Asian pistacio rust - *Pileolaria pistaciae*

Two species of *Pileolaria* cause rust diseases on species of Pistacio. While *Pileolaria terebinthi* known from the Middle East and Europe will infect the commercial pistachio, it is not known if the Asian *P. pistaciae* will do so. Neither species is known in North America.

*Pileolaria pistaciae* F.L. Tai & C.T. Wei 1933

Spermogonia and aecia unknown.

Uredinia epiphyllous, mostly amphigenous, dark-brown to brown, erumpent, powdery, 1-5 mm diam; urediniospores ellipsoid to fusiform, acuminate at apices, rounded at base, 30-46 × 15-20 µm, walls pale brown, irregularly verrucose, 1.5-2 µm thick at sides, 4-8 µm thick at apices, with four equatorial germ pores.

Telia epiphyllous, dark-brown; teliospores discoid or very broadly ellipsoid, 23-30 × 16-25 µm, walls 2.5-3.5 µm, chestnut-brown, rugose or reticulated, pedicels hyaline, 30-50 µm.

See Hiratsuka et al. (1992) for a more detailed description.

**Host range:** *Pistacia chinensis*, *P. weinmannifolia* (Anacardiaceae)

**Geographic distribution:** Asia (China, India, Japan, Philippines, Taiwan)

Cummins (1937) compared this fungus with *Pileolaria terebinthi* also on *Pistacia* spp. in Asia but that rust has irregularly papillate urediniospores with thinner walls and teliospores that are lighter in color and have shorter pedicels. It is not known if *Pileolaria pistaciae* will attach *Pistacia vera*, the commercial pistachio.

**References:**


Teliospores of *Pileolaria pistaciae* on *Pistacia chinensis* (x40)

Teliospores of *Pileolaria pistaciae* on *Pistacia chinensis* (x20)

Telia of *Pileolaria pistaciae* on *Pistacia chinensis* (x3.2)