

Dr Gopal Subramaniam

Dr. Subramaniam has more than 25 years experience in the field of plant-pathogen Interactions. He obtained his doctoral degree from the University of Montreal in 2000 and held a NSERC post-doctoral fellowship at the University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill) till 2004. For the last 16 years, as a research scientist at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Dr. Subramaniam's research emphasis is to identify and characterize factors that contribute to the pathogenicity of the phytopathogen *Fusarium graminearum* and develop technology to mitigate diseases associated with this fungus. *F. graminearum* is a casual agent of the head blight diseases of small grain cereals and the mycotoxins that accumulate in the infected cereals represent a major loss of income for both the Canadian farmers.

The lab employs a comparative, evolutionary and functional analyses of *Fusarium* genomes and proteomes. Over the long-term, this will lead to better understanding of the disease progress on the Canadian farm and more importantly, the research will lead to predict any potential changes in the pathogen as a result of environmental changes. Dr. Subramaniam collaborates with industries to develop novel biocontrol strategies using genetics and chemical genomics to mitigate both disease severity and reduce mycotoxin accumulation in wheat.