

Downy Mildew on Longan

Recognize the problem

The disease is initially identified as small black spots that spread rapidly around the pedicels and flowers, resulting in fallen fruits. In sunny weather, diseased flowers dry out, and in highly humid conditions the diseased plant parts rot and fall down. At first, water soaked spots develop on young Longan fruits. Then, the spots turn a deep black colour and finally become covered by a white layer of mycelia that partially or completely cover the fruit. This disease occurs simultaneously with anthracnose disease during flowering and when fruits ripen.

Background

The disease can affect the plant from flowering period, through fruiting to harvest, but is more dangerous in the flowering period. Overcast conditions with high humidity and rainfall are conducive to disease development.

The disease causes major damage during flowering and fruiting and can cause flowers to drop. The disease continues to harm fruits postharvest making the storage and transportation of fruit difficult.

Management

- Pruning: after harvest cut off branches that have flowers that cannot produce fruit
- Use 1% Bordeaux mixture after pruning
- Use 0.15% metalaxyl, 0.15% mancozeb, 0.2 % Aliette 80 % WP (fosetyl-aluminum) before flowering and after pollination (when fruitlets appear). Do not apply when the flowers are in bloom.

Symptoms on longan. (Photo by www.vn.refer.org/mp/ctu_fruits/frameof11.htm)



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) > *Peronophythora litchii*

The recommendations in this factsheet are relevant to: Vietnam



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