

# The Tomato Wilt Fungus *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *lycopersici* shares Common Ancestors with Nonpathogenic *F. oxysporum* isolated from Wild Tomatoes in the Peruvian Andes

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*Fusarium oxysporum* is an ascomycetous fungus that is well-known as a soilborne plant pathogen. In addition, a large population of nonpathogenic *F. oxysporum* (NPF) inhabits various environmental niches, including the phytosphere. To obtain an insight into the origin of plant pathogenic *F. oxysporum*, we focused on the tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*) and its pathogenic *F. oxysporum* f. sp. *lycopersici* (*FOL*). We collected *F. oxysporum* from wild and transition *Solanum* spp. and modern cultivars of tomato in Chile, Ecuador, Peru, Mexico, Afghanistan, Italy, and Japan, evaluated the fungal isolates for pathogenicity, VCG, mating type, and distribution of *SIX* genes related to the pathogenicity of *FOL*, and constructed phylogenies based on ribosomal DNA intergenic spacer sequences. All *F. oxysporum* isolates sampled were genetically more diverse than *FOL*. They were not pathogenic to the tomato and did not carry *SIX* genes. Certain NPF isolates including those from wild *Solanum* spp. in Peru were grouped in *FOL* clades, whereas most of the NPF isolates were not. Our results suggested that the population of NPF isolates in *FOL* clades gave rise to *FOL* by gaining pathogenicity.

Key words: nonpathogenic F. oxysporum, phylogenetic analysis, Solanum, tomato, tomato wilt fungus

*Fusarium oxysporum* Schlecht. emend. Snyd. et Hans. is an ascomycetous fungus that inhabits various environments including the phytosphere, which includes both plant tissues and the rhizosphere. Most isolates from asymptomatic plants do not cause disease on any plants, and are referred to as nonpathogenic *F. oxysporum* (12).

On the other hand, plant pathogenic forms, formae speciales (f. spp.), are recognized in the species, and each form is defined by its strict host specificity (4, 5). *F. oxysporum* f. sp. *lycopersici* Snyd. et Hans. (*FOL*) is a pathogenic form that causes soilborne vascular wilt disease in the tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum* L.). Moreover, each of the three *FOL* pathogenic races (1, 2, 5) has been defined based on the possession of different combinations of SIX (secreted in xylem) protein genes, *SIX4*, *SIX3*, and *SIX1* (16, 17, 41), and determined by their specificities to particular tomato cultivars (2, 13, 53). These *SIX* genes are recognized to be pathogenic determinants and can be useful tools for race determination (18, 30).

"When, where, and how did plant pathogenic *F. oxysporum* emerge?" This is a very fundamental, but difficult question to

address. Several phylogenetic studies have examined other plant pathogenic fungi using isolates from the places of origin and domestication of plants, for example, rice blast fungus Pyricularia oryzae Cavara [synonym, Magnaporthe oryzae (Hebert) Barr], late blight pathogen Phytophthora infestans (Mont.) de Bary, wheat fungal leaf blotch pathogen Mycosphaerella graminicola (Fückel) Schrot, and corn smut fungus Ustilago maydis (DC.) Corda (8, 14, 33, 48). To date, phylogenetic studies have also been extensively performed on F. oxysporum isolates (9, 12, 21-23, 29, 32, 34). For example, FOL is considered to be polyphyletic because it is composed of isolates involved in three clades (19, 23), and the pathogen of Fusarium wilt of melon (f. sp. melonis) has also been shown to be polyphyletic (12), whereas the cabbage yellows fungus (f. sp. conglutinans) is composed of one cluster and appears to be monophyletic (22). Studies on pathogenic isolates are generally limited, and very little is known about the relationship between pathogenic and nonpathogenic isolates. Therefore, we focused on the coevolution of the tomato wilt pathogen and tomato.

The tomato (*S. lycopersicum*) is thought to have originated in South America, which is now occupied by Peru, Chile, Ecuador, and Bolivia. This region continues to sustain wild species of *Solanum* L. section *Lycopersicon* (Miller)

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Wettstein, such as *S. cheesmaniae* (Riley) Fosberg (syn. *Lycopersicon cheesmaniae* Riley), *S. chilense* (Dunal) Reiche (syn. *L. chilense* Dunal), *S. chmielewskii* Rick *et al.* (syn. *L. chilelewskii* Rick *et al.*), *S. galapagense* Darwin et Peralta (syn. *L. cheesmaniae* Riley), *S. habrochaites* Knapp et Spooner (syn. *L. hirsutum* Dunal), *S. neorickii* Spooner *et al.* (syn. *L. parviflorum* Rick *et al.*), *S. pennellii* Correll (syn. *L. pennellii* [Correll] D'Arcy), *S. peruvianum* L. (syn. *L. peruvianum* [L.] Miller), and *S. pimpinellifolium* L. (syn. *L. pimpinellifolium* [L.] Miller) (39).

A wild Solanum sp., possibly S. pimpinellifolium, spread prehistorically from South America to Central America (Mexico) in which the tomato was domesticated (20). S. lycopersicum var. cerasiforme, an apparent intermediate between wild and cultivated tomatoes (42), is currently found as a natively grown ("silvestre" in Spanish) tomato in some rural areas of Mexico. Traditional tomato cultivars, so-called "jitomate criollo" in Spanish, have been handed down by generations of peasants in mountain villages, and are considered the archetype of modern tomatoes due to their diverse morphologies (20). S. lycopersicum var. cerasiforme and jitomate criollo were designated transition tomatoes in this study. Tomatoes were transported to European countries, such as Italy and Spain, in which modern tomato breeding started, during the Spanish conquest in the 16th century (20, 39, 50).

In the present study, we 1) collected *F. oxysporum* isolates from tissues and the rhizosphere of asymptomatic *Solanum* biotypes: wild tomatoes in Chile, Ecuador, and Peru; transition tomatoes in Mexico; and modern tomatoes worldwide, 2) evaluated the pathogenicity of each isolate by an inoculation test using tomato tester cultivars, 3) evaluated the susceptibility of each *Solanum* biotype to *FOL* by the inoculation test, 4) determined the mating type and VCG of each isolate, 5) performed phylogenetic analyses based on sequences of the ribosomal DNA intergenic spacer (rDNA-IGS) region of the *F. oxysporum* isolates, together with *FOL* and other f. spp. collected worldwide, and 6) detected *SIX* genes in the *F. oxysporum* isolates collected. Based on the results obtained, we attempted to determine when, where, and how the plant pathogenic forms of *F. oxysporum* emerged.

### **Materials and Methods**

# Plant tissues and rhizosphere soil samples

We sampled the leaves, flowers, stems, fruits, roots, and rhizosphere soils of asymptomatic *Solanum* (sect. *Lycopersicon*) spp. in Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Mexico, Italy, Afghanistan, and Japan between 2002 and 2011 (Table 1). Here, rhizosphere soil refers to soil sampled from an area *ca*. 5 cm from the plant base and the surface at a depth of *ca*. 5 cm.

