The soil temperatures during and after prescribed burning and the spore germination of *Rhizina undulata*.

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The fresh clearcut area was burned next summer after harvesting in February. The soil temperatures were measured with iButtons in 7 cm depth during the burning and after burning. In addition, soil temperatures were measured in the depth of 2 cm two years after burning. The pine seed was sown one year after burning. Pine seedlings were planted in one experimental plot. The occurrence of *Rhizina undulata* ascospores were observed from systematical plots 14 months after burning. At the same time mortality of seedlings was observed.

The germination of ascospores was examined *in vitro* after different treatments. During the burning the favorite temperature for germination is achieved in soil depth of 2-10 cm. After burning a temperature of 35 °C is achieved at least to 2 cm depth. Sown seedlings remained alive but many planted seedlings were killed, probably by *Rhizina undulata*.

The ascocarps were common in the whole burned area. Mostly they were formed in the places where the humus layer was broken or removed. Ascocarps were formed only during one summer a year after burning. The fresh ascospores did not germinate even after heat treatment. After six months storage in water at 5°C the ascospores germinated well when also heated at 38 °C for 24 hours. This means that *Rhizina undulata* is very well adapted to forest fires. It can survive for years in the soil waiting for the fire.