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Foot rot disease of *Aloe* spp. caused by *Fusarium dimerum* Penzig var. *dimerum*, a new disease.

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ABSTRACT

In November 1994, a foot rot disease of *Aloe* spp. was observed in Okinawa, Japan. Lesions on the lower part of the stem were brown to purplish black, gradually caved in. Finally, the plants withered and died. A fungus belonging to the genus *Fusarium* was isolated from the lesions. Foot rot symptoms, the same as under natural conditions, appeared within 7 days after inoculation with the *Fusarium* isolate. A similar *Fusarium* was reisolated from the diseased plants and was identified as *F. dimerum* based on morphological and cultural characteristics. This is the first record of this fungal species causing a plant disease.

Key words: Fusarium dimerum var. dimerum, Aloe spp., foot rot

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