#### Isolation of F. oxysporum from plant tissues and rhizosphere soil

Fungal isolations were prepared within 10 d of collecting the *Solanum* tissues. Small pieces ( $ca. \le 9 \text{ mm}^2$ ) from individual tissue samples were cut and placed on *Fusarium*-selective media (25, 35) and potato sucrose agar (PSA) medium in a Petri dish, and incubated at 28°C in the dark.

Fungal isolations from the rhizosphere were prepared by the soil-plate method (54) using *Fusarium*-selective media. Briefly, approximately 0.5 g of a soil sample was dispersed in 15 mL molten medium in a Petri dish and then incubated at 28°C under dark.

Fungal colonies that emerged after the 2–4-d incubation were transferred onto fresh medium and purified by repeated single hyphal tip isolation. Each established isolate was maintained on a PSA plate at 28°C, and isolates identified as *F. oxysporum* based on morphological characteristics (28) were subjected to further studies. All the isolates were stored in 25% glycerol solution at  $-150^{\circ}$ C.

### Inoculation test

The pathogenicity of each *F. oxysporum* isolate was evaluated using tomato tester cultivars. To prepare the inoculum, each isolate was cultured for 5 d on 3 mL potato dextrose broth (PDB; Becton and Dickinson, MA, USA) in a 15-mL screw cap test-tube at 25°C on a reciprocal shaker (Taitec, Saitama, Japan) at 200 strokes min<sup>-1</sup>. Budding cells were collected by centrifugation (3000×g, 15 min) and adjusted to  $\geq 1.0 \times 10^7$  cells mL<sup>-1</sup>. *FOL* MAFF 305121 (race 1), JCM 12575 (race 2), and Chz1-A (race 3) were used as positive controls in this assay.

Three tomato standard tester cvs. Ponderosa (*i* i2 i3, susceptible to all *FOL* races; Takayama Seed, Kyoto, Japan), Momotaro (*I* i2 i3, resistant to race 1 and susceptible to races 2 and 3; Takii seeds, Kyoto, Japan), and Walter (*I* I2 i3, resistant to races 1 and 2 and susceptible to race 3; gift from the National Institute of Vegetable and Tea Science, Mie, Japan) were used (3). Two seeds were sown for each test in sterilized soil (andosol) in a plastic pot (7 cm in diameter) and were grown in a greenhouse at  $28^{\circ}$ C.

Prior to the inoculation, the roots of 2–3-week-old plants were injured by repeatedly inserting a plastic peg into the soil. The inoculum (2 mL pot<sup>-1</sup>) was poured on the soil surface and allowed to soak into the rhizosphere. After a month, the external symptoms of each plant were evaluated as follows: 0, no wilt or yellowing; 1, lower leaves yellowing; 2, lower and upper leaves yellowing; 3, lower leaves yellowing and wilting, and upper leaves yellowing; 4, all leaves wilting and yellowing, or dead.

### Susceptibility of collected wild and transitional Solanum spp. to FOL

A part of the Solanum spp. germ collection was used to evaluate susceptibility to FOL MAFF 305121 (race 1), JCM 12575 (race 2) and Chz1-A (race 3); S. chilense Lc0036 (Chile/S18°27'16.3"/ W69°46'22.1"/altitude, 2460 m), S. peruvianum Lp0043-1 (Chile/ S18°24'42.8"/W70°12'43.8"/altitude, 211 m), S. peruvianum Lp0044 (Chile/S18°24'43.9"/W70°12'06.2"/altitude, 233 m), S. peruvianum Lp0046 (Chile/S18°25'03.6"/W70°06'13.3"/altitude, 410 m), S. pimpinellifolium Lpp0040 (Ecuador/S00°39'03.8"/W90° 24'12.9"/altitude, 432 m), S. pimpinellifolium Lpp0041w1 (Ecuador/ S00°41'27.1"/W90°19'21.9"/altitude, 189 m), S. pimpinellifolium Lpp0043 (Ecuador/S00°41'23.0"/W90°19'10.3"/altitude, 208 m), S. pimpinellifolium Lpp0045 (Ecuador/S00°40'05.2"/W90°16'08.9"/ altitude, 253 m), S. lvcopersicum var, cerasiforme Lec0001 (Mexico/ N20°24'21.4"/W89°45'25.2"/altitude, 40 m), S. lycopersicum (jitomate criollo) Lecr0001 (Mexico/N17°24'22.4"/W92°02'01.0"/altitude, 400 m). Each of these plants was prepared as described above, and the inoculation with FOL races 1-3 was performed after the third leaf appeared. After a month, the inner symptoms of each plant were evaluated as follows: 0, no vascular browning; 1, browning in 1-25% of vascular; 2, browning in 26-50% of vascular; 3, browning in 51-75% of vascular; 4, browning in 75-100% of vascular.

## Fungal DNA extraction

Genomic DNA (gDNA) was extracted from fungal mycelia following a protocol modified from the original method (45). Briefly, a small amount of mycelia on PSA medium ( $\leq$ 25 mm<sup>2</sup>) was placed in 500 µL lysis buffer (50 mM EDTA, 200 mM NaCl, 1% *n*-lauroylsarcosine sodium salt, 200 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0) in a microtube, incubated for 10 min at room temperature, centrifuged at 20,000×g for 5 min at 4°C after the addition of 150 µL of 3 M potassium acetate. The supernatant was then transferred to a fresh microtube. gDNA in the supernatant was concentrated by ethanol precipitation and resuspended in TE buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0, 1 mM EDTA).

 Table 1. Fusarium oxysporum isolated from the tissue and rhizosphere of Solanum spp. (sec. Lycopersicon)

