**Gram Blight**

**History and Importance:**

* Reported in 26 countries
* In 1930s it caused total loss of crop in Spain
* In Sub-continent (Pak) appeared in epidemic form in 1922-33 & caused losses about 70 %

**Etiology:**

Causal organism: *Ascochyta rabei*

**Symptoms:**

* Circular spots appear on leaves & pods, elongated spots on petioles & stem
* Brown dots formed in the spots
* Seeds in pods may also show lesions
* In severe attack stem girdled (trapped) at base & plants die

**Disease cycle:**

* Survive as pycnidia on debris in soil & also on seed
* Secondary spread is through rain drops & splashes, by insects & strong wind

**Epidemiology:**

* High rain fall & Temp. 22-26°C are conducive for epidemic

**Management:**

* Removal & destruction of plant debris
* Crop rotation & deep sowing
* Intercropping with cereals
* Seed treatment with Agrosan, copper sulphate
* Spray Zineb, Mineb, Captan, Dacnil
* Resistant varieties (F-8, C-325, C-727, Kabli)