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**DEATH OF CLOVE SEEDLINGS CAUSED BY *CYLINDROCLADIUM FLORIDANUM***

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*Cylindrocladium floridanum* was isolated from dying seedlings of clove collected from a nursery in Peradeniya. Inoculation experiments with mycelium and conidia confirmed the pathogenicity of this fungus. The disease developed rapidly under conditions of high humidity whereas in a dry atmosphere the activity of the pathogen was almost completely checked. Vigorous seedlings were more or less resistant to attack by the fungus. It was observed that infected seedlings could be saved by transferring them to a drier environment and by improving the nutrient status of the soil medium by the addition of Hyponex. In this case the seedlings regained their vigour and produced new shoots even though the apical region of the primary shoot had been killed by the initial infection.