Name	Source of fungal isolates	Collected	Year	Country / latitude / longitude / altitude <sup>a</sup>	Mating	GenBank
F. oxysporum fro	m wild species	site		,	type	Accession NO.
Name <i>F. axysporum</i> fro           CC161-4s           CC161-12s           CC361-14s           PC11-761s           PC11-773s           PC11-793s           PC12-20           CP2-21G           CP2-24           CP4-441s           CP4-4310s           CP4-441s           CP4-451cs           CP4-451s           CP4-451s           CP4-451	Source of fungal isolates <b>m wild species</b> <i>S. chilense</i> <i>S. peruvianum</i> <i>S. peruvianum</i>	Collected site soil soil soil soil soil soil soil soil	Year 2004 2004 2011 2012 2002 2002 2002 2002 2004	Country / latitude / longitude / altitude <sup>a</sup> Country / latitude / longitude / altitude <sup>a</sup> Chile / S18°28'01.8" / W69°49'27.5" / 1939 m Chile / S18°28'3.0" / W69°49'45.9" / 1939 m Chile / S18°27'16.3" / W69°46'22.1" / 2460 m Peru / S16°59'04.0" / W71°46'14.2" / 2924 m Peru / S17°09'47.4" / W70°52'21.4" / 1653 m Peru / S17°08'48.1" / W70°51'24.2" / 1795 m Peru / S17°08'48.1" / W70°51'24.2" / 1795 m Peru / S17°08'48.1" / W70°51'24.2" / 1795 m Peru / S17°06'46.8" / W70°50'32.3" / 2014 m Chile / S18°25'02.1" / W70°60'02.9" / 436 m Chile / S18°25'02.1" / W70°06'02.9" / 436 m Chile / S18°24'32.7" / W70°12'20.0" / 215 m Chile / S18°24'32.7" / W70°12'20.0" / 215 m Chile / S18°24'32.7" / W70°12'43.8" / 211 m Chile / S18°24'32.7" / W70°12'43.8" / 211 m Chile / S18°24'42.8" / W70°12'43.8" / 211 m Chile / S18°24'43.9" / W70°12'43.8" / 211 m Chile / S18°25'35.4" / W70°12'43.8" / 211 m Chile / S18°25'35.4" / W70°12'43.8" / 211 m Chile / S18°25'35.4" / W70°12'60.2" / 233 m Chile / S18°25'35.4" / W70°12'60.2" / 233 m Chile / S18°25'35.4" / W70°19.6" / 408 m Chile / S18°25'35.4" / W70°06'19.6" / 408 m Ch	Mating type	GenBank Accession No. AB373843 AB373844 AB373845 AB697899 AB6979001 AB6979001 AB6979002 AB6979003 AB6979005 AB6979005 AB6979007 AB6979007 AB6979007 AB6979007 AB6979007 AB6979007 AB697910 AB697910 AB697911 AB373833 AB373835 AB373835 AB373846 AB373846 AB373847 AB373852 AB373849 AB373857 AB373857 AB373857 AB373857 AB373857 AB373856 AB373856 AB373854 AB373854 AB373856 AB373854 AB373854 AB373856 AB373855
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MCE-77 MCE-9515s MCE10-C2s MCE10-C2s MCE10-C2s MCE10-E14s MCE10-E19s MCE10-E19s MCE10-F11s MCE10-F12s MCE10-F12s MCE10-F16s MCE10-F18s MCE10-J52s MCE10-J52s MCE10-J58s ME-10-J58s ME-10-J58s ME-12s ME-12s ME-15s ME-12s ME-15s ME-12s ME-13s ME-13s ME-23s ME-23s ME-42s ME-42s ME-42s ME-42s ME-42s ME-967111s ME9-67212s ME9-67212s	S. lycopersicum var. cerasiforme S. lycopersicum (itomate criollo) S. lycopersicum (itomate criollo)	leaf soil soil soil soil soil soil soil soil	$\begin{array}{c} 2005\\ 2005\\ 2005\\ 2010\\ 2010\\ 2010\\ 2010\\ 2010\\ 2010\\ 2010\\ 2010\\ 2010\\ 2010\\ 2010\\ 2005\\ 2005\\ 2005\\ 2005\\ 2005\\ 2005\\ 2005\\ 2005\\ 2005\\ 2005\\ 2005\\ 2005\\ 2005\\ 2005\\ 2005\\ 2009\\$	$\begin{array}{l} Mexico \ / \ N20^\circ 13'08.6'' \ / \ W98^\circ 39'14.6'' \ / \ 2281 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N20^\circ 24'21.4'' \ / \ W89^\circ 45'25.2''' \ / \ 40 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N20^\circ 24'21.4'' \ / \ W89^\circ 45'25.2''' \ / \ 40 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N21^\circ 00'05.0'' \ / \ W98^\circ 32'10.8'' \ / \ 638 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N21^\circ 00'05.0'' \ / \ W98^\circ 32'10.8'' \ / \ 638 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N21^\circ 00'05.0'' \ / \ W98^\circ 32'10.8'' \ / \ 638 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N21^\circ 00'05.2'' \ / \ W98^\circ 32'16.3'' \ / \ 635 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N21^\circ 00'05.2'' \ / \ W98^\circ 32'16.3'' \ / \ 635 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N21^\circ 00'05.7'' \ / \ W98^\circ 32'16.6'' \ / \ 655 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N21^\circ 00'05.7'' \ / \ W98^\circ 32'16.6'' \ / \ 655 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N21^\circ 00'05.7'' \ / \ W98^\circ 32'16.6'' \ / \ 655 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N21^\circ 00'05.7'' \ / \ W98^\circ 32'16.6'' \ / \ 655 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N21^\circ 00'05.7'' \ / \ W98^\circ 32'16.6'' \ / \ 655 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N21^\circ 00'05.7'' \ / \ W98^\circ 32'16.6'' \ / \ 655 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N21^\circ 03'0.8'' \ / \ W98^\circ 16'33.6'' \ / \ 449 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N17^\circ 24'22.4'' \ / \ W92^\circ 02'01.0'' \ / \ 400 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N17^\circ 24'22.4'' \ / \ W92^\circ 02'01.0'' \ / \ 400 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N17^\circ 24'22.4'' \ / \ W92^\circ 02'01.0'' \ / \ 400 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N17^\circ 24'22.4'' \ / \ W92^\circ 02'01.0'' \ / \ 400 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N17^\circ 24'22.4'' \ / \ W92^\circ 02'01.0'' \ / \ 400 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N17^\circ 24'22.4'' \ / \ W92^\circ 02'01.0'' \ / \ 400 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N17^\circ 24'22.4'' \ / \ W92^\circ 02'01.0'' \ / \ 400 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N17^\circ 24'22.4'' \ / \ W92^\circ 02'01.0'' \ / \ 400 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N17^\circ 24'22.4'' \ / \ W92^\circ 02'01.0'' \ / \ 400 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N17^\circ 24'22.4'' \ / \ W92^\circ 02'01.0'' \ / \ 400 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N17^\circ 24'22.4'' \ W92^\circ 02'01.0'' \ / \ 400 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N17^\circ 24'22.4'' \ W92^\circ 02'01.0'' \ / \ 400 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N20^\circ 03'08.5'' \ / \ W97^\circ 33'13.7'' \ / \ 587 \ m \\ Mexico \ / \ N20^\circ 03'08.5'' \ / \ W97^\circ 33'13.7'' \ / \ 587 \ m \\$	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{nt} \\ 1-1 \\ 1-2 \\ 1-1 \\ 1-1 \\ 1-1 \\ 1-2 \\ 1-1 \\ 1-1 \\ 1-1 \\ 1-1 \\ 1-2 \\ 1-1 \\ 1-1 \\ 1-2 \\ 1-2 \\ 1-1 \\ 1-2 \\ 1-$	AB373873 AB373875 AB627141 AB627142 AB627143 AB627145 AB627145 AB627146 AB627147 AB627148 AB627149 AB627149 AB627151 AB373881 AB373882 AB373882 AB373883 AB373885 AB373885 AB373886 AB591425 AB591425 AB591428 AB591429
<i>r. oxysporum</i> from CE2-8DE CE2-17 CE2-5 CE2-18 CE2-19 CE4-12 CE4-12 CE4-15 CE4-19 CE4-392 CE4-392 CE4-3916s CE4-3916s CE4-3916s CE4-3917s CE4-3916s CE4-3927s CE4-3928 CE4-3927s CE4-3927s CE4-39288 CE4-39288 CE4-39888 CE4-39888 CE4-39888 CE4-39888 CE4-39888 CE4-39888 CE4-39888 CE4-39888 CE4-39888 CE4-39888 CE4-39888 CE4-39888 CE4-39888 CE4-39888 CE4-39888 CE4-398888 CE4-398888 CE4-398888 CE4-398888 CE4-398888 CE4-3988888 CE4-398888888 CE4-39888888888888888888888888888888888888	modern tomato cultivars         S. lycopersicum         S. lyco	fruit fruit stem stem stem stem stem soil soil soil soil soil soil leaf leaf root root soil	2002 2002 2002 2002 2004 2004 2004 2004	$\begin{array}{c} Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}29'29.7" \ / \ W70^{\circ}16'19.5" \ / \ 97\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}29'29.7" \ / \ W70^{\circ}16'19.5" \ / \ 97\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}29'29.7" \ / \ W70^{\circ}16'19.5" \ / \ 97\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}29'29.7" \ / \ W70^{\circ}16'19.5" \ / \ 97\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}29'29.7" \ / \ W70^{\circ}16'19.5" \ / \ 97\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}29'29.7" \ / \ W70^{\circ}16'19.5" \ / \ 97\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}21'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ m\\ Chile \ / \ S18^{\circ}31'32.8" \ / \ W70^{\circ}13'03.8" \ / \ 213\ $	1-2 1-1 1-2 1-2 1-2 1-2 1-2 1-1 1-1 1-2 1-1 1-2 1-1 1-2 1-2	AB373839 AB373840 AB373840 AB373842 AB373861 AB373861 AB373863 AB373859 AB373858 AB373858 AB373866 AB373866 AB373866 AB373866 AB373876 AB373876 AB373876 AB373877 AB373879 AB373879 AB373879 AB373879 AB373880 AB373880 AB3738380

