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Chemical control of Fusarium Wilt of Chillies

Recognize the problem

Fusarium wilt is caused by a fungus, which is not easy to see on the plant. The disease enters through the roots of the plant and will affect the plant from the roots to the leaves. It travels inside the plant through the food supplying vessels of the plant. Vessels become blocked and turn yellow. Afterwards, the leaves and fruit also start to turn yellow and become wilted.

Fusarium wilt of Chillies. (Photo by A.A. Seif & B. Nyambo, icipe, CC BY-NC-SA)

Background

- The disease can often be found in the seeds if they are taken from an already diseased plant. It is important therefore to make sure you treat the seeds before you plant them.
- Sometimes, when the plant is already growing, it can be attacked by fungus present in the soil. Chemicals can treat the problem when it is seen on the plant, but they must be applied before it has caused too much damage.

Management

- Treat the seeds before planting. Use a seed treatment on nursery plants by dipping the roots in 0.2% solution of mancozeb (e.g. Dithane-M 45)
- Flood the field after emergence of the disease on a few plants
- Metalaxyl+mancozeb @ 250g/100l water/acre
- Mancozeb (e.g. Dithane-M 45) @250 g/100L water/ acre
- Fosetyl aluminum @ 100ml/100L water/ acre

When using a pesticide, always wear protective clothing and follow the instructions on the product label, such as dosage, timing of application, and pre-harvest interval.

Scientific name(s) > ***Fusarium oxysporum***

The recommendations in this factsheet are relevant to: Pakistan

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