



Fusarium Wilt Disease of Vegetable Crops and its Management through Biocontrol Agent: A Review

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Abstract – *Fusarium* wilt disease is a destructive plant disease and it affects a wide range of vegetable crops. It impacts many important crops, including field crops, ornamental plants, fruits, and vegetables. The disease is caused by vascular wilt pathogens in the soil called *Fusarium* species. *Fusarium* spp. in particular are among the most significant and toxic organisms that cause plant diseases, impacting almost all commercially important plant species. *Fusarium* spp. produce macro conidia, microconidia, and chlamydozoospores, and it act as propagules infect host plant. *Fusarium* spp. identified. saprophytic, parasitic and dormant three stages in the life cycle. The presence of reddish-brown discoloration in the xylem vessels, yellowing and wilting of the leaves, reduced growth rate, and decay of the roots or stems are indicative of fusarium wilt. The development of fungal growth on the outer surface of damaged stems. Plants become challenging to manage *Fusarium* spp. invade the roots and proliferate in the vascular tissues, disrupting the water-conducting capillaries of the plant. Due to the soil-borne nature of this plant pathogen, chemical fungicides are rendered useless because the spores can live in the soil for many years. The physical, chemical, and cultural techniques used to manage *Fusarium* wilt disease are not only expensive but also ineffective. This makes the disease hard to manage. The most effective method to manage *Fusarium* wilt disease is through biocontrol. Both pathogenic and non-pathogenic isolates are found in the same environment and they both infiltrate plant roots. Many attempts have been made to employ non-pathogenic isolates as biocontrol agents to treat *Fusarium* wilt infestations, as they have comparable nutritional and environmental needs. This review focuses on biocontrol techniques such as bacterial biocontrol, that are used to manage *Fusarium* wilt disease. (*Pseudomonas* species, *Bacillus* species, *Rhizobium* species), fungal bio-control (*Trichoderma* species), AMF fungus.

Keywords – *Fusarium*, Wilt Disease, Biological Control, Vegetable Crops.

I. INTRODUCTION

A vast range of vegetables are produced in large quantities in India. It makes a substantial contribution to the domestic and international vegetable markets. India ranks the second-largest producer with 16% of global vegetable production in the world. Plant diseases are a global concern to agricultural productivity and cause significant losses in vegetable output. Diseases cause losses in vegetable harvests of up to 40-60% annually. Vegetable crops are more susceptible to a wide range of diseases caused by bacteria, viruses, nematodes, phytoplasma, fungus, and viroid. (Tripathi et al., 2024). The main things restricting agricultural output are these diseases. Plant diseases cause around 10% of the losses in plant productivity worldwide. Farm productivity and quality can be severely hampered by fungus-related plant diseases. The global economy, food security, and the prevalence of diseases transmitted by soil could all be negatively impacted by climate change. As part of its worldwide nutrition and health initiatives. The World Health Organization (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) recommend eating more vegetables. Vegetable crops have been severely harmed by fungi like *Alternaria*, *Aschochyta*, *Colletotrichum*, *Didymella*, *Phoma*, *Phytophthora*, *Pythium*, *Rhizoctonia*, *Sclerotinia*, and *Sclerotium*. [2].



Fusarium spp.