ASEs AGEs ItE-1 ItE-2s ItE-3s ItE-4s ItE-4s ItE-6s ItE-10s ItE-11s ItE-12s ItE-14s ItE-14s ItE-15s ItE-16s ItE-19s ItE-21s	S. lycopersicum S. lycopersicum	soil         200           soil         200'           leaf         200'           soil         200'	<ul> <li>Afghanistan / N34°49'26.7" / E69°15'05.6" / 1591 m</li> <li>Afghanistan / N33°35'27.5" / E69°14'08.0" / 2306 m</li> <li>Italy / N40°49'01.9" / E14°21'25.2" / 148 m</li> <li>Italy / N40°49'04.9" / E14°22'18.1" / 238 m</li> <li>Italy / N40°49'04.9" / E14°22'18.1" / 238 m</li> <li>Italy / N40°49'04.9" / E14°21'25.2" / 148 m</li> <li>Italy / N40°49'01.9" / E14°21'25.2" / 148 m</li> </ul>	$\begin{array}{c} 1-2\\ 1-2\\ 1-2\\ 1-2\\ 1-2\\ 1-2\\ 1-2\\ 1-1\\ 1-2\\ 1-1\\ 1-2\\ 1-1\\ 1-2\\ 1-1\\ 1-2\\ 1-1\\ 1-2\\ 1-2$	AB373937 AB515352 AB373918 AB373920 AB373920 AB373920 AB373923 AB373924 AB373924 AB373924 AB373924 AB373927 AB373928 AB373921 AB373921 AB373921 AB373931 AB373932
ItE-21s ItE-23s	S. lycopersicum	soil 200	$T_{\rm Ltaly} / N40^{\circ}49'01.9'' / E14^{\circ}21'25.2'' / 148 m$	1-2	AB373933 AB373933
ItE-298 ItE-31s	S. lycopersicum	soil 200	$f = 1 \tan y / \ln 40^{\circ} 49' 01.9'' / E14^{\circ} 21' 25.2'' / 148 m$ $f = 1 \tan y / \ln 40^{\circ} 49' 01.9'' / E14^{\circ} 22' 18' 1'' / 238 m$	1-2	AB3/3934 AB373035
IKE-15	S. lycopersicum	flower 200	7  Lange / 1040 4904.9 7  E14  2210.1 7 230  Int	1-1	AB373894
JKE-1	S. lycopersicum	root 200	Japan / N32°52'06.1" / E130°33'12.3" / 0 m	1-1	AB373890
JKE-3	S. lvcopersicum	root 200	Japan / N32°52'06.1" / E130°33'12.3" / 0 m	1-2	AB373891
JKE-5	S. lvcopersicum	root 200	Japan / N32°52'06.1" / E130°33'12.3" / 0 m	1-2	AB373892
JKE-6	S. lycopersicum	root 200	<sup>7</sup> Japan / N32°52'06.1" / E130°33'12.3" / 0 m	1-1	AB373893
JKE-11s	S. lycopersicum	soil 200	Japan / N32°52'06.1" / E130°33'12.3" / 0 m	1-2	AB373895
JKE-26s	S. lycopersicum	soil 200	/ Japan / N32°52'06.1" / E130°33'12.3" / 0 m	1-2	AB373896
JKE-27s	S. lycopersicum	soil 200	Japan / N32°52'06.1" / E130°33'12.3" / 0 m	1-1	AB373897
JKE-28s	S. lycopersicum	soil 200	Japan / N32°52'06.1" / E130°33'12.3" / 0 m	1-2	AB373899
JKE-29s	S. lycopersicum	soil 200	/ Japan / N32°52'06.1" / E130°33'12.3" / 0 m	1-2	AB3/3898
JKE-31S	S. lycopersicum	soil 200	/ Japan / N32°52'06.1" / E130°33'12.3" / 0 m	1-1	AB3/3900
JKE-34S	S. lycopersicum	SOII 200	Japan / N32 52 06.1 " / E130 35 12.5" / 0 m	1-2	AB3/3901
JIE - 1S IIE - 2c	S. lycopersicum	soil 200	$Japan / N30^{\circ} 21 19.0^{\circ} / E130^{\circ} 22 13.4^{\circ} / 23 m$	1-1	AB3/3902 AB372002
JIE-25 IIE-26	S. lycopersicum	soil 200	$J_{\rm Japan} / N36^{\circ}21'19.0'' / E136^{\circ}22'15.4'' / 23 m$	1 2	AB373005
JIE-45 JIE-7s	S. lycopersicum	soil 200	7  Japan / N36°21'19.0 '/ E136°22'15.4 '/ 25 m	1-2	AB373904
JIE-13s	S. lycopersicum	soil 200	$\frac{1}{100}$ Japan / N36°21'19.0" / E136°22'15.4" / 23 m	1-2	AB373906
JIE-15s	S. lycopersicum	soil 200	Japan / N36°21'19.0" / E136°22'15.4" / 23 m	1-1	AB373907
JIE-16s	S. lvcopersicum	soil 200	Japan / N36°21'19.0" / E136°22'15.4" / 23 m	1-2	AB373908
JIE-17s	S. lycopersicum	soil 200	Japan / N36°21'19.0" / E136°22'15.4" / 23 m	1-2	AB373909
JIE-18s	S. lycopersicum	soil 200'	<sup>7</sup> Japan / N36°21'19.0" / E136°22'15.4" / 23 m	1-2	AB373910
JIE-19s	S. lycopersicum	soil 200	Japan / N36°21'19.0" / E136°22'15.4" / 23 m	1-2	AB373911
JIE-20s	S. lycopersicum	soil 200	/ Japan / N36°21'19.0" / E136°22'15.4" / 23 m	1-1	AB373912
JIE-IS	S. lycopersicum	soil 200	Japan / N35°41'05.8" / E139°29'13.6" / 62 m	1-1	AB3/3913
JIE-28 ITE 2a	S. lycopersicum	SOII 200	$J_{\rm Longen}$ / N35°41 US.8 / E139°29°13.6" / O2 m	1-2	AB3/3914
J1E-38 ITE-4e	S. lycopersicum	soil 200	Japan / N35°41'05.8" / E137'27'15.0' / 02 III Japan / N35°41'05.8" / E130°20'13.6" / 62 m	1-1	AD3/3913 AB373016
ITE-50	S. lycopersicum	soil 200	7 Japan / N35°41'05.8" / E139°29'13.6" / 02.11 7 Japan / N35°41'05.8" / F130°29'13.6" / 62.m	1-2	AB373017
311-33	5. iycopersicum	5011 200	Japan / 1303 41 00.0 / 12109 29 10.0 / 02 III	1-1	AD5/571/

