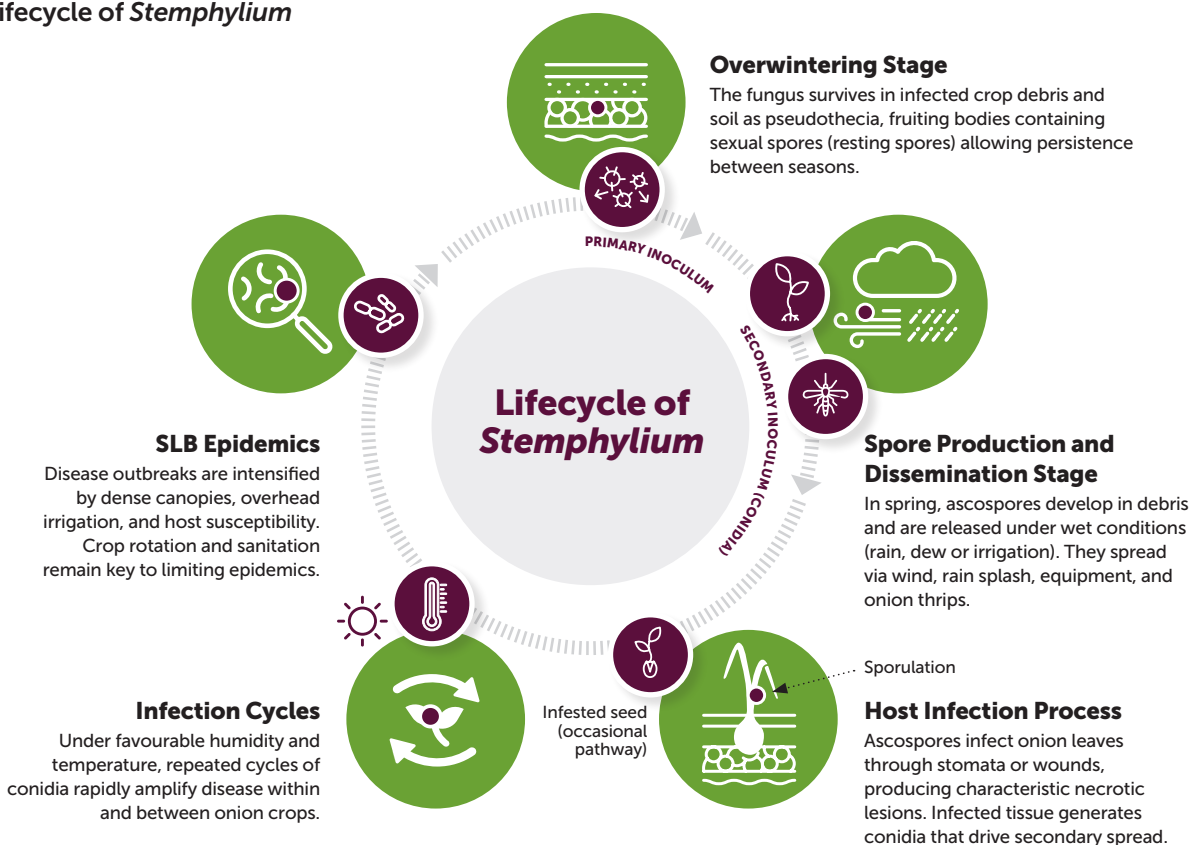




# Stemphylium leaf blight in onions

## FACTSHEET

### Lifecycle of *Stemphylium*



Adapted from Hay et al. 2022<sup>1</sup>. Image ©AUSVEG

- The fungus 'overwinters' (survives) in infected crop residues, culled onions, and onion debris left on the soil surface. The fungus remains viable in the soil for at least one year.
- Spores (ascospores and conidia) are released from this debris in the following season under favourable conditions (temperatures between 18°C and 25°C and humidity >95% and leaf wetness > 4hrs).
- The disease may be brought in via infected seed.
- Onion thrips may distribute the disease; they create entry wounds for the fungus.
- Crop rotation away from *Allium* species for 3–4 years can reduce soil inoculum levels.



<sup>1</sup> Adapted from Hay, F. et al. 2022. Stemphylium Leaf Blight of Onion. The Plant Health Instructor Volume: 22, 2022, Article Type: Plant Disease Profiles.  
Accessed via: [apsnet.org/edcenter/pdlessons/Pages/Stemphylium-leaf-blight-Onion.aspx](https://apsnet.org/edcenter/pdlessons/Pages/Stemphylium-leaf-blight-Onion.aspx).

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