



## Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

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### Citrus scab (048)



Photo 1. Light brown raised spots on twisted torn leaves of rough lemon, caused the citrus scab fungus, *Elsinoë fawcettii*. Note stems are also infected.



Photo 2. Small corky scabs on the fruit of rough (or bush) lemon, caused by citrus scab, *Elsinoë fawcettii*.

#### Summary

- Worldwide distribution. On lemon, rough lemon and mandarin. Other species of citrus - grapefruit, orange and pomelo - are also susceptible, but less so. An important disease.
- The fungus distorts the leaves and makes the fruit unsightly. It stunts common rootstocks in the nursery, so they are difficult to bud.
- Similar to citrus canker (see **Fact Sheet no. 091**), except leaves are stunted, wrinkled with torn margins.
- Spread is by wind and rain, by insects, on nursery plants, and fruits.
- Cultural control: make nurseries at distance from production areas; prune to keep open canopy, and improve air circulation.
- Chemical: in the nursery, use copper or chlorothalonil at the beginning of leaf flushes.

#### Common Name

Common citrus scab

#### Scientific Name

*Elsinoë fawcettii*. The fungus has an asexual stage, *Sphaceloma fawcettii*; this is the stage that occurs throughout the Pacific. There are strains of *Sphaceloma fawcettii* present elsewhere.

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