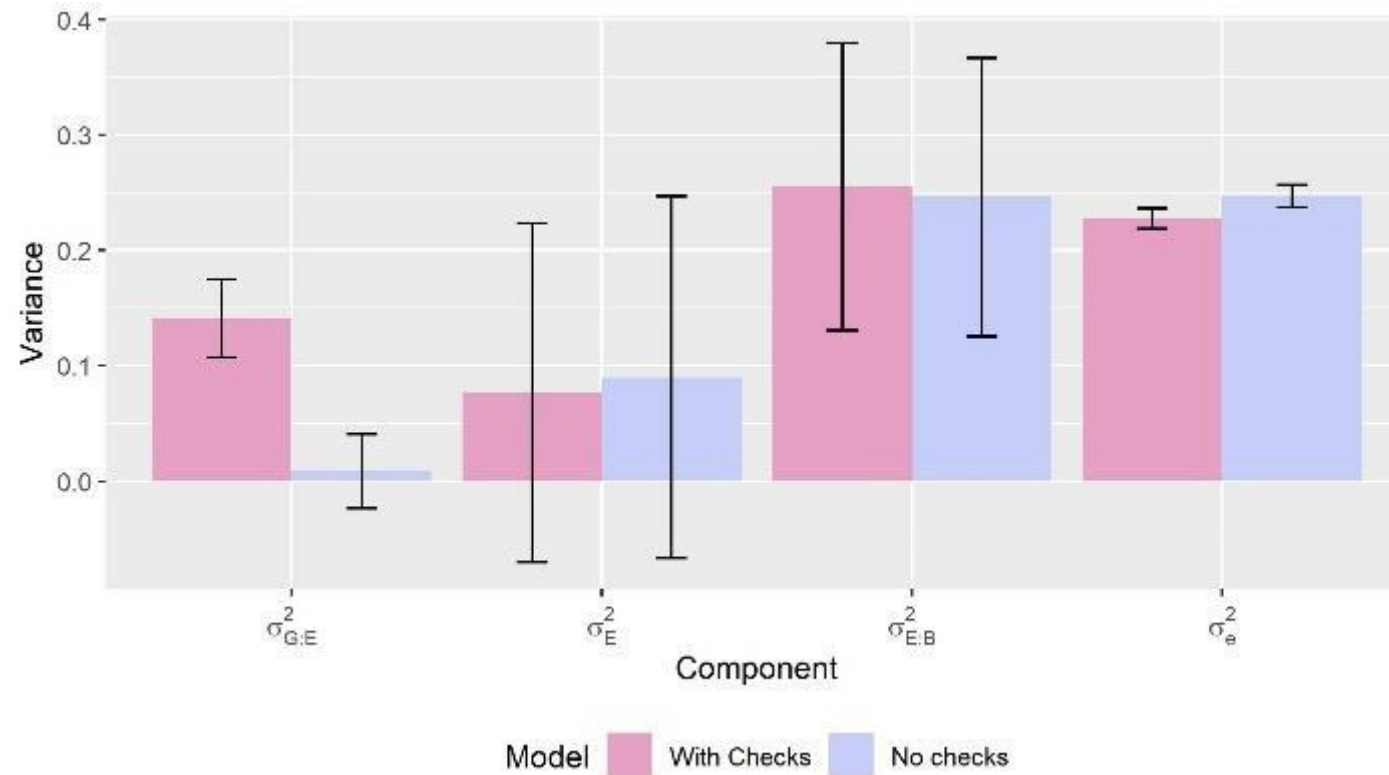
Patacamaya La Paz, bolivia

# Data set



Distribution of germplasm bank accessions across south America by country (A) and by elevation (B) according to the passport data. Source: Bolivian National Germplasm Bank (<http://germoplasma.iniaf.gob.bo>)

