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FIRST REPORT OF *Colletotrichum* sp. ON LEAVES OF *Piptocarpha leprosa* (Asteraceae) FROM THE STATE OF RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL.<sup>1</sup> / Primeiro relato de *Colletotrichum* sp. em folhas de *Piptocarpha leprosa* (Asteraceae) do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Brasil. C.M.X. FARIA<sup>2</sup>; J. REMBINSKI<sup>2</sup>; T.A. AMORIM<sup>3</sup>; C.A. INÁCIO<sup>2</sup>. <sup>2</sup>Sector of Plant Pathology, Mycology, DENF/ICBS/UFRRJ / <sup>3</sup>Botanical Department, DB/ICBS/UFRRJ - BR 465, Km 7, Campus, Rural Zone, 23851-970, RJ, Brazil. E-mail: cmxfaria@msn.com

An interesting species in the genus *Colletotrichum* (Glomerellaceae, Fungi) was found associated to leaf spots of *Piptocarpha leprosa* (Asteraceae) collected in the Conservation Unit of the Atlantic Forest - Parque Natural Municipal do Curió, Paracambi, RJ, Brazil. The genus *Piptocarpha* (Asteraceae) is a neotropical genus that holds nearly 50 species of bindweed and trees, that extends from southern Brazil and northern Argentina to Central America. Symptomatic leaves were taken to the laboratory of Plant Pathology (Mycology Section), Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology - DENF/ICBS/UFRRJ and studies using optical, electron and dissecting microscope techniques were done. This species will be presented and its taxonomy discussed. Description: *Leaf spots* up to 30 mm diam, light-brown to brown, variable in shape, circular to irregular, becoming brown to greyish. *Setae* 40-89 × 2-5 µm, brown. *Acervuli* 19-24 × 53-96 µm, subcuticular. *Conidiogenous cells* 9-13 × 3-5 µm, lageniform to cylindrical, hyaline, smooth. *Conidia* 12-17 × 4-6 µm solitary, hyaline, aseptate, cylindrical, guttulate, smooth, thin-walled. In culture [PDA (potato-dextrose-agar), after 10 days/dark/25°C ± 2°C]: *Colonies* forming white aerial mycelium, bearing conidial cirrus with brownish sectors that are seen as pale areas at reverse of plate, 80 mm diameter. *Appressoria* 7-15 × 4-10 µm, brown, often irregular, grouped in complex chains, rarely solitary. *Conidiophores* 23-40 × 2 µm, cylindrical, hyaline, smooth. *Conidia* 11-16 × 5-6 µm solitary, hyaline, aseptate, cylindrical, smooth, thin-walled.

**Key words:** Atlantic Forest; *Colletotrichum* sp.; *Piptocarpha leprosa*; Phytopathology; Taxonomy.

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