Fusarium fungus belong to the Class Ascomycetes and family Hypocreaceae [3]. *Fusarium* species can be found in a wide range of environments, including the tropics, temperate zones, deserts, alpine regions, and polar regions with harsh climates. Certain species of this fungus produce mycotoxins such as fumonisins, zearalenones, and trichothecenes, and it infect seeds. Their effective spore distribution techniques and ability to adapt a broad spectrum of substrates help to explain. *Fusarium* species are found around the world [4]. There are presently more than 20 species in the genus *Fusarium* [5]. *Fusarium solani*, *Fusarium oxysporum*, *Fusarium equiseti*, and *Fusarium chlamydosporum* are the most common species [6]. The primary cause of fusarium wilts is *F. oxysporum*. [7]. Numerous pathogenic species of this fungus can infect plants and produce wilts in crops that are important to the economy. Soil-borne pathogen *Fusarium oxysporum*, a facultative fungus, produces significant economic losses across several crops [8]. There are three stages in the life cycle of *Fusarium* species: dormant, parasitic, and saprophytic [9]. The dormant period is characterized by the repression and germination of latent soil forms. The phases of the parasitic stage are entering root, colonizing root cortex and endodermis, migrating to the xylem, colonizing the stems and leaves in the xylem, symptoms developing, and finally host death. They grow into new hyphae and puncture surrounding vascular components to continue colonization and transmit infection. *Fusarium* hyphae multiplied within the cell apoplast, causing major cytological changes that eventually led to the emergence of symptoms [10]. There are many things that can cause an infected plant's water economy to break down, such as mycelia, spores, gels, gums, tyloses, and neighboring parenchyma cells from the host plant multiplying in an effort to defend itself crushing the vessels [11]. As a result, the plant initially wilts its lowest branches before dying as a whole.

Table 1. Diseases caused by *Fusarium* spp. in different vegetable crop.

S. No	Vegetable	Disease	Causal Organism	References
1	Tomato (<i>solanum lycopersicum</i>)	<i>Fusarium</i> wilt of Tomato	<i>Fusarium oxysporum</i>	[12]
2	Brinjal (<i>solanum melongena L.</i>)	<i>Fusarium</i> Wilt of Brinjal	<i>Fusarium oxysporum</i>	[13]
3	Lettuce (<i>Lactuca sativa</i>)	<i>Fusarium</i> wilt of lettuce	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp lactucae</i>	[14]
4	Onion (<i>Allium cepa</i>)	<i>Fusarium</i> wilt of onion	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp cepae</i>	[15]
5	Potato (<i>solanum tuberosum</i>)	<i>Fusarium</i> wilt of potato	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f.sp tuberosi</i>	[16]
6	Pepper (<i>Capsicum annum</i>)	<i>Fusarium</i> wilt of capsicm	<i>Fusarium spp.</i>	[17]
7	Watermelon (<i>Citrullus lanatus</i>)	<i>Fusarium</i> Wilt on Cucurbits	<i>Fusarium Oxysporum f.sp. niveum</i>	[18]
8	Cabbage (<i>Brassica oleracea</i>)	<i>Fusarium</i> wilt of crucifers	<i>Fusarium. Conglutinans</i>	[19]
9	Bean (<i>phaseolus vulgaris</i>)	<i>Fusarium</i> wilt of bean	<i>F.oxysporumf. sp phaseoli</i>	[20]
10	Cauliflower (<i>Brassica oleraceae</i>)	<i>Fusarium</i> wilt of cauliflower	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. conglutinans</i>	[21]



II. BIO-CONTROL AGENT

Non-pathogenic Fusarium spp. a Biological Control

Plant disease is not induced by non-pathogenic *Fusarium* strains. These strains may be naturally occurring or introduced into the soil as biocontrol agents. Non-pathogenic infections invade epidermis, and veins [22]. The non-pathogenic isolates *Fusarium* in the treatment of *Fusarium* wilts has been extensively investigated [23]. Pathogenic and nonpathogenic isolates live together in the same environment when they invade plant root systems. Non-pathogenic isolates have been investigated in a variety of ways as potential biocontrol agents for infestations of *Fusarium* wilt because they share similar nutritional and abiotic requirements with pathogenic isolates [23]. Plant disease is not induced by non-pathogenic *Fusarium* strains. These strains may be naturally occurring or introduced into the soil as biocontrol agents. Non-pathogenic infections invade the brain, the epidermis, and veins [22]. The non-pathogenic *F. oxysporum* strains to prevent *Fusarium* illnesses stems from research on soils that naturally inhibit *Fusarium* wilts [24]. The non-pathogenic strain demonstrates defensive responses comparable to pathogenic infections. Sensitization stimulates immunological responses, allowing plants to better battle pathogenic strains. Plants rely on their cell walls to defend themselves against diseases. The main barrier prevents pathogens from entering plant scells [25] revealed that avirulent *Fusarium* achieve success through a variety of methods, including resource and space competition, as well as systemic resistance. Extra compounds that are toxic to fungi and bacteria are present in culture filtrates, which are produced by non-infective isolates. Among the constituents are anthroquinones, alkaloids, flavonoids, tannins, saponins, and phenols [26]. Root-colonizing *Fusarium* strains can have a major impact on soil ecology and plant health.

