

## Seed Rot and Seedling Diseases of Cotton in Gorgan and Gonbad

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### ABSTRACT

Cotton is the main crop produced in Gorgan and Gonbad, in the north of Iran. Seed rot and seedling diseases are important in these areas. Several fungi including *Alternaria alternata*, *Aspergillus niger*, *Fusarium acuminatum*, *Fusarium solani*, *Pythium ultimum*, *Rhizopus arrhizus* and *Rhizoctonia solani* were isolated from seeds and preemergent seedling. Most probably these fungi originated from the seed invaded during boll dehiscence.

Seedlings were in turn infected by *F. solani*, *P. ultimum*, *R. solani* and *Sclerotium rolfsii* in most areas. The annual yield loss was estimated to be 18 percent.

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