<sup>a</sup> N: North, S: South, W: West, E: East, lat/long is shown as dd°mm'ss.s". (d: degree, m: minute, s: second).
 <sup>b</sup> S. peruvianum in Mexico was cultivated for experimental purpose.
 <sup>c</sup> Not tested.

<sup>d</sup> ME-2m was isolated from a jitomate criollo fruit sold in a Mexican market, latitude/longitude/altitude were not measured.

Name Sequence (5'-3')		Targeting gene / region	Thermal conditions	Amplicon size <sup>a</sup>	Reference
FIGS11 FIGS12	GTAAGCCGTCCTTCGCCTCG GCAAAATTCAATAGTATGGC	ribsomal DNA IGS region ribsomal DNA IGS region	94°C 2 min; 30 × (94°C 1 min, 60°C 30 s, 72°C 1 min); 72°C 6 min	600 bp	(22) (22)
Gfmat1a	GCAAAATTCAATAGTATGGC	MAT1-1-1 alpha-box			(19)
Gfmat1b	( <i>MAT1-1</i> ) D TAAGCGCCCTCTTAACGCCTTC <i>MAT1-1-1</i> alph ( <i>MAT1-1</i> )		a-box		(19)
GfHMG11	TACCGTAAGGAGCGTCAC	MAT1-2-1 HMG-box	72°C 45 s); 72°C 6 min		(19)
GfHMG12	GTACTGTCGGCGATGTTC	( <i>MAT1-2</i> ) <i>MAT1-2-1</i> HMG-box ( <i>MAT1-2</i> )		220 bp	(19)
P12-F2 P12-R1	GTATCCTCCGGATTTTGAGC AATAGAGCCTGCAAAGCATG	SIX1 (AVR3) SIX1 (AVR3)		840 bp	(41) (51)
SIX3-F1 SIX3-R2	CCAGCCAGAAGGCCAGTTT GGCAATTAACCACTCTGCC	SIX3 (AVR2) SIX3 (AVR2)	94°C 2 min; 32 x (94°C 30 s, 58°C 45 s, 72°C 2 min); 72°C 7 min	570 bp	(51) (51)
SIX4F SIX4R	ACTCGTTGTTATTGCTTCGG CGGAGTGAAGAAGAAGCTAA	SIX4 (AVR1) SIX4 (AVR1)		800 bp	(19) (19)

Table 2. Nucleotide primers used in this study

<sup>a</sup> Approximate size is shown.

# Polymerase chain reaction (PCR)

A standard reaction mixture (20 µL) contained 20 ng gDNA, 2 µL 10×buffer (Takara Bio, Otsu, Japan), 1.6 µL of 2.5 mM (each) dNTPs (Takara Bio), 8 pM of each primer, and 0.5 U of Ex-Taq

polymerase (Takara Bio) or 5 µL of GoTaq® Master Mix (Promega, Madison, WI, USA). The primers used in this study are listed in Table 2.

To identify F. oxysporum and perform a phylogenetic analysis, a part of the rDNA-IGS region (ca. 600 bp) was amplified using the primer set FIGS11/FIGS12 (22). The mating type (MAT1-1 or MAT1-2) of each isolate was determined using primer sets Gfmat1a/ Gfmat1b and GfHMG1/GfHMG2 (19). The presence of *SIX4*, *SIX3* and *SIX1* genes in each isolate was determined using the primer sets SIX4F/SIX4R, SIX3-F2/SIX3-R1, and P12-F2/P12-R1, respectively (Table 2).

### DNA sequencing

The IGS amplicons of rDNA-IGS from *F. oxysporum* were purified with EXOSAP-IT (USB, Cleveland, OH, USA) and sequenced with a 3130xl Genetic Analyzer (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA, USA) using the BigDye<sup>®</sup> Terminator v1.1/v3.1 Cycle Sequencing kit (Applied Biosystems) and the primer set FIGS11/FIGS12 (22). Sequences were deposited in GenBank (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Database/), where they were assigned accession numbers (Table 1).

### Phylogenetic analyses

Nucleotide sequences were arranged with GENETYX-MAC ver.10.1/13 (Genetyx, Tokyo, Japan) and aligned with the sequences of other *Fusarium* isolates (Table 3) using CLUSTALX v.2.0 (26). All gaps in the alignment were ignored in subsequent analyses.

*F. oxysporum* phylogenies were estimated using three methods including maximum likelihood (ML) (10), maximum parsimony (MP) (11), and Bayesian inference (BI) (55). All of the following *F. oxysporum* phylogenies were rooted with *F. sacchari* strain FGSC 7610 (Table 3) as the outgroup.

