

Common Wet Season Diseases of Papaya

IMAGE	DISEASE	MANAGEMENT
PRE-HARVEST FRUIT DISEASES		
	<p>Brown Spot Most commonly occurs as dark, sunken spots on fruit or as light brown spots similar to the symptom found on leaves.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply preventative fungicides (e.g. Bravo, Digger or Luna sensation) every 10-14 days in hot, wet conditions. Check spray coverage. De-leafing affected leaves may assist in reducing symptoms on fruit.
	<p>Phytophthora Fruit Rot Large lesions on fruit covered by white fungal crusts. It can cause fruit to shrink and mummify.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply preventative fungicide (e.g. copper hydroxide) every 10-14 days in hot, wet conditions. It may help to allow some weed cover to prevent splashing of soil particles up onto fruit.
POST-HARVEST FRUIT DISEASES		
	<p>Anthracnose During ripening, sunken black to brown spots develop on the surface on the fruit. These enlarge during storage and can extend well into the flesh.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply recommended fungicides in the paddock. Use a registered post-harvest fungicide (e.g. Scholar or Sportak) and ensure good coverage on the fruit. Reduce plant stress. De-leafing older leaves may help by reducing the source of fungal load.
	<p>Stem-End Rot Multiple disease can cause this symptom (e.g. Phomopsis or Lasiodiplodia). Wet rots occurring on the stem-end extending into the fruit.</p>	
DISEASE OF LEAVES, TRUNKS AND ROOTS		
	<p>Phytophthora Trunk Rot Appears as a white fungal crust on the trunk. Makes trunk weak and very susceptible to wind damage.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply preventative fungicide (e.g. copper hydroxide) every 10-14 days in hot, wet conditions. Plant in well-drained areas, and use mounds. It may help to allow some weed cover to prevent splashing of soil particles up onto the trunk. Avoid damage to trunks (e.g. herbicide damage).
	<p>Phytophthora Root Rot Rotting of the tap root which can cause the plant to fall easily. In some cases, the plant may linger until the leaves yellow and collapse.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant using Ridomil. Apply Phos Acid fortnightly. Plant in well-drained areas, and use mounds.
	<p>Brown Spot Small, light brown circular spots on leaves. Can cause premature yellowing of lower leaves in severe infections.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply preventative fungicides (e.g. Bravo, Digger or Luna sensation) every 10-14 days in hot, wet conditions. Check spray coverage. De-leafing may reduce disease levels. Check nearby hosts such as cucurbits, tomatoes and legumes.