



Pacific Pests and Pathogens - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

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Cabbage black rot (131)



Photo 1. Several patches of black rot, caused by the bacterium, *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *campestris*, at the margin of the older leaves.



Photo 2. Close-up of the V-shaped region at the edge of the cabbage leaf caused by the black rot bacterium, *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *campestris*. Note the blackened veins.



Photo 3. Multiple infections at the margins of cabbage leaves by the black rot bacterium, *Xanthomonas campestris* pv. *campestris*.

Summary

- Worldwide distribution. On members of the cabbage (brassica) family, e.g., broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, Chinese cabbage, radish. An important disease.
- Bacteria enter natural openings at the leaf edge, and travel along veins, causing V-shaped rots, yellowing and death. Head rots develop, too.
- Spread in rain, in seedlings, soil on machinery, shoes and in seed. Survives in debris and weeds.
- Cultural control: certified seed or hot water (50°C for 25 mins); nursery hygiene: clean trays, pasteurise soil or use soilless mixes; monitor, and discard infected plants; well-drained fields, if necessary use raised beds; space plants for air circulation; weed; collect and burn debris or plough in remains after harvest; 3-4-year crop rotations.
- Chemical control: not recommended.

Common Name

Brassica black rot, black rot of cabbage

Scientific Name

Xanthomonas campestris pv. *campestris*

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Information (and Photo 1) is from *Diseases of vegetable crops in Australia* (2010). Editors, Denis Persley, Tony Cooke, Susan House. CSIRO Publishing. Photo 2 David B. Langston, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org.

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