

Chemical control of Anthracnose (mango)

Recognize the problem

Anthracnose is one of the biggest diseases in Pakistan and mango is one of the most important fruit in Pakistan.

Anthracnose, which is caused by a fungus, can cause symptoms on leaves, twigs, panicles and fruit in the shape of brown to black spots. These spots can become larger and form dead areas in the centre.

We see this disease mainly in the months of February to May, especially when the fruit is mature. It spreads through dead branches and infected fallen leaves. Anthracnose can also be transmitted through rain splash and dew, as well as by wind.

Background

Wet and humid weather (25°C temp and >80% humidity) is helpful for its development. Anthracnose is a fungal disease and so can be effectively controlled by chemical sprays, and effective products are easily available. Secondly, this disease is active for a long period so cultural controls are not 100% effective.

There are two main ways to use chemicals for the management of this disease: prevention (which will prevent the disease damaging the plants) and control (which will reduce its effects if it is already affecting the crop).

Management

Prevention:

- Remove the infected twigs and cover the cut portion with Bordeaux paste (CuSO₄:Lime:water at 1:2:6) to stop the entry of disease from cut portion. Spray at least 3 consecutive sprays with an interval of 10-12 days.

Direct control:

- Spray one of the following:
 - Difenoconazole @30 ml/100 litre water
 - Thiophenate methyl @200 gm/100 litre water
 - Fostyl aluminium @ 500 gm/100 litre of water
- Do not hit the plant directly with the spray but spray in the form of a mist, to avoid causing damage to inflorescence
- Do not repeat the same fungicide again, but use alternate products for effective control

When using a pesticide, always wear protective clothing and follow the instructions on the product label, such as dosage, timing of application, and pre-harvest interval.

Scientific name(s) > *Glomerella cingulata*

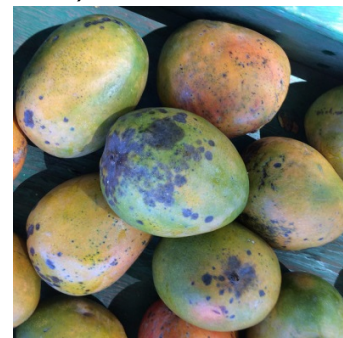
The recommendations in this factsheet are relevant to: Pakistan



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Mango anthracnose. (Photo by Scot Nelson)



Mango Anthracnose. (Photo by Scot Nelson)

