

Curvularia sp. (Curve-you-lair'ee-uh)

Most species of *Curvularia* are pathogens of soil, plants, and cereal plants and is found mostly in tropical or subtropical regions. It has been isolated indoors from paper and wood products. As well as being a contaminant, *Curvularia* may cause infections in both humans and animals. It is reported to be an allergen causing Type I allergies (i.e. asthma, hay fever) and is a relatively common cause of allergic fungal sinusitis. *Curvularia* has recently emerged as an opportunistic pathogen that infects immunocompromised hosts causing cerebral abscesses, endocarditis, mycetoma, ocular keratitis, onychomycosis, pneumonia, and sinusitis.