Table 2. Non-pathogenic *Fusarium f.sp* uses as a biological control.

S. No	<i>Fusarium spp.</i>	Vegetable	Disease	References
1	<i>F. oxysporum</i>	Eggplant	Verticillium wilt	[27]
2	<i>F. oxysporum</i>	Banana	<i>Fusarium wilt of banana</i>	[28]
3	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. niveum</i> (FON)	Water melon	<i>Fusarium wilt of water melon</i>	[29]
4	<i>F. oxysporum</i>	Tomato	<i>Sclerotium, sclerotiorum, Phytophthora erythroseptica, Pythium ultimum</i>	[26]
5	<i>Fusarium oxysporum</i> FO12	Olive	<i>Verticillium dahliae</i>	[30]
6	<i>F. oxysporum</i>	Tomato	root-knot nematode	[26]
7	<i>F. oxysporum</i>	Eggplant	<i>Verticillium dahliae</i>	[31]
8	<i>F. solani f. sp. Cucurbitae</i>	Pumpkin	<i>Fusarium foot and fruit</i>	[32]
9	<i>F. oxysporum</i>	Banana	<i>F. oxysporum f. sp. cubense</i>	[33]
10	<i>F. oxysporum</i> Strain Fo47	Sugar Beets	<i>Rhizoctonia</i> disease	[34]
11	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. niveum</i> race 2 (FON2)	Water melon	<i>Fusarium wilt</i>	[35]
12	<i>Fusarium clavum (F. incarnatum-equiseti</i> species complex 5	sugar beet	Seedling rot	[36]



S. No	<i>Fusarium spp.</i>	Vegetable	Disease	References
13	F. oxysporum isolate (F.o-T5)	Tomato	<i>Fusarium</i> rot	[26]
14	<i>Fusarium oxysporum</i>	Flax	<i>Fusarium</i> wilt of flax	[25]
15	<i>F. oxysporum</i> Fo47	Pepper	Verticillium wilt	[37]
16	<i>F.oxysporum f. sp. radiciscucumerinum</i> strain	Cucumber	Cucumber root-rot	[38]
17	<i>F. oxysporum</i>	Pisum sativum	<i>Fusarium</i> wilt of pea	[39]
18	<i>F. oxysporum</i> F221-B	Lettuce	<i>Fusarium</i> root rot	[40]
19	<i>Fusarium</i> sp.	Watermelon	<i>Fusarium</i> wilt	[35]
20	<i>F. solani f. sp cucurbitaceae</i> race 1 and race 2	Pumpkins	<i>Fusarium</i> fruit rot (FFR)	[41]

III. BACTERIAL BIO-CONTROL

Bacillus spp.

The bacterial genus *Bacillus* spp. is one of the most commonly utilized endophytes as a biocontrol agent among the numerous endophytes linked to plants that do not harm the host. *Bacillus* species are a suitable choice for bio-control agents because they can form endospores, which shields them from harsh environmental conditions. The creation of siderophores and extracellular metabolites may be the source of *Bacilli*'s antagonistic impact [42]. According to [42], *Bacillus* may encourage plants to develop induced systemic resistance (ISR), strengthening their resistance against bacterial, fungal, and viral illnesses. Pathogenic fungi and bacteria can be inhibited in their growth by bacterial species such as *B. amyloliquefaciens*, *B. cereus*, *B. pumilius*, *B. licheniformis*, and *B. subtilis* [43]. *Bacillus* species use a variety of strategies to inhibit pathogenic fungi growth, including antibiosis (antibiotics), enzyme synthesis, competition (space and nutrition), parasitism (bacteria attach to germinated surfaces and release catalytic enzymes), systemic resistance in plants (via the jasmonic acid pathway) and siderophore synthesis [43], [44]. While certain populations may directly increase plant nutrition intake through rhizobial and mycorrhizal symbiosis or direct atmospheric nitrogen fixation, others may create antimicrobial chemicals that suppress pests and plant diseases.

