



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

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### Papaya black spot (158)



Photo 1. Black spot of papaya, *Asperisporium caricae*, on the underside of the leaf. Large numbers of spots cause the leaves to dry, die and fall.



Photo 2. Close-up of underside of a papaya leaf showing black spot, *Asperisporium caricae*.

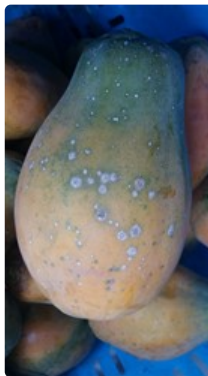


Photo 3. Fruit with spots of *Asperisporium caricae* overgrown by fungal hyperparasite.

#### Summary

- Worldwide distribution. On papaya. Usually, a minor disease.
- Spots, round to irregular, 3-6 mm on older leaves, pale brown above with yellow margin; dark below as spores form. Dark spots on fruit, slightly sunken.
- Heavy spotting causes leaves and young fruit to fall, reducing yields and sales of fruits.
- Cultural control: remove infected leaves, and burn.
- Chemical control: use (i) copper, chlorothalonil or mancozeb (protectants), or (ii) tubuconazole (systemic), ensuring coverage of underside of the leaves. Alternate the two types of fungicides.

#### Common Name

Black spot

#### Scientific Name

*Asperisporium caricae*; previously *Cercospora caricae*.

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Information from *Diseases of fruit crops in Australia* (2009). Editors, Tony Cooke, Denis Persley, Susan House. CSIRO Publishing; and from CABI (2013) *Asperisporium caricae* (black spot). Crop Protection Compendium. (<http://www.cabi.org/cpc/>); and from Liberato JR, McTaggart AR, Shivas RG (2006) *Asperisporium Black Spot of Papaya (Asperisporium caricae)*. PaDIL - <http://www.padil.gov.au>

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.