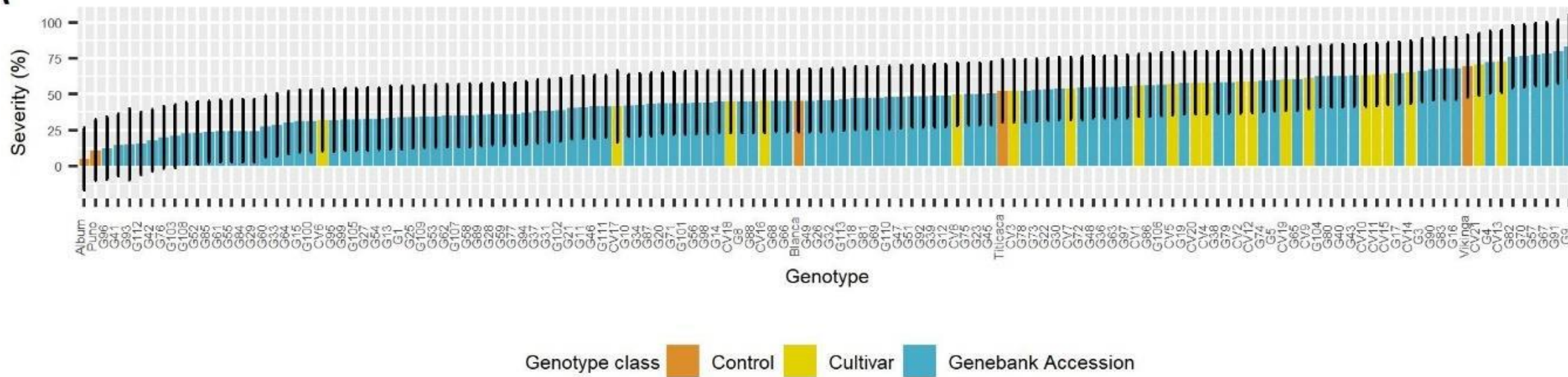
## Measuring interactions genotype vs environment



Variance components estimates and their standard errors for incidence GLMMs with and without checks.  $\sigma^2_{G:E}$ ,  $\sigma^2_E$ ;  $\sigma^2_{E:B}$ : Variance components for the genotype-experiment interaction, experiments and blocks nested within the replicates,  $\sigma^2_e$  : Residual variance.

SEVERITY

A



Estimated severity means ordered from small to large for the genotypes after fitting a model with untransformed data. Error bars represent the 95% confidence intervals.



# Grouping the genotypes

The groups are defined as:

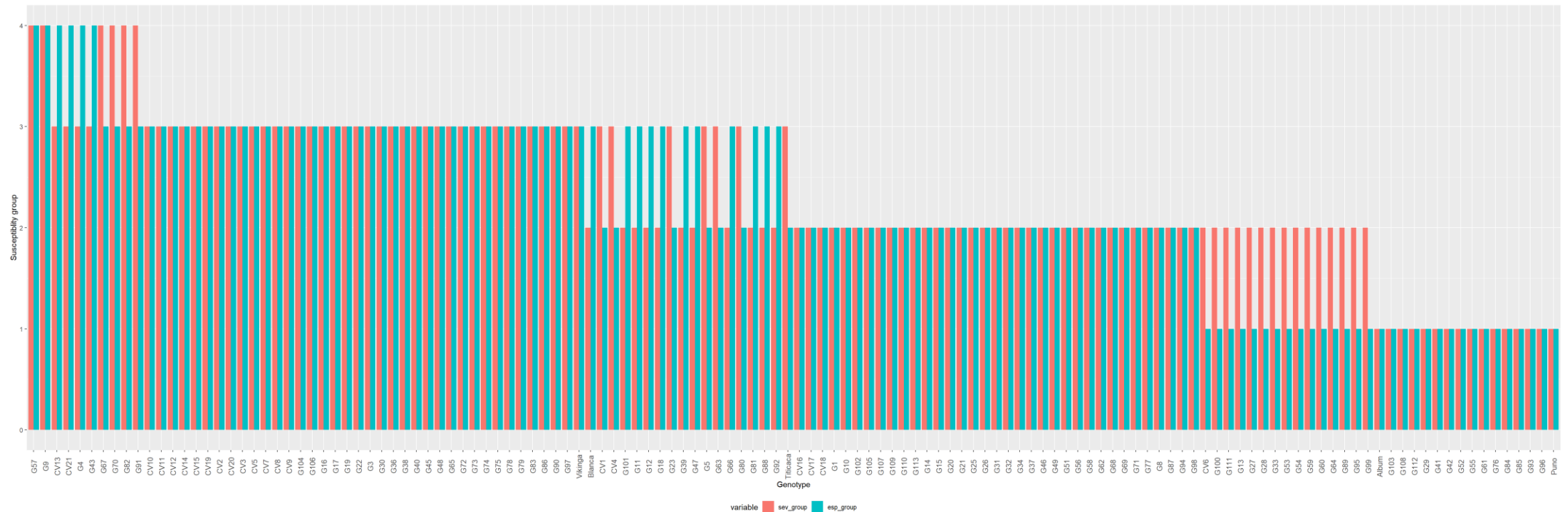
Group I (Very resistant): Genotypes with mean % of severity  $\leq 25\%$  and mean % of esporulation  $\leq 25\%$

