

Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

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Coconut leaf spots (090)



Photo 1. Oval spots with small grey centres and dark brown margins of *Pseudoepicoccum cocos*.



Photo 2. Oval spots, of *Pseudoepicoccum* cocos, reddish-brown, with a pale centre, with powdery black spore masses on underside.



Photo 3. Spots of grey leaf spot, *Pestalotiopsis* palmarum.

Summary

- Widespread distribution. Two leafspots: brown leaf spot (BLS) *Pseudoepicoccum* widespread in the tropics; and grey leaf spot (GLS) *Pestalotiopsis* in Southeast Asia, Africa, Caribbean, Oceania. Both occur on coconut, betel nut, oil palm. Fungal diseases of low importance.
- BLS oval spots, up to 10 mm long with grey centres and brown margins. Black powdery spores mass below. GLS grey with thin brown border and tiny black dots containing the spores.
- Spread in wind and rain. Worse on older leaves.
- Cultural control: improve nutrition (diseases are a sign of poor growing conditions); decrease shade in nursery.
- Chemical control: none recommended as treatments would likely be uneconomic.

Common Name

Brown leaf spot and grey leaf spot

Scientific Name

Pseudoepicoccum cocos (brown leaf spot); Pestalotiopsis palmarum (grey leaf spot).

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This mini fact sheet is a part of the app Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds

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