Table 3. *Bacillus* spp to control *Fusarium* spp. in crop plants.

S. No	<i>Bacillus</i> spp	Disease in Plant	Plant Pathogen	References
1	<i>B. subtilis</i>	<i>Fusarium</i> wilt of chickpea	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp ciceris</i>	[45]
2	<i>B. amyloliquefaciens</i> FZB42	Wilt	<i>F. oxysporum</i>	[46]
3	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i> CAS15	<i>Fusarium</i> wilt pepper	<i>Fusarium oxysporum</i> Schl. f.sp. <i>capsica</i>	[47]
4	<i>Bacillus veiezensis</i> WB	<i>Fusarium</i> wilt of water melon	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. niveum</i>	[48]
5	<i>B. subtilis</i> B579	<i>Fusarium</i> wilt of cucumber	<i>Fusarium oxysporum</i>	[49]
6	<i>Bacillus amyloliquefaciens</i> DHA55	<i>Fusarium</i> wilt of watermelon	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. niveum</i>	[29]



S. No	Bacillus spp	Disease in Plant	Plant Pathogen	References
7	<i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i>	Fusarium Wilt of Tomato	<i>Fusarium spp.</i>	[50]
8	Bacillus strain PE1,	Fusarium Wilt of potato	<i>Fusarium languescens</i>	[51]
9	<i>B. subtilis</i> Qst713	Fusarium wilt of lettuce	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. lactucae,</i>	[52]
10	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i> strain 1JN2	Fusarium Wilt of cucumber	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. cucumerinum</i>	[53]
11	<i>Bacillus siamensis</i> YC-9	Fusarium wilt in cucumber	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f.sp cucumericum</i>	[53]
12	<i>Bacillus sp.</i> B67	Fusarium Wilt of Watermelon	<i>F. oxysporum f. sp. Niveum</i>	[54]
13	<i>Bacillus amyloliquefaciens</i> Strain W19	Fusarium Wilt of Banana	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. cubense (FOC)</i>	[55]
14	<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	Fusarium wilt of lettuce	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. lactucae</i>	[49]
15	<i>B. subtilis</i> SQR 9	Fusarium wilt of cucumber	<i>Fusarium spp.</i>	[56]

Pseudomonas spp.

The *Pseudomonas* species generate a variety of antibiotics that directly inhibit the development of the *Fusarium* fungus. Substances such as phenazines, pyoluteorin, and pyrrolnitrin efficiently reduce *Fusarium oxysporum*. Which are among these antibiotics. Siderophores are substances made by these bacteria that chelate iron from the surrounding environment. Siderophores effectively starve the pathogen by sequestering the iron, which prevents the fungi from growing because iron is necessary for fungal growth. *Pseudomonas* species compete with pathogenic fungi for nutrients and accessible space, preventing their development and spread. Enzymatic Compound Production: Some strains of *Pseudomonas* produce chitinases and proteases, which degrade the cell walls of fungal pathogens and prevent them from growing any further. *Pseudomonas* species that have been isolated from the tomato rhizosphere generate HCN, which has the ability to suppress *Fusarium* wilt. *P. fluorescens* is the most commonly used bacterium to treat plant problems in soil. Many *P. fluorescens* strains have been identified from plant roots and rhizosphere soil during the past 30 years, and these strains have demonstrated potential as bio-control agents against soil-borne and foliar diseases [57].

Table 4. *Pseudomonas sp.* uses as bio control agent.