Group II (Resistant): Genotypes with severity  $> 25\%$  and sporulation between 0.1-25%

Group III (Tolerant): Genotypes with severity  $> 25\%$  and sporulation between 25-60%

Group IV (Susceptible): Genotypes with severity  $> 50\%$  and sporulation between 60-80%

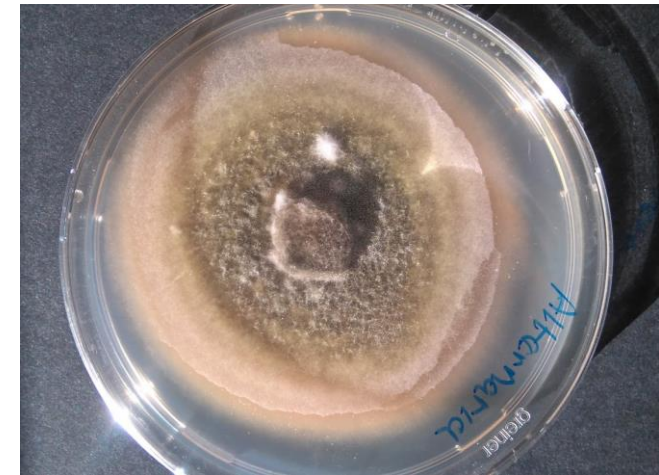
Group V (Very susceptible): Genotypes with severity  $> 50\%$  and sporulation  $> 80\%$

