GENERAL CHARACTERISTIC OF *FUSARIUM* FUNGI

Palamarchuk A.
Department of Microbiology, Virology and Biotechnology, Odessa National I. I. Mechnikov University, Dvoryanska str. 2, 65082 Odessa, Ukraine
E-mail: anastasia.pdl.09@gmail.com

Fusarium fungi are pathogenic for the large quantity of cereals and legumes.

In general, members of the genus *Fusarium* are saprophytes that live in the soil and on plant residues. But there are also phytotrophic *Fusarium* fungi that cause dangerous plant diseases - *Fusarium* forming rot roots, seeds, fruits, and general oppression and premature wilting.

These fungi possess high metabolic activity, and adaptive plasticity. Besides being able to actively participate in the decomposition of organic residues and soil-forming processes, the *Fusarium* genus, also affect insects and mammals. There are numerous examples that describe the different types of interactions between entomopathogenic fungi and insects, including the participation of semiochemisians.

The genus *Fusarium* includes a large number of plant-associated species, with the potential to cause economic damage, and reduce the quality of crops. To these group belong such pathogens as *F. oxysporum* and *F. solani* that cause the death of host plants.

Pathogen transmission is very difficult to control in the soil by traditional methods, so many researchers use chemicals or biological control methods. Action of such drugs is in the suppression the fungi growth or in plants resistance inducing.

Despite previous success in the study of microscopic *Fusarium* fungi, there are still a lot of unknown aspects of their genetics, systematics and biochemistry.