S. No	<i>Pseudomonas sp.</i>	Disease in Plant	Plant Pathogen	References
1	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa strain91</i>	Fusarium wilt of Banana	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp.cubensei</i>	[58]
2	<i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i>	Fusarium wilt of cucumber	<i>Fusarium oxysporum</i>	[27]
3	<i>P. fluorescens</i>	Fusarium wilt of tomato	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f.sp oxysporum</i>	[59]
4	<i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i> , six isolates (Pf4, Pf13, Pf14, Pf18, Pf19, and Pf20)	Fusarium wilt of chick pea	<i>Fusarium oxysporum</i>	[60]
5	<i>Pseudomonas spp.</i>	Fusarium wilt of lettuce	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp lactucae</i>	(Lopez-Reyes, G



S. No	Pseudomonas sp.	Disease in Plant	Plant Pathogen	References
				Gilardi (et al., 2014))
6	<i>Pseudomonas spp.</i> Pf12	Onion Basal Rot	<i>Fusarium oxysporum. f. sp.cepae</i>	[63]
7	<i>Pseudomonas fluorescens</i> strain Pf1	Fusarium wilt of bean	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp phaseoli</i>	[64]
8	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> strains91	Fusarium wilt of banana	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp cubense</i>	(Xie et al., 2023)
9	<i>Psuedomonas aeruginosa</i> PM12	Fusarium wilt of tomato	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp lycopersici</i>	[65]
10	<i>Pseudomonas</i> strains	Fusarium wilt watermelon	<i>Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. niveum</i>	[49]

Rhizobium spp.

Rhizobium species are being used against *Fusarium* wilt and other plant diseases. *Rhizobium spp.* are well-known for their symbiotic connection with leguminous plants and their function in nitrogen fixation. It is commonly recognized that rhizobia are a great biological control agent against soilborne diseases and a source of nitrogen for plants [66]. Through N₂ fixation and increased nutrient and mineral availability, rhizobia can enhance plant development. Comparably, it has been demonstrated that Rhizobia promote plant growth by secreting alkaloids, flavonoid and secondary metabolites. Which strengthen the plant's defenses against infections [67]. *Fusarium* wilt decreased tomato plants and co-inoculated with *Rhizobium* and plant growth-promoting rhizobacteria [27]. *Rhizobium spp.* improved tomato providing the benefits of higher production and resistance to disease. *Rhizobium leguminosarum* helped chickpea plants against *Fusarium* wilt. The generation of siderophores and competition for root colonization sites were credited with the biocontrol's effectiveness. *Rhizobium phaseoli* was found to lessen the severity of *Fusarium* wilt in common bean plants. *Rhizobium* species have a lot of potential for use as biocontrol agents against *Fusarium* wilt because they produce antimicrobials, induce systemic resistance, and compete with other plants for nutrients.

Table 5. List of rhizobium spp. and host uses as bio control agent.

S. No	Genus	Species/Strain	Host Plant	Reference
1	<i>Bradyrhizobium spp.</i>	SEMIA 5080, SEMIA 5079, SEMIA 5019 and SEMIA 587,	Soyabean	[68]
2	<i>Rhizobacteria</i>	B1: <i>Rhizobium pusense</i> and B2: <i>Burkholderia contaminans</i>	Lentil	[69]
3	<i>Rhizobium</i>	<i>Rhizobium sp. L5</i>	Tomato	[70]
4	<i>Rhizobium</i>	<i>Rhizobium sp. (isolate b1)</i> strain	Tomato	[71]
5	<i>Bradyrhizobium</i>	<i>Bradyrhizobium sp. IC-4059</i>	Pigeon pea	[72]
6	<i>Mesorhizobium sp</i>	<i>Mesorhizobium sp</i>	Pigeon pea	[73]
7	<i>Bradyrhizobium</i>	<i>Bradyrhizobium diazoefficiens</i>	Soybean	[74]
8	<i>Rhizobium</i>	<i>Rhizobium bangladeshense</i>	Lentil	[74]
9	<i>Sinorhizobium/Ensifer</i>	Ensifer meliloti comb. <i>Medicago sativa</i>	Aifaaifa	[74]



