Fusarium wilt of strawberry

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Verticillium wilt

Macrophomina crown rot

































Microconidia carried upward in xylem vessels





Colonized vascular tissue



Microconidia carried upward in xylem vessels





Colonized vascular tissue



Microconidia carried upward in xylem vessels

Origin of Fusarium wilt

Fusarium oxysporum is common in arable soils



Grasslands

Populations of *Fusarium oxysporum*

Native and cultivated soils



Same population in both soils

Most are non-pathogenic



No visible damage to roots

Pathogens arise through chance encounters

Strain * crop combination







> 120 host-specific strains





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Strain * crop combination







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De novo origin is a rare event

Most new occurrences are introductions of existing strains







> 120 host-specific strains





De novo origin is a rare event

Most new occurrences are introductions of existing strains

Moved with infested soil

or plants

Introduction to California



Infected plants can be symptomless

Discovered in Australia in 1962



California 2008

Not a single, recent introduction to California

Population of F. o. fragariae in CA



DNA sequence comparisons

PopuBrteenlingf.co. resignationed n CA



Three strains of the pathogen

Multiple introductions to California

Breeding for resistance



Three strains of the pathogen

Multiple introductions to California

Management

Avoid introduction

Soil on equipment

Management

Reduce inoculum levels in soil

Pre-plant fumigation

Flat fumigation to treat the entire field

Bed fumigation



The soil is not uniformly exposed to the fumigant



Mortality is not evenly distributed across beds

Beds fumigated with Pic-60



Four drip tapes

Shallow depth



Location in bed

Four drip tapes

two shallow + two deep



Location in bed

Effect of inoculum depth on disease



Nine weeks after planting

Inoculum below 12"



14 weeks after planting

Disease severity

16 weeks after planting



Inoculum depth

Crop rotation

Inoculum levels decline when other crops are grown

Fusarium wilt

Specific to strawberry

Colonization of rotation crops









Proportion of root tips infected



Colonization of rotation crops



Pathogen population will decline

Roots explore a small fraction of soil volume



Most fungal spores in soil will not be affected

Pathogen will persist



Pathogen population in soil



How much inoculum is too much?

Inoculum density adjacent to diseased and healthy plants



< 8 to 116 CFUs per gram

< 8 to 17 CFUs per gram





Blackberry



Management

Disease resistance

Differences in susceptibility to Fusarium wilt



Camarosa

Ventana



Cultivar

Naturally infested field

AFTE

Comparison of resistance assessments

Correlation coefficient = 0.9908



Cultivars







Sweet Ann



Pathogen can colonize resistant crops



May allow inoculum build-up in soil





Root colonization



Enter xylem vessels



Penetrate endodermis

Resistant plants prevent movement in the xylem



Root colonization



xylem vessels



Penetrate endodermis

Resistance may be overcome

Risk is proportional to pathogen growth and reproduction

Suppression of pathogen populations still important

Management of soilborne pathogens

Reduce inoculum levels

Avoid introductions

Disease resistance

Thanks

