



Pacific Pests and Pathogens - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

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Acacia rust (235)



Photo 1. Light-brown galls on the phyllodes (modified leaf stalks) and stems of *Acacia*, caused by the gall rust, *Uromycladium tepperianum*.



Photo 2. Large gall of the Acacia gall rust, *Uromycladium tepperianum*.

Summary

- Narrow distribution. Indonesia, Oceania. On *Acacia* and trees in the legume family. A minor disease, but trees of some species weakened by attack and more susceptible to stress. Used as a biocontrol agent of *Acacia* in some countries.
- Rust has chemicals that cause trees to produce hard brown galls up to 150 mm. The shape and size and the part of tree attacked varies with the species. On some trees the fungus causes masses of shoots to develop, called a witches' broom.
- Spread by spores from young galls blown by wind.
- Cultural and chemical control: no recommendations.

Common Name

Acacia rust

Scientific Name

Uromycladium tepperianum. There are eight species in this genus.

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Photos 1&2 Kohler F, Pellegrin F, Jackson G, McKenzie E (1997) *Diseases of cultivated crops in Pacific Island countries*. South Pacific Commission. Pirie Printers Pty Limited, Canberra, Australia.

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