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**FUNGAL DISEASES OF RICE AND
THEIR MANAGEMENT**

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Apple Academic Press

**FUNGAL DISEASES OF RICE AND
THEIR MANAGEMENT**

Edited by

Deepti Srivastava

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CHAPTER 9

An Overview of Ecology, Epidemiology, and Identification Measures for Rice Sheath Rot Disease

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ABSTRACT

Rice is one of the most important staple food crop that has predominantly been grown in almost all the continents of the planet. About a century ago, fungal sheath rot disease was characterized primarily by rotting of sheaths. The causal pathogen was known as *Acrocyldrium oryzae*, which was later characterized as *Sarocladium oryzae*. It was thought to be a seed-borne disease and had been a source of a major production limitation in some rice-growing countries. It produces a wide array of phytotoxins that generally induces necrosis in plants, chaffiness, grain discoloration, and sterility leading to yield drop, to a maximum extent of about 85%. The incubation period of this disease was 3–4 days, which may become more intense if the ambient temperature is between 20–30°C with a relative humidity of around 65–85%. *S. oryzae* was classified using cultural and morphological

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