

Fungal Glossary



Laboratory Testing Services Since 1981

Fusarium

Natural Habitat	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Soil◆ Plant pathogen causing root rot, stem rot, and wilt of many ornamental and crop plants.
Suitable Substrates in the Indoor Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Often found in humidifiers◆ Wet, cellulose-based building materials
Water Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Aw=0.86-0.91
Mode of Dissemination	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Insects◆ Water droplets, rain◆ Wind when spores become dry
Allergenic Potential	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Type I allergies (hay fever, asthma)
Potential Opportunist or Pathogen	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Esophageal cancer is believed to happen after consumption of <i>F. moniliforme</i> infected corn◆ Keratitis◆ Endophthalmitis◆ Onychomycosis◆ Cutaneous infections◆ Mycetoma◆ Sinusitis◆ Pulmonary infections◆ Endocarditis◆ Peritonitis◆ Central venous catheter infections◆ Septic arthritis◆ Neurological disease in horses after consumption of <i>F. moniliforme</i> infected corn◆ Respiratory disease in pigs after consumption of <i>F. moniliforme</i> infected corn
Industrial Uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Biological Weapon
Potential Toxins Produced	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Trichothecenes◆ Zearalenone◆ Fumonisin
Other Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Major plant pathogen
References	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ <i>Atlas of Moulds in Europe causing respiratory Allergy</i>, Foundation for Allergy Research in Europe, Edited by Knud Wilken-Jensen and Suzanne Gravesen, ASK Publishing, Denmark, 1984