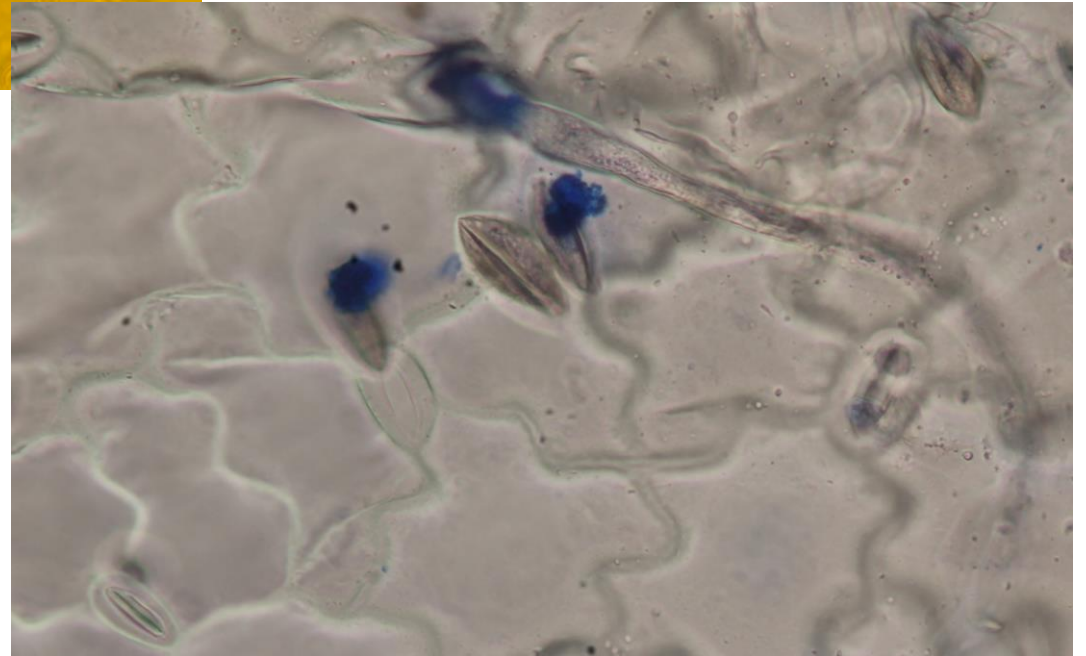
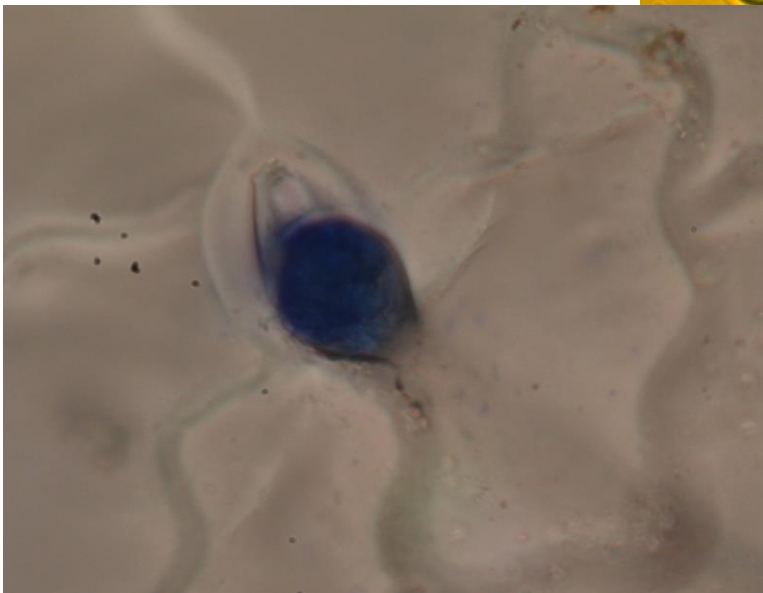
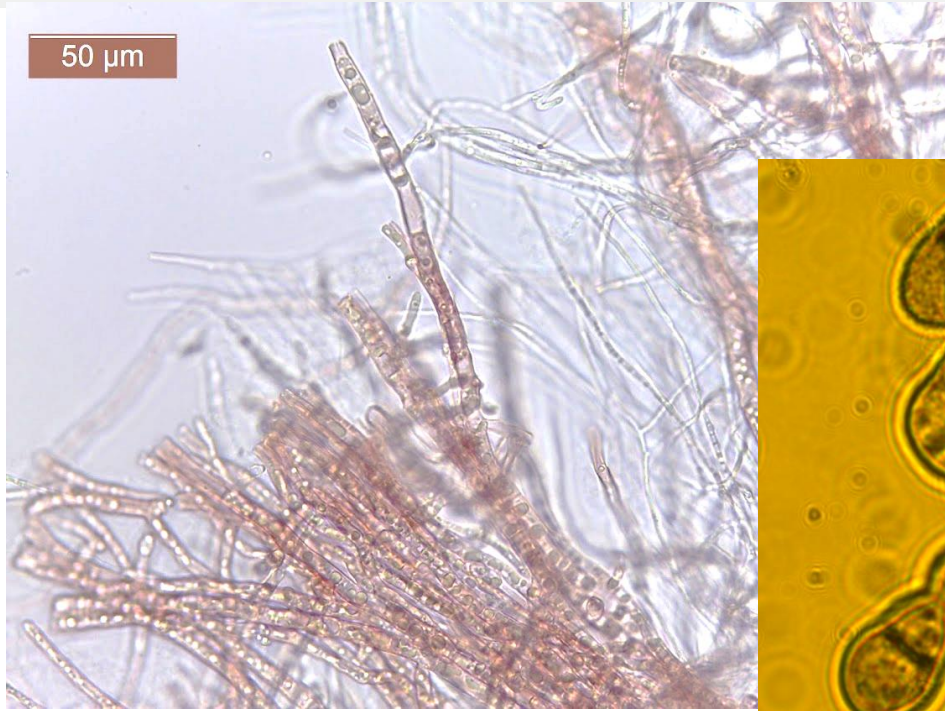


