

# RESEARCH ON BIRDSFOOT TREFOIL CROWN AND ROOT DISEASES IN URUGUAY

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The following studies are in progress at INIA La Estanzuela Exp. Stn. (National Institute for Agriculture Research), Uruguay:

1. Ecological studies on *Fusarium* crown and root disease of birdsfoot trefoil.  
A field survey was initiated in September 1994 at three different locations on 1-, 2-, and 3-year-old birdsfoot trefoil crops, to evaluate incidence and severity of *Fusarium* crown and root disease. *Fusarium* isolates are being characterized based on vegetative compatibility (VCG's) using nitrate non-reducing mutants.
2. Selection for resistance to *Fusarium* crown and root disease.  
Greenhouse studies were initiated in 1995 to develop a standard test to characterize birdsfoot trefoil for resistance to *Fusarium* crown and root disease. One cycle of selection will be done within an adapted population, and progress of selection will be assessed.
1. Evaluation of soil inoculum potential of *Fusarium* spp. under different crop rotation systems. (Joint project with the University of the Republic)  
Soil samples from different crop rotation systems will be plated on selective culture media to determine level of inoculum of *F. oxysporum*, *F. solani*, and other *Fusarium* spp., causal agents of crown and root disease of birdsfoot trefoil.