S. No	Genus	Species/Strain	Host Plant	Reference
10	<i>Mesorhizobium</i>	<i>Mesorhizobium mediterraneum</i>	Chickpea	[74]
11	<i>Rhizobium</i>	Rhizobium spp TZSR12C Rhizobium sp. TZSR25B	Soyabean	[75]
12	<i>Bradyrhizobium sp.</i>	<i>Bradyrhizobium sp.</i> TZSR41A,	Soyabean	[75]
13	<i>Rhizobium leguminosorum</i>	<i>Rhizobium leguminosorum</i>	Chickpea	[76]
14	<i>Rhizobium</i>	<i>Rhizobium</i> strain, RH 2	Pigeon pea	[77]
15	<i>Bradyrhizobium spp.</i>	<i>Macrophomina phaseolina</i> , <i>Rhizoctonia solani</i> , <i>Fusarium solani</i> and <i>F. oxysporum</i>	Soyabean	[78]

IV. FUNGAL BIO-CONTROL

Trichoderma spp.

Fungi are found in agricultural soils and decaying wood. Fungi not only function as biocontrol agents but also promote plant growth, development, and resistance. *Trichoderma spp.* are facultative, anaerobic, cosmopolitan agricultural output, according to recent studies. *Trichoderma spp.* has the potential to serve as an alternative to chemical control of tomato wilt disease. Mycoparasitism, antibiotics and nutrient competition are the biocontrol agents that also cause plants to develop defense or systemic resistance responses. *Trichoderma spp.* is one of the best biocontrol agents for controlling plant pathogenic fungi. It has been used for a long time. It is normal practice to employ *Trichoderma spp.* to prevent and stimulate crop development. Roughly 90% of researched fungal biological control agents (BCAs) and over 60% of registered biofungicides globally are attributed to *Trichoderma* [79]. Only a small number of the approximately 200 *Trichoderma* species have been commercialized as BCAs [80]. Through mycoparasitism, competition, and antibiosis, trichoderma suppresses pathogens and induces defensive reactions in plants ([81]; [82]). Another possible strategy is to employ *trichoderma* as a seed treatment. This is especially useful for crops that are drilled straight into the soil, such field/row crops and some horticultural crops, as the soils are likely to contain phytopathogeni fungi. and [28]observed an increase in defense enzymes such as Peroxidase and Phenylalanine Ammonia Lyase (PAL) and a higher total phenolic content in comparison to the control *T. viride* NRCB1 was used as the rice chaffy grain formulation and *Foc* was used for the challenge inoculation in cv. Rasthali.

Table 6. List of *Tricoderma spp.* for the management of *Fusarium spp.* in vegetable crops.

S. No	Vegetables	Disease	Pathogen	Bioagents	References
1	Cucumber	Fusarium wilt of Cucumber	<i>Fusarium oxysporum</i> f. sp. <i>cucumerinum</i>	<i>T. harzianum</i> T. <i>atroviride</i> , T. <i>virens</i>	[83]
2	Brinjal	Fusarium wilt of Brinjal	<i>F. solani</i>	<i>T. viride</i> , T. <i>virens</i>	[84]
3	Tomato	Fusarium wilt of Tomato	<i>F.oxysporum</i> f. sp <i>lycopersici</i>	<i>Trichoderma harzianum</i> (ANR-1)	[85]
4	Bottle gourd	Fusarium wilt of bottlegourd	<i>F. oxysporum</i>	<i>T. viride</i> , T. <i>virens</i> , B. <i>subtilis</i>	[86]
5	Cow pea	Fusarium wilt of cow pea	<i>F. oxysporum</i>	<i>T.harzianum</i> , T. <i>viride</i>	[87]



S. No	Vegetables	Disease	Pathogen	Bioagents	References
6	Cucumber	Fusarium wilt of Cucumber	<i>Fusarium oxysporum</i>	<i>T. longibrachiatum</i> NGJ167 (Rifai)	[88]
7	Chilli	Fusarium wilt of Chilli	<i>Fusarium solani</i>	<i>T. harzianum</i> <i>T. viride</i> ,	[88]
8	Onion	Fusarium wilt of onion	<i>Fusarium oxysporum</i>	<i>Trichoderma spp.</i>	[89]
9	Tomato	Fusarium wilt of Tomato	<i>Fusarium solani</i>	<i>T. viride</i> , <i>T. harzianum</i>	[90]
10	Watermelon	Fusarium wilt of watermelon	<i>Fusarium oxysporum</i> f. sp. <i>niveum</i>	<i>Trichoderma harzianum</i> SQR-T037s	[91]

Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi:

Alternative biological control strategies, such as the use of symbiotic endophytic fungi like *arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi* (AMF), have evolved to solve these issues. Classified as members of the phylum Glomeromycota, AMF are essential to plant development because they boost growth and increase the plant's resilience to a variety of pests. AMF are helpful biocontrol agents that improve plant disease resistance, provide plant nourishment, and regulate microbial balance of the mycorrhizosphere [92]. Numerous investigations have revealed a correlation between enhanced disease resistance and higher mineral uptake in AMF-colonized plants. The potential for using AM fungi's preventive qualities in concert with other rhizospheric microorganisms that have antagonistic against root diseases utilized in biological control approaches.

Table 7. List of soil borne disease of vegetables managed by AMF.

S. No	Name of Arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi	Plant	Pathogen	References
1	<i>Funneliformis mosseae</i>	Onion	<i>F. oxysporum</i> f. sp. <i>cepae</i> (FOC)	[93]
2	<i>Glomus etunicatum</i> , <i>G. leptotichum</i> and <i>Rhizophagus intraradices</i>	Tomato	<i>Fusarium oxysporum</i> f. sp. <i>lycopersici</i>	[94]
3	<i>Rhizophagus irregularis</i>	Banana	<i>Fusarium oxysporum</i> f. sp. <i>cubense</i>	[95]
4	<i>Funneliformis mosseae</i>	Pepper	<i>Verticillium dahliae</i> (Vd)	[96]
5	<i>Glomus intradices</i>	Pepper	<i>Fusarium solani</i> (48-and 18 <i>Fusarium</i> and <i>F-147</i>)	[97]
6	<i>Rhizophagus irregularis</i>	Olive	<i>V. dahliae</i>	[96]
7	<i>Funneliformis mosseae</i> and <i>Glomus fasciculatum</i>	Tomato	<i>Fusarium</i>	[98]
ss8	<i>Glomus</i> spp.	Banana	<i>Fusarium oxysporum</i> f. sp. <i>cubense</i>	[99]
9	<i>Glomus mosseae</i> , <i>Glomus hoi</i> ,	Chickpea	<i>Fusarium oxysporum</i> f. sp. <i>ciceris</i>	[62]
10	<i>Glomus</i> and <i>Acaulospora</i> , <i>Entrophospora</i>	Chickpea	<i>F. solani</i>	[100]

V. CONCLUSION

The soil-borne fungus *Fusarium oxysporum* is the source of the devastating plant disease fusarium wilt. Numerous vegetable crops are impacted, such as lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers, and peppers. The pathogen enters the plant by its roots and settles in the vascular system, causing wilting, leaf yellowing, and, in many



cases, plant death. Because *Fusarium* wilt hosts is persistent in the soil, managing the disease can be difficult. Because of its capacity to contaminate plant products and ruin agricultural yields, *Fusarium* species play a major role in international trade and socioeconomic processes related to food security. Micro-evolution and the development of novel infections will continue to lead to the formation of new *Fusarium* pathogen populations. In order to ascertain the function of non-host crops and the duration of chlamydospore survival in soil, study on the biology of the fungus is required. On the other hand, biocontrol drugs provide a long-term and efficient way to control this illness. A viable, long-term solution for controlling *Fusarium* wilt disease in vegetable crops is provided by biocontrol agents. Utilizing naturally occurring organisms like *Trichoderma*, *Bacillus*, *Pseudomonas* and AMF, it is possible to efficiently control populations and improve the health of plants. These biocontrol techniques support environmental sustainability, lessen the need for chemical pesticides, and safer food production. By these measures, biocontrol can contribute significantly to sustainable agriculture, protecting crop.

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