## Hypotheses

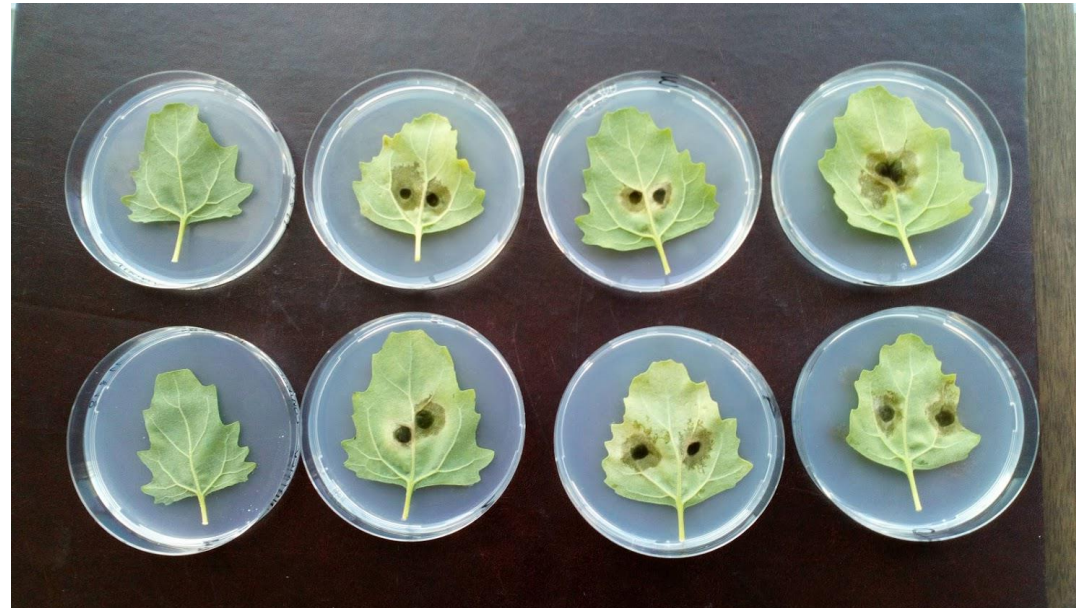
- Consistent reduction of yield and seed quality is linked to foliar diseases not yet described for quinoa

# Isolation





# Pathogenicity tests



# Potatoes, quinoa and early blight



# 5 Conclusions



# Results

#	Percentage	MiSeq12-01	MiSeq12-02	MiSeq12-03
	scata4113_1_Fungi_Ascomycota_Dothideomycetes_Capnodiales_Cladosporium	41.27	40.38	41.87
	scata4113_0_Fungi_Ascomycota_Dothideomycetes_Pleosporales_Alternaria	4.75	2.91	30.66
	scata4113_2_Fungi_Ascomycota_Dothideomycetes_Pleosporales_Alternaria	7.58	8.79	7.47
	scata4113_3_Fungi_Ascomycota_Dothideomycetes_Pleosporales_Epicoccum	2.91	2.63	9.44
	scata4113_4_Fungi_Ascomycota_Dothideomycetes_Capnodiales_Dissoconium	27.18	31.75	0.39
	scata4113_5_Fungi_Ascomycota_Sordariomycetes_Hypocreales_Fusarium equiseti?	1.53	0.11	1.89
	scata4113_6_Fungi_Ascomycota_Leotiomycetes_Helotiales_Botrytis	0.54	1.83	0.35
	scata4113_7_Fungi_Ascomycota_Sordariomycetes_Hypocreales_Fusarium tricinctum species complex	1.45	0.06	0.23
	scata4113_8_Fungi_Ascomycota_Sordariomycetes_Hypocreales_Fusarium nygamai/thapsinum	0.23	0.00	0.04
	scata4113_9_Fungi_Ascomycota_Dothideomycetes_Capnodiales_Ramularia collo-cygni	2.07	3.43	0.23
	scata4113_10_Fungi_Ascomycota_Dothideomycetes_Sordariales	0.00	0.06	1.12
	scata4113_11_Fungi_Ascomycota_Dothideomycetes_Pleosporales_Neoascochyta	0.84	3.20	0.00
	scata4113_13_Fungi_Ascomycota_Dothideomycetes_Capnodiales	0.08	0.00	0.96
	scata4113_14_Fungi_Ascomycota_Dothideomycetes_Pleosporales_Neocamarosporium	3.91	0.17	0.12
	scata4113_15_Fungi_Ascomycota_Dothideomycetes_Capnodiales_Cladosporium	0.15	0.11	0.08
	scata4113_12_Fungi_Ascomycota_Dothideomycetes_Pleosporales_Curvularia	0.00	0.00	0.00
	scata4113_21_Fungi_Ascomycota_Dothideomycetes_Capnodiales_Ramularia	0.00	0.06	0.04
	scata4113_16_Fungi_Ascomycota_Dothideomycetes_Dothideales_Sydowia	0.00	0.00	0.04
	scata4113_20_Fungi_Ascomycota_Dothideomycetes_Dothideales	0.00	0.11	0.27
	scata4113_17_Fungi_Ascomycota_Eurotiomycetes_Eurotiales_Penicillium steckii	0.00	0.00	0.12

all tag by cluster counts



- The most tolerant groups of accessions according to the severity estimates include checks (*C. album* and Puno), and gene bank accessions (G41, G42, G76, G93, G96 and G112). On the other hand, the most susceptible genotypes are Vikinga (Danish cultivar), varieties CV13 and CV21, and ace

