Pacific Pests, Pathogens & Weeds - Mini Fact Sheet Edition

https://apps.lucidcentral.org/ppp/

Onion black mould (187)



Photo 1. Black mould, *Aspergillus niger*, along the veins of an onion bulb.



Photo 2. Black mould, *Aspergillus niger*, on onion. The bulb on the left is showing large spore masses, whereas the mild infection on the right is mostly along the veins.



Photo 3. Black mould, *Aspergillus niger*, on garlic clove.

Summary

- Worldwide distribution. On seeds, bulbs, tubers, fruits and flowers of coconuts, maize, onion, peanuts, rice, and sorghum, and many other hosts. A cosmetic problem.
- A fungus, usually on organic matter in soil, attacks stored fruits, seeds, roots/tubers, if they are wounded. On onions, it infects dying leaves in the field after harvest; from there the bulbs become infected, often along the veins. It also infects onions when "topped" before storage, especially in hot, wet weather.
- Spread occurs as spores in the wind. The fungus is seed borne.
- Cultural control: well-drained land; ensure seed is clean, or treat in hot water (60°C for 15 min.); dry bulbs after harvest, before storage; varietal resistance (those with red scale leaves); collect trash and burn after harvest.
- Chemical control: seed treatment: mancozeb or thiram.

Common Name

Black mould, collar rot, neck rot

Scientific Name

Aspergillus niger

AUTHOR Grahame Jackson

Information (and Photo 2) Diseases of vegetable crops in Australia (2010). Editors, Denis Persley, Tony Cooke, Susan House. CSIRO Publishing. Photo 1 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. Photo 3 Black mould, Aspergillus niger Gerald Holmes, California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo, Bugwood org.

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

The mobile application is available from the Google Play Store and Apple iTunes.



Copyright © 2020. All rights reserved.