

Fusarium

Important diseases: *Fusarium* wilt of tomato, Cereal head blight, Soybean sudden death

Fusarium causes root, stem, and crown rots, wilts, head blight, and leaf spots. The fungus is seen most often as a root and lower stem pathogen. *Fusarium* has a wide host range. It may act alone or more often in association with other soilborne pathogenic fungi, such as *Rhizoctonia* or *Pythium*.



Necrosis of roots often beginning with lateral roots. A red-pinkish discoloration is often associated with infected tissue. Infection generally moves upward through the plant.

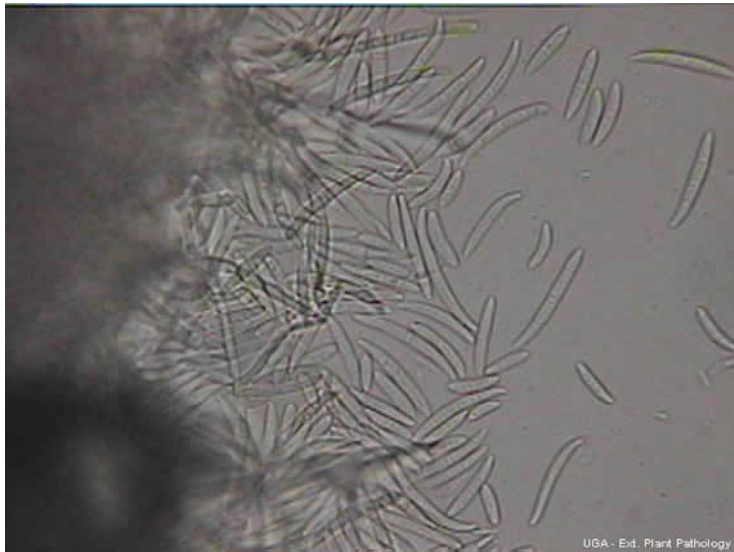


UGA - Ext. Plant Pathology



UGA - Ext. Plant Pa

Conidiophores are produced in a sporodochium (cluster of conidiophores) growing on surface of infected tissue. Conidiophores may be single or branched with conidia produced at the tips.



UGA - Ext. Plant Pathology



UGA - Ext. Plant Pathology

Three types of spores are produced; macroconidia, microconidia, and chlamydo spores. Macroconidia can vary greatly in size and shape. Generally, macroconidia are colorless, slightly curved ("sickle" or "canoe" shaped), and multi-celled. Microconidia are colorless, small, oval to short cylindrical and one or two-celled. Chlamydo spores are thick walled, rounded cells typically found in older mycelium. They are fungal survival structures.