ML phylogenies were estimated using RAxML implemented in raxmlGUI 1.0 (46). MrModeltest v2.3 (36) deter-

 Table 3.
 Previously described fungal strains used in this study

Fungal strain	Host plant <sup>a</sup>	Source <sup>b</sup>	Strain No.	Origin	Mating type	GenBank Accession No. <sup>c</sup>
Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. lvcopersici	Solanum lvcopersicum					
race 1		MAFF	103036	Japan	1-1	AB106020
		NBRC	6531	Japan	1-1	AB106018
		H. C. Kistler	OSU-451B	USA	1-1	AB106026
		NRRL	26034	Italy	1-1	AB106025
		M Bon	CT-1	France	1-1	AB120970
		MAFF	103038	Japan	1-1	AB106031
race 2		MAFF	103043	Ianan	1-1	AB106032
1000 2		ICM	12575	Ianan	1-1	AB106027
		V Hirano	Saitama-ly?	Japan	1_1	AB373817 *
		H C Kistler	MN 66		1_1	AB106036
		A D Pietro	4287	Snain	1-1	AB120073
		R Allende	$\frac{4207}{mx-20}$	Mexico	1-1	AB120975 AB373818 *
raca 3		V Hosobuchi	E 1 1	Incarco	1-1	AD3/3010 AD106027
Tace 5		V Hosobuchi	$\Gamma = I = I$ II = I = I	Japan	1-2	AD100037
		T Ario	п-1-4 tomino1_0	Japan	1-2	AD100038
		C. Voshiele	Chal A	Japan	1-2	AD100044 AD272010 *
		U. I USIIIOKa	DA 1/7		1-2	AD3/3019 ·
		E Vinada	DA-1//	USA	1-2	AD100047
		E. VIVOUA	Γ240 	USA	1-1	AD120970
6 1: : 1	C . 1	R. Allende	mx-4	Mexico	1-1	AB3/3820 *
1. sp. raaicis-iycopersici	Solanum lycopersicum	MAFF	103047	Japan	1-2	AB106059
		Y. Hirano	Saltama-riy	Japan	1-2	AB3/3821 *
		Y. Hirano	Saltama-riy2	Japan	1-2	AB3/3822 *
		A. Vermunt	NetKL	The Netherlands	1-1 1 1	AB3/3823 *
0 I .	<i>a</i>	This study	CE-391s	Chile	1-1	AB3/3869 *
f. sp. <i>melonis</i>	Cucumis melo	NRRL	26406	USA	1-2	AB106056
f. sp. <i>batatas</i>	Ipomoea batatas	MAFF	103070	Japan	1-2	AB106049
f. sp. spinaciae	Spinacia oleracea	T. Arie	880803e-2	Japan	1-2	AB3/3824
f. sp. <i>lactucae</i>	Lactuca sativa	T. Arie	SB1-1	Japan	1-2	AB373825 *
f. sp. asparagi	Asparagus officinalis	F. Kodama	FokF233	Japan	1-2	AB373827 *
f. sp. conglutinans	Brassica oleracea var. capitata	T. Yoshida	Cong: 1-1	Japan	1-1	AB106051
f. sp. niveum	Citrullus lanatus	MAFF	305608	Japan	1-2	AB106057
f. sp. cucumerinum	Cucumis sativus	T. Arie	Rif-1	Japan	1-1	AB106052
f. sp. melongenae	Solanum melongena	MAFF	103051	Japan	1-1	AB106055
f. sp. apii	Cryptotaenia japonica	SUF	1017	Japan	1-2	AB106048
f. sp. matthioli	Matthiola incana	T. Arie	880116a	Japan	1-1	AB106054
f. sp. glycines	Glycine max	T. Arie	851209m	Japan	1-1	AB373826 *
f. sp. fragariae	Fragaria spp.	T. Arie	851209e	Japan	1-1	AB106053
nonpathogenic		Y. Amemiya	Fo304	Japan	1-1	AB373828 *
		K. Watanabe	101-2	Japan	1-1	AB373829 *
		S. Suwa	F4	Japan	1-1	AB373830 *
		K. Watanabe	9901	Japan	1-1	AB373831 *
		A. Vermunt	MDI31216059	The Netherlands	1-1	AB373832 *
Fusarium sacchari	Saccharum officinarum	FGSC	7610	USA	1-2	GU170582

<sup>a</sup> Each host plant corresponds to formae specialis (f. sp.)

<sup>b</sup> MAFF, Microorganisms Section of the Gene Bank in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japanese Government (Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan); NRRL, Agriculture Research Service Culture Collection of United State Department of Agriculture (Peolia, IL, USA); SUF, Culture Collection of Fusarium in Shinshu University (Ueda, Nagano, Japan); FGSC, Fungal Genetics Stock Center (University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas city, KS, USA); CBS, Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures (Baarn, The Netherlands); NBRC, NITE (National Institute of Technology and Evaluation) Biological Resource Center (Kazusakamatari, Chiba, Japan); JCM, Japan Collection of Microorganisms (Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan)

<sup>c</sup> Asterisks show the sequence data registrated in this study.

mined the appropriate substitution model as the HKY+G model from the model of the hierarchical likelihood ratio test (hLRT). Although the HKY+G model was not implemented in raxmlGUI, the HKY+G model was displaceable by the GTR model (A. Stamatakis, pers. comm.); therefore, the analysis was performed with the GTRGAMMA model and rapid bootstrap option (47) with 1,000 bootstrap replicates.

In the MP analysis using PAUP\* 4.0b10 (49), searches of trees included 1,000 random additions, heuristic replicates with tree bisection, and reconnection (TBR) branch-swapping. One thousand bootstrap replicates were performed with the heuristic search option.

BI phylogenies were estimated using MrBayes 3.1.2 (43) based on the HKY+G model. In the BI analysis, the Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) iterations with four chains were started from a random tree topology and lasted 500,000,000 generations. When the average standard deviation of the split frequencies was below 0.01, the MCMC iterations were stopped automatically. Trees were saved at each 100-generation interval, and 12,500 trees were discarded as burn-in. Finally, the posterior probabilities of each branch were calculated.

### Vegetative compatibility group (VCG) typing

VCG reflects genetic variations among fungal isolates (40). Four VCGs (0030+0032, 0031, 0033 and 0035) have been reported previously in FOL (6), and these have correlated with phylogeny (23, 32). The following FOL tester isolates: OSU-451B (VCG 0031), MN-66 (VCG 0030+0032), and H-1-4 (VCG 0033) were used to determine the VCG of each isolate. The basis of the VCG test was as follows; by a selection on MMC (minimal agar medium with 1.5% chlorate), a mutation (at either *nit1* or NitM) causing nitrate nonutilization was introduced into each collected isolate to be tested and into each of the three tester strains. The mutation in each tester was assessed using hypoxanthine medium (0.2 g  $L^{-1}$  of hypoxanthine plus minimal agar medium without NaNO<sub>3</sub>; nit1 +, NitM –) and nitrite medium (0.5 g  $L^{-1}$  of NaNO<sub>2</sub> plus minimal agar medium without NaNO<sub>3</sub>; nit1 +, NitM +). To assess VCGs, a part of the collected isolates was paired on MM (minimal medium) with nit-complementary testers; nit-complementary testers were paired with each other as positive controls. Vigorous growth on MM reflected heterokaryon formation, which indicating that the paired isolates belonged to the same VCG of the tester (7).

