

Terminology in Plant Pathology

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Pathology – Pathos = suffering; logos = discourse, study

Science of Plant Pathology deals with those stress factors which cause injury or disease

Disease - any departure from health, presenting marked symptoms, malady, illness, disorders

Disease - a disturbance in the normal physiologic functioning of a plant, has many causes, and exhibits an array of appearances and results

Symptom – any condition resulting from disease that indicates its occurrence - A reaction of the host to a causal agent

Sign - evidence of disease other than that expressed by the host, usually structures of the pathogens

Host – a living organism serving as a source of food for the parasite

Pest – any organism destructive to plants

Parasite – which obtains food by living in or on another organism

Pathogen – a parasite which causes disease; disease causing organism

(All pathogens are parasites but all parasites are not pathogens)

Saprophyte – that derives its nutrition from dead organic matter

Facultative parasite – a parasite that can live as saprophyte but under favourable conditions can live as parasite

Obligate parasite – that cannot live except on living protoplasm, cannot survive without its host

Pathogenesis – chain of events leading to the development of disease in the host

Pathogenicity – ability of a pathogen to cause disease

Virulence – degree of pathogenicity of a pathogen

Invasion – entry of pathogen into host

Infection – when pathogen starts drawing nutrition from the host

Inoculum – disease causing propagules

Fungi – filamentous, eukaryotes without chlorophyll that derive nutrition by absorption

Hypha – single filament of a fungus (Pl. hyphae)

Mycelium – collective mass of hyphae

Spores – one to several celled reproductive units