



# FUNGAL GLOSSARY

## *Fusarium*

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