Chemical control of Root Rot of Berseem

Recognize the problem
Berseem is an important fodder crop in Pakistan, when there are no other available fodder crops in winter season.

The symptoms of root rot are caused by a fungal disease. Light brown spots appear on the roots 5 cm below the soil surface. These symptoms can be hard to see so you have to be careful.

In case of severe attack, the plants die.

Root rot of berseem appears usually after the second cut, but can appear later.

Background
• The disease is mainly seed borne and can hibernate in the seed overwinter
• The chemicals used for the control of fungal diseases are called fungicides
• Fungicides are applied only as seed treatment before sowing, because a foliar application is harmful to livestock
• These fungicides may be contact (work on the surface of the plant) or systemic (go into the plant) and then kill the disease pathogen
• Fungicides are used for quick control of the diseases in plants

Management
• Different fungicides are available for the control of root rot of berseem

Use one of the following seed treatments:
1. Metalaxyl+mancozeb @ 2g/kg of seed
2. Carbendazim @ 2.5g/kg of seed
3. Fosetyl aluminium @ 2-3g/kg of seed
4. Thiophenate methyl @2g/kg of seed

Scientific name(s) > Fusarium semitactum, Rhizoctonia solani,