

**REPORT OF THE REGIONAL DISEASE
PROBLEMS COMMITTEE - 1999
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Leaf Spot Diseases

Alabama

W. S. Gazaway - (Stemphyllium leaf spot). Approximately 400 acres of cotton was prematurely defoliated by Stemphyllium leaf spot in central Alabama. The field had been subjected to a prolonged drought throughout the summer. This is believed to have induced a severe potassium deficiency in these fields, making them more susceptible to the fungal leaf spot which appeared following late season rains. Losses were estimated to be around 25% of the yield potential.

Seedling Disease

North Carolina

Keith Edmisten - Higher than normal levels of seedling disease occurred this year due to cool temperatures requiring the replanting of a fair amount of acreage. There was also a quite large outbreak of stem canker which I have always attributed to *Ascochyta*, however our pathologist say that it is actually a closely related organism called *Phoma*. After a week or more of cloudy misty weather many were extremely concerned due to this disease. When the sun came out the disease cleared up with little apparent lasting effect.