

Rust on Coffee

Recognize the problem

Rust on coffee also called "ri sat ca phe". Infected leaves will have yellow spots on the surface with orange dust on the underside of the leaves. The infected leaves turn yellow and drop.

Background

Rust on coffee is a destructive disease that can cause 100% loss. It is caused by a fungus which attacks the leaf, causing leaf fall and reduced yield. The disease is fast spreading and can be spread by wind, water, insects, humans and farming tools. It causes heavier damage in the dry season. The disease attacks all stages of coffee plants, starting from nursery stage. The most effective way to control this disease is to plant resistant varieties. Sanitation and farm management (pruning/thinning of infected and non-productive branches) is important in improving aeration, therefore reducing humidity, which reduces the spread of the fungus.

Management

- Resistance varieties: use a resistance variety such as Catimor, S.73 or Bourbon
- Pruning: cut down the useless branches, especially after harvesting, and any heavily infected branches
- Using chemicals: Epoxiconazole (Opus 75EC) 50ml/ha repeat after 2 weeks if necessary

Symptoms on coffee leaf. (Photo by CTC/Zeneca)



Rust on coffee leaves. (Photo by CABI)



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) > *Hemileia vastatrix*

The recommendations in this factsheet are relevant to: Vietnam



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