Chytridiomycosis (Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis)

"The largest infectious disease threat to biodiversity" (Kilpatrick et al. 2010)

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What is it?

Fungus that causes skin disease

- Causes thickening of the skin, and infected toads and frogs tend to shed skin frequently (Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center)
- Thickening of the skin may impair gas exchange and affect the animal's ability to absorb water (Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center)
- Chytrid fungus infects keratinized mouthparts of tadpoles and keratinized skin, and has caused significant die-off's (Nichols et al. 2001)

 Lunged- Abnormal electrolyte levels cause the heart to stop begting and

heart to stop beating and the death of the animal (Voyles et al. 2009) Lungless-Suffocation





 Has been detected on at least 350 species of amphibians worldwide (Fisher et al. 2009)

Detected on every continent that has amphibians (Fisher et al. 2009)

How did it get here?

Africa is the origin of the amphibian chytrid

 International trade of X. laevis (African clawed frog) began in the mid-1930s (Weldon, Ché et al. 2004.)















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