### Results

# Sampling of Solanum spp. and isolation of fungi from plant tissue and rhizosphere soil

Among the wild tomatoes, *S. chilense* was sampled in Chile and Peru, *S. habrochaites* was sampled in Peru, *S. pennellii* was sampled in Peru, *S. peruvianum* was sampled in Peru and Ecuador. Transition tomatoes were sampled in Mexico. The Mexican transition tomatoes were morphologically diverse; the colors of mature fruits were red, orange, or yellow. In addition, jitomate criollo fruits had irregular multiloculated shapes and were heterogeneous in size (Fig. S1i, j). Modern tomatoes cultivated in farmlands were sampled in Chile, Mexico, Italy, Afghanistan, and Japan. None of the plants exhibited wilt symptoms at the time of collection. The precise locations (latitude, longitude, and altitude) of each collection field and plant sample are presented in Table 1 and Fig. S1a–j.

Approximately 2,500 fungal isolates were obtained from the plant and rhizosphere soil samples. Based on the morphological characteristics and nucleotide sequences of IGS regions, 433 of these isolates were identified as *F. oxysporum*; 42 were from plant tissues and 391 were from rhizosphere soils. *F. oxysporum* was not isolated from the tissues of *S. chilense*. A multitude of other fungi were also recovered from plant tissues and rhizosphere soils, *e.g.* mitosporic ascomycetes such as *Fusarium* spp., *Trichoderma* spp., *Penicillium* spp., *Cladosporium* spp., *Alternaria* spp., and *Phoma* spp., and zygomycetes such as *Mucor* spp.

### F. oxysporum *pathogenicity assay*

None of the 433 *F. oxysporum* isolates, except for CE-391s, caused wilt disease when inoculated on the three tomato tester cultivars. We designated the *F. oxysporum* isolates that did not cause wilt on the tomato as NPF in this study (Table 1). CE4-391s was isolated from the rhizosphere soil of a modern tomato cultivar in a Chilean tomato farmland, and caused crown and root rot symptoms (27) on all three tester cultivars (Table 3). The IGS sequence of CE4-391s was identical to that of *F. oxysporum* Schlecht. f. sp. *radicis-lycopersici* Jarvis et Shoem. (*FORL*) strain Saitamarly (Fig. 1, Table 3), a known crown and root rot pathogen of the tomato. These results, along with the finding that CE4-391s lacked *SIX* genes that are unique to *FOL* (52), led us to conclude that CE4-391s was neither NPF nor *FOL*, but rather *FORL*.

## Phylogenetic analyses

Among the 432 NPFs identified, several isolates from the same sample and carrying identical rDNA-IGS sequences, were considered clonal, and one of them was used as their representative for phylogenetic studies. Therefore, phylogenetic trees were estimated using 233 NPFs (Table 1), together with 18 *FOL* isolates, 18 isolates of other formae speciales, and 5 NPFs isolated in previous studies (Table 3).

Maximum likelihood (ML), maximum parsimony (MP), and Bayesian inference (BI) methods were used to construct phylogenetic trees, and the ML tree was shown in Fig. 1. The topology of the ML tree was nearly identical to those of the MP and BI trees (data not shown). Each branch was statistically estimated by a bootstrap (BS) test in ML and MP analyses, and posterior probability (PP) in BI analysis. The parameter of the ML tree ( $-\ln L = 3419.861497$ ) was as follows; base frequencies = (A = 0.159040, C = 0.175477, G = 0.363070, T = 0.302413). MP analysis yielded 1,000 equally parsimonious trees (tree length = 413 steps; consistency index = 0.741; retention index = 0.929; rescaled consistency index = 0.688; homoplasy index = 0.259).

In the ML tree, *FOL* isolates were found in three clades (A1, A2, and A3; indicated in black bars in Fig. 1). This was also the case for MP and BI trees (data not shown). These results were consistent with the findings of previous studies (23, 38), in which *FOL* was shown to be polyphyletic. In these *FOL* clades, not only *FOL* isolates, but also 16 NPF isolates (8 for the A1 clade, 3 for the A2 clade, and 5 for the A3 clade) were grouped. Within each clade, the IGS sequences of NPF were 99.8 to 100% identical to those of *FOL*.

The possible ancestor of tomato wilt fungus

0.5 substitutions/site



**Fig. 1.** Maximum likelihood (ML) tree based on the intergenic spacer (IGS) region of *Fusarium oxysporum* isolates estimated using raxmlGUI 1.0 (46). *F. sacchari* strain FGSC 7610 was used as the outgroup. Bootstrap values (1,000 bootstrapped datasets) calculated in the ML analysis as greater than 60% are shown beside the branches. The *FOL* clusters A1, A2, and A3 (shown in black bars) are identical to those reported in a previous study (23), and bootstrap values in maximum likelihood (ML)/maximum parsimony (MP) analyses and posterior probability values in BI analysis are shown on the three clades only. *FOL* isolates and their clades are shown in bold characters with their race in parentheses. Filled circles show MAT1-2 isolates.

Sampla Nama	Sampled year	Sampled country	F. oxysporum f. sp. lycopersici <sup>a</sup>			
Sample Name	Sampled year	Sampled country —	race 1	race 2	race 3	
S. chilense						
Lc0036	2002	Chile	0.0	0.0	0.0	
S. peruvianum						
Lp0043-1	2004	Chile	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Lp0044	2004	Chile	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Lp0046	2004	Chile	0.0	0.0	0.0	
S. pimpinellifolium						
Lpp0040	2008	Ecuador	1.0	0	1.0	
Lpp0041w1	2008	Ecuador	1.0	1.0	1.0	
Lpp0043	2008	Ecudoar	1.0	2.0	1.0	
Lpp0045	2008	Ecuador	1.0	1.0	1.0	
S. lycopersicum var. cerasiforme						
Lec0001	2005	Mexico	2.0	2.0	3.0	
S. lycopersicum (jitomate criollo)						
Lecr0001	2005	Mexico	2.0	3.0	3.0	
S. lycopersicum						
cv. Ponderosa (control)	—	—	2.0	1.0	2.0	

Table 4. Susceptibility of wild and transition tomatoes (Solanum section Lycopersicon) to F. oxysporum f. sp. lycopersici

<sup>a</sup> MAFF 305121, JCM 12575, and Chz1-A were used as race 1, 2, and 3 isolate for positive control. Inner symptom was estimated as follows. 0 (no symptoms) to 4 (death) scale.

