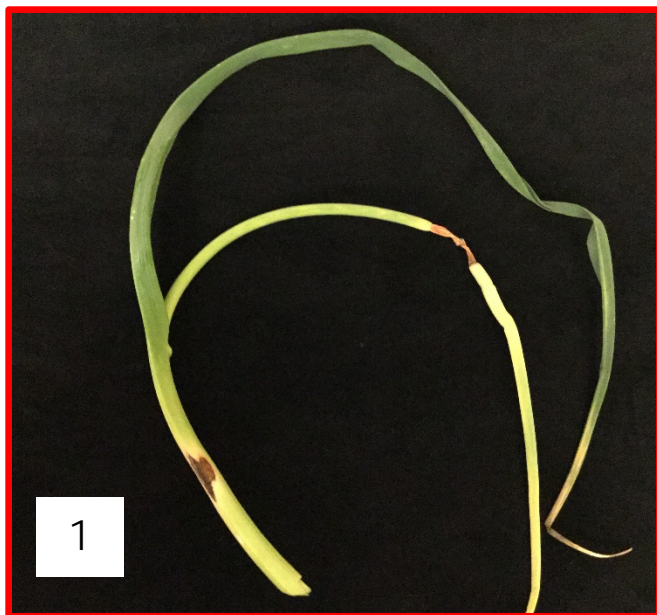


Anthracnose of Garlic Scapes in New York

For three years (2015 to 2017), diseased scapes have been observed in elephant garlic (*Allium ampeloprasum*) and garlic (*A. sativum*) fields across central New York. The incidence of diseased scapes within fields may be up to 25%.

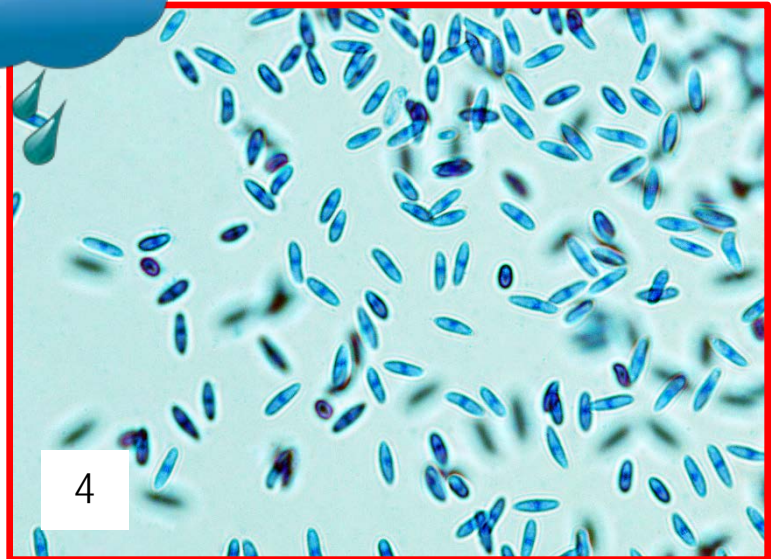


Symptoms are sunken tan to orange colored lesions up to an inch in length which lead to twisting, girdling, and collapse of scapes (Fig. 1). Lesions are often observed at the leaf axis leading to abscission (Fig. 2).



The orange color of lesions is due to the production of structures (acervuli) of the fungus, *Colletotrichum fioriniae* (Fig. 3).

Spores which are dispersed by rain splash are contained within the acervuli (Fig. 4).



Colletotrichum fioriniae has a broad host range including small and pome fruit. Inoculum for this disease on garlic scapes may therefore originate from a range of crops in the vicinity.

Significance to New York: This disease is confined to the garlic scape.

Scapes are often removed to improve bulb yield and may be sold separately for consumption. If the disease is severe, this may render scapes unmarketable and prevent the formation of bulbils used in propagation. It is unknown whether anthracnose may affect garlic bulb yield.

Further research on this disease is ongoing.

For further information contact:

Dr. Frank Hay (fsh32@cornell.edu)
The New York State Agricultural Experiment Station
Cornell University, Geneva, New York
(315) 413-9083 (cell)