## **Genome-Wide Association Study (GWAS) for pathogen resistance and correlated traits in the quinoa (*Chenopodium quinoa*)-downy mildew pathosystem**

Carla Colque-Little<sup>a</sup>, Ole Søgård Lund<sup>a</sup>, Miguel Correa<sup>b</sup>, Jesper Cairo<sup>a</sup>, Christian Andreassen<sup>a</sup>, Hans Jeppe-Piepho, Daniel Buchvaldt Amby<sup>a</sup>, Karl Schmid<sup>b</sup>

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<sup>b</sup>Department of Crop Biodiversity and Breeding Informatics, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, Germany

## 4. PAPER 2:

**“First report of *Alternaria infectoria*, *Alternaria alternata* and *Cladosporium allicinum* as foliar pathogens on quinoa (*Chenopodium quinoa*)”**

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Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences, University of Copenhagen,  
Denmark. [cxl@plen.ku.dk](mailto:cxl@plen.ku.dk)

## B. Reflection on the academic encounter in Denmark



- Mum: .....why would they build a University so far away from the sun? 😊

# Bolivia



[www.worldmap1.com/south-america-earth-map](http://www.worldmap1.com/south-america-earth-map)

**Population:** 11 514 800  
(INE, Bolivia, 9/10/2019).

**Area:** 1 .098 581 km<sup>2</sup>

**Density:** 10,4 persons/km<sup>2</sup>

**Literacy:** 95% for over 15 years old (2012). INE; 2019

**National basic wages**  
2.122 Bs = 2080 Dkk



**Life expectancy** 71.33 years (2019) ([www.macrotrends.net](http://www.macrotrends.net)).

**Retirement Age:** 58 ([aljazeera.com/news](http://aljazeera.com/news))

**Population below poverty line(%):** 35%  
[knoema.com/atlas/Bolivia](http://knoema.com/atlas/Bolivia)

**Birth rate** 21.628 births per 1000 people ([www.macrotrends.net](http://www.macrotrends.net))

# Education matters

- Bolivian population: 50 % literate (70% rural), and elite educated minority (borgenproject.org).
- Bolivia devotes 23 % of its annual budget to education (borgenproject.org).



- Public spending 7.2% of GDP in 2005 (Unicef.org)
- Parents with higher levels of education and income spend more on their children's education (Unicef.org). (around 25% of income)
- Private schools in Bolivia cost between \$70 (25% of National Income wages) and \$450 dollars a month (boliviabella.com).

## First PhDs funded 100% by Bolivian resources

*..it is aimed for Bolivia to develop knowledge and technology to support the productivity and economic growth with sovereignty... "therefore the program for postgraduate scholarships was launched in 2014 for Bolivian graduates to access the best universities of the world" (Memoir for the first public launch of scholarships, 2014)*



# A journey of Faith and challenge



- ✓ Independence
  - ✓ Resilience
  - ✓ Autonomy
  - ✓ Self confidence
  - ✓ New skills
  - ✓ Jante loven
- ❖ Lost family members



# PhD studies at KU

TEAM A PhD fellow	TEAM B PhD stipendiat
Danish salary	Stipend coming from sponsor country
Vacation, maternity/paternity, sick leave	none
Psychological aid	none
CONSEQUENCES	
	No possibility to apply for student assistant or student helper jobs
	Feeling of inequality
	Feeling of unfairness
WRONG ASSUMPTIONS	
PhD fellows pays for everything	Stipendiat is paying less or partially
PhD fellow is well adapted and knows how to manoeuvre in the academic arena of Denmark	Stipendiat needs to adjust to the culture and learn how to interact in his/her new environment



# SUGGESTIONS

- Modify the admission process for international PhD stipendiats. Include 6 weeks of stipend to cover vacation and allow negotiations for covering cases of sick leave.
- Classify PhD stipendiat as students so they can access to few hours work as research assistants or student helpers.
- Create a file containing information regarding the Financial situation of the student.
- Principal supervisor should clarify the situation of the student to secretaries, technicians and every body in their section.



*Tusind tak*