The A2 clade was supported (BS; ML = 89%, MP =86%: PP; BI = 1.00), in which three NPF isolates, PP11-7035s (from the rhizosphere of S. peruvianum, Peru), PH11-572s (from the rhizosphere of S. habrochaites, Peru), and MCE-9515s (from the rhizosphere of S. lycopersicum var. cerasiforme, Mexico), were grouped together with FOL (F240, NRRL 26034, MN-66, MAFF 103036, mx-20, mx-4, CT-1, and 4287) and also FORL isolates. The A3 clade was supported well (BS; ML = 95%, MP = 95%; PP; BI = 1.00), in which five NPF isolates, ME-44s (from the rhizosphere of jitomate criollo, Mexico), CE4-3916s (from the rhizosphere of S. lycopersicum, Chile), MCE10-E14s (from the rhizosphere of S. lycopersicum var. cerasiforme, Mexico), MCE10-F11s (from the rhizosphere of S. lycopersicum var. cerasiforme, Mexico), and MCE10-F12s (from the rhizosphere of S. lycopersicum var. cerasiforme, Mexico), were grouped with FOL isolates (DA-1/7, Chz1-A, tomato1-c and F-1-1). The A1 clade included eight NPF isolates, PH11-613s (from the rhizosphere of S. habrochaites, Peru), PP11-8328s (from the rhizosphere of S. peruvianum, Peru), PP11-8422s (from the rhizosphere of S. peruvianum, Peru), PPp11-802s (from the rhizosphere of S. pimpinellifolium, Peru), ME-2m (from S. lycopersicum jitomate criollo fruit, Mexico), Fo304 (from the rhizosphere of S. lycopersicum, Japan), JTE-3s (from the rhizosphere of *S. lycopersicum*, Japan), and ItE-2s (from the rhizosphere of *S. lycopersicum*, Italy), together with FOL isolates (OSU-451B, NBRC 6531, MAFF 103043, JCM 12575, Saitama-ly2, and MAFF 103038). This A1 clade was less supported (BS; ML = 77, MP = 62: PP; BI = 0.95) than the A2 and A3 clades. However, the A1 clade was reproducible in ML, MP, and BI phylogenies, which indicated that the isolates in the A1 clade as well as those in the A2 and A3 clades were monophyletic.

These 16 NPF isolates in the *FOL* clades were obtained from Peruvian wild species of tomatoes, Mexican transitional tomatoes and modern tomato cultivars worldwide, while none of the NPF isolates were obtained from wild species in Chile and Ecuador.

### Mating type and VCG determination

Among the 432 NPFs, 184 and 243 isolates were MAT1-1 and MAT1-2, respectively (5 isolates were not tested). Homothallic (MAT1-1 + MAT1-2) isolates were not detected.

We tested vegetative compatibility between *FOL* and the subset of 16 NPF isolates from our fungal collection that fell into the three *FOL* clades (Fig. 1). Although each of the NPFs was paired with the VCG 0031, 0030+0032, and 0033 tester strains, none were compatible.

# Tests for SIX genes

PCR analyses indicated that the 16 NPF isolates that grouped into the *FOL* clades did not carry *SIX1*, *SIX3*, or *SIX4*. These genes were readily amplified from the authentic *FOL* strains.

### Solanum *spp. susceptibility assay*

The Mexican transition tomatoes, *S. lycopersicum* var. *cerasiforme* and *S. lycopersicum* (jitomate criollo), showed an almost equivalent degree of susceptibility to that of cv. Ponderosa (a modern tomato cultivar carrying no resistance) to *FOL* races 1–3. Among the wild species of tomatoes, *S. chilense* and *S. peruvianum* showed resistance to *FOL* races 1–3 (Table 4). On the other hand, the resistance of all *S. pimpinellifolium* collections from Ecuador was less than that of the above two wild species (Table 4), although they presented no external symptoms.

# Discussion

It has generally been assumed that a plant pathogen emerged from a nonpathogenic strain during the domestication and breeding of its host plants. Several previous studies (8, 14, 33, 48) suggested a relationship between the origin of pathogens and domestication of host plants. However, such studies have not yet been performed on *Fusarium oxysporum*.

In the present study, we isolated *F. oxysporum* from the tissues and rhizosphere soils of asymptomatic *Solanum* spp. sect. *Lycopersicon* and found that all the *F. oxysporum* 

isolates recovered were nonpathogenic F. oxysporum (NPF), except for one isolate (CE4-391s) from a modern tomato field in Chile, which was considered to be FORL. This result was consistent with the findings of previous studies (12), which showed that NPFs were frequently isolated from plants and, therefore, are part of the normal field population. In our phylogeny, FOL isolates were distributed in any of the three clades (A1, A2, and A3; Fig. 1), suggesting that FOL has at least three origins (polyphyletic), which is consistent with the findings of previous studies (23, 37, 38). We also found that 16 NPFs were grouped in the three FOL clades (3 for the A2 clade, 8 for the A1 clade and 5 for the A3 clade), and that they are more closely related to FOL (99.8 to 100% nucleotide identity of rDNA-IGS) than to other NPFs and isolates of other forms (82.0 to 99.5% nucleotide identity). These 16 NPFs were isolated from Peruvian wild species, transition tomatoes, or modern cultivars. This result suggests that these NPFs share common ancestors with FOL and that the possible origin of FOL existed with the wild Solanum spp. in the Andes, possibly in Peru.

How did *FOL* acquire pathogenicity to the tomato? Kistler proposed a horizontal gene transfer (HGT) to explain the evolution of pathogenicity in *F. oxysporum* (24). HGT or horizontal chromosomal transfer (HCT) has been reported in other plant pathogenic fungi, such as *Nectria haematococca* (15), *Cochliobolus heterostrophus* (44), and *Alternaria alternata* (1). A small (*ca.* 2.0 Mb) chromosome, designated chromosome 14 (Ch14), was recently detected on *FOL* (31), and was found to carry effector genes, such as *SIX1*, *SIX3*, *SIX4* and other genes presumably related to pathogenicity (19, 51). *FOL* isolates belonging to each distinct *FOL* clade in the phylogeny shared genes (Fig. 1). These results suggest that *FOL* had a polyphyletic origin, and that the original NPF may have acquired the small chromosome involved in pathogenicity and/or host specificity of *FOL* by HCT.

The detailed mechanisms underlying HCT and HGT in fungi are unclear (51). However, Ma and co-workers demonstrated detected HCT in F. oxysporum in vitro (31). They co-incubated the pathogenic FOL strain Fol007 (possessing Ch14) with the NPF strain Fo-47 (lacking Ch14), and recovered a Fo-47 bearing Ch14 that presented pathogenicity to the tomato. Ch14 could only be transferred to strain Fo-47, but not to F. oxysporum f. sp. melonis or F. oxysporum f. sp. cubense, by the same manner. This experiment suggested that HGT or HCT may not occur randomly among strains, but rather depends on particular strains or environmental conditions. To test this foregoing hypothesis, it will be necessary to demonstrate that the 16 NPF isolates in the FOL clades (Fig. 1) have a greater capacity to acquire the small chromosome carrying effector genes than other more distantly related isolates.

The results of this study suggest that the nonpathogenic ancestors of FOL were in Peru, and a part of their progenitors gained effector genes or the small chromosome later, which resulted in the emergence of FOL. The origin(s) of the effector genes carried by the small chromosome are of interest. Mexican transitional tomatoes and modern cultivars are less resistant to FOL than wild species (Table 4); therefore, clear damage by FOL may have appeared during/after tomato domestication in Mexico.

Our study represents an initial step in an investigation to discover the origin of *FOL*. We are now interested in examining the origin of the pathogenicity determinants/Ch14 in *FOL* (31). Studies on the distribution of resistance genes (*I–I3*) among tomatoes, *Solanum* section *Lycopersicon*, are also warranted. Our goal is to advance our understanding on the molecular mechanisms underlying host-parasite co-evolution.

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### Ethics

Plant and fungal samples were imported with special permission from the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

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