



Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

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Banana Deightoniella leaf & fruit spot (309)



Photo 1. Spots of Deightoniella leaf spot, *Deightoniella torulosa*.

Summary

- Worldwide distribution. On banana and relatives. Minor fungal disease.
- Oval, tan spots with black border, usually on older leaves. On the fruit, sunken dark brown or black spots, 2-4 mm wide, surrounded by dark green halo. Spores not produced on the fruit.
- Spread by airborne spores from dead leaves during rains.
- Cultural control: remove dead leaves from plantation every 14-28 days; desucker plants to aid air movement and drying of leaves; promote healthy growth with fertilizer and/or manures; mulch, but not with old banana leaves.
- Chemical control: unlikely to be needed.

Common Name

Banana Deightoniella leaf & fruit spot, banana leaf blotch.

Scientific Name

Deightoniella torulosa. Previously known as *Brachysporium torulosum*.

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Information from *Diseases of fruit crops in Australia* (2009). Editors, Tony Cooke, Denis Persley, Susan House. CSIRO Publishing. Photo 1 (taken by Eric McKenzie), and used in this fact sheet, appeared previously in McKenzie E (2013) *Deightoniella torulosa* PaDIL - <http://www.padil.gov.au>. Photo 2 *Tropical Banana Information Kit: Problem Solver*. Queensland Government. (http://era.daf.qld.gov.au/1656/6/5